

Freedom

Anarchist Weekly 60

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ties. They have to be men who will toe the economic line, will not exacerbate the class differences in society which the Tories hold dear, so that the class struggle can be held to be simply unpatriotic dogmatism from the Left, and will woo the middle-of-the-roads upon which all Governments depend for victory at the polls. If Edward Heath is untypical it is because he is so bloody mediocre that he inspires no confidence at all. There may well be a change of Party Leader before the next election, but the Tories do not take kindly to Führers when there is no national emergency. Witness their treatment of Churchill before the war, who was held at arms' length until 1940, when Britain's

in the inflammatory field of housing. And in fact Powell isn't doing it. Enoch Powell's line on immigration is quite clearly based purely on racism, not on the economics in which he is supposed to be an expert. His appeal is through fear, roused by vague emotive phrases, calculated (if indeed they are calculated) to appeal to frustrated patriots in a time of national decline. And not only are they mischievous and tendentious now, they are absolutely wrong in their prophecies for the future.

The sub-headings in *The Times* report of his Wolverhampton speech of last week indicate the undertones he seeks to generate: 'Ominous Feature', 'Tragedy', 'Deep Instinct'.

always done. They are not going to alter our identity, they are going to embrace it. The only thing that worries Mr. Powell, it seems, is that for some little time to come, their origins will be obvious from the colour of their skin. But however much his true blue hackles may rise, they are going to integrate—unless stupid racial prejudice drives them into ghettos.

Towards the end of his speech, Mr. Powell, in referring to the 'alien minority', said: 'It is impossible to contemplate without astonishment and indignation the sheer inhumanity of those who have been and are working night and day to make that tragedy inevitable.' Believe it or not, he is referring to those who

IT IS AN INDICATION of the corrupt and dirty nature of politics that when it comes to seeking power within the political set-up, a man with a reputation for being learned, intelligent and principled has simply to jettison all that and dig the dirt like any hateful demagogue. It is also an indication of how skin-deep is the culture which is the heritage of the British upper-middle-class; how a 'high-class' education does no more than lay a thin veneer of respectability over emotional sickness, squalid ambitions and frustrations seen more honestly in a pub brawl on a Saturday night. Mr. Enoch Powell has had the advantage of a high-class education. He is alleged to be a Greek scholar and certainly he can quote Themistocles when it suits him: 'Strike me if you must, but hear me.' He is able thus to impress the ignorant who are impressed by these things, and to pose as an honest man with a deep knowledge of philosophy and the courage to speak out in an unpopular manner even at the cost of personal sacrifice. A Christ-like figure almost, prepared to suffer for

POWER-HUNGRY NUT

his beliefs. Someone will no doubt eventually oblige.

If we had not had enough experience of power-hunger before, so that we can recognise it easily when we see it, we would be amazed at the ease with which Mr. Powell discards everything with which his reputation has credited him. As it is the only thing that amazes us is the extent to which he has misjudged the situation—has allowed his frustrations to overwhelm whatever judgement he may truly have.

RABBLE-ROUSING TACTICS

Whatever may be the machinery for getting to the top of the Conservative Party, it certainly does not include personality-building or using Hitlerian techniques of rabble-rousing in times of peace. Peace-time Tory Prime Ministers are nonenti-

war effort needed a dictator to match the enemy's. In peacetime, the real government must be left safely in the City—Whitehall providing the fiscal machinery for prosperity for the Right People.

Anyone pushing himself forward as Powell is doing is immediately suspect. By trying to push party line further to the right he is bringing back the 'reactionary' image of the Tories which they have been to great pains to play down over the past years. The present line of the Tories is progressive capitalism; they want us to believe that they can make capitalism work better than the Labour Party without losing the progressive-welfare-statist which experience shows to be election-winning. The present line of the Labour Party is precisely the same.

Both Parties depend upon the absence of social strife. 'In Place of Strife' is the title of the Labour statement on industrial relations but applies in essence to everything else as well—and for the Tories as well. Hence the Conservative joy at the Labour Government doing their dirty work with legislation to penalise strikers, and, of course, the Tories are equally happy with Labour's immigration controls. For the sake of electioneering, there will be pretences at differences which do not exist, but real differences must not be carried too far. This is Powell's misjudgement.

SCAPEGOAT POLITICS

It might not be too much of a misjudgement if the economic situation were so bad that scapegoat politics could really flourish. But it isn't and they can't. Lousy as the economic situation is, no one can blame the immigrants for it and expect to be taken seriously—even

The 'ominous feature' is that over the last ten years (during which immigrant men have been joined by immigrant women!) the proportion of children born to mixed marriages has declined; the 'deep instinct', believe it or not, is good old national identity, while the 'tragedy' is of a growing minority, alien here yet homeless elsewhere, (which) will have been fastened upon them and us forever.

In the first part of his speech, Powell dealt mainly with statistics about births to immigrant mothers, schools attendances, and their proportions in various towns where concentrations of immigrants appear. They show the ominous fact that where there are more immigrants, more immigrants' children get born and go to school. Fantastic! As far as the 'alien minority' is concerned, the answer comes for Mr. Enoch Powell in a report from the Institute of Race Relations, to be published on July 10 and called 'Colour and Citizenship', which comes up with the staggering find that 'tolerance is higher in areas where there is a coloured population than in areas where there is none; this tolerance is heightened by close contact with immigrants at work.'

In other words, prejudice, which is based on fear, is born of ignorance. This is precisely what Mr. Powell plays upon and if there is an hysterical tone to his remarks—and by Christ there is—it is based upon his knowledge that time is against him. After all, the immigrants' children who are getting born here are going to be educated like their English friends; they are learning to speak like little Brummies or Cockneys; they and their children will integrate as second and third generations of immigrants—Poles, Huguenots, Jews, Russians—have

offer the hand of friendship to immigrants, who do not want to maintain this nazi-type myth of alien minorities, who reject phony national identities in favour of human solidarity, who believe, if you like, that love is a better basis for human relations than hate.



Enoch Powell is making a desperate gamble for leadership of the Conservative Party. He is frustrated at seeing his own Party led by a silly mediocrity and he is prepared to sow the seeds of hatred in his attempts to do something about it. But he will fail because for all his cleverness he is a fool. We can see him in 20 years' time appearing on the telly like the ageing Mosley does today, denying that he said it at all. But if Mosley had any excuses, Powell has none. This is not 1936, it is 1969, and the world can rumble its power-hungry politicians that much quicker today. We know about scapegoat politics; we know what they are for and we know what they lead to. And we know Enoch for what he is: some kind of a nut. P.S.

Death of Spanish Political Prisoner

Here is the full translation of a letter given to us by Anarchist Black Cross which they received from two comrades still in Soria Prison, Spain. An abbreviated account appeared in *The Times* and the *Guardian* (16.6.69). A demonstration against the Franco regime's treatment of political prisoners will start from Speakers' Corner at 3 p.m. on June 29.

ON MAY 19, 25 prisoners were transferred from this prison (Soria) to Segovia. This followed a new order of classification made by the Directorate General of Prisons following the hunger strike of December 28, 1968. Needless to say, these 25 prisoners were the ones considered by the DGP to be the most dangerous. There are now 37 left in Soria, whom the authorities consider less dangerous than the others. Be that as it may, the important thing is that the DGP has now transformed the old mediaeval fortress of Segovia into a political prison and transferred the women detained there to Alcala de Henares, to make way for 'los terribles'.

The alterations in the prison have been very superficial, since the important thing for the authorities was to change this old 'Tower of London' into a political prison and take advantage of the security which it offered. Amongst the 25 people mentioned was Mario Diego Capote, from Gijon, 42 years old, married, with one son. Capote, as he was familiarly known to his fellow prisoners, not only had a stomach ulcer but suffered from phlebitis in one leg caused by bad circulation of the blood. Even though his state was considered serious, the authorities proceeded with his transfer, as one more. On Thursday, May 22, we received a telegram informing us that he had died shortly after his arrival in the provincial hospital of Segovia. What happened? Who can tell? We have however sent a letter of protest to the DGP in which we accuse them of the death of this comrade. It is unlikely that the director of the prison was unaware of Capote's condition prior to

giving the necessary order of authorisation for the 25 prisoners. According to the rules he should have demanded a medical certificate from the doctor stating that the man was unfit for transfer. The DGP should make it clear whether this had been done or not, as they would have been in possession of the man's clinical history, as of others. We have also made a verbal protest to the director of the prison, prison doctor, and chaplain, which has led to no result whatever, although they may have their own reservations on the matter.

We should like if at all possible that this letter be presented to the congress of lawyers which will be held in Rome very shortly, and to as many other organisations and centres that recognise, or claim to recognise, justice in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This would revalidate to a certain extent the document which we have already sent to the above-mentioned congress of lawyers, denouncing the lack of medical attention and other irregularities in prisons relating to the hygiene and health of the prisoners.

Insofar as it is in our power, we shall not overlook this crime. We anticipate immediate action which will take the form of a hunger strike or perhaps something else. Meanwhile in Carabanchel, the Provincial Prison of Madrid, there has been a hunger strike in progress since the 15th of this month in protest against the behaviour of the director of that prison, the all-powerful don Leoncio, the right-hand man of don Jesus Gonzalez del Yerro, director general of prisons, who, as a punishment for not attending mass, forced the acratas (young anarchist students and workers arrested in February of this year) to attend classes of Christian morality.

We ask for some solidarity with these comrades in Carabanchel, Segovia and ourselves in Soria. We do not know what action has been taken in Segovia, but we believe that it would have taken place almost immediately that the prisoners arrived.

Continued on page 3

CROESO I GYMRU

Welcome to the Police State of Western England

CROSSING THE BORDER from England into one of the Welsh counties, you will see a sign saying 'Croeso i sir Fynwy', sir Fflint, sir Frycheiniog, sir Faesyfed, sir Drefaldwyn, or sir Ddindych, according to which border you happen to cross. These represent a panic measure by the authorities to try and appease the militant Welsh Language Society in its struggle against English aggression. The other side of the coin is represented by the vast numbers of police who have been moved into Wales, reported in *FREEDOM* (22.3.69) as being 600 extra in Aberystwyth alone, and by the latest oppressive bye-laws introduced in Caernarfon. One of these proscribes the distribution of printed bills and bans processions or 'an organized body of persons' other than those taking part in the Investiture. This latter law is worded so that two people carrying a banner or placard can be regarded as an organized body of persons. Under these laws, the production of a banner or a placard can be constituted as an obstruction.

These are the lengths to which the English establishment will go in an endeavour to hide from the television cameras of the world the fact that not all the Welsh people are solidly behind their beloved monarch. It is perhaps

symbolical that the Welsh Language Society is in the forefront of the struggle in Wales. Throughout the centuries, it has been the Welsh language that seems to have caused most apprehension amongst our overlords. Thus in the Act of Union the intention was declared to extirp all and singular the sinister usages of the Welsh speech or language. This piece of legislation was an abysmal failure with the people as a whole, although the ruling class and many of the bourgeoisie were bought off with prospects of increasing power and wealth accruing from their use and exploitation of the English language. It was not until the Education Act of 1870, which enforced education solely through the medium of English, that the language began to decline among the people of Wales.

This has been slightly stemmed by the Welsh schools movement, working through a loophole in the 1947 Education Act, and more recently by the actions of Civil Disobedience by members of the Welsh Language Society, which have begun to restore a feeling of confidence in the language.

What, the reader may ask, has this to do with libertarianism? The essence lies in the attitudes of most English people

coming to Wales; indoctrinated with English cultural imperialism, they appear blind to other cultural values in much the same way that Marx, with his German indoctrination, was unable to begin to understand Bakunin's Slavonic separatist ideas. The idea that anyone should wish to be taught through the medium of another language, see road signs in another language, and receive summonses in another language, when the people concerned have the opportunity of using English, is incomprehensible to most of our visitors. They appear blinded by the Anglo-American murder machine which apparently seeks to produce a grey capitalist-consumer uniformity throughout the world based upon Coca-Cola culture. What is needed within Wales is a series of bilingual societies with Welsh as the unifying language, but where the second or 'world' language need not necessarily be English, but could equally well be French, Russian, Spanish, German, or Chinese. This would allow the people of Wales direct access to the ideas embodied in the cultures of other parts of the world without having to pass through the insular stultifying intermediary of England and the English language.

DAFYDD AP GLYN.

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POSTAGE EXTRA

Freedom Bookshop

HERE WE ARE!

Editorial office open Friday, June 20, 6-8 p.m. and Monday, June 23, 2-8 p.m.

Note new telephone number: BISHOPSGATE 9249

New address:

84B WHITECHAPEL HIGH STREET, (entrance Angel Alley), WHITECHAPEL, E.1. (Underground: Aldgate East. Exit: Whitechapel Art Gallery. Turn right on emerging from station.)

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full list on application.

WHEN ALL the documents have been exhausted and all the whispered confidences safely filed and recorded in the archives of the American libraries there will still be a need to rewrite history. The battlefield and the council chambers have given up their secrets of historical man and the inspired guesses have ground to a halt but the plotting and the scheming that has taken place within the connubial bed has yet to find a Carlyle.

From Salome's grunt and grind to Ladybird and Mrs. Wilson is a span of time yet their nocturnal ramblings must for sure have shaped the lives and destinies of millions of unfortunates. Generals appointed and cashiered for a female whim has spelt the quietus for many a common soldier and ministers have sanctioned economic ruin at the insistent nagging of that shrill voice that poisons the night air. Philosophers and poets, the sages of the Left and the militants of the Right, have shaped their programmes to suit a married scold while the inoffensive seeker after light conversation has curled up in cold-bellied fear at the basilisk eye and the wounding tongue of the woman of the house and the evening streets are littered with the human debris of men and their dogs creeping off to find the comfort of an empty room after the final female tongue-lashing, for in the realms of civilised personal communication there is always the slim white hand sliding from the belly of the marriage bed to gently squeeze the jugular vein of innocence.

So wise the Catholic Church when they cocked an ear to the Early Fathers, to Paul and Heaven and ordered that there should be no breads in the monastic cells. And here is Milton's monstrous regiment of women conscripted in a common aesthetic bond united for the noble cause of aiding the Artists' General Benevolent Institution and the Artists' Orphan Fund at the Qantas Airways Gallery at the corner of Piccadilly and Old Bond Street, W.1.

In simple-minded honesty one must admit that one entered the gallery with the dagger drawn but the arts and handicrafts of *The Wives of Members of Parliament* force one by their sheer naiveté to play Falstaff to their Mistress Ford and Mistress Page. But truth must ever be triumphant so no polite courtesies when reviewing the applied arts of *The Wives of Westminster* but a brutal valediction on their Sunday paintings for these are the wives of our elected representatives and they have the audacity to offer their petty daubs to the judgement of their victims.

I have never favoured the adolescent

Around the Galleries

humour of *Private Eye's* twice-monthly Mrs. Wilson for she has never sought or claimed public attention and the saloon bar giggling at her husband's alleged plebeian table condiments and the alleged vulgarity of her wall decorations and her unfortunate verses could only amuse a lower middle-class audience one relation removed from Rowton House. But, and may Harold forgive her, she has offered her poetry poster for public attention and all that one can say of *The Treasure* is that it is well printed. There was a simple test for Mary Wilson to use and that was to send her verses to a number of poetry magazines under an assumed name and the acceptance or rejection of them would have given her some appreciation of their worth but this she has foolishly refused to do and her jingling school-girl doggerel is here for the Town to mock. In itself it is neither better nor worse than most of the heartburn that fills finishing school magazines but Mary, Mary, why do you insist on supplying ammunition to the Tory yobs of *Private Eye*?

But for the rest of the exhibition it is

pure vicarage fete soul-searching. A good abstraction in the style of Paul Jenkins by Mrs. Kenneth Robinson. A pleasant snow scene by Countess Lloyd George and a well-handled oil in the early German expressionist manner by Wendy Batsford. It is Nina Blaker with her study of 'Helena' who wins the palm for this study of a young girl is realized in muted colours and with a firm hand and offers regional portraiture at its best but, for the rest you *Wives of Westminster*, it is back to the bedchamber and the old grind.

One would have hoped to have been able to record that the exhibition of the works of Man Ray at the Hanover Gallery at 32a St. George Street, W.1, would have been as exciting as it suggested, but it is the tired work of a minor artist with an international reputation producing poor pastiches of his own early style. Like an old banner-bearer shouting out ancient defiance, Man Ray is fighting history and losing. It is equally sad that the excellent catalogue should have failed to reproduce the best work that the exhibition has to offer. *L'Etoile de Verre* is a small seascape

in two tones of brown with a tiny imitation diamond for the moon and a thin scratch of white paint to create an illusionary reflection on the brown paper sea. So easy to assemble but only a poet could have created it and someone with wit and taste has purchased it but within the catalogue it passes unremarked.

It is a week for amateurs and ancients but in passing let us pay homage to the token retrospective exhibition of the work of the late Ernst Kirchner at the Marlborough Gallery at 39 Old Bond Street, W.1. A founder member of *die Brucke*, he suffered mental and physical breakdowns through his 1914-15 military service and was honoured by having his work proscribed by the Nazi Government. A chronic depressive, he finally came to terms with our ill-starred age in 1938 by shooting up his canvases and then shooting himself. His work is not for the English temperament with its slabs of harsh dead colours and its nihilistic subject matter but for all that let us honour this victim of our own futilities.

ARTHUR MOYSE.

Aberdeen Tenants Resist

FOR YEARS, the tenements of Holland Street and Hutcheon Street in Aberdeen—owned by the infamous Mrs. Grant—have been renowned for their inflated rents and total lack of proper amenities. The roofs leak, the windows are either jammed or allow continual draughts to blow in. The gas cookers either don't cook or are leaking. The wash-houses contain not only mangles, but mice. For company, some tenants have maggots!

Recently, a number of Mrs. Grant's tenants formed a Tenants' Association and dragged the dear lady in front of the Rent Tribunal. All the rents were reduced. One young woman, however, has been served notice of eviction. The situation is that she is a divorcee, and the flat is in the name of her ex-husband. By law then, she is a squatter. This move is, of course, simply a childish attempt by the landlord to hit back.

As a result of this filthy victimisation

(by a landlord universally known and loathed in the city), two protest marches have been carried out by the tenants. The first went to exclusive Rubislaw and confronted Mrs. Grant's lawyer in his maggot-free mansion. It must be assumed that his roof doesn't leak and that he has no mice, since he declined to join the protest!

A second march (Thursday, June 5) went (150 strong) right across the city, calling at the lawyer's office and then at the ancestral home of Mrs. Grant. Taking part were the tenants (and their kids—at one point it looked like something from the 'Pied Piper'!) and members of Solidarity, IS and Aberdeen Anarchists. Public sympathy was very real—bystanders wishing the marchers well—girls in a fish factory gave 3 cheers as we went by. The fuzz were quite tame—one even helped a kid with her poster! Dave Third, covering the march for

FREEDOM was, however, approached by a senior officer and asked who he was taking pictures for. The idea, it appears, was for Dave to give them prints. Dave declined, knowing full well that these would be added to already ample files on militants in Lodge Walk.

Mrs. Grant was not at home to her tenants and the curtains were drawn. The marchers handed in a letter, made a speech, and departed, leaving their posters to adorn her property. Her house is a guest house and such unwelcome visitors and publicity will hardly do her business much good!

The tenants have now declared a rent strike and will pay rents into a bank account until repairs are done. They are 100% united, and their courage deserves the support of every libertarian in Aberdeen. If the court does evict the woman and her two young children, Mrs. Grant could find life very nasty indeed!

This is the first real manifestation of tenant militancy in Aberdeen for years, there can be no doubt that it will spread.

IAN S. SUTHERLAND and DAVE THIRD.

Anarchist Federation of Britain

LONDON FEDERATION OF ANARCHISTS. All correspondence to LFA, c/o Freedom Press. **FREEDOM MEETING HALL:** Sunday meetings at 7 p.m. commence on July 6 with Philip Sanson on 'Anarchist Identity'. July 13 Albert Meltzer on 'Spain and Revolution'. **LAVENDER HILL MOB.** Contact C. Broad, 116 Tyneham Road, S.W.11 (228 4086). **LEWISHAM.** Mike Malet, 61B Granville Park, S.E.13. (652 8879). **MALATESTA GROUP.** Contact Reg Broad, 5 Welbeck Court, Addison Bridge Place, W.14. 603 0550. Meetings every Thursday at 'The Cedars', (upstairs room), next to Baron's Court library, 8 p.m. **PORTOBELLO ROAD ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Andrew Dewar, 16 Kilburn House, Malvern Place, N.W.6. Meetings 8 p.m. every Tuesday. **FINCH'S ANARCHISTS.** Regular meetings. Contact P.P., 271 Portobello Road, W.11. **BEXLEY ANARCHIST MOVEMENT.** Steve Leman, 28 New Road, Abbey Wood, S.E.2. Tel: ET 35377. Meetings every Friday, 8 p.m., Lord Bexley, Bexleyheath Broadway. **S.W. LONDON ANARCHISTS.** Meeting alternate Wednesdays. Phone Brian 672 8494. **SEIGE OF SIDNEY STREET APPRECIATION SOCIETY.** Frances Cooper, 2a Fairfield Gardens, Hornsey, N.8. Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

EAST LONDON LIBERTARIAN FEDERATION

Support wanted for numerous activities in area. Secretary: Anthony Matthews, 35 Mayville Road, London, E.11. Meetings fortnightly on Sundays at Ron Bailey's, 128 Hainault Road, E.11. Ten minutes from Leytonstone Underground. Active groups in LEYTONSTONE, STEPNEY, NEWHAM, ILFORD, DAGENHAM, WOODFORD and LIMEHOUSE.

OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

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

REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary, Peter Le Mare, 22 Hallowell Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 16. Libertarian discussion groups held 8 p.m. on each Tuesday at the Arts Lab, Summer Lane (not the Crown). S.a.e. to Secretary for details. **BOURNEMOUTH AREA.** Local anarchists can be contacted through Nigel Holt, Rossmore, Harvey Road, Canford, Wimborne, Dorset. (Wimborne 2991.) **CORNWALL ANARCHISTS.** Contact Arthur Jacobs, 13 Ledrah Road, St. Austell, Cornwall. Meetings on the second Friday of each month at 42 Pendarves Street, Beacon, Camborne. 7.30 p.m. Visiting comrades very welcome. **CROYDON LIBERTARIANS.** Meetings every 2nd Friday of each month. Laurens and Celia Omer, 35 Natal Road, Thornton Heath (LIV 7546) or contact Keith McCain, 1 Langmead Street, West Norwood, S.E.27. Phone 670 2797. **EDGWARE PEACE ACTION GROUP.** Contact Melvyn Estrin, 84 Edgwarebury Lane, Edgware, Middx. **HERTS.** Contact Val and John Funnell, 10 Fry

Road, Chells, Stevenage. **LIVERPOOL ANARCHISTS & SITUATIONISTS.** Contact Gerry Bree, 16 Faulkner Square, Liverpool. **LEICESTER PROJECT.** Peace/Libertarian action and debate. Every Wednesday at 8 p.m. at 1 The Crescent, King Street, Leicester. **MUTUAL AID GROUP.** c/o Borrowdale, Carriage Drive, Frodsham, Cheshire. **NORTH EAST ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Peter Ridley, 4 Rockcliffe Gardens, Whitley Bay, Northumberland. Phone 25759. **NORTH SOMERSET ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Roy Emery, 3 Abbey Street, Bath, or Geoffrey Barfoot, 71 St. Thomas Street, Wells. **NOTTING HILL.** Meetings at John Bennett's, Flat 4, 88 Clarendon Road, W.11. Every Monday evening, 8 p.m. **ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP.** Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maurice Richardson. **READING (town and university) and WOKINGHAM.** Contact address: Larry Law, 57 Kiln Ride, Wokingham, Berkshire. **REDDITCH ANARCHISTS AND LIBERTARIANS.** Contact Dave Lloyd, 37 Feckenham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcs. **WEST HAM ANARCHISTS.** Regular meetings and activities contact Mr. T. Plant, 10 Thackeray Road, East Ham, E.6. Tel.: 552 4162.

ESSEX & EAST HERTS FEDERATION

Three-monthly meetings. Groups and individuals invited to associate: c/o Peter Newell (see N.E. Essex Group). **Group Addresses:** **BASILDON & WICKFORD.** Steve Grant, 'Piccola Casa', London Road, Wickford, Essex. **NORTH EAST ESSEX.** Peter Newell, 91 Brook Road, Tolleshunt Knights, Tiptree, Essex. Regular meetings. **BISHOPS STORTFORD.** Vic Mount, 'Eastview', Castle Street, Bishops Stortford, Herts. **CHELMSFORD.** (Mrs.) Eva Archer, Mill House, Purleigh, Chelmsford, Essex. **EPPING.** John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping, Essex. **HARLOW.** Ian Dallas, 18 Brookline Field, Harlow and Annette Gunning, 37 Longbanks, Harlow. **LOUGHTON.** Group c/o Students' Union, Loughton College of Further Education, Borders Lane, Loughton, Essex.

NORTH-WEST FEDERATION

Secretary: Phil, 8 Stonecroft Road, Leyland, PR5 3AE. **BLACKPOOL.** Contact Christine and Graham, Top flat, 4 Ruskin Avenue, South Shore, Blackpool. **BOLTON.** Contact John Hayes, 51 Rydal Road, Bolton. **CHORLEY.** Contact Kevin Lynch, 6 Garfield Terrace, Chorley. **LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE.** Contact Les Smith, 30 Dunkeld Street, Lancaster. Meetings Monday at 8 p.m., Phil Woodhead's, 30 Dunkeld Street, Lancaster. Regular literature sales. **MANCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP.** 'The Secretary', Felix Phillips, 6 Draycott Street, Manchester, 10. Regular weekly meetings. Contact Secretary for details. **MERSEYSIDE ANARCHISTS.** Contact Jenny Rathbone, 20 Sefton Park Road, Liverpool, 8. Meetings every Tuesday, at 8 p.m. at Pete Duke's, Flat 6, 70 Huskisson Street, Liverpool, 8. **PRESTON ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact J. B.

Cowburn, 140 Watling Street Road, Fulwood, Preston. Meetings: 'The Wellington Hotel', Glovers Court, Preston, Wednesdays, 8 p.m. **STOCKPORT.** Dave Crowther, 1 Castle Street, Edgeley, Stockport. **SURREY FEDERATION** **EPSOM.** G. Wright, 47 College Road, Epsom. Tel. Epsom 23806. **KINGSTON.** Michael Squirrel, 4 Woodgate Ave., Hook, Chessington. **GUILDFORD.** Peter Cartwright, 33 Denzil Road, Guildford. **MERTON.** Elliot Burns, 13 Amity Grove, London, S.W.19. Tel. 01-946 1444. **SUSSEX FEDERATION** Groups and individuals invited to associate: c/o Eddie Poole, 5 Tilsbury, Findon Road, Whitehawk, Brighton. **BRIGHTON & HOVE ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Nick Heath, Flat 3, 26 Clifton Road, Brighton. **CRAWLEY ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Richard Ashwell, 87 Buckswood Drive, Gossops Green, Crawley, Sussex. **SUSSEX UNIVERSITY ANARCHIST GROUP.** (see details under Student Groups). **YORKSHIRE FEDERATION** Next meeting: Sunday, June 15 in York. Contact Regional Secretary c/o York Group (see below). **HARRGATE.** Contact David Howes, 16 Park Parade, Harrgate. **HULL.** Jim Young, 3 Fredericks Crescent, Hawthorn Avenue, Hull. **KEIGHLEY.** Steve Wood, 26B Cavendish Street, Keighley. **LEEDS:** Direct Action Society. Contact Martin Watkins, 6 Ebberton Terrace, Leeds, 6. **SHEFFIELD:** Dave Jeffries, c/o Students Union, Western Bank, Sheffield, 10. **YORK.** Keith Nathan, Vanbrugh College, Heslington, York.

STUDENT GROUPS

SCHOOLS ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact T. Swash, 49 Popham Road, London, N.1. Regular meetings each Friday. **ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY GROUP.** C/o Ian and Peggy Sutherland, 8 Esslemont Avenue, Aberdeen, AB2 4SL. **CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Matthew Robertson, Trinity College, Cambridge. **CARDIFF UNIVERSITY LIBERTARIAN/ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Chris Short, UWIST Union, Cathays Park, or Chas. Ball, UCC Union, Dumfries Place. **SUSSEX UNIVERSITY ANARCHIST GROUP.** John Byford, 26 Bedford Square, Brighton, Sussex. Meetings every second Thursday jointly with Brighton Group; bookstall every Monday outside J.C.R., 12-2-30 p.m. **YORK UNIVERSITY.** Contact Nigel Wilson, Derwent College, University of York, Heslington, York. **EAST ANGLIA UNIVERSITY.** Contact Dave Lomax, E.A.S. II, U.E.A., Norwich, NOR 88C. **LIBERTARIAN STUDENTS FEDERATION.** Contact address: Keith Nathan, 138 Pennymead, Harlow. **LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact us at the bookstall in the Students Union Foyer every Friday lunchtime. **OXFORD ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Francis Castine, Pembroke College, or Steve Watts, Trinity College. **MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY.** Contact Mike Doolan or Bill Jamieson, c/o University Union, Oxford Road, Manchester, 13. **SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY** Revolutionary Anarchist Federation. Contact Student Union Bookstall lunchtimes on Tuesday and Friday. **LSE ANARCHIST GROUP.** C/o Students' Union, LSE, Houghton Street, W.C.2. **KINGSTON COLLEGE** of Technology, Penrhyn

Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey. Contact G. Wright. **MANCHESTER COLLEGE** of Commerce. Contact Kevin Hill, c/o Students' Union, College of Commerce, Aytoun Street, Manchester, 1. **WELSH FEDERATION** **ABERYSTWYTH ANARCHISTS.** Contact Steve Mills, 4 St. Michael's Place, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire, Wales. **CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP.** All correspondence to—Pete Raymond, 18 Marion Street, Splott, Cardiff. **SWANSEA ANARCHIST GROUP.** Contact Ian Bone, 18 Windsor Street, Uplands, Swansea. Weekly meetings at 8 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Cardiff Arms (in the Strand). **LLANELLI.** Contact Dai Walker, 6 Llwynanedy Road, Llanelli, Carm. Tel: Llanelli 2548. **SCOTTISH FEDERATION** All correspondence to Bobby Lynn, Secretary, 12 Ross Street, Glasgow, S.E. **ABERDEEN ANARCHIST GROUP.** Bob Comrie, 288 Hargate. **ABERDEEN FREEDOM GROUP.** All those wishing to sell both national and Scottish editions of 'Freedom' contact Ian S. Sutherland, 8 Esslemont Avenue, Aberdeen. **GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP.** Robert Lynn, 12 Ross Street, S.E. **EDINBURGH.** Tony Hughes, Top Flat, 40 Angle Park Terrace, Edinburgh 1. **HAMILTON AND DISTRICT ANARCHIST GROUP.** Robert Linton, 7a Station Road, New Stevenston, Motherwell. **FIFE.** Bob and Una Turnbull, 39 Stratheden Park, Stratheden Hospital, By Cupar. **MONTROSE.** Dave Coull, 3 Eskview Terrace, Ferryden, Montrrose, Angus. **ROSS-SHIRE.** Contact David Rodgers, Broomfield, Evanton, Ross-shire, Scotland. **NORTHERN IRELAND** **BELFAST ANARCHIST GROUP.** Meetings every Saturday, 2 p.m., 44a Upper Arthur Street (top floor). 'Freedom' sales. **SOUTHERN IRELAND** **ALLIANCE OF LIBERTARIAN AND ANARCHIST GROUPS IN IRELAND.** c/o Freedom Press. **ABROAD** **AUSTRALIA.** Federation of Australian Anarchists, P.O. Box A 389, Sydney South, NSW 2000. Phone No. 69-8095. Open discussion and literature sale in the Domain—Sunday, 2 p.m. Call at 59 Eveleigh Street, Redfern, NSW 2015 for personal discourse, tea and overnight accommodation. **BELGIUM.** Groupe du journal Le Libertaire, 220 rue Vivienne, Liège. **USA.** James W. Cain, secretary, the Anarchist Committee of Correspondence, 323 Fourth Street, Cloquet, Minnesota 55720, USA. **T O R O N T O LIBERTARIAN - ANARCHIST GROUP.** 217 Tor York Drive, Weston, Ontario, Canada. Weekly meetings. Read the 'Libertarian'. **PROPOSED GROUPS** **NORTH DEVON.** All those interested in forming a local group please contact Hugh Bensley, 'Boat-hyde', Northam, Bideford, Devon. **MONTREAL, QUEBEC.** Anyone interested in forming a Montreal area Anarchist group please contact Ron Sieler, Tel. 489-6432. **ASTON UNIVERSITY.** Colleges of Art and Commerce. Anarchists and Libertarians wishing to form group please contact Malvern Hostick at 62 Wheelers Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15. **VANCOUVER I.W.W.** and Libertarian group. Box 512, Postal St. 'A', Vancouver 1, B.C., Canada. Read 'The Rebel'—please send donation for postage.

Paper Tiger Folds

THE GYPSIES have exposed the Epsom Downs Conservators' threats as a lot of wind. The Conservators had been breathing fire in the local Press for some weeks about their tough Securicor mercenaries but the prospect of violence on the Downs and possible sabotage of the Derby has caused them to take a more realistic view. The 1936 Act is a paper tiger.

The Gypsies have always camped on the Downs during race meetings and the Conservators have made little effort to stop them. However this year they decided to get tough. On the Friday comrades assembled to reconnoitre the position in preparation for Sunday. Securicor had set up two road-blocks and were strutting about in their American-style uniforms. We strolled up and propped ourselves against a nearby fence and began talking about Sunday. The mercenaries went into a huddle and started whispering to one another. We looked

at them, they looked at us. Gangs of local youths were beginning to roam around and the mercenaries began to look uncomfortable. All the while a police mini-van had us under observation. After a while we drifted away as no caravans were arriving.

On Sunday afternoon we assembled at the Tattenham Corner House which is a massive and high class pub. Many tough-looking Gypsies were roaming around scowling at the local bourgeois who began nervously shepherding their wives and kids away from such uncouth company. Soon people began moving towards the Securicor road-block. Soon the Gypsy caravans began to turn up at the road-block. However, apart from scowling at our black flag, the mercenaries were as peaceful as little lambs and the assembled Press had no confrontation to report.

It would be flattering to feel that we were responsible for the climb-down by

the authorities but our part has been a very small one. Epsom is half country town and half suburbia with the problems of both. One problem is the large youth population with nothing to do except start fights. Apart from a few prissy, middle-class church youth clubs plus a seedy dance-hall there is nothing for youth in the area. So on Sunday there were plenty of young people looking for a fight. The prospect of Gypsies, Anarchists, and local gangs making hay among the trippers would have deterred any Conservator. However, if the Conservators try anything next year there could well be a full scale riot.

There was also a rally which was supposed to star Bernadette Devlin but she did not turn up and the rally was very small. It was disappointing for the Gypsy Council but at least the Gypsies have drawn attention to their plight.

G. WRIGHT.

SPANISH PRISONER

Continued from page 1

We forgot to tell you the DGP deceived us once again—with that refinement so natural to them—in making us believe that all 61 of us would be taken to Segovia together. They feared a mutiny if we discovered the truth; they were afraid that the 25 comrades would refuse to leave and that the others would support their action; certainly they were not far wrong. Both the director and the chaplain conspired in this regard: the director by directly lying to us and the chaplain by convenient absence at the time this was done. We should like to point out that the group of 25 prisoners was made up of members of the Communist Party, Maoists, Basques of the ETA, and our comrade Luis Andres Edo, of the CNT.

Fraternal regards,
MIGUEL GARCIA GARCIA.
DAVID URBANO BERMUDEZ.

Soria.

PEACE CENTRE TO CLOSE

DANNY ROGAN'S APPEAL was turned down but the subsequent appeal against sentence was upheld. The suspended sentence was squashed but the fine will stand. The case 'now more in hope than confidence' moves to the appeal court in London.

Danny feels he is unable to continue with a censored window display. So the South Yorkshire Peace Centre is to close.

The quote from the case must be that the Recorder, Mr. Pears, referring to the slogan 'Fuck for Peace' which was under the nude picture of John and Yoko: 'I think the inference there is that people will be better off staying at home having sexual intercourse than going to war. This may be true but it does not prevent the phrase being obscene.'

M.H.

Still Down!

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Week ending June 14, 1969

Estimated Expenses:

24 weeks at £90: £2,160
Income: Sales and Subs.: £1,746

DEFICIT: £414

PRESS FUND

Hove: B.P. 12/2; Norwich: C.L. 13/-;
Leeds: D.J. 3/-; Wolverhampton: J.K.W.* 2/-; J.L.* 3/-; K.F. & C.F. 2/-; Chessington: J.M. 5/8; Southall: D.S. 11/-; London, N.W.5: P.C. 3/-; London, E.7: J.R. £3 5/8; London, S.W.10: S.W.T. £5;
Devon: J.A. 10/-; Coleorton: H.C. 1/5;
Rutland: C.D. 3/-; Melbourn: H.B. 4/-;
New York: P.A. £1; Sussex: P.W. 2/-;
London, N.W.10: E.T. £1 5/8; Stockport: A.G. 13/-; Heemstede: W.V. 4/-; York: L.F. 5/8; London, S.W.18: D.D. 8/-; London, S.W.15: H.S. 5/8; London: D.G. 2/-; London, E.11: L.K. 10/-; Preston: R.W. 6/8; London, N.2: D.H. 5/8.

TOTAL: £17 7 3

Previously Acknowledged: £344 1 7

1969 Total to Date: £361 8 10

Deficit B/F: £414 0 0

TOTAL DEFICIT: £52 11 2

*Denotes Regular Contributor.

THE SIX DAY WAR

THE ROAD TO WAR, the Origin and Aftermath of the Arab-Israeli Conflict, 1967-8, by Walter Laqueur. Pelican, 8/-.

THIS HISTORY OF THE EVENTS leading up to the Six Day War, from the time of the arrival of the first Jews in Palestine to the actual beginning of hostilities, is an interesting, but not exactly an encouraging book to read. The Israeli-Arab conflict is a fight between two victim-peoples. They are now in the position where neither side can afford to give an inch. If the Israelis give they run the risk of being massacred. If the Arabs do so they lose face, which to most humans is almost as bad as being killed. Meanwhile the great powers sit back, sell arms to both sides, and exploit the situation in any way which seems profitable to them. They risk nothing.

Mr. Laqueur is informative about political parties, statesmen and their manoeuvres, and about the vagaries of public opinion. In dealing with the latter however he makes some strange

statements, one to the effect that the pacifist organ *Peace News* has been 'traditionally pro-Nasser' (p. 215). This looks like a piece of 'he who is not with us is against us' thinking. *Peace News* has always opposed all wars and fighting of any kind, even in self-defence. One may not agree with this position, but at any rate it cannot be construed as pro-Nasser.

The reaction of other British papers, however, was often either coolly neutral or faintly hostile. Anti-semitic emotions manifested themselves in odd places. A reader of the *New Statesman* wrote, '... your paper should be named the *Jew Statesman*, and take for its motto whatever is the Hebrew equivalent of "Sieg Heil".' In *Tribune* a reader wrote, 'Scratch a left-wing Jew and you find a Zionist. Paul Rose's hysterical letter shows the ideological abyss into which all socialists plunge when they allow their emotions to do their thinking for them. If he is now preaching support for a Zionist state... then he can no longer be classed as an inter-

A WARNING ACCEPTED BUT IN PERSPECTIVE

THE GOVERNMENT is threatening to invoke its White Paper, 'In Place of Strife'. The TUC is offering a semblance of opposition and alternative measures. But, no matter what! the fundamental ends will be basically the same: the inauguration of industrial feudalism through withdrawal of the right to strike. Ironically, the only thing that can prevent this is the application of the strike weapon itself. This means at least the movement of a large minority of the industrial workers if not the majority.

In their article 'A Warning' (FREEDOM, 10.5.69) comrades Arthur Uloth and John Rety give us a warning. In essence they say that there is a grave danger for anarchists to form a united front with non-anarchists factions. To add some weight to this they refer to the Spanish anarchists' participation in the Republican Government. This did happen but was not necessarily the logical outcome of united front activity. The anarchists made this mistake because they deviated from their principles in the heat of revolutionary fervour and the apparent pressing need for anti-fascist unity. The anarchists of Spain recognise that this was an error and one which cannot be repeated. However, there is a difference between uniting with non-anarchists for long-term fundamentals and uniting for immediate mutual protection or limited aims.

On final objectives we are travelling different roads and cannot unite.

When workers join the army we cannot join with them. But when workers go on strike we can strike with them. When workers participate in authoritarian institutions we cannot ally ourselves with them. But when they rebel consciously or unconsciously against authoritarian institutions then they are our allies. Individual anarchists may have the moral support of the anarchist movement in the struggle against the threatened Industrial Relations Bill. But without the industrial might of the Samson of labour the individual anarchist is in jeopardy.

Your warning is well meant, comrades, and is appreciated. We can take heed to it, but take heed in proper perspective. In 1945 the editors of FREEDOM were charged with sedition for allegedly disaffecting Her Majesty's forces. The

editors were aware of the error of the Spanish anarchists in their compromise of fundamentals. But this did not blind them to observe the difference of having unity of purpose on immediate common exigencies. They could have a common platform for free speech without compromising fundamentals. They did just this and rightly so. A Freedom Defence Committee was set up along with non-anarchists.

On the question of our right to strike it is a pressing necessity, comrades, to seek unity with non-anarchists. In practice we will do this in any case for we will be appealing to the workers in the factories, in the yards, in the depots, at all points of production and communication to act against this 'Slavish Bill'.

Whilst doing this we won't sink our identity for we will be acting in accord-

ance with our principles. For in essence we will be asking non-anarchists to act like anarchists. And if they do? Doesn't a rose smell like a rose by any other name.

Having said this, let me say, 'By all means have a free assembly of anarchists to discuss the matter where practical, and work out a campaign of propaganda and activity against the White Paper.'

But time is running short and so in the circumstances I think it would be more practical for local groups to seek allies in their area to work out a campaign.

As Stirner might have said, 'These allies will have my support, my time, my energy to common advantage, but myself, my whole self, they will not have.'

R. LYNN.

SQUAT NEWS

BRIGHTON had its first squat for 23 years last weekend when two families moved into empty Council houses, aided by supporters of the Brighton Rents Project.

This follows a token squat at two houses in North Place in May and a confrontation with the Council at its June meeting, when a 2,000-signature petition demanding 'Homes for People not Profit' was refused. Our Brighton comrades write: 'The Rents Project supporters in the gallery were brutally and illegally ejected by the fuzz when they protested at this. PCs 190 and 320 were remarkably restrained in their conduct!'

Largely as a result of the efforts of the last two named, 11 comrades appeared in court next morning. Eight were fined £10 each, one £5, one acquitted and another, accused of assaulting the fuzz, was remanded until later this month.

In Ilford on Saturday Mrs. Pat McNeill and her three-year-old daughter, already evicted once by Council thugs, moved into an empty house in Oakfield Road,

with the assistance of the East London Group.

Yorgo the Greek

Dear Comrades,

The article 'Yorgo the Greek' last week well illustrated the typical courage and heroism of a Greek Communist Party member, whose family had suffered persecution for a generation for their political beliefs.

For anarchists, the story was a tragic one because in spite of the terrible errors committed by EDA (the front organisation of the CP prior to the coup) and before that by the KKE in the Civil War period, blind faith in Moscow and the 'parliamentary road' still prevails.

As Yorgo put it, 'Only the CP seem organised to fight the enemy.' Perhaps there is a lesson for us here. The rather paradoxical strength of the fragmentation of the left in this country is precisely that we have enjoyed the luxury of an almost unimpeded theoretical discussion denied to our Greek comrades as they have struggled for as long as they can remember against a brutal police-state.

Durham

MIKE JONES.

OPEN FORUM

The Moral Implications of Anarchism

WHEN I SAW the title of Enoch Powell's book, *Freedom and Reality*, I made a resolution: for at least a year I will try to avoid using the word 'Freedom'—which is sadly overworked anyway—and instead load my conversation with the ponderous polysyllables of 'Responsibility, Participation and Involvement'. If I wish to move into a minor key I will substitute 'Service, Aid and Compassion', or sing the blues with 'Work, Play and Sorrow', and—very occasionally and strictly for pomp and circumstance stuff—chime out 'Courage, Organisation and Sacrifice'. For to me Anarchism is more than a pragmatic approach to the whole problem of social organisation; more than a devastating critique of authoritarian systems and ideas; and more than the searing flames of the coming revolution. It also provides me with a sound and scientific basis for a viable code of ethics—a set of standards which I can live up to without in any way denying my manhood, a vindication of common decency and all those humane attitudes which our enemies in the Communist Party scoff at and label 'petty-bourgeois morality'. I think it a pity, therefore, that although plenty of effort has been devoted to explaining the nature of libertarian opposition to the state and primitive rigid moral codes based on superstition, fear and ignorance (effort very well spent, I hasten to add), few people have found time to examine or develop fully the ethical implications of Anarchism.

Kropotkin, of course, was a notable exception and he was working on a sequel to *Mutual Aid* called *Ethics* when he died, but I don't think this has ever been a popular work, it has always been difficult to obtain, and I doubt whether many people have read it. Yet the importance of the 'Anarchist ethic' was emphasised by a remark made about Kropotkin by, I think, one of his scientific colleagues—anyway, not a comrade—to the effect that if everyone was like Peter Kropotkin then Anarchy would be the only possible system for the world. I am sure that this admiration was caused by the way that Kropotkin tried all his life to live completely in accordance with his anarchist convictions. Malatesta, too, won the love and respect of almost the entire Italian working class by his exemplary life and conduct.

I suppose everybody has their own pet hate when it comes to misrepresentation of Anarchism by the mass media. To many, the equation of Anarchy with chaos seems to act like a red rag to a bull, but the phrase I detest most is 'irresponsible Anarchists', for, as I suggested in the first paragraph, Anarchism implies the assumption of more, not less responsibility. Decentralisation down to the basic units of common or local syndicate means that people must make decisions on vital issues which are, at present, completely remote from them (e.g. housing, education, industrial development, production, transport, etc.), will have to rely on themselves to deal with any anti-social activity which threatens their community, and will have to provide and organise welfare services such as hospitals, schools, electricity and gas supplies, and communications which are, now, mainly the concern of the state.

Today, it is not uncommon to find Anarchists involved with such things as the peace movement, civil rights in Ireland, industrial disputes, helping the homeless and the travelling community, tenants' associations, etc.—And this seems to me inevitable and natural, because not only are Anarchists not 'irresponsible' but what they believe leads them to be concerned with social problems, and committed to making life more bearable and fulfilling for people in general. It's true most of us believe our place is in the street, challenging what we know to be wrong and unjust, but this is more responsible and more adult behaviour than hiding behind drawn curtains and letting TV blind us to what is going on just outside our front door. It is also a good deal more enjoyable, for Man being a social creature, it follows that his happiness is bound up with the happiness of others, his freedom connected with the freedom of all. Disaffiliation and alienation on the other hand, complete apathy or selfishness on the other, can never lead to a life more satisfying than one lived according to the age-old principles of Mutual Aid and Solidarity—the very essence of Anarchism.

DAVEY JONES.

Arise Little Caesars

FOURTEEN branch officials and official works representatives of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation (ISTC) at the Corby steelworks have been suspended from office for leading 600 crane drivers on a four-week unconstitutional strike in March.

The general secretary of the ISTC considers that the strike leaders completely abrogated their respon-

sibilities and brought the union into discredit.

The union also expects the British Steel Corporation to discipline its Corby management for giving way to the strikers.

I confess to be rather confused. First, I thought one went into a dispute to win, the opposition being the employer. Secondly, having won the dispute as in this case, since when has it been the union's job to coat management for conceding?

Wilson, Heath, and the TUC need have no fears about unofficial strikes whilst the ISTC is in business. All that remains to be said is 'Hail Caesar'.

MAY DAY REBELS

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundry Workers

(AEF) has been asked by a full-time official to discipline shop stewards in East Birmingham who supported unofficial May Day Strikes.

On May Day a Mr. Cartwright, who is the East Birmingham district secretary of the AEF, went to the factory gate to appeal to the men to stay at work, but without success. Mr. Cartwright makes the point that because the union president, Hugh Scanlon, stated that members should not take unofficial action against 'In Place of Strife', half the East Birmingham district committee should be disciplined.

Mr. Cartwright should take note, on very many occasions the rank and file is ahead of the leadership—dare one say 'Leylands', Touché Caesar.

Contact Column

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

Chemical And Biological Warfare Action Group.

Meeting on Monday, June 23 at 8 p.m. at 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1. All invited.

Libertarian Direct Action. A meeting to discuss how we can expand the area of freedom by word and deed. Sunday, June 22, 7.30 p.m., Horse and Groom, Whitechurch Lane (near Aldgate East Tube).

End Public Schools! March to Dulwich School on 'Open Day'. Assemble 1 p.m. Brockwell Park (opposite Herne Hill Station), Saturday, June 21.

The 1969 Herbert Read Erasmus Prize Lecture 'Is art necessary and possible today?' by Prof. Edward Goldstucker, ICA, The Mall, S.W.1, June 26, 8 p.m. Chairman: Stephen Spender. Tickets 5/-.

LEYLAND MOTORS have been on strike now for 5 weeks and the town of Leyland is badly hit. **London Anarchist Group** are trying to accumulate food to distribute to the strike-bound families. Please send any food or money you can spare to 8 Stonecroft Road, Leyland, PR5 3AE. c/o Phil.

'Freedom' sales in Birmingham. On the ramp of New Street Station, every night and Saturday afternoons.

Communes. John Allemany (27 Chieftain Crescent, Willowdale 431, Ontario, Canada) wants first-hand information.

Ken: Can sock me gravy soon? Ta mate. —Bill.

June 29. Spanish Protest March. Assemble Hyde Park, 3 p.m.

'The Libertarian Teacher', No. 5. Journal of the Libertarian Teachers Association, now available, 3/- postal order, inc. postage. 36 Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

Rest, holiday, recuperation in peaceful Lincolnshire. Anarchist, pacifist household. Vegetarian if preferred. Nominal charges. Iris and Peter Allen, The Old Vicarage, Honington, Grantham, Lincs.

Protest March. Civil Rights in N. Ireland. June 22, 3 p.m., Hyde Park, London P.D. Contact: Janet Wilkins, 103 Balham Park Road, London, S.W.12.

La Mama Troupe at the Arts Theatre, June 29-July 13.

Help! Can you help with the despatch of FREEDOM (June 26, Thursday p.m.) and also on Friday.

Rectangular metal badges (red/black or plain black) 2/6 each post free. Bulk rate (10 or more) 1/- each. Flags from 10/-. Cash with order please. Hazel McGee, 42 Pendarves Street, Beacon, Camborne, Cornwall.

Birmingham discussions. Every Tuesday 8 p.m. at the Arts Lab, Summer Lane (Not the Crown).

Peace News. Six weeks trial offer for 5/-, 5 Caledonian Road, N.1.

Hyde Park Sunday meetings. 3 p.m. Speakers and literature sellers required.

Alan Barlow—Comrades wishing to visit in Brixton please contact Defence Committee, c/o Freedom Press for roster.

Glasgow Anarchists meet socially at the Station Bar, London Road, every Tuesday evening. Folk-singing.

International Summer Camp. July 27-August 23 in Cornwall. £1 booking fees to Ann Lindsay, 39 Upper Tulse Hill, London, S.W.2. Information leaflet and map now available.

If you wish to make contact let us know.

War of Attrition

AFTER 3½ WEEKS the AEF have made the Leyland strike official. Several other unions involved now follow suit, including the General & Municipal Workers Union (G&MWU) which has about 1,000 men involved. The mere fact that the G&MWU endorse the strikers' actions means Leyland workers must have a cast iron case.

Talks have been going on at the Department of Employment and Productivity (DEP) but no progress can be reported. Len Brindle claimed that after hours and hours of chat the management treated them like dirt. Even a paternal boss will wield the cane when you threaten his pocket. Employers are only paternal when there is no bother, if bother comes they can spit and bite like the rest.

According to reports, the Leyland

strike committee have new suggestions BUT to be negotiated locally. Obviously this is the best place to have them, so that the rank and file can see and hear what is going on. London is a long way from Lancashire plus the fact that it would not be the first time that Barbara Castle has 'charmed the savage beast'.

Solidarity in terms of cash has been promised by other car workers. But if Leyland management 'dig in' the rest of the Leyland workers may have to join the struggle. 'Your shout Mr. Stokes.'

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

BID TO HELP SQUATTERS FAILS

Despite reports in 'The Guardian' Lewisham Council went against original decision and decided after stormy meeting not to tolerate squatters in the area.

QUALITEX STRIKE

OVER 400 WORKERS are on strike at the Qualitex Yarns Ltd. factory, Radcliffe, near Bury. Contrary to reports which have appeared in the local and national press, this isn't a 'racial' strike—the majority are Pakistanis—but is over the right of workers being able to choose their own TU.

The management wants the workers to belong to the National Union of Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers. However, the workers have no desire to join a union which they consider to be little better than a company union. On reading the points set out in a document sent to all the strikers, one realizes that this belief is well-founded.

This text consists of an agreement with Messrs. Nelson and Greenwood of the Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers, which they think should 'resolve' the 'present difficulties'. This document states a condition of employment at Qualitex will be that all unskilled and semi-skilled process workers must be members of the Dyers and Bleachers Union by July 4.

Also that TU contributions will be deducted from wages (Point 6). That the 'commission' normally paid to collectors will be automatically paid into the 'social section' (Point 8). It also says that any

unofficial strike will be considered to contravene the 'agreement', and dismissal will be automatic. The firm which flaunts a flag which proclaims it as the recipient of the Queen's Award for Industry recently introduced a new basic pay and bonus scheme which leaves the workers considerably worse off than they were before it was introduced.

Here we have another example of the unholy alliance of bosses and unions combining against the workers. Neither the Dyers and Bleachers nor the management have had any contact with the men on strike. How can they pretend to know what they think or want, or what will 'resolve' the 'problem'?

NORTH WEST WORKERS.

AN ANARCHIST FOLK EVENING

Singers wanted for Anarchist Folk Evening June 27. Contact B. Mercer, 5 Nelson Road, N.8. This is to be held at the New Merlin's Cave, King's Cross, in aid of LFA — entrance 4/-.

Freedom

For Workers' Control

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SETTLEMENT AT IVY BRIDGE?

LAST MONTH the Turriff Construction Company decided to terminate the major part of its £4.7m. contract at the Ivy Bridge development, Hounslow. They are doing this under a 'force majeure' clause in the contract which they signed with the previous Labour Hounslow Borough Council. However, they still intend to finish their contract for foundations, external services and roads, which are two-thirds completed.

As readers will know, building workers have been locked-out on this site since last November, following mass sackings by Turriffs. The company tried unilaterally to introduce a new bonus scheme which would have meant big reductions in earnings. When the Works Committee of stewards, backed by the men, rejected these proposed cuts, Turriffs started sacking the labour force. No doubt they thought they could get new personnel, but they came unstuck and instead they have had a protracted struggle on their hands.

For a long time, agreement on re-opening has hinged on the re-employment of three steel fixers. Originally they were employed by a sub-contractor and the unions and the Lock-Out Committee have been insisting that these three men should be re-employed on the site, even though the 'subby' had now withdrawn from the contract. Turriffs did get a new firm to do the steel fixing, but they refused to employ the three militants.

Having finally been unable to get rid of these militants, after offering them jobs on a North Midlands site or as labourers on the Ivy Bridge site, they offered them employment on the substructure contract, which they intend to complete. The unions have now agreed to this and work is expected to start at the end of the month.

Obviously Turriffs have taken what they think is the least expensive way out of this dispute, for the substructure contract is expected to last only nine months and will only employ a maximum of 50 men. However, although this union-company agreement has been reached, the Hounslow Borough Council have still not made up their minds whether to accept Turriffs' termination of the main part of the contract. There is also the situation that if they do and Turriffs

complete the substructure, who will complete the rest of the contract?

JUSTIFIED FEARS

The Lock-Out Committee have voiced justifiable fears that Turriffs will submit an estimate which, because of their already acquired knowledge of the job, will be lower than other companies and that this will include the £1m. extra they originally asked for last December. Turriffs certainly may have this in mind and, with the completion of the substructure, they could restart the main contract, after having sacked the Lock-Out Committee.

Unions have agreed that if Turriffs do tender for and win the contract, they will re-open the dispute, but by then feelings will have cooled and my guess is that the Executives would find some way of not carrying out this pledge.

ENDING DIRECT LABOUR

But why, in fact, should work of this nature go to private contractors? Borough Councils are closing or reducing their direct labour works, left, right and centre. They are also cutting back their building programme, for, after all, Tory Councils do not believe in municipal housing and it is ludicrous to expect them to keep the Council property they already have, let alone build more.

But the crime remains. Building companies have increased their profits over the last few years, but still not enough accommodation is being built for the homeless and the overcrowded families who have been on the housing lists for years.

Turriffs have locked out men, while 6,000 wait for homes in Hounslow. The Government has sat back and looked on. Barbara Castle, Minister of the Department for Employment and Productivity, has said she is 'concerned', but has done nothing. Not that I or the Lock-Out Committee expect much from her, because much of the blame for this dispute can be laid at the doorstep of her Department. It was her officers who advised Turriffs originally to introduce a new bonus system because they thought the men were earning too much.

When it comes to housing, as with other commodities, it is not the needs of the community that the Government and managements are concerned about, but the profit they will get from exploiting those needs.

P.T.

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

Free Schools in Stoke

ASCHOOLS ACTION GROUP has been formed in North Staffs. Eighteen schools were leafleted and 100 schoolchildren turned up to a meeting on June 9. There was opposition from a group of teachers at this meeting. The local press is running a vicious campaign of lies, primarily attacking students from Keele University who have been working with the schoolchildren. The Local Education Committee has threatened to withdraw a £20,000 grant to the University and will refuse to let any students take teaching practice in city schools unless the activists are disciplined. 'If...' is showing at a local cinema.

FREEDOM PRESS REPORTER.

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