

# FREEDOM

## Anarchist Weekly 4c

AUGUST 28 1965 Vol. 26 No. 27

# Scots Against War—Again

SINCE THE FREEDOM article about the SAW activities at Faslane, etc., the underground Scottish movement has continued, unabated, to harass and defy the Warfare State. After the forces information offices in Glasgow had turned themselves into brick-proof fortresses, SAW turned to the outlying parts of Scotland.

In April, soldiers at an Army exhibition wrinkled up their noses, gasped for air and watched in bewilderment as the public rapidly vacated their caravans and tents after a non-violent stink bomb raid by SAW! SAW tell us they'll be back at the next one, with even less savoury weapons for the Army to cope with!

May Day all over Scotland saw the SAW and the rank and file militants giving Messrs. George Brown, Neil Carmichael, etc., a thin time.

Then, later in May, they struck with the characteristic daring which has been their trademark since Ardnadam pier. After members of the peace movement in NE Scotland had told Committee of 100 militants and others in the South of a large CD shelter at Portlethen, 5 miles south of Aberdeen, in a daylight raid they removed documents giving a great deal of information about CD preparations in Scotland. Documents found relating to England, were, said an SAW spokesman, sent to peace militants in Yorkshire. Within 2 days, CID men had arrested and questioned anarchists in Aberdeen, including myself and comrade Forbes Browne. Fortunately we were able to prove where we had been the afternoon of the raid and both of us were released, although I was the lighter of a fiver after they had produced an arrest warrant for an old unpaid fine. Since then we have been repeatedly questioned and arrested on any pretext and on the last visit one said, 'If you have anything to confess, please come and tell us.' Either they think I fell out of a tree or they simply can't nail SAW. We are in contact with them but Aberdeen Anarchists are too small a group (and too scared) to put up the kind of fight SAW do! However we salute every action they have taken.

SAW phoned our local press and they, always desperate for a front page headline that doesn't have anything about runaway cattle and grannies of 102, gave them the full treatment, 'NE RAID FRUITLESS SAYS CD OFFICIAL'. The CID men who picked us up didn't

think it was fruitless! Interesting comments were made by various bureaucrats such as Aronld M. Burns, Tory Councillor and Survivor in Chief of the Portlethen funk-hole. He said, 'How can these people know where our shelters and foodstores are—we don't know ourselves!' We respectfully suggest that perhaps some thoroughly incompetent council official mislaid them and in fact his children have one at home for playing military dictators in. Incidentally the night before the raid, wee hairy Highlanders 'got at' the guy ropes holding up a CD radio aerial at Powis House, the only mother and baby clinic in Scotland with radio equipment to guide the storks in!

Local anti-bomb enthusiasts, encouraged by the SAW's action, got stuck in (with enamel paint) at the local ROC HQ which received a liberal dose of slogans such as, 'Prevention is Better than Cure'. Back came the CID!—to be greeted with bland smiles, uplifted hands and perfect alibis. They then retired to their tea cups to await the next outrage. They hadn't long to wait.

The Portlethen shelter, now well and truly in the minds of the local CND and Committee of 100, began to assume the appearance of a painter's shop! Within a week everybody knew, and when I went up to the local library to have my monthly butchers at the Council Civil Defence minutes, the elderly assistant was most loath to let me have them! When she asked why I kept coming up for them I said that my Russian masters would denounce me to M15 unless I supplied them with details of Aberdeen Civil Defence's yearly order for boots, string, putty and office stationery! She doesn't know whether to inform the SB or the local nut house now.

On a wider scale, especially within the Scottish Committee of 100, SAW have been the targets of vicious attacks from those who know that in order to reply SAW will have to reveal themselves, which would utterly defeat their point!

At the Faslane demonstration on June 26, my speech was (non-violently of course) interrupted by members of the London Committee pulling the microphone from my hands when I attempted to express support for the non-violent sabotage acts committed by SAW at Faslane. Anyone who bans the bomb without consulting the Committee Sec., will probably suffer a similar fate. To our Committee comrades we warn, beware bureaucracy—in our own midst!

Tom McAlpine, managing director, I repeat managing director of the peace factory, probably helped to seal my coffin lid when directly after I had spoken, or rather attempted to, he referred to 'these SAW people who are ruining our movement'. Is he naive enough to imagine that that particular audience didn't contain at least one scruffy, bearded SB man who promptly rubbed his hands and thought, 'At last we've got one of them'. Hard luck sergeant, even McAlpine can be wrong! The burners of Ardnadam pier weren't on that platform or even on that march.

Scotland will not be turned into a radioactive graveyard as long as there are people here prepared to fight. As long as working class Scots reject the bureaucracies of the State and the official peace movement and take action at night, against the machines of war, SAW will be around. If they don't win, who'll be left to write reports about them to the National Committee? Unless McAlpine has a place in a shelter!

IAN S. SUTHERLAND JR.

### POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

in Greece during the last few weeks must have provided a surprise for those who think that the days of barricades and popular participation in politics are over, but they will possibly put this down to the climate of Athens! From our point of view, the demonstrations by the Greek people have both encouraging and disturbing aspects.

It is encouraging to see that in Athens, in a country where the people have suffered from a long period of fascist and semi-fascist government, where mass arrests of political militants, vicious treatment of political prisoners, and police brutality and involvement with fascist groups are the order of the day, the people can turn out to pack the streets in demonstrations against the King and his puppets.

What is disturbing (although it is difficult to criticize from the calm of London), is that the demands of the people are so limited, being originally the mere return of the 'deposed' Prime Minister, Mr. Papandreou. From reports appearing in *The Guardian* it seems that the Communist Party has been playing an increasing rôle, the most recent demonstrations being inspired by supporters of the CP who were careful not to use slogans that would identify them!

Both the level of concern about politics and the police repression are caused partly by the relatively low economic standards of Greece and partly by its traditions, and it would be absurd to suggest any direct comparison between that situation and ours in Britain. However, we may look on demonstrations of this kind not just as an expression of poverty alone, but as expressions of discontent with the way that life is, combined with a conviction that unless the people do take an active part, events will turn out to their disadvantage. This, surely, is equally applicable in Great Britain, the USA and USSR!

Unfortunately, the demands from the crowds in the streets of Greece are not for freedom to organise their own lives by mutual co-operation, but merely that Mr. Papandreou should head the government which

rules over them, rather than any of a succession of amenable instruments of the state, the most recent of whom is a former left-winger who is thought to be effective against anarchism because he fought side by side with them in the Resistance movement. A fair comparison would be to say that Greek politics is more like French politics, where the enthusiasm of the workers was dissipated by the politicians who exploited it, and particularly by the Communist Party with its cynical manoeuvres, than the situation in Spain up to the 'thirties where hundreds of thousands of workers were convinced that no government could solve their problems, but only their own constructive efforts.

### LET'S HAVE SOCIAL REVOLUTION!

This contrast, however remote that the situation may seem from that in England, is important because it illustrates the effect of years of anarchist propaganda, or the lack of it, on the character of popular manifestations of discontent when they do arise. The Greek movement has no significant group (as far as can be seen) which advocates social revolution as opposed to political change, as although it sounds pessimistic, and we hope it is not true, the likely results of the Greek agitation are the return of a 'moderate' government which commands the apathetic assent of a majority of the population who are only happy to see an end to the pointless political wrangling, and the emergence of a parliamentary Communist Party which will ensure

that much of the social-revolutionary potential of the people will be channelled into an even more futile direction than before.

Now we hope that people not only in Greece but everywhere else will become discontented with the life offered to them by our present society, not because of increasing poverty, alienation or anything of that kind, but because we hope that people will be awakened to demand far more from life than this society is able to give them. When this situation arises, whatever the specific issues involved are, we have what to anarchists is a potentially revolutionary situation, and it is at that point that the effect of the previous years becomes important in deciding whether people seek the solution to these problems by voting for new groups of politicians, or by taking action themselves.

It is because of this that the kind of activities of the student protest movements in the USA are important, despite the fact that they are not anarchist, because they are socially rather than politically oriented. Militants in non-democratic countries or parts of countries face severe difficulties because of social and legal repression, but they generally make their presence felt because of the absence of any other kind of political expression. Our task is generally easier in one way because we have wide freedom to publish and make propaganda, but more difficult in others because we have to persuade people who have the possibility of taking part in the electoral farce, that other kinds of activity are more effective. The time to start is now! P.H.

# 'I DIDN'T RAISE MY BOY TO BE A PRESIDENT'

IN ANAHEIM, California, USA, there has been set up for the edification, instruction and amusement of the tourist, American and foreign, an amalgam of all that is finest, most artistically, technically, intellectually and emotionally most stimulating in American life, known as Disneyland. Among the four parts in which Disneyland is quartered: Frontierland, Adventureland, Tomorrowland and Fantasyland, there is a plastic replica of President Lincoln who can perform 275,000 separate motions and make a speech. Walt Disney is proud of this figure. 'No man has made a more positive impact on a nation than Abraham Lincoln. I have felt for many years that there must be some undeveloped means of communication to project his warm sincerity and dedication.'

*The New York Times Magazine* says 'President Lincoln has been re-created through unsparing research. His address consists of a pastiche of his famous utterances. Yet, it is surprisingly uncontroversial Lincoln who speaks. In fact, it's a speech that needn't offend any political persuasion... whether Robert Welch's or Jefferson Davis's. Lincoln has been redeemed for all America as a nonpartisan President whose rhetoric is reminiscent of General Douglas MacArthur's... He advises to reverence law as "the political religion" of the nation. There is no evidence in his speech of the slavery issue of the Civil War. This is a Lincoln we can all accept without reservation.'

There is likewise something appallingly synthetic about the creation and utterances of American presidents but with President Johnson we seem to reach the depths of Disneyland. It is a well-known fact that Presidential speeches are 'ghost' written by prominent scholars and writers. (If President Johnson's speeches are originals the situation is more desperate than it seems.)

In an interview in the *New York Times Magazine* Johnson said about his civil rights bill, 'Lincoln walks along the corridor with me: the Emancipation Proclamation is being made a fact.' His choice of Lincoln as a mentor is ominous; he appears to share the same taste as Disney—Lincoln had the same drawback as Johnson, he was 'just folks' or to put it in another way he was 'corny'. (Lincoln once said: 'God must have loved the common people; he made so many of them.') *The N.Y.T.M.* interviewer says this 'corniness' in Johnson grows 'out of an overpowering desire to take people into his confidence by embracing them. It may in fact be a substitute of the people's affection, which Johnson craves and which so far eludes him'.

Examples abound of this plastic latter-day Lincoln's utterances but for those of delicate stomachs few will suffice. It will be remembered that Johnson got in on the Civil Rights act with a few bars of 'We Shall Overcome' and a soft shoe shuffle to the Voting Rights Bill, on signing it he remarked, 'Presidents and Congresses, laws and lawsuits can open the doors to polling places, and open the doors to the wondrous rewards which await the wise use of the ballot. But only the individual Negro, and all others who have been denied the right to vote, can really walk through those doors and can use that right and can transform the vote into an instrument of justice and fulfillment.'

### LYNDON-COME-LATELY

He announced on July 14 that he would 'try to provide all the leadership that I can' to obtain civil rights for the American negro. 'I am particularly sensitive to the problems of the Negro,' he said, 'it's a very acute problem and one that I want to do my best to solve in the limited time that I'm allowed.' He said he would provide the leadership

'notwithstanding the fact that someone may point to a mistake or a hundred mistakes that I made in my past'. According to two Republican Congressmen quoted in *Time* Johnson is a 'Lyndon-come-lately' to the civil rights cause. His 'mistakes' include that between 1940 and 1960 he voted against civil rights on 78% of 50 crucial roll-call votes, and that before 1957, he voted against civil rights 100%.

Laying aside the assumed mantle of Lincoln, Johnson is ready at the drop of a seetson to take over the John Wayne part. For example in his *N.Y.T.M.* interview he commented on his attitude about Vietnam that he pretends he is ready for 'unconditional negotiation' when the other side wants it. Meanwhile, back at the White House ranch, we have to apply pressure 'until he sobers up and unloads his pistol'... seen any good movies lately?

But it is when he comes to the theme of mother love, he, like all other great minds in the American matriarchy such as Al Jolson, George Jessel and Eddie Guest, goes to town. His speech on widening the Vietnam war started with a letter he stated he received from a woman in the mid-West. It went: 'Dear Mr. President: in my humble way I am writing to you about the crisis in Vietnam. I have a son who is now in Vietnam. My husband served in World War II. Our country was at war, but now, this time, it is just something I don't understand. Why?' The President re-iterates this plea (to the accompaniment of a small string orchestra one imagines) 'Why must young Americans, born into a land exultant with hope and with golden promise, toil and suffer and sometimes die in such a remote and distant place?' He echoes the American anti-war song 'I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier' which inspired Woodrow Wilson to make (and break) a promise to 'keep America out of war'.

The speech flows on to this: 'Let me also add now a personal note. I do not find it easy to send the flower of our youth, our finest young men, into battle. I have spoken to you today of the divisions and the forces and the battalions and the units. But I know them all,

Continued on page 2

## ANARCHY 55

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# Cries of Love & Hate

HOW No. 5. Andrew Lloyd, Flat 3, 5 Colville House, W.11.  
'whether you or I love or hate' by Tina Morris, 11 Clematis Street, Blackburn, Lancs.

WITH EACH additional number HOW creates its public image and the tatty little handouts of a few badly duplicated pages has now developed into a stolid and worthy addition to the Little Magazine Scene. One can accept this as teething troubles for though the contents may be uninspiring the visual aspect of the magazine should offer a firm base for its future development. Yet in the main the magazine is unworthy of its background for the contents are but a pedantic rehash of the current clichés. This may be the wrong time, politically, to knock the supporters' club but honesty demands that the critic should place on record what he believes is a true evaluation of the work before him. The Victorian sexy death wish has now given place to the high pitched whimper or the muttered soliloquise but for too many a poet it is but an act of

conformity.

What was once an almost exclusive middle class mode of expression has now become through the duplicator a working class craft and with it has bought a welcome change in symbols and in physical values for there is a rejection of the mist shrouded metropolis and those 'iron lilies of the Strand' for we planted the bloody things for a dollar an hour with one eye on the foreman and the other on the clock. Yet HOW 5 has something to offer with Nuttall's work. He may lack the visual wit of e. e. Cummings but the slight note of hysteria strikes a more genuine chord than that of the American while John Moore has that desperate note of sad despair that is the music of this age for despite Spike Milligan and the cultural baron's poetry is not funfun but a formulated cry of love, of agony and of hate.

And from wartorn Lancashire comes Tina Morris's poems of love for her husband Dave. These are but a score of poems written by a woman that tells of her love for a man. Like Elizabeth

## 'I didn't raise my boy . . .'

Continued from page 1

every one. I have seen them in a thousand streets, of a hundred towns, in every state of this Union—working and laughing and building, and filled with hope and life. I think that I know too, how their mothers weep and how their families sorrow. This is the most agonizing and the most painful duty of your President.' After a digression into his own evolution from a 'barefoot boy' and concluding 'Now I am President', this speech is of the usual 'on-the-one-hand-on-the-other' variety beloved of orators and speech-writers. We cannot say that this speech concludes, but a rough summary seems to offer the proposition that the American way of life is something being defended in Vietnam and that if the weeping mother donates a second son, this may yet be achieved.

### 'WEAVE THEM BOTH TOGETHER'

The anecdote is told of the late President Roosevelt whose speech-writers (among whom was Robert Sherwood) were told to prepare two speeches covering alternative courses of action to be followed in view of developments. As it happened neither of the stated courses were appropriate. In despair the speech-writers appealed to the President as to what kind of speech he would deliver. 'Oh,' said Roosevelt, 'weave them both together.' One finds that this course appears to have been set as a pattern for the production of Presidential speeches at least if one judges by a volume of speeches *With Firm Purpose* issued by the US Information Service.

In this fortunately slim volume one finds gems of Johnsonian thought which glitter like the paste they are. A delightful misquotation of the most Freudian kind appears on Page 8 when Jefferson is quoted by Johnson as saying 'Our interests . . . will ever be found inseparable for our moral duties.' In John-

son's recapitulation of this saying (and he's great on recapitulation) he makes it clear that for should read from.

In the same speech (June 6) he goes in for the seasaw utterance which ultimately boils down to saying nothing or expressing two mutually contradictory desires. For example: 'We have—as our forefathers had—a decent respect for the informed opinions of mankind, but we of this generation also have an abiding commitment to preserve and perpetuate the enduring values of mankind'; and again: 'We are grateful for the progress that we ourselves have achieved. . . . But the need of man—the need of these times—is not for arms races or moon races. . . . If competition there must be, we are ready. . . . The same volume gives the US intervention in Dominica as an example of co-operation in the cause of peace.

### WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE

Space does not permit examination of the jargon, double-think and gobblede-gook with which the President and his advisers on foreign policy abound. The *New York Times Magazine* interview of July 6 is ample proof, but one final detail culled from this source can bring this Disneyland tour to a merciful close. On the President's office wall over his desk is a quotation from Livy (in English) relating to Lucius Aemilius Paulus, a Roman Consul, who advised civilian military critics to keep their mouths shut unless they wish to actively participate in the war. A word to the wise may be sufficient but President Johnson, to say the least, is not a man well-versed in the classics or he should know that Lucius Aemilius Paulus was defeated by the Carthaginians at Cannae under Hannibal, Aemilius Paulus was slain. The battle was, however, fought against his advice.

JACK ROBINSON.

Browning she makes public her private desires but the world in which Elizabeth could sing 'I thought once how Theocritus had sung of the sweet years. [The dear and wish'd for years' died with the little Portuguese for Tina's 'Rain on the streets. [you walk away] into the grey-ness. [the tears on my cheeks]' is the backcloth for these songs of love. And while we envy the man who is the vessel for this wine let Tina Morris cry her own cause with her own words for 'most of these poems were written for my husband & are purely personal—but they are also a part of the great universal love which is already here but waits to be rediscovered—love of man for woman & man; & woman for man & woman: a pure & beautiful being-ness—of touching & and holding hands or

kissing—all without urgency or need for anything further: a clinging-together thru this nightmare existence. For this is real love which comes from the deep blue underwater of the soul without reference to genitals or intellect. Somewhere deep within man sounds a note which, in the depth of other worlds, forms a melody of pain, joy, suffering, terror & love. We cannot avoid being part of that music: it is the god [angel/beast] life of man: & the hate & the love are part of it. Thus I cannot help but love you even if you will not feel my presence or acknowledge the echo of my longing to touch some hidden part of you—beyond thought or logic—and with my love bring small flowers to bloom along the pathway of yr being. Tina Morris 19 July 1965'

ARTHUR MOYSE.

## Would YOU press the Russian Button?

ONE MUST say of Unity Theatre that they do have a go. Their latest, 'There's a Megabutton on My Living-Room Floor' has the basic plot of a citizen awakening to find that the military have taken over his living-room and have installed a doomsday machine which he has the democratic right to press or not at six a.m.

Whether he does or not, and a rather confused sub-plot of mistaken identity, is the whole gist of the play but there are attempts at audience involvement which not only failed to achieve the alienation-effect so beloved of Brecht but almost succeeded in estranging me altogether from Unity Theatre.

One diversion will suffice to illustrate. A gentleman purporting to be from 'St. Pancras Civil Defence Corps' gives a lecture on Civil Defence and fall-out after the first interval. This has all the aura of an old-time music hall act and the final culmination of asking the audience to place their heads in brown-paper bags provided by the management is good pantomime stuff but not, I should think, quite suitable to the purpose of the play. One knows that Civil Defence handbooks are good clean fun but one is left with the same feeling after seeing the Sale of Indulgences scene in *Luther*. Good stuff, but what's it got to do with anything?

Michael Cronin overplays Beethoven, the agent of the CIA. He plays him as if Dr. Strangelove were playing the part of Jack D. Ripper. There is a fearful lot of anti-Americanism on tap and turned on in his overplayed and over-written part. The English foreign office type, Mellows, is like a combination of Michael Stewart and Wilfred Hyde White but lacks the polish which the part demands.

When it comes to political arguments, it is assumed that America is the sole aggressor (even Mellows upbraids them for double-crossing British imperialism); the arguments about a thinly-disguised Viet-Nam are very *simpliste* and one-sided. True, the British representative tries to put another case but this is very mildly put as a mere formality since the citizen, Mr. Freeman, has to appear to make a choice.

But the direst confusion is in the story

line which involves the CND. Knowing the FBI and CIA's suspicious natures, it is highly improbable that a citizen with any member of his family having CND connections would get security clearance. However this CND connection—which is really the Committee of 100—is very important to the plot but since the whole stress is upon the villainy of the Americans (they are even prepared to shoot a dog to get their ends), it evades the point which is always the point of the Committee, that East and West are equally to blame.

The play is lacking in universality and it is given an unpleasing partiality which ruins what could have been a good idea.

JACK ROBINSON.

## Dear People, Cats & Dogs, please note

CORNERED BEEF in contact with sewage water, recently caused an outbreak of typhoid.

Apparently the distributors of the meat are undismayed, because the contaminated supplies are still in store and they propose to re-process and sterilise the putrified portions, then sell the resulting mess to humans. If they discover that people are still put off by the thought of rotten corned beef in general, it will be fed to dogs and cats.

Source of information: 'Today' (BBC 23/8/65). We have been warned!

TONY HULSE.

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## Anarchist Federation of Britain

Co-ordinating Secretary: Frank Hirshfield, 4 Albert St., London, N.W.1.

### London Anarchist Group 1&2

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

Aug. 29 LAG Two meeting and report followed by discussion.

Sep. 5 Wynford Hicks  
Subject to be announced

Public Meetings every Sunday Hyde Park 3 p.m. Correspondence to J. Rety, 10 Gilbert Place, W.C.1.

**NOTTING HILL ANARCHIST GROUP.** Secretary N.H.A.G. Flat 3, 5 Colville House, London, W.11. Meetings 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at above address.

### OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month at Jack Robinson and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rumbold Rd., S.W.6 (off King's Rd.), 8 p.m.  
Last Thursday in month: At George Hayes', 174 McLeod Road, S.E.2.  
2nd Friday at Brian Leslie's, 242 Ames-

### REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

**BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP.** Details of meetings from Peter Neville, 12 South Grove, Erdington, B'ham, 23.

**BRISTOL FEDERATION.** Enquiries to John Coveney, 12 Normanton Road, Clifton, Bristol, 8.

**CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Mike Crowley, 36 Whitaker Road, Tremorfa, Cardiff.

**DUNDEE GROUP.** Contact Mike Mallet, 20 South George Street, Dundee. Meetings Saturdays 2.30 p.m.

**GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP.** Correspondence: Joe Embleton, 11 Balliol Street, Glasgow, C.3.

**MEETINGS at Horseshoe Bar, Drury Street, Tuesdays at 8 p.m.**

**MANCHESTER & SALFORD ANARCHIST GROUP.** For information contact c/o 4 Ouse St., Weaste, Salford 5, Lancs. Open air meetings Sundays at Old Shambles, Victoria St. at 8 p.m. FREEDOM selling Saturday afternoon, Central Library.

**ILFORD LIBERTARIANS.** Regular meetings and direct action contact W. E. Rodgers, 4 Sheldon Road, Dagenham, Essex.

**MERSEYSIDE FEDERATION.** Enquiries: Barbara Renshaw, 4 Clarence Road, Devonshire Park, Birkenhead, Cheshire.

**ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP.** Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maureen Richardson. Next meeting September 19. 5 p.m.

**OXFORD ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact H. G. Mellor, Merton College, Oxford.

**SURREY ANARCHISTS** are invited to meetings on the first Thursday of every month at Chris Torrance's (63 North Street, Carshalton, Surrey—please ring three times) and on the 3rd Thursday of every month at M. Dykes, 8 Court Drive, Sutton, Surrey. Both meetings 7.30 p.m.

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

### PROPOSED GROUPS

**WEST KENT LIBERTARIAN ALLIANCE.** Anybody interested contact Peter J. Clarke, The George, Frant, Sussex.

**NORTHOLT ANARCHISTS.** Projected formation of group contact Jim Huggon, 173 Kingshill Avenue, Northolt, Middlesex or Miss Jean McLean, 6 Epsom Close, Northolt Park, Middlesex.

**NORTH-WEST ESSEX.** Close to W. Suffolk, S.E. Cambs. and N.E. Herts. Contact Robert Barltrop, The Old Vicarage, Radwinter, near Saffron Walden.

**HULL & YORKSHIRE (East Riding).** Anyone interested in forming anarchist group contact R. A. Baker, 6 The Oval, Chestnut Avenue, Willerby, E. Yorks. Phone: Hull 58543.

**SUNDERLAND (Co. Durham).** Proposed Anarchist Discussion Group. (Syndicalists welcome) at Geoff. Edwards, 'Side House', St. George's Terrace, Roker, Sunderland, Co. Durham.

**LEEDS LIBERTARIAN ALLIANCE.** Anybody interested please contact Roy and Frankie Todd at 15 Clarendon Place, Leeds, 2. Telephone 24282.

**NEW ZEALAND.** Auckland Anarchist Group. Public Meetings every Sunday in Myers Park at 2 p.m.

## Property or People ?

On R.J.'s article 'A World For Debbie' it is not correct to assume (though he has not directly done so) that property values will drop as immigrants move in; in fact the reverse is often the case, especially when the houses are bought by unscrupulous landlords for multi-occupation. The values of property drop when the neighbouring whites move out, and this is, unfortunately what the whites will not see. When they talk of the value of their private house investment (which may have taken 30 years to buy) dropping, they seem to forget it drops because the neighbourhood lacks solidarity-social cohesion and really it is their own fault, a really cohesive neighbourhood should be able to absorb newcomers.

The whites' difficulty is that they have regarded their house as a piece of capital and not as part of a community. There are parts of England where different 'races' have always been tolerated, and these areas have always had a community sense, it is the 'suburban isolationists' that cannot take a new influx whether in Marshal Street, Smethwick or the new council estates (where the points system has turned council houses into a kind of private property).

The racial problem is essentially a white problem, a problem of alienation from communal values. I suggest the problem is likely to continue even if we get better houses. Houses are not the cause, merely a more obvious symptom.

Birmingham

PETER NEVILLE.

# LETTERS & Controversy

## 'Screeches' raided

Dear Editors,

Yesterday, August 19, Blackburn police raided our home. They arrived, complete with search warrant, and conducted a detailed and lengthy probe. They seized all copies of the *Golden Convolvulus*, *Poetmeats* 5, 7, 9/10 and a small poetry collection 'Whether you or I love or hate'. This latter is so obviously innocuous that we can only assume its removal was contrived to help incapacitate us as publishers. To this end they seized all files, invoice-records, mailing lists, etc., relating to our publications, including a personal address book. They also took away the original manuscripts, and stencils, of the *Golden Convolvulus* and *Poetmeats* 9/10, plus correspondence and private books from our bookshelves.

When I protested that, as far as I understood the law, they could only seize what they considered 'obscene and published for gain' (1959 Obscene Publications Bill section 3 (1)) they gave such nonsensical answers as 'if someone reads it you've gained a reader'. I also pro-

tested most strongly about books being removed from our bookshelves.

As long as the police are in possession of these books and files we are successfully prevented from functioning as a literary press.

Best wishes,  
DAVE CUNLIFFE.

## Is Anarchism Revolutionary ?

Dear Comrades,

Peter Neville's letter in the July 31 issue seems to me to call for some comment, even though belatedly.

With his view that cultural articles should appear in *FREEDOM* I have no quarrel and though my own work is largely in the jazz/blues field I certainly would like to see the wide area of music covered. However, Mr. Neville does not stop here and much of what he says in following paragraphs seems to me to be both factually dubious and showing a high degree of intolerance.

Mr. Neville says that anarchism is not a revolutionary movement but a social, cultural and intellectual movement and that 'It is a set of values for those who have rejected values and a religion for those who have rejected God'. Later he says that it is 'more akin to a religious faith than a political ideal' and 'It is not a movement of hate and bitterness and revolutionary vengeance'. Finally revolutionary propagandists are told 'to drift away to form their own group, let them produce their own paper and stop wasting the anarchist movement's time'.

I suspect that Mr. Neville is a pacifist-anarchist by his reference to the peace movement: he certainly reveals the 'holier than thou' attitude of most pacifists. I have, in fact, over the years formed an uncharitable theory that most pacifists have to be pacifists because they are by nature so violent that sublimation of their real instincts is a necessity, though no doubt this will be considered slanderous by some 'peace' lovers. However, unless there is some semantic confusion here I fail to see that anarchism can be any other than revolutionary; though to be revolutionary, a word that horrifies the pacifists, need not imply that one has a belief that the barricades are about to be erected or that a bloody revolution is just around the corner. I would certainly deny that my anarchism is more akin to a religious faith than a

**It is a particularly foolish assumption that, in order to prevent one man tyrannising over another, it is necessary to have a Government with the power of tyrannising over all.**

WILLIAM J. ROBINS.

social ideal, for the fact that I have little belief that anarchism is likely to achieve mass support in the immediate future does not invalidate its rational and social basis. The comment by Mr. Neville about hate and bitterness and revolutionary vengeance is an obvious suggestion that these are qualities found in those whom he chooses to term revolutionary propagandists but because I, and no doubt many other anarchists, can foresee a theoretical situation in which we might use violence it does not follow that we are any more prone to the ignoble emotions he lists or, any the less come to that matter, than those who believe in non-violence. Finally, if those who disagree with Mr. Neville are told to 'drift away', etc., the future of *FREEDOM* and its policies will depend on which group happen to be in control at that moment, hardly a situation which I would have thought would be very consistent with anarchist ideas.

Sincerely,  
ALBERT MCCARTHY.

Richmond, Surrey

## Red Front Rubbish

Dear Comrades,

Wearied by the silly letters that have been appearing in *FREEDOM* for some time, apparently from Comms, Trots and other vulgar-Marxists, I have so far refrained from expressing irritation in the hope that these efforts would receive adequate attention editorially. But really, an appeal for a 'Red Front' with the Comms in *FREEDOM* is the last straw. The writer of the letter appears to be a sheer political ignoramus from the stuff he writes, but the question arises, why pick on a paper with a clear anarchist history to air such nonsense?

I suppose the fact is that *FREEDOM*, by its liberal policy of publishing just anything that is submitted to it, offers a free platform for the propagation of material which is utterly antipathetic to anarchism, if couched in the tedious stereotypy of 'revolutionary' jargon. Anarchists throughout the world know that among their bitterest and most implacable enemies the Communist Parties and their fellow-travellers are the most dangerous. This is not a matter just of ideological difference, but one of betrayal, murder and systematic extermination according to the circumstances. The Communists are just one degree worse than, say, the Fascists, the Nazis, the Catholic church and the Ku Klux Klan—for these stinking organizations never pretend to have any limited sympathy or community of interest with anarchists. In certain circumstances, however, the Communists put on the mask of hypocrisy and appeal for a Red Front with those whom, if they get the chance, they afterwards murder, and follow up such murder by a campaign of lies and

character-assassination.

I would not like to see *FREEDOM* used as an organ for spreading racial hatred; I would object. Equally I object to its being used as a means of whitewashing the enemies of all libertarianism. I have no doubt that some of the writers, to judge from the naivety of their defence of Communism, and their sheer ignorance of the facts about not-so-distant history, suffer from no more than a wish to get their names in print, without having done their homework.

About a year ago, *FREEDOM* was getting a number of letters from self-styled anarchists who demanded that 'we anarchists' should throw ourselves into the struggle to carry Mr. Wilson to power because of his noble election promises. We do not hear from these 'anarchists' now. Instead it seems we have a new breed of 'anarchists' who are the soft-headed victims of Communist propaganda. We can all go out and buy the *Daily Worker* if we wish, but why should *FREEDOM* be used as an organ to retail it at second hand?

I suggest that it is up to the Editors of *FREEDOM* to take this matter in hand and publish some editorial comment on the proposed 'Red Front'.  
London, N5

T.G.

**Editors' Note.** There's always at least one reader to do our work (and their's) for us!

## Help us Double our Readership in 1965!

### One who regrets

Dear Comrades,

Last year you printed a letter from me suggesting that it was better to vote Labour than allow the Tories to return as the result of abstention.

Since then we have had Selwyn Lloyd-type economic policies, support for the Americans over Vietnam and now, the Immigration White Paper containing proposals more obviously racially inspired, more drastic, and more shameful (remembering the Labour Party's opposition to the Tory legislation) than the original Commonwealth Immigrants Act. Therefore, I do most earnestly regret my advocacy for the Labour Party.

Who are the lepers now?  
Yours fraternally,  
London, NW8 DAVID ROSE.

### OUT OF THIS WORLD

## 'Los Angeles: Failure of Violence' -Peace News

TEN THOUSAND TROOPS quelled the riots in Watts, Los Angeles, after 34 deaths, including 28 Negroes, 862 injured, mostly Negroes, and 3,000 imprisoned, practically all Negroes. A conference in Birmingham (England) called on all West Indians 'to mobilise in self-defence against the threat of the Ku Klux Klan to throw burning crosses into West Indian homes'. A scuffle broke out at Wolverhampton after ITV interviews with white and coloured men. A new tin roof at a cost of £120 has been put on the houses of Mrs. Lyndon (Lady Bird) Johnson's Negro tenants on her Alabama farm. The amount paid for repairs is seven times the annual rent. The President's wife no longer farms the land but she has instructed the overseer to let the tenants stay as long as they like. 'I ain't got no complaints,' says one of them. After (reports the *Telegraph*) living in one of the houses for ten years he has a dry roof over his head. 'Mrs. Johnson ain't been here for three or four years now,' he said. 'I guess she's pretty busy now that Mr. Johnson is President.'

IAN VINE

CALIFORNIA STATE SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD warned the California legislature, Governor Brown of California and other state and local agencies seven months ago of the possibility of grave unrest in Los Angeles slums. Their suggestions were not only not implemented but earlier 'programmes were placed in jeopardy by cuts in funds'. Dr. C. Peach of the School of Geography, Oxford University, writing in *Race*, the journal of the Institute of Race Relations, says that the Commonwealth Immigrants Act of 1962 led to an immediate increase in immigrants. An analysis of the patterns of immigration from the West Indies over a long period shows, says the writer, that this immigration has consistently followed the demand for labour in Britain. Immigrants, nearly always, even if they did not have jobs to come to, had recent letters from friends and relatives in Britain saying

that jobs were available. . . .

A NEGRO PRIVATE in Fort Benning, Georgia, who is on hunger-strike as a protest against his posting to Vietnam will, says an Army spokesman, 'be ordered to eat when it appears that he is deficient in combat readiness' and 'if he refuses a direct order, the consequences are covered by regulations'. According to the *National Guardian*, an American draftee who did not wish to go to prison as a CO as he curiously states 'there is, to a great degree, a more derelict, criminal and in general bad element of our society within our prisons, I decided to allow myself to be inducted'. He thereupon made his protest from within by distributing leaflets against the Vietnam war immediately upon induction. The leaflets were confiscated, and whilst waiting for a further stage of the preliminaries he drew up and circulated a petition protesting about the use of the army in Vietnam or Santo Domingo. He got 21 signatures out of about seventy-five draftees but was stopped by a sergeant who shouted at him. He shouted back, 'this so surprised the sergeant that he quietened down'. The draftee thereupon made a speech. He was put under guard whilst he went through physical tests but refused to sign a loyalty oath. Finally he was sent to the security officer, who told him he needed security clearance and would not now be drafted. 'I then told him that he could not keep me out of the Army because of my politics even though I do refuse to fight in Vietnam. I was told that they would call me and for me not to call them and that I should go home—which I did'. Two British soldiers pleaded guilty at Bow Street, London, to insulting behaviour, and breaking a window valued at £3 at 11 Downing Street. One threw an Army thunderflash in Downing Street and said, when caught, 'I am a Communist, and I'm fed up with the way this Government is running the country.' . . .

A STORY OF a plot by an Irish marquis to assassinate Mr. Harold Wilson was denied by the Marquis, who had been deported from the Scilly Islands. The *Daily Worker* apologised for an error in transmission, in naming a company director sent for trial on a charge of committing a felony in a synagogue as 'Peter Cadogan' instead of 'Aubrey Desmond Cadogan'.

A SOUTH AFRICAN warden was sentenced to three years imprisonment for making false statements about alleged ill-treatment of prisoners. The prosecution said he was young and inexperienced and in financial difficulties. The prosecution stated, 'The nigger in the woodpile was Pogruind [a white reporter] who was determined to get a story that would hit the headlines here and overseas. . . . Money was the paramount object in his mind when he committed this wicked folly.' He was, it was stated, a weak character of almost subnormal intelligence. It was said that the so-called 'torture machine' was an electronic therapeutic machine. Shouts of agony and pain came from the room next door where corporal punishment was administered under the supervision of the district surgeon. There were in Cinderella gaol, said the chief warden, 'many big criminals and not all could be treated with kid gloves. But we never use more force than necessary.' The Editor of the *Rand Daily Mail*, which carried the warden's story, has denied that any money was paid to the warden. The editor's and the reporter's passports have now been confiscated and the newspaper offices searched and documents taken away. . . .

ROBERT PITMAN of the *Express* reports that when he rented Harold Wilson's bungalow in the Scilly Islands he was told to be sure to replace the dustbin lid. This he found was because 'about the largest rats in the world' feed on the Wilson dustbin. JON QUIRONE.

# THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

ANARCHISTS SEEM to be almost the only people who refuse to stand for 'The Queen'. Not that very many people today care about her in the way that our jingoistic grandparents did, but the great apathetic mass still feels obliged to raise its arse and pay lip-service to an institution which means nothing to it.

It is interesting to classify people in terms of their obedience to this custom. At the extreme of the scale are the British Legionnaires and other patriots who genuinely believe in The Queen and The British Nation with fanatical religious fervour. They stand on principle—anywhere, even when at home in front of the telly. I suppose they carefully avoid having it within earshot when they're in the toilet, though I wouldn't be surprised if a few of them stand up there too. Very inconvenient.

Then comes by far the largest bunch, those who don't really care, but feel obliged to stand up because of the fact that it is an antiquated custom. They are usually very frightened of what the neighbours would think, or, if they are policemen, musicians, councillors or people with 'positions' to keep up, they do so because it would be unthinkable to

set such a bad, disrespectful example—and they would lose their positions too! These are the sort of people who only feel obliged to stand when there are other people watching. They're not patriotic enough to do it at home. If they can get out of the cinema in time they avoid standing for the Anthem.

Then comes the political left. When they don't fall into the last category they are expert at producing excuses. By far the commonest is that while they regard The Queen as a stupid anachronism in a some-day socialist society they do believe in the pride and sovereignty of The Nation (though they usually prefer to talk about The British People). They will expound for hours on the point that it is not The Queen herself they are standing for. The other excuse is that Royalty is a good tourist attraction, which brings in much needed foreign currency; and that they must therefore uphold the institution although they despise it. These people only stand in public too.

Last of all there are anarchists, who don't stand because it is a principle. We take an almost perverse delight in sitting down (even if we're already standing) whenever they play the bloody thing. And apart from the protest angle, and the faint chance that someone will be shocked out of their apathy by the sight of someone prepared to sit down for his principles, it's a real entertainment. The looks, the whispers, the occasional attempts by bystanders to forcibly uplift one, give a better insight into the sick mentality of our civilisation than a thousand books could ever do. I'm thinking of buying a pocket tape-recorder, so that the next time I go to a public place where they play the National Anthem I can record some of the abuse that's thrown at me. I might send it up to the BBC. It would be much better than 'Not So Much a Programme'.

## RELEASE SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE POLITICAL PRISONERS!

Demonstration:  
3 p.m., September 19th  
Belgrave Square

Demonstrators are asked to carry a placard stating a prisoner's name, length of sentence and whether he is Franco's or Salazar's prisoner. They are asked not to bring other banners, flags or posters.

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# Once Upon a Wage Freeze

By AUBREY JONES

THE NATIONAL BOARD for Prices and Income has made its first report on incomes, and had the misfortune to be lumbered with the printing industry. It was quite obvious from the beginning that the 1965 wage award did not exceed the Government's 'norm', although George Brown in submitting the award to the Board included the tail-end of the 1962 agreement, whose last payment finished in January 1965.

The report starts off with a brief outline of the negotiating machinery in the print and the wage structure, which is factual and common knowledge to print workers. It states the demands submitted by the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation on behalf of the print unions which was:

- (a) a three-year agreement with weekly increases each year of 15s. for craftsmen in London and of 17s. 6d. for those in the provinces;
- (b) increases for non-craftsmen and women based on higher percentages of the craft rates than hitherto;
- (c) consolidation of 10s. of the cost-of-living bonus (then standing at 19s. 0d. for men and 14s. 6d. for women);
- (d) adjustment of the cost-of-living bonus for men and women by 2s. 0d. a point rise or fall in the Index of Retail Prices (instead of

1s. 10d. for men and 1s. 5d. for women) and to be made half yearly instead of annually;

(e) retrospection to March 31, 1965, if agreement was not reached by that date; and

(f) increases in provincial evening and morning newspaper extras proportionate to the increases in the basic craft rates.

Also domestic claims covering about 76 points.

The unions based their claim on the right of their members to share in the increasing prosperity of the industry. The employers replied in the usual manner that they were skint. After some to-ing and fro-ing, print workers accepted:

- (a) agreements to last until the end of 1966;
- (b) increase for craftsmen in all areas of 10s. 6d. a week from May 17, 1965, and a further increase of 12s. 0d. a week from January, 1966 (see (c) below);
- (c) Proportionate increases for non-craftsmen and women workers from the same dates;
- (d) consolidation into the basic minimum rate, in two stages each of 7s. 0d. (5s. 0d. for women) of part of the accrued cost-of-living bonus of 19s. 0d. (14s. 6d. for women), the effective dates being May 17, 1965, and January, 1966;
- (e) adjustment of the cost-of-living bonus in January, 1966, to take account of movements up to October, 1965, at 2s. 0d. a point for men and 1s. 7d. for women, with 6s. 0d. for men (or 4s. 9d. for women) of the total bonus then accruing being offset against the increase in basic rates that would then

be due. Domestic claims would not be pursued if they cost money, and there would be no interference with production to enforce the claims.

It can be seen that print workers compromised a great deal. I do love the part where the C.O.L. is less for women, I hadn't realised that food is cheaper for women.

The Board in its conclusions on the 1965 agreement states that the increases on May, 1965, are in keeping with the 'norm' but in less than a year there will be a further increase which will go above the norm. One important recommendation the Board did make was that the *cost-of-living bonus in the printing industry should be eliminated when the next national wage settlement is made.*

If the print employers want real trouble, let them make that a condition in the next wage agreement. It doesn't reflect the real cost of living now but at least it helps. Print workers are in no mood to accept a wage freeze and possible wage reduction.

The report in effect is an attack on printworkers pay and conditions, but what else should one expect if you sup with the devil. Other workers should be warned by this experience—leave severely alone. It is reported that the Natsopa General Secretary did not attend the second session of the Board, the first must have been enough.

George Brown's Wage Freeze Board is 'out', the real fight is going to come when the Board has powers to enforce its recommendations, and that time is not so far off.

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

## Contact Column

**Glasgow.** Glasgow Anarchist Group are having a 'bus run to Edinburgh on week-end September 25-27 as a get-together for libertarians and sympathisers. Cost per head 50/- including Saturday lunch; bed and breakfast Saturday-Sunday. Twelve seats still available. Raffles in aid of food parcels, etc. for Stuart Christie. Contact R. Lynn, 2b Saracen Head Lane, Glasgow, C.1, if interested.

**Hull—Accommodation.** Painter-teacher, man, wants lock-up living/working quarters (reasonable rent) from beginning October. Unfurnished if possible. Central or other busy district preferred. Box 12.

**Minus One.** Individualist anarchist review No. 9. Now ready at Freedom Bookshop.

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Waste                   Why?  
Politics!

3/d. each plus postage. Orders to Bill Sticker, c/o 17a Maxwell Road, London, S.W.6.

**Illegitimate Parents!** Young couple would welcome other readers' experiences of whether children in a stable home are likely to suffer if their parents aren't married. Also whether one loses many state benefits (or liabilities) in this situation. Darke, 29 South Villas, London, N.W.1.

**Correspondent.** Dutch anarchist—speaks English — wants English anarchist correspondent. Arthur Mendes-Georges, c/o W. de Lobel, Wilgenstraat 58b, Rotterdam 11, The Netherlands.

**New Zealand Federation of Anarchists.** First Annual Congress, December 26 to January 6. Enquiries Box 5455, Auckland C1, NZ.

**Vietnam Posters.** 'Who Loses in Vietnam—Always the People'. 4d. each. 30/- per 100. Orders to Freedom Press.

**Room Wanted—London.** Shift worker would like room with mod. cons. South, or West Kensington. Box 11.

**Leicester Accommodation.** Unfurnished cheap weather-proof accommodation wanted by mature (?) student, wife and two children. Any proposals (sharing, etc.) considered. Mike Radford, 90 Westfield, Harlow, Essex.

**London Accommodation.** Couple and son (two years) seek 2/3 unfurnished rooms, North London. Box 8.

If you wish to make contact let us know.

## Air-Conditioned Nightmares

THE BOOM in office building was already over when the Government imposed restrictions on their erection in Central London, but many companies had made certain that their new prestige office had been built. Some of these are so vast that they provide office accommodation for employees of a number of companies. The buildings are usually of framed concrete construction providing large areas of uninterrupted floor space, which can be used as typing pools or for other office machinery.

What is it like to work in these places? As they are prestige offices, the toilets and washing facilities are good, but the actual atmosphere of the places is often dreadful. Instead of being well ventilated, they are air-conditioned, which pervades the air with a sickly smell. Add to this the noise of a typing pool, and the conditions become far from pleasant.

And office workers are also experiencing changes in the methods of working. These, like those in manual industries, often place further burdens on those operating them. For instance, girls who type from tape recorders, or audio-typists as they are now called, are feeling the strain more so now than when they took their shorthand notes straight from the boss. Then, everything could be corrected as they went along, but now the words of the boss, mistakes and all, tumble out of a machine.

The National Institute of Industrial Psychology have been investigating these work conditions and have come up with some recommendations which the employers will not like very much. They suggest that instead of having one morning tea-break or just a cuppa while working, the office workers should get two tea-breaks during which time they should be able to relax and read magazines. They also say that venetian blinds mesmerise the girls and together with the extra strain, can make them feel giddy. In fact, the very vastness and sameness of the interiors of offices is enough to mesmerise anyone.

weak in offices of this kind, but if conditions are to be improved, eliminating the obvious strain experienced under these new methods, this must be strengthened. Truly, many of the new offices are literally 'air-conditioned nightmares'.

P.T.

## Anarchism is about People

Dear Comrades,

I have tried hard to avoid the temptation to join in the recent controversies in the 'letters' column of FREEDOM, but it seems to be time again to raise a familiar question. Several recent letters have sounded an hysterical note and indulged in personal attack and deliberate misrepresentation. If there is such a wealth of this infighting needed amongst so-called 'comrades' (even could we not have another issue of the 'Anarchist' to contain it?) It may sound like old-hat, but such violent disagreement (as distinct from fundamental but reasoned and rational disagreement) cannot help either the movement or its image—unless FREEDOM is to be the paper in which we sublimate our neurotic urges and do little else!

It is partly coincidence that I now want to discuss Peter Neville's latest letter — he certainly isn't the worst offender by any means, and I can never disagree with his fairness — only his somewhat presumptuous attitudes. He doesn't think that FREEDOM is a 'revolutionary propagandist paper', he states that anarchism is not a revolutionary movement either, but a 'social, cultural and intellectual movement', and that FREEDOM should reflect this. But Peter's attitude is as extreme as that (hypothetical) one which he criticises. If anyone asks you what FREEDOM is about, and you say 'Oh, society, culture, and intellect', you'll get mud in your eye! FREEDOM is, thanks to the Freedom Press Group, about freedom. Full stop!

# FREEDOM

## For Workers' Control

AUGUST 28 1965 Vol. 26 No. 27

## Short-time working at Ford's

THE ANNOUNCEMENT that 10,000 workers at the Ford plants at Dagenham and Halewood are to start short-time working this week, illustrates how people are the victims of the vagaries of the capitalist system we live under. The motor industry has been expanding for the last few years and in fact Fords still have plans for a new plant in Scotland, but now men face a cut of 20% in their earnings.

This and other short-time working at Hoovers in Merthyr Tydfil were not entirely unexpected. A fall in the demand for cars was predicted last autumn and the Budget measures of the Government in April, together with the recent curbs on credit, are now having their effect. Just how effective these measures were supposed to be and to what extent one can say they have been planned is anyone's guess.

Fords, for their part, put the blame squarely on the Government's credit squeeze and also point out that unless there is a good home market, costs will go up and affect their exports. While the Government's measures are designed to cut down spending here and to reduce imports, their aim is to increase exports and so gain a good balance of payments position. There may be other methods of trying to achieve this, such as controls on imports, but the Government is using the very method of 'stop-go' for which it condemned the Tories. These measures create economic stagnation and lead to unemployment. On the other hand, expansion could lead to inflation and a still bigger gap in the balance of payments.

### GOVERNMENT HELP

These are the problems that face a system based on profits and will continue to exist while that system remains in existence. The basic problem for British capitalism today is productivity. The employers and the Government want

more work done by less workers, the redundant workers being trained, with the financial assistance of the Government, for industries in which there is a shortage of skilled labour. The Labour Government, with friends and supporters as Trade Union leaders, are in a better position to carry this out and to overcome any opposition from the workers affected than a Tory or Liberal one would be.

Methods of curing, or rather patching up, these difficulties always hit the people who sell their labour. It is true that an abundance can be produced to meet the needs of everyone, but capitalism works best when it is supplying a demand. If more than the amount demanded is produced, then production is cut back. This cut back will in turn, no doubt, affect other industries, showing that the problems of this system are solved at the expense of those who produce the goods.

If this is true, then the statement put out by the Liberal Party is rubbish and should not bamboozle anyone. They deplored the fact that Fords said that having joint consultations with the workers would not serve any purpose. The Liberals say that this attitude only 'affirms that without full co-operation between workers and management the economic problems of the country will not be solved'.

The only solution to these problems will be a complete change in the 'employer-employee' set-up. Those who are now paid in wages only a part of the monetary value of the goods they produce should control the production of these, not for the profit of the few, but for the needs of everyone. It is not 'co-operation between workers and management' that is needed, but co-operation between workers to do away with managements and others who profit from their labour.

P.T.

### LETTER

them are people for whom I have enormous personal respect and affection. They are people with whom I would like to live and work, people whom I believe have more to contribute to human happiness and satisfaction than many 'uncommitted' people and most politicians.

To me, anarchism is about people. I stopped believing in a 'movement' some time ago. There is nothing more dangerous than complete dedication to an impersonal ideal. It results in generalisations such as Peter's and Dave Coull's, and one could extend the list of offenders much further. Let us improve FREEDOM by writing better articles for it, articles which we have pruned of wild remarks. Let us improve the movement by improving ourselves and doing things rather than moaning. If we do not, we will end up by producing the splits that Peter actively welcomes — between the 'revolutionary propagandists' and the 'social, cultural and intellectual' types. And will this help anyone?

I know that some of my remarks are too general, that the Bristol comrades (including me) are no less guilty than the Birmingham ones, but at least one can be aware of these faults and search sincerely for alternative ways of thinking and acting. Experience at least gives one the humility to stop thinking any one individual or group has all the answers. Can't we cool down a bit?

Yours fraternally,

Bristol, 3

IAN VINE.