Anarchist Weekly @

MARCH 19 1966 Vol 27 No 9

Uneasy lies

the Head

AT A RECENT pre-election meeting Michael Foot was asked, in effect, if he believed the monarchy should be abolished. He said (in effect) that he did but added that it was not on the Labour Party's election programme. Without wishing to add to the list of to-be-broken promises, one might ask, in all fairness: 'Why not?'

The issue of Republicanism has been a mislaid cause in Britain for many years Even the controversial Radical Bradlaugh, reactionary though he was in other respects, thought it no shame to be a Republican, and Reynold's News (now transmogrified into the Sunday Citizen) was founded by a Republican, who published booklets on the shortcomings of the monarchy.

The whole topic has been revived by last week's demonstration in Amsterdam against the wedding of Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands to Claus von Amsberg. The issue was not simple (issues rarely are). Some were demonstrating against the Germanic bridegroom, some against the institution of monarchy, and some (one hopes) against the idea of rulers of any kind.

We are told that Anarchists took part in the demonstrations plus Provos (who, it was explained, are Beatnik types), plus, we expect, the Communists with their usual fellow travellers who are always willing to exploit any anti-German or anti-American feeling that is running around. One cannot, on demonstrations, always choose one's company. 100% purity sometimes means 100% abstention. For example CND demonstrations.

Given that participation by anarchists

OUR ANTI-ELECTION ACTIVITY NEEDS

- * MONEY!
- * ENERGY!
- * MONEY!

ANARCHY C1 ANAKUNI DI

NOW ON SALE

discusses

CREATIVE VANDALISM

ANARCHY is Published by Freedom Press at 2s. on the first Saturday of every month in this demonstration was more antiit was worth while even at the usual price of a score of arrests, a few bruised heads and the Dutch refinement of the employment by motor-cycle police of whips to keep crowds in order.

But one must compliment Dutch demonstrators whether they be Republicans, anti-Germans, Communists, Anarchists, Provos or just beatniks, who devised such schemes as severing television cables, flinging smoke bombs where they would be seen on the screen, marching to a memorial to dockers who struck against Nazi persecution of the Jews. There were also the frustrated geniuses who thought up (or so we are told) supersonic devices for scaring the coachhorses and a plot to divert the public from gazing at Royalty by a mock drowning in the canals.

Whatever the plots and stratagems that went astray that day, one can believe Noel Whitcomb in the Sun when he says, 'Most Dutch people tonight say they feel ashamed. Yet many of these same people admit they are privately glad that some expression of the widespread opposition to this marriage was made. And they are especially glad it was made by a "lunatic fringe" they can publicly

This is the usual situation with demonstration no matter how small, how seemingly futile, how ostensibly derided. Once the issue gets to the size of being a demonstration the point has been made. Like an iceberg the 'antis' who are prepared to show above the surface are only one tenth of the silent mass which will ultimately wreck the institution which the demonstration is against. Sometimes the demonstration itself is the sign that the institution has already passed into limbo.

Only one third of the people expected turned out to see the royal wedding and 24 out of the 45 Amsterdam city councillors boycotted the ceremony.

The special circumstances in Amsterdam, with a German bridegroom and memories of the occupation, were probably not the only factor in the decline of the magic of monarchy. Sir Charles Petrie (author of a book on the monarchy) spoke on the BBC 'World at One' on March 14 about the declining interest in the monarchy as shown by the lack of newspaper coverage of the Royal Tour of the West Indies. He explained it by the fact that 'the world is getting smaller' and the marvel of world travel is no longer the exclusive prerogative of royalty. The Scandinavian countries too have a more prosaic approach to their monarchies, indeed one of them, ironically enough, has set up a Royal Commission on the future of the monarchy!

Republicanism may be a mislaid cause but indeed Amsterdam's experience may prove a stepping-stone to higher thoughts of the abolition of all rulers.

SPLITTING THE LIBERAL VOTE

RICHARD GOTT, the Guardian's man on the spot, spoke at the LSE last week. In order to further our understanding of the aims of Radical Alliance he is reported to have said, 'The Radical Alliance is a party that welcomes all those who are discontented with the present political set-up whether it be Enoch Powell, Jo Grimond or Michael Foot.'

To end our bewilderment at the purposes of Radical Alliance he urged those present to vote Liberal if there was no Alliance candidate.

Up the Garden Path with Labour

another Labour victory in the forthcoming General Election. Tribune sees it in these terms: 'For the whole Labour movement there must now be one single priority; to win the General Election with the biggest possible majority. In the next four weeks we have an opportunity to deliver a crippling blow to Toryism in Britain-one which we must not fail to exploit.'

'Before the Labour movement can start building the new society, which we want in Britain, it must demolish the old-not only the outward evidence of it in the form of the Conservative Party, but the deeply rooted Establishment forces which hinder progress in many areas of our national life.

'It has been virtually impossible to do anything of the sort with such a small Parliamentary majority.

Foot & Co. of Tribune and other left-wing Labour MPs want to see a 'new society' and yet they have missed their opportunity to oppose certain government policies, which they were against, when it was so vulnerable with its small majority. Now, when the Labour Party is likely to be returned with a sizeable majority, no doubt they will show what true and good socialists they are and vote against their party whips. Of course it will then be quite safe. Obviously what little power they did have to bring Mr. Wilson round to their way of thinking or to end his government, will be lost after the General Election.

Tribune also says that what needed is a large majority to crush the great private and corporate interests which largely control the economy 'and make possible the transition to Socialism'. I do not know who they think they are kidding, probably only themselves. Anyway, a firm of stockbrokers see it quite differently and, I think, in its true light. They say: 'It therefore seems unlikely that the return of another

any drastic departure from the general course which has been followed over the past 16 months. Under the leadership of Mr. Wilson a return to the wilder forms of Socialism appears unlikely, particularly now that Labour has bid for and gained a sufficient proportion of the "Centre Vote" to enable it to have formed the Government.' 'A DECISIVE RESULT'

So the 'interests' which Tribune say can be crushed by a large majority are not in fact worried by this prospect. In fact, they would What prefer the larger majority. they fear more is a stalemate: 'This would be the worst possible outcome in view of the continued uncertainty which it would create. The economy has operated in virtually an election atmosphere for the best part of three years and has almost certainly suffered as a result. It is to be hoped that the voter will realise that a decisive result is of the greatest importance and that this

will in fact be achieved." Mr. Wilson is an extremely astute politician and one who positively He has, by his enjoys power. policies, tried to ensure that he remains in power by clearly aiming at what George Orwell would call the 'lower middle class' vote. The small disaffections of the traditional working class voters will be more than adequately offset by the votes of the former.

Wilson and Brown want to see a partnership between the trade unions and capital. The earl, warning wages legislation, which is still part of Labour's policy, is part of this tie-up, leading eventually to a corporate state. The leaders of the Labour Party say that there are no class interests, only the national interest and that we are all in this together. These are the arguments on which corporation is based and this form of state is needed if capitalism is to be furthered in this

To this end, the growth of any militancy and class consciousness of the working class must be frustrated. In fact this is what the middle class wants and will support any Government which it thinks will do this effectively.

Those on the left who support the Labour Party are, as I see it, supporting an organisation that will in the end, if it has its way, bring about a society totally alien to the Socialist Britain they think they are working for. It is utter rubbish to canvass and ask people to vote for the Labour Party when it is plain to see in which direction this Party is moving.

In many ways a period of Labour Government offers much reinforcement to our arguments for an anarchist society. I think that most anarchists arrive at this position via, what can be called, a left socialist direction. I think our task is not only opposition to all governments of any political colouring, but also to point out to Labour Party supporters that no 'new society' can be brought about by putting Labour back in power. That 'new society' will be brought about only when enough people have rejected the rule of government, the State and all its trappings. Then we can achieve the 'new society', socialism, anarchism, or whatever you like to call it.

Left-wing MPs and those socialists who give critical support to Labour are helping to perpetuate the illusion that one can achieve Socialism through the ballot box. This road of elections, governments, power and legislation is a garden path up which many socialists are led, only to come up against the inevitable brick wall. As anarchists we believe that Socialism can only be gained by direct action from below. To refuse to vote is not shirking our responsibilities, but rather an awareness of the danger and futility of giving other people power over us. BILL STICKER.

The Whores of Westminster

YET AGAIN THOSE faceless, wordweary Westminster whores prepare to flaunt their pot-bellies around the political arena. Their stupidity, slicklymarketed by party-pimp machinery, ready to be hawked around the Island. This grotesque election circus may appear only to serve as a periodic laxative for the bored party hack and a fleeting, but amusing diversion for the cynic and sophisticate; but behind the unimaginative, well-meaning pomposity, behind the glib promises, phoney-smiles, lies, bullshit and hypocrisy lurks the careerist and paranoic.

Political sales-pitch, market-researched to woo the gullible, packages constituency idiosyncrasy and prejudice to the hilt, if not detrimental to the national brainwash. That veteran bonehead, Sir Charles Taylor, MP, cleverly engineered useful cheer-leader chorus of frigid Eastbourne matrons when he last per-formed to empty benches and enraptured newshawks. Sir Charles demanded that proceedings for obscenity be taken proceedings for obscenity be taken against the printers, publishers and distributors of '... one of the most filthy, disgusting, degrading books probably that anybody could ever write'. The Attorney-General obligingly passed the book on to the Director of Public Prosecutions. 'If I give the name everybody will rush out and buy it,' simpered Sir Charlie, to the captive press. Well, sir Charlie, to the captive press. Well, the book, Last Exit to Brooklyn by US prose stylist Hubert Selby, Jr., is well worth our thirty bob (Calder & Boyars, from quality bookshops).

Meanwhile back in the States, Ron Jump, another victim of the political machine, lies incarcerated in Cuyahoga County Jail desperate for a \$500 bail.

When a cop pushed into him, he said, 'If you do that again, I'll melt you with my eyes.' They didn't do that again but they found traces of marijuana in his shirt-pocket and put him in Lima State Hospital for the Criminally Insane. In June 1965 Ron was declared legally sane in Columbus, Ohio. In November, after two brief chats with a tame city psychiatrist, he was declared insane.

On November 16, Judge White, badly wanting applause from the local citizenry, put Ron in the Lima Asylum for an indefinite period (others on the same charge receiving short sentences or pre-trial release). Ron Jump has never had bail because he is too poor to raise it and is now back in the County Jail. Defence Lawyer Ed Brown (who's invested his own money in this case), c/o 2108 Payne Ave., Cleveland, Ohio, would like donations. Judge White, c/o Common Pleas Court, Cleveland, Ohio, should be petitioned for an immediate release

John Sinclair, who runs Detroit's Artists Workshop with his wife Magdalene, had the courage and integrity to cast a little light and sanity on the State's perverse pot laws. He's now in the Detroit House of Correction awaiting a six-month sentence and three years probation for possession, and expecting an extended term when he appears before arch-disciplinarian Judge Krause on a

violation of probation rap.

Sir Charles and Judges White and Krause may be oceans apart, but when the Authoritarian State Machine imprisons our friends, and seeks to censor our literature, as a passing expediency, to further the cause of some ambitious political creep, then we must think up

positive ways to help boot all those mindless vultures off our backs, once and

DAVE CUNLIFFE.

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LIVING POEM INTERNED

LEEDS STUDENTS' Festival got under way this week, its theme 'violence (in the arts)', its opening event a neat piece of censorship. The promised onslaught of Bunuel killerkids and Franju slaughterhouses should get by untouched, but the innocuous sounding exhibition of modern poetry has already been depleted. In the bleak and genteel recital room off the Civic Art Gallery, we mounted a selection of posters, concrete poetry, and the little magazines of the underground. All very respectable, we thought-we'd even refrained from exhibiting a copy of The Golden Convolvulus, so as to avoid trouble. Not so. The director of the Gallery has just contacted us to say that he felt obliged to remove a couple of exhibits. Not a vicious jackboot type, the director-'surprisingly friendly' and 'disarmingly understanding'-this so often the way. But that magazine/sheet, Olé,

then there was the Living Poem. A blank, seven-foot-long roll of paper slanting down one of the display boards, an invitation to freedom. Along the upper edge and down one side, the stencilled lettering THIS IS A LIVING POEM ADD WHAT YOU LIKE AND HOW YOU LIKE IT WHERE YOU IT IS YOURS IT EVOLVES WITH NO DIRECTOR AND LOOK AT YOUR STREETS YOUR FACTORIES .' And the first contribution, nothing very original, just so that people wouldn't feel inhibited by the civic surroundings and untouched expanses of paper-a 4d. postage stamp with a drawing pin narrowly missing queen's head, a live match stapled just below. No. This sort of thing was too open to abuse. Especially with that stamp acting as an incitement, people would be liable to add ANYTHING. And the director couldn't see that it was impossible to abuse the poem, that it could become precisely anything that people wanted it to become. So-(premature) end of the Happening:-director interns near blank sheet of paper for fear of what people might say on it. Unfortunately, there was no audience standing by.

it was rather too pornographic. And

ANDREW LLOYD.

PATCH FOR WESTMINSTER

I am addressing you on behalf of my friend (indeed every man's best friend) and candidate for Parliament.

The candidate represents no party save himself, since he has no liking for whips, although he is widely known for loyalty and faithfulness. Neither for him is the Pavlovian reflex of division bells but he can give points to the grouse-moor mentality'

He was born and educated in Barking, he occupies a post in the City and spends much of his time in Shepherd's Bush. He did wartime service and has contacts in agriculture and does useful work for the blind. He is, by profession, a dog-fancier. He has many qualities useful to MPs, a readiness to obey the calls of the constitution, an ability to

beg, and a gift for scenting out, tracking

ABC PROTEST MARS

DUTCH COMMITTEE: ABC A Protest Mars, is organising on April 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1966, during Eastera 4-day march from Den Helder to Amsterdam (about 65 miles).

The meaning of this demonstration is to protest strongly against the making, storing, spreading and use of ABC weapons wherever they are in the world. By ABC is meant:

Atomic Biological Chemical

This demonstration is further intended as a protest against the poverty in the world that could be solved with the money now used for the production of these weapons.

During the march several cultural programmes are planned and on the night of the third day (Easter Sunday) there will be a Night of the Protest-Song with several International Protest Singers and

Folk Singers (from England in any case

Alex Campbell). The Committee was founded by Socialist, Pacifist-Socialist, Anarchist, Christian Youth and Student Organisations in the Netherlands. At this moment many foreigners already plan to come at Easter. For all foreigners taking part, food and lodging will be free, and we wish as many to come as

All contacts with: Robert Mulder, General Secretary, De Eikenhorst, Diever (dr), Netherlands.

down and following up problems.

He is of a friendly disposition and is no snob although his pedigree may show noble strains. He does not distinguish in the matter of colour, he does not practice discrimination-in religion he is not a worshipper of God, rather the reverse. He notices the tendency to idolization and enjoys and deplores

He would be quite at home in the House of Commons, indeed, if anything, he would raise the standard there. Of him it has been truly said, 'He is the only candidate who will safeguard your interests and who you can trust' So vote for Patch.

JACK SPRATT, Election Agent.

Grime on the Increase ?

DOUGLAS KEPPER and David went to Edgware on February 26 to help on the first day of the YCND-Committee of 100 project. On arrival they found the others in the station approach waiting for more people to turn up. Several Metropolitan Police swooped on them and warned that if they held a poster parade they would be arrested. Then two London Transport Policemen arrived and ordered the voungsters off the approach road on the grounds that they were trespassing. Douglas Kepper and David Boughton interceded asking why these youngsters were trespassing whilst others, not associated with CND and also hanging around, were not trespassing. Douglas and David were then arrested, carried to a waiting police van and taken to Mill Hill Police Station. Here, they were thoroughly searched from head to foot for no apparent reason and charged with trespassing. They appeared at Hendon Court on February 28 and asked for an adjournment in order to prepare a case. The London Transport Police also asked for an adjournment so that they could be legally represented. The case will be heard at Hendon on Monday. March 14.

Edgware Post, a local weekly paper, has referred to the fact that they received several protests from local people about the way the police behaved. They also reported that whilst the police were busy harrying CND members, crime in Mill Hill was on the increase.

DOUGLAS KEPPER.

Wasn't me, Miss!

THIS REPORT APPEARED on the front page of the Waltham Forest Independent on Friday, March 11.

Independent on Friday, March 11.

Walthamstow Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament this week strongly attacked people who have been painting anarchist signs on many walls throughout Walthamstow.

"The slogans have been painted neither with the knowledge or approval of the CND, and we feel it is necessary to express our disgust at this irresponsible action on the part of a few so-called anarchists in Walthamstow," read a statement from CND officers.

"We feel that the appearance of the CND symbols painted on a wall brings CND in the eyes of the public—also down to the same level of irresponsibility of those who are responsible for this action.

for this action.
"We would appeal to these few anarchists, if they intend to continue this present action, not to use our symbol, or any slogan associated with the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament."

Reactionary statements are expected from the National and Regional CND hierarchy, but this is most surprising.

The slogans accompanied by CND symbols, which CND finds so embarrassing, are as follows:-'No Race Hate', 'No Bombs-East or West', and 'Peace in Vietnam'. One each of these slogans only appeared. All other anarchist slogans painted on local walls were accompanied by neither CND nor Committee of 100 symbols.

THE SHARE OF STREET STREET, STREET STREET, STR

It cannot be the idea of fly-posting and daubing which CND objects to since the local group has been very active in this field of propaganda by deed, evidence of which can clearly be seen on many walls in the borough. That these actions were official can be proved by reading the minutes book of Waltham Forest CND Group.

Thus we are forced to the conclusion that CND, in Waltham Forest if not nationally, does not agree with. Anti-Racialism, Nuclear Disarmament, and Peace in Vietnam. This means everything CND has ever said is probably complete hypocrisy.

We are left in considerable doubt as to the true aims of CND-do we detect a trace of jackboot policy?-or is it just petty jealousy directed towards individuals who are prepared to back their policies by direct action?-which is more than can be said for the apathetic inefficient rabble who wear CND badges (these badges appear to be a flourishing

CND's long - suspected anti - anarchist pogrom appears to be hard fact, in Waltham Forest at least.

WALTHAM FOREST ANARCHISTS.

Got your tickets for the Ball?

LETTERS

SEEDS OF 'SIMPLE COMMUNITY'

Dear Comrade,

Chris Broad may be interested to know that the factory with workers' control, and indeed the seeds of the 'simple community', for which he calls, is already in existence.

Tom McAlpine in a recent talk to students of Lancaster University on Factory for Peace' modestly described the small factory, set up with a capital of £6,000, as 'an experiment in industrial relations'. It is this-and much more. Twenty-one men employ themselves making storage heaters, and they now have an annual turnover of £100,000 and sales of £4,500 a month. Last year the factory made a profit of £4,000, but perhaps even more important than the conomic success are the administrative system, the purposes of the factory and the factory's extra-mural activities. The factory community as a whole own and run the factory. The factory is administered democratically. Every two weeks for two hours the workers meet to discuss anything that concerns community policy and the factory. They fix their own wages and decide where the profits are to go. Each person in the factory takes the chair in turn and everybody, including the apprentices, has one vote. The secretary is a chartered accountant brought in for the job. Tom McAlpine, the manager, takes his turn on the shop floor, making heaters with the others. The men take in turn the job of foreman or charge hand for the week. Tedious routine is broken by a periodic change of work.

The factory supplies no goods directly for war purposes; no heaters are supplied to military establishments. Profits will be used to further the cause of peace by starting factories organised on similar lines in India and Africa and to train craftsmen. Other money and resources will be used to promote a more active community life in the vicinity of the factory. The idea of building a children's adventure playground was enthusiastically taken up by the people themselves. A committee of mothers was formed. Mothers agreed to paint the buildings and to take it in turn to serve as leader, etc. Children's parties were held at Christmas and were enthusiastically attended. A youth club is planned next. A full account is contained in 'Lan-

caster Red' (now out of print). Yours fraternally, H. K. HOLT.

Refusing Rates a Direct Action

Dear Comrade.

How many of you are looking at the rates issue, as direct action (FREEDOM, Vol. 26, Nos. 12, 13 and 14).

All my thinking life I have been aware that courts defend the tyranny of governments, but apart from protesting to the press by letter, not much can be done. Then after buying some property it wasn't long before I received a rate demand, and guess what! Two items under the 'Statement of Expenses', were: Magistrates Courts, and Registration of Electors. This was what I had been waiting for! So information was needed to prove my suspicions that courts are dominated by politics, and I at once began this task. The results were amazing, and it is beyond any doubt that politics play a much greater part than I imagined in influencing the scales of justice. To explain how and why would take much space, but a good example is events in Bournemouth in the past few months. (Bournemouth Times, too many middle class magistrates?)

I'm sure many readers of FREEDOM feel that if this goes on at its present pace (legislation PIB, etc., etc.). anarchism will be difficult to practice, even behind closed doors. I have not received a summons to

court yet, but I expect the case will be some time in March or April. It should be very interesting as how can a magistrate sit on the bench when he is directly concerned in the case. By the way, the Magistrates Court Act states he can't, for all it's worth (silly rule).

Anyone with suggestions to help me form a concrete case, please write or call. Anything could be vital, in fact, it may show the whole sick picture. Yours,

Co. Durham TOMMY COLE.

Anarchist Federation of Britain

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.

MAR 20 Jack Robinson Anarchism in Literature MAR. 27 Philip Sansom Singing and Talking the News Public Meetings every Sunday Hyde Park, 3 p.m. Correspondence to David Boughton, 10 Gilbert Place, W.C.1.

OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month at Jack Robinson and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rumbold Road, S.W.6 (off King's Road), 8 p.m.

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

Last Thursday in month at George Hayes', 174 McLeod Road, S.E.2.

4th Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at David Bell's, 19 Aberdeen Road, Highbury, N.5.

WANDSWORTH LIBERTARIANS. Correspondence to Tony Cadman, 116 Tilehurst Road, Earlsfield, London, S.W.19.

REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

ABERDEEN GROUP, Meets at the Adelphi 2.30 p.m. every Sunday. Correspondence to I. R. Mitchell, 137 Faulds Gate, Aberdeen. ARLESEY GROUP (N. Herts., S. Beds.) Meetings on first Friday of month, Correspondence to Peter and Maureen Ford, 102 Stotfold Road, Arlesey, Beds.

BEXLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Correspondence to Paul Wildish, 2 Cumbrian Avenue, Barnehurst, Kent.

to Paul Wildish, 2 Cumbrian Avenue, Barnehurst, Kent.
BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP. Convenor: Peter Neville. Correspondence Secretary: Martin Bragg. 25 Fitz Roy Avenue, Harborne, Birmingham. 15 (BEArwood 1504). Sales: Gordon Causer, 27 Upper Gungate, Tamworth, Staffs. (Tamworth 4562). Regular Meetings.
BRISTOL. FEDERATION. Enquiries to Ian Vine, 3 Freeland Place, Hotwells, Bristol, 8 CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Mike Carowley, 36 Whitaker Road, Tremorfa, Cardiff. COVENTRY ANARCHIST GROUP. Correspondence Secretary: Eric Harrison. 9 Hermitage Road, Wyken, Coventy. Contact Bob and Uma Turnbull, c/o Doctors' Residence. Stracathro Hospital, by Brechin, Angus.

GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP ONE. Correspondence to Robert Lynn, 2b Saracen Head Lane, Glasgow, C.1.

HARLOW ANARCHIST GROUP. First meeting Wednesday, February 23 at 14 Centre Avenue, Epping. Enquiries to Keith Nathan, 12 Shawbridge, Harlow or John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping.

Avenue Epping.

LEICESTER ANARCHISTS. Correspondence.
Peter Gibbon, 22 Fosse Road Central, West End.

Peter Gibbon, 22 Fosse Road Central, West End, Leicester, MANCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP, Contact: Mike Mitchell, 3 Bakewell Road, Droylesden, Meetings every Tuesday, 8 p.m. at the Lord Nelson, Chapel Street, Manchester.

ILFORD LIBERTARIANS. Regular meetings and direct action contact 212 Vicarage Road, Leyton, E. 10.

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

NORTHOLT ANARCHISTS. Contact: Jim Huggon, 173 Kingshill Avenue, Northolt, Middlesex Meetings first and third Wednesday of the month, at Jeannie's, 6 Epsom Close, Northolt Park, Middlesex, at 7.30 p.m. At Robert Barltrop's, The Old Vicarage, Radwinter, near Saffron Walden.

ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP, Knockholt, Nr. Sevenouks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt, Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maureen Richardson.

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

READING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Philip Lord, 160 Castle Hill, Reading.

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

STOKE LIBERTARIANS. Correspondence Secretary: Bob Blakeman, 52 Weldon Avenue, Westen Coyney, Stoke-on-Trent.

WEST HAM ANARCHISTS. Contact Mr. Karl Taylor, 98 Clova Road, Forest Gate, Loadon, E.7 (MAR 0367) Meetings every Wednesday.

PROPOSED GROUPS

GOLDERS GREEN AND HENDON. Anyone interested get in touch with David McLelland, 54 Litchfield Way, London, N.W.11. LEICESTER TOWN & GOWN. Get into touch with P. Gibbon, c/o Students' Union, Leicester

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE. Anyone interested get in touch with Bob Yorke, 69 Grumbold Avenue, Raunds, Wellingborough, Northants. SCARBOROUGH. Any anarchist-minded persons please contact John B. Feetenby, 29 Cambridge Street, Scarborough, Yorks.

ABROAD

NEW ZEALAND, Auckland Anarchist Group. Public Meetings every Sunday in Myers Park at

USA. ALBANY, NEW YORK. Contact E Strauss, 230 Washington Avenue, Albany. Discus-sion group meets about twice a month.

OLDER AND PERHAPS

WISER

AT THE TIME of the first AFB conference in Bristol, many inexperienced comrades, including myself. riding high on an enthusiasm brought over from the Committee of 100 and the sudden appearance of several local Federations, were somewhat horrified at the apparently cynical pessimism of members of the Freedom Press Group. who argued that our wild enthusiasms were unrealistic, and our high hopes doomed to failure. Unfortunately the ambitious aims of the AFB have not been realised, and many groups are now purely nominal. FREEDOM alone seems to go on for ever, not producing any revolutions it is true, but at least consistently injecting a shot of sanity into the political and social scene.

So having grown older, and perhaps wiser, I looked twice at Peter Neville's proposals for another conference. He is one of those rare people whose ambitions are not dulled by contrary experience, and he still seems to see things in the way that many of us did at the first conference. When I read the Editors' comments my first inclination was again to call them cynics, but then I remembered their almost unerring capacity for correct prediction, and thought again.

It is true, as they say, that no conference would get through Pcter's agenda. Nor should they. Anarchists are a small body of mostly poor and busy people. There are at present simply not the resources, human or material, to mount campaigns on Peter's 12 points of 'Action', and empty resolutions not backed by action get one nowhere. Nor does it seem fruitful to discuss his 7 points of 'Theory'. What are we out to do, decide upon entrance qualifications for association with the anarchist movement? There is no short cut to conscious anarchism anyway. One must read what the great thinkers and activists have said and done. Then one goes through a stage of being an ardent Bakuninite or Kropotkinist. Then one realises one is living in 1966, conditions are different, and one must throw away the books and start again. One finds out the hard way that a few individuals can do very little, that there are personal needs and problems to deal with too, that theory is not practice. One cannot in practice follow a 'party line'. Trying to live by a fully formulated theory, expecting a revolution tomorrow, leads to dis-Very few people get satisfaction from martyrdom. If 'Anarchism' is inconsistent with realism, then so much the worse for 'Anarchism'there will never be anything but martyrs and cynics. Because one does not mount campaigns and demonstrate one does Bristol

coming to terms with one's relative impotence probably makes one more capable of behaving and thinking anarchistically. Only when a situation arises where one can clearly see something constructive and practicable to be done is there need to act (in the wider sense) as a body of Anarchists.

What purpose could a national conference serve now? Isolated discussions of theory on a national level can only be fruitless, usually serving to increase divisions and misunderstandings. In the normal way action too must be local in the present context. At the moment I can only see the AFB successfully functioning as a co-ordinating body, an information centre (agreed, it isn't even doing this very well). The situation is not appropriate to having a national policy and programme. Peter Neville, like Peter Cadogan, seems to be asking for a political party.

His approach leads him to other problems. Peter suggests that groups should only send properly briefed delegates and not individuals. In Bristol now there are perhaps 20 or more individuals who would still call themselves anarchists. But the Federation is non-existent. Would any of us be barred from attending? He also suggests that comrades holding 'such strong ideological positions that they cannot work within the Federation' (AFB) (which he curiously equates with 'armchair activists') should not attend. But who is to define an extremist? Unshaken idealists who break into RSGS might regard me as a right-wing extremist. (Not that I deplore their activity, I once did the same thing, it's just no longer the right thing for me to do.)

If the conference dealt only with 'Administration', though not necessarily all or only the topics which Peter suggests, it might be more productive than previous conferences, having time to consider the problems in sufficient detail. Theory and action would doubtless creep in, but naturally, arising from problems of administration on which they bear. Otherwise they should be restricted to discussion in the pub.

I have not had space to develop my arguments fully, but I would ask that Peter and other comrades should think over the points I have raised for themselves before wildly rejecting them. So many local groups fail by trying to walk before they can crawl, and the AFB shows signs of going the same way. The Bristol Federation had two treasurers in its lifetime, and tried to sell a lot of FREEDOMS, Anarchys and Direct Actions. Both treasurers departed with the funds, and the debt with the FP Group is still only partly repaid. A couple of nuts finally put paid to it altogether. As the Editors say, we failed to cater for 'human fallibility'. I'm afraid that the AFB may do the same.

Libertarian Easter March Group

THERE WERE SEVERAL proposals for action but it was agreed to submit them to the AFB conference and to discuss them on the March.

Help us DOUBLE our circulation in 1966!

There will be a Libertarian Easter March Group Banner to indicate the anarchist contingent. In addition any groups that can do so are asked to provide their own slogans, banners, etc. Suggestions are: 'No Bombs East or West', 'Black the Bases', 'Strike against

Any offers of or requirements for sleeping accommodation welcomed. Roger Sandell, c/o Freedom Press.

P.S.—The Scottish March will be only for one day, not three days as announced elsewhere. March starts at sports ground outside Pitreavie at 11 a.m.

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'Dogs' Popularity Put to Vote' -Daily Telegraph

land, and seventeen per cent of the landed on Venus was sterilised, this was in answer to Western concern over the possible contamination of Venus. A nun in Edmonton said that in Alberta for the first five months of 1965, 1,397 cases of illegitimate births were reported. 'She said,' says the Calgary Albertan, 'the problem did not rest with girls alone, that boys had something to do with it.' A Catholic priest in England resigned his priesthood because of the Church's attitude on birth control.

'THIS ENGLAND' quotes from the Daily Express the deputy head mistress of the Sacred Heart Convent, Woldingham, Surrey, a nun, saying of a fox hunt which ended in the convent grounds, 'It was a delightful day. We actually made a kill in the convent grounds'. Major Marion Dunn of the Salvation Army threw her bicycle at pay-roll bandits. 'You,' she said to them, 'will go to hell. God is watching you.' She told the Sun, 'I tried to kick one of the bandits as he lay on the ground, but people got in the way. How I wish I could have done more.' . . .

MR. JOSEPH DILLON MACCARTHY, general secretary of the Moral Law Defence Association, sent a cheque for his television licence which contained on the back the conditions that the Postmaster-General condemned any TV attack on Christianity. The cheque has been returned unendorsed and Mr. MacCarthy says the BBC has committed a breach of contract. A major on trial in Cuba for a Castro assassination plot blamed his dissolute life (parties, night clubs, vice, even drugs') for the way he changed sides after Batista's overthrow [or at least this is how the Worker quotes Reuter]. . . .

THE US INFORMATION SERVICE official text of the Hon. Arthur Goldberg's address to the Pilgrim's Society (March 4) quotes Mr. Goldberg saying, 'I'm sure you all remember what Alice tells the White Queen in Through the Looking Glass, that "one can't believe impossible things." To which replies the'-and here occurs a dreadful error. (One expects the command to go forth from Washington 'Off with their heads!' or at least 'Off to the head-shrinkers!'). The typist (or was it Mr. Goldberg?) here puts the word 'Red' instead of 'White' Queen.

eliminated the word 'Red' from the stencil. The next paragraph reads "I daresay you haven't had much practice. When I was your age I always did it for half-an-hour a day. Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast." There are moments [went on Mr. Goldberg] when in reading certain of the criticism against our presence in South Vietnam, I feel that the Red (deleted) Queen would feel right at home with some of the critics, except that even she might be astounded at how many more impossible things they believe before and even after break-

LATER IN THE WEEK the US Information Service asked us to believe a statement that 'The State Department yesterday denied that defoliation efforts carried out in South Vietnam to rout (sic) out Communist forces were inconsistent with US programmes to increase that nation's food production.' This statement was issued in reponse to enquiries about a New York architect's fast to protest about crop destruction in South Vietnam. Our disbelief was further suspended by a swimming excursion in the ocean off Palomares by the American Ambassador in Madrid and the Spanish Information Minister. The United States Atomic Energy Commission conducted the eighth in this year's series of underground tests in Nevada.

A CONGRESSIONAL REPORT criticised the South Vietnamese and American Governments for failing to give more help to an estimated one million refugees in South Vietnam. The report speaks of the 'chaotic situation' which had been allowed to develop among the refugees and which might have been foreseen. Anne Sharpley of the Evening Standard reporting from Bengal on the nearfamine states that 'independent India put industry before agriculture with the result that agricultural workers are slightly worse off now than they were under the British. (The income of this vast group is calculated to have fallen by four per cent and their diet of food grains, almost the whole of their diet, has fallen from just under 18 ounces a day in 1930 to just over 15 ounces in 1964.' 'In the new India.' Anne Sharpley goes on, 'a top ten per cent own half the labour force is the agricultural labourer.

The landless ones, working only ser sonally for a few shillings a day, a few pounds a year, the ones who will die this year, if there is any dying to be done A bureaucrat who Anne Sharpley told that the lowest-paid agricultural worker only got £6 per year said, 'It is not pos They would be dead already At least twenty people were killed in Calcutta by police who opened fire on rioting mobs who were demonstrating against the failure of the Government to deal with the critical food situa-

A RECENT SURVEY by tobacco groups announced as a finding 'the better-off the social group, the more frequently large cigars are smoked by members.' . . .

In salgon work on military constructions by private companies employ 1,500 American and 22,000 Vietnamese workers at 29 sites. Before work is finished it is hoped to employ 65,000 men, whi (Newsweek says) is one and a half times the total of all industrial employment if Vietnam. Companies operating in South Vietnam have averaged profits of 20 to 30 per cent. According to Newsweek Esso and Caltex petrol and oil companies pay regular tribute to the Vietcong drive loads over the roads. The off company cannot understand why the National Liberation Front do not ra the seven million dollar oil-tank farm at Nha Be on the edge of a swar frequented by guerilla-fighters. Ether Kennedy, wife of Robert Kennedy, was reported by the Daily Express to be a 'knacky baby' (i.e. a swinging chickthe phrases are the Express's). 'Sh turned up at a party carrying a small suitcase. Then she disappeared into a bedroom and emerged in a rhinestom studded black shift which was way, w above the knees. Ethel [Mrs. Kennedy to you] explained: "Everybody was talking about Vietnam and I thought we all needed a change of pace"."

THE Sunday Telegraph reports 'Scotlant's Yard detectives have learned that the murderous shooting war in London bytween two rival protection racket gangs broke out because they failed to reach agreement to "carve up" London between them.' . . . Polling day is March 31 JON QUIXOTE.

Book of the King Hill Campaign

ment on 'Solidarity's' new pamphlet KCC versus the Homeless. Arthur took part in the famous St. Pancras rent strikes of 1960, when he and Donald Cook barricaded themselves in. At the time over 1,000 tenants withheld their rents. Barbed-wire barricades were erected on balconies, rocket warning systems in-

THIS DISTRESSING DOCUMENT of the inhuman treatment of the most unfortunate of our people, the homeless, by the Kent County Council, the forces lined up against them and their courage in face of it, will be of benefit to everybody engaged in struggle against bureau-

cratic tyranny. It exposes the brutal attitude of the Kent County Council in their dealings with women and children in their care. It shows how in law, everything is in favour of the landlord. The role of the police is clearly shown by its actions, although the written words in 'Police

Image' professes impartiality.

'The King Hill Campaign' is a story of courage and determination that is an example to us all. Seemingly at the mercy of an inhuman Council, the parents at the King Hill Hostel have stood their ground, and asserted their rights to live and be treated as human

LETTER

Thanks!

Dear Sirs.

28.2.66

We would like to express our full accordance with the sentiments revealed by Peter Neville in his letter printed in your issue, 26.2.66, under the title 'Co-ordinating the Unco-ordinatable'

Like Peter, we are not prepared to make concessions to CND policy and demand equal status with any other organization in the peace movement.

Yours fraternally, MANCHESTER & SALFORD ANARCHIST GROUP.

stalled, and the Mayor was pelted with eggs. Arthur is not an anarchist and despite all his misgivings, still supports the Parliamentary system. We thought the opinion of a man who has been in the thick of a struggle himself would be of more benefit to those engaged in the campaign than a mere restatement of anarchist principles. The booklet itself is excellently produced with a freshness of approach and presentation that we have come to expect from 'Solidarity' publications

Their actions have brought them friends, help and hope. When in 1965 Mr. Daniels moved in to protect his wife and children against eviction, he did this for one very clear reason, they had nowhere else to go.

What man would allow his wife to be evicted and his children 'taken into care' by strangers? His action started a movement, and thirteen husbands joined him and moved in, and the whole rotten set of rules laid down by the Kent County Council was challenged in no uncertain manner.

Eviction was resisted. Roy Mills and Brian Lomas went to prison and the Kent County Council got the one thing they did not want Publicity. What inhuman rules in a Welfare hostel!

Husband not to live with their wives! Three months' stay and then go hang. Children taken from their parents to be put in the care of strangers! An utterly inhuman and brutal attitude to men, women and children who need help What have they done to deserve this? They are homeless. They are victims of society not culprits. Is it their fault? I don't suppose that by and large they are any different to other people. Or that it could not happen to us all:

Who then is at fault? The system is at fault. Millions for arms, millions for office blocks, millions for the privileged, scraps for the homeless. It is the duty of a government, before all else, to provide houses for working people at rents they can afford. This is a first priority. Housing is a social service and should not be a medium for speculation and profit. Not a golden field for building societies, moneylenders and the Rachmans of this world to ex-

It is the failure of the last government and the recent government to do this that conditions such as King Hill Hostel obtain. Money should be loaned by the government to local councils at the lowest possible interest rate and land prices and price rings tackled. Local councils should give absolute priority to building houses for workers to live in Welfare hostels should be run and governed by national rules and should be only a stepping stone to rehousing and rehabilitation as normal citizens.

These unfortunate people have in their charter laid the basis for such national rules and by their courage have given hope to others. What then must they do? They are still there at the King Hill Hostel, and their actions are dependent on the High Court Ruling in the case against Mrs. Daniels being heard in the

What must we do? Help and support them.

ARTHUR ROWE.

WEEK 10, MARCH 12, 1966:

Expenses: 10 weeks at £80: Income: Sales

DEFICIT

New York: B.C. £1/7/6; Reigate: W.G. 8/-; London, N.W.3: S.C. 4/-; Cheltenham: L.G.W.* 10/-; Wolverhampton: G.U. 4/-; Maidstone: W.E. 14/-; Leeds: G.L. 2/-; Wolverbampton: J.K.W.* 2/-; J.L.* 3/-; New South Wales: C.W. 8/-5 London: J.H. 1/-; Bangor: J.T. £2; California: R.A. £1/1/-; California: Social February 5 per L'Incaricato £52/10/-; Dorset: K.G. 4/-.

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*Denotes Regular Contributor.

NOT an Election issue-But

AT LONG LAST the political parties have found a peg on which to hang their political hats. To date I must confess they had me guessing as to the differences of their policies. Now I no longer guess-it's purely a matter of who can wield the biggest stick against the workers.

The situation at the BMC works at Cowley is a godsend in terms of election material. The politico knights in shining armour proudly raise their banners enscribed 'Freedom for the Individual', what a sanctimonious crowd they are! The facts of the issue are not yet known, yet press and political leaders all climb on the bandwagon. The daily comic of the Cecil King empire really thad one in tears, I honestly believe that the time has come for the Daily Mirror to come under the heading of 'Horror Comics', and should therefore be treated as a comic in that category.

The Liberal Party have the best gimmick of the lot, they have discovered a car worker who is earning £30 per week and he doesn't think he is worth it. He has written to

Contact Column

Social. 'The Wolf', Southall (232 or 195 from Town Hall). 8 p.m., Saturday, March 26. La Vida Jazz Band. Southall Anarchist Group.

Cuddon's Cosmopolitan Review. February issue 1/6. From Freedom Press.

Individualist Anarchists. London Individualist Anarchists meet on the second Sunday of each month at 7.30 p.m. at 10 Churton Street, Victoria, S.W.1. Off Vauxhall Bridge Road.

Accommodation Vacant. One bunk empty-happy, tolerant girl wanted in s/c flat, in lowest Lambeth, details **REL 5224**

Harlow YCND. Folk 'n' Blues evening. Thursday, March 24, 7.45 p.m., Churchfield Common Room, Harlow. Admission 2/6. Details Keith Nathan, 12 Shawbridge or ring Althea Culpin (HAR 23831)

Anti-Election Leaflets. Why Vote! It gets you nowhere. 2/6 a 100 from 17a Maxwell Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

Northern 'Scene'. International Centre, 64 George Street, Manchester, March 26, 2-5 p.m., 6-10.45 p.m. 4/- entrance. Poets free.

Meeting. Why anarchists are on the march. Conway Hall meeting, Easter Sunday. For democrats who don't know and anarchists who may not Look out for speakers and details.

Organized by an Anarchist Group. Teachers. Would anyone interested in the idea of a Libertarian or Anarchist Teachers' Association write: A. W. Taylor, Basement Flat 1A, 10 St. Georges Terrace, N.W.1.

Room Wanted. Young Anarchist Girl (not very rich) wants room in London. Box 27.

Talent Wanted. Musicians, singers, poets required (for free) at Anarchist Ball, Fulham Town Hall, April 1. Write Tony Jackson, 17a Maxwell Road,

Anti-Election Meeting, Anti-election campaign in Birmingham, March 12/13, 19/20, 26/27. Meet at 5 Gladstone Road. Erdington, Birmingham 23, 2.30 p.m. on Saturdays, 10.30 a.m. on Sundays. Further information from Gordon Causer, 27 Upper Gun-

Accommodation wanted. Accommodation needed by couple (small income) with boy of 21 and baby. London. Preferred unfurnished. Reliable and considerate. Box 23.

War Waste

Why? Politics!

31d. each plus postage. Orders to Bill Sticker, c/o 17a Maxwell Road, London. S.W.6.

If was wish to make contact let us know.

Lord Byers, chairman of the Liberal Party Election campaign committee, complaining that he doesn't even work 40 hours for his £30 per week and he thinks this is wrong. Now comes the punch line—the gentleman in question believes that the only party who would ensure a strong government—guess who? Why the Liberal Party, of course. In fairness

to the gentleman concerned one can assume that he has only just started to earn £30 per week, and that his writing to the Liberal Party at this time has nothing to do with the election, it is purely coincidental.

be viewed with a sigh of relief.

Votes For Old Rope? Accepted

THE Oxford Mail, with a detachment that seems only possible to local papers where readers are nearer to the source of the truth, reports that the famous noose that has been such good news for the Tories and bad news for Labour 'has been up at least 12 months and is rotten with age. They called it the shop stewards rope'.

This quote comes from Mr. Charles Hopkins of 109 Richfield Road, 57 years old senior hand who has been 14 years with BMC. He was one of the men summoned by the workers' court to explain why he did not support their strike action. He also said: 'What I have experienced and what I have read don't coincide. I was brought to the meeting and when I walked through the crowd two men gave tiny boos. turned round and they grinned'. Elsewhere Mr. Howlett, AEU delegate, explained that he was at the meeting and said: 'All this talk about a rope hanging from a girder is a lot of nonsense. But there was a piece of string, I admit. There was no violence and nobody was threatened. The men were asked why they worked on the Thursday and they

gave their reasons'.

Mr. Joe Richards, a TGWU delegate, said that the Press 'was putting blacklegs on a pedestal'. He added, 'the strike was unofficial but Trade Unions cannot afford to make every strike official'. These people were not standing on a principle because 'when there was a threat to cut 4d. off the general group bonus last year they joined in an unofficial strike'.

Now The Times, the local paper for the big boys, is constrained to print this statement by Sir George Harriman, chairman of BMC, who said that 'as might be expected in the present climate, certain distortions of truth and fact have been given prominence but it would be wrong for the BMC to make any further statement'.

This has not stopped Mr. Hogg, who is reported in the Oxford Mail as being 'absolutely horrified' at details he learnt during his Oxford visit.

How long will print workers on the national presses stand for this kind of nonsense? Remember Daily Mail 1926?

J.R., P.T., J.R.

HULL DOCKERS' STRUGGLE

one-day unofficial strikes in as many weeks. In taking such action, the dockers have been subjected to considerable attack from the port employers who, like their Bristol counterparts. found enough cash to buy space in the local papers to attack the strikers.

This series of strikes, which include bans on night work and week-end overtime, has had tremendous support from the Hull dock force of 4,500 men. Attendances at mass meetings have been huge and this shows how deeply the dockers' grievance, which centres around the piecework earning rates, goes.

Dockers, who want a 25% increase in these rates, say that most of them have not been revised since 1947, at which time they had a Daily Guarantee of 19/-. Today this is £2 1s. 8d. According to The Week: 'The pieceworker receives, on any rate that has not been adjusted by local negotiations, the 1947 rate plus 69.575 per cent. For example a cargo at the rate of 1/- per ton per man-1947 19 tons at 1/- = 19/- (Daily Guarantee is 19/-); 1966 19 tons at 1/plus 69.575 per cent = 32/- (Daily Guarantee is 41/8d.)'. I think one must agree with The Week's statement on these figures: 'It can be seen that the pieceworker must produce about one third more output to reach the Daily Guarantee than he did in 1947. These are the plain facts of the case. Is the docker the villain of the piece? Or is it the private employer whose profits are hidden under a cloak of secrecy?'

The port employers claim that they have already revised 100 of the piece rate schedules, but considering there are about 1,500 of these, they still have a long way to go. In fact Mr. Hope. secretary of the Port Employers' Association, has called off the revision meeting with the Transport and General Workers Union, because the employers do not like negotiating under duress.

Some of the recent changes in piecework include such items, which are no doubt in tremendous demand, as children's marbles from Japan, of which about 20 tons are imported per year,

THE PORT of Hull has now had 10 and loose wet hides, a cargo last handled six years ago. Apparently cargoes of bundled hides are regularly handled at Hull, but so far the schedule for these has not yet been revised. Funny coincidence isn't it!

The TGWU has sent up a senior docks official from London, with instructions to gain the confidence of the Hull members. The official, Mr. Cronin, has said: 'We have pulled no punches during the meeting with the unofficial committee. I want to know the cause of the troubles, why there is a need for these stoppages and what is causing the discontent in the port.' He ends with the classic phrase of union officials: 'I have asked the men to discontinue their stoppages so that I can approach the employers.'

DON'T NEED UNION OFFICIALS

Mr. Cronin must either be stupid or he is just insulting the intelligence of the dock workers if he does not know the answers to the questions he poses. The best thing the Hull dockers can do is to send him back to London, although I don't suppose the London dockers want him either. Obviously the Hull dockers do not need any union officials to fight their battles for they have shown that with their own organisation, the Port Workers Committee, they are able to run the show themselves. In this they are being effective for shippers are complaining like mad. This week saw the Rotterdam-Hull ferry service, with its road transport container cargo, go back unloaded to the continent.

One thing that must be done is to see that none of the cargoes originally destined for Hull is discharged at other ports. Solidarity from other port workers could be decisive for the Hull dockers if they are to win their demands.

As we go to press, we hear that dockers have decided to call off next week's one-day strike. The reason given is so that negotiations can be resumed between union officials and the emplovers. If demands are not granted quickly it is to be hoped that they will resume their action.

I-reedom For Workers' Control

MARCH 19 1966 Vol 27 No 9

Many weird and wonderful things will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said during the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said through the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said through the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said through the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said through the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said through the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said through the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said through the next three weeks, in fact even 'Crossroads' will be said through the next three weeks will be said through through the next three weeks will be said through through the next three weeks will be said through through the next three weeks

AT THE BEGINNING of the month, Ford's management at Dagenham decided to climb on their high horse and challenge the workers in the paint spraying shop. The management decided to revise the sprayers' rest schedule -cut the period from 104 minutes to 53 minutes—and quite rightly the men decided not to stand for it, and struck

Last November when a wage agreement was signed, unions and management agreed at national level to set up an efficiency committee.

At the first meeting in late November, Ford management came forward with the proposal of 2d. an hour extra for paint sprayers, but to pay for the increase they wanted to cut the 'rest The unions wanted 4d, an hour and no cut in rest periods.

In December the efficiency committee met again, agreement was reached on pay, the unions agreed to the management's proposed 2d. an hour increase, but no agreement was reached on the question of rest period. This fact was officially noted.

Early in January Ford's decided to make a stand and informed the unions to this effect. T & GWU were so in-censed with Ford's attitude that they

declared the strike 'official' and, brother, when a dispute at Ford's is 'official' the

workers must have a real cast-iron case. This dispute looked like the battle of the giants; Ford's on the one hand claiming the 'right to manage' (this is true, Ford's do have old fashioned ideas), and the union on the other hand took the view that its authority as a negotiating body had been usurped.

The strike lasted a fortnight after which the men returned pending an enquiry by Mr. Scamp, the car industry's trouble 'shooter'.

On February 25, Mr. Scamp issued his report and recommendation, which was that the rest period should be cut to 74 minutes. This was considerably less than the time the men had been used to (104 mins.) but, nevertheless, it was way above the management's proposed 54 minutes.

Scamp's report also makes the point that management and unions at national level had made a right hash of the whole negotiations.

Ford's paint sprayers can chalk up a victory which they achieved not because of, but despite union efforts. Direct Action pays dividends when the timing is tactically correct.

AEU says 'Keep Out'

went to the States on a course of 'union organisation in the car industry'. His tutor was none other than the great Mr. Reuther of the United Automobile Workers Union. It's too bad for the British car workers if Sir Bill took too much notice of Reuther. I understand that the latter will sell an American car worker's body for two cars extra off the production line.

Sir William's visit was not a waste of time because in September of last year the AEU signed a brand new agreement with Chrysler Cumming of Darlington.

All the manual hourly paid workers are members of the AEU, except a few 'sparks'. The situation, therefore, is one union negotiating with a management to the Engineering Employers' Federation. I understand that the 'agreement' is very flexible in terms of relaxation of 'craft' attitudes

and a 'no strike' clause. If the AEU called a strike that would be the end of the whole agreement. There are no bonus schemes, no piece work, no merit money and men can do work below their grade for two weeks without loss of pay.

The AEU has signed pacts for two other factories in the NE, Cummins Engine and Birfield Transmissions. The National Society of Metal Mechanics have protested to the Employers' Federation about the Birfield agreement but the AEU has dug its heels in.

It is reported that the wages are roughly in line with that of Fords and Vauxhalls. Fords are the lowest paid of most car workers. Another interesting point, some of the workers are exrailwaymen, busmen, bakers and textile workers. The money they are earning now must be a fortune earnings, let's hope they are not on a good things only by comparison.

BILL CHRISTOPHER

Times Have Changed

In his article 'Is Glasgow Giving Up The Struggle?' Michael Buchanan treated us to a sort of montage of the stirring events of the 20's in the streets of Glasgow and rounded off the piece with a call for more propaganda to rouse the worker from his apathy. His case seemed to be that it was not only the social and economic conditions of the 20's and 30's which brought Clydeside to the brink of revolution but the intense socialist propaganda emanating from the left-wing groups within the city at the time. He went on to infer that it was the lack of such propaganda today which leaves the worker at the mercy of the capitalist and the State. The weakness in the argument is palpably obvious. Surely it was the grim poverty to which the worker was reduced in the 20's which made him accessible to revolutionary propaganda. And wasn't it this accessibility on the part of the worker which called forth the intensification of the propaganda and gave point and colouring to that propaganda?

Times have changed. Today there is

really only one instrument of propaganda that matters-and that's the oneeyed monster in the corner, TV. No anarchist organisation can compete with that. In an age when capitalists and the State own and command all mass media it is no longer meaningful simply to call for more propaganda. New modes of getting across to people must be devised

The voice to drown all voices is the voice of the workers when they take direct action at the point of production. All of us in the Glasgow Anarchist Group at present know this to be trueand whatever we do or contemplate doing, whether we hold a street-corner meeting, print a leaflet or support a demonstration, in my experience the major consideration has been whether our action carries us closer to the factory gate or further from it. I think it is better to plod away quietly, being an anarchist, than waste oneself on worse than useless ill-directed attempts at propaganda. When the workers act they make the only real propaganda.

FARQUHAR MCLAY.