The Conservative party have forced local councils to cut back on social services. The Labour party warned us that this would happen. However, Labour councils are not only making the full cuts, but, like the Tories, are doing so in areas where they hope to meet the least resistance: attacking the unemployed, the old, the sick (see inside), and the young.

Unemployment figures are already rising, and the closures of schools and hospitals will certainly make sure that trend continues, and leave fewer vacancies for those already unemployed.

PENSIONS

Old people in council run accommodation are to have their heating turned down - a measure which illustrates the control the council can exercise over people's lives, and a measure which could easily lead to tragedy. Paraffin heaters will be used again to make up for the drop in temperature after they have been phased out due to the accidents, particularly with old folk, paraffin and its fumes have caused.

CRUEL FOR KIDS

Other cuts seem not only cruel but petty: cutting back on services which mean a lot to a few people, but which cost very little. Tobacco and sweets allowances worth £1 a week will be cut from old people's homes. A playgroup in a polytechnic in London which would give single parents a chance to study, is to be axed when the cost to keep it going is a meagre £23 a year.

FIGHTING BACK

In Islington, North London, local parents and others with increased care. Labour gives us a similar message when they hold the whip.

PROFIT KILLS

Who are they trying to kid? The millions of small children, sick or disabled people, and old age pensioners who need constant or near constant care, need that care now. Pain doesn't wait for profits. The government, with all its power, knowingly inflicts pain for the sake of that few who gain the profit. Job-related profits have increased so much (400% from 1978 to 1979) in a time that public spending has decreased so much (except on the military, and on the increasingly military police force), that it is clear that no government has any intention of easing suffering. They mention the misery caused by the lack of necessary facilities only to make us feel guilty about it.
The Engineering Dispute: SUCCESS OR FAILURE

TERRY DUFFY hailed last autumn's engineering strike as a great success - thanks of course to his "tough negotiating".

But was it such a great success? And who really was the driving force behind the strike?

What follows is the view of an A.C.A. member who was active in the strike.

To begin with the strike was called for one day a week, Monday, for three weeks. The response of the Engineering Employers Federation (EEF) was so vicious that it provoked the CSEU into expanding the action to two days a week.

Balls up

At first I opposed the action, pointing out that at no time had I, or anyone else, been consulted. If head office was so keen on the strike they were welcome to it. However you can't preach solidarity and not practice it. So I joined the ranks of the faithful.

A committee had been set up for the area consisting of paid officials of the CSEU unions and some shop stewards. This dealt with exemptions from strike action, safety men and security people and so on. They even made a balls-up of that.

Real direction

The real direction came from the group of militants I am active in. We took the name "The Liaison Committee for the Defence of the CSEU claim". We undertook a constant picket of the two or three scab places where help was needed. It was not without its risks: two people were knocked down, or hit by a coach driven at speed through the picket line. In one case a scab drove his car through the line at a fantastic speed, carrying one person about 20 feet on his bonnet. The driver stopped and then complained about damage to his car. The hitherto peaceful picket degenerated into something near a riot and the management called the police. However they sent the scabs home without pay.

Assaulting a bus

Though the police were informed about the two incidents they declined to take any action. One sergeant said quite openly that his job was to get the coach through, and if anyone got hurt trying to stop it that was their fault. If he caught them he would have them down the road. Another policeman complained about damage being done to a coach. When he heard that the blinder was busted because it had caught my shoulder when the driver broke through, he walked away. But the point was understood by all. The police had been bought. Maggie's 60% had been money well spent.

Fighting the state

Halfway through the strike it seemed like stalemate. The EEF wouldn't bend and the Union couldn't, or so we thought. The chief spokesman for the CSEU, Duffy of the AUEW, put us right. He went on record as saying that he would concede points three and four, as well as dropping the £50 ceiling called for in point one. This is when the strike was solid: God knows what would have happened if there had been a collapse of morale.

The EEF tried to escalate the trouble by talking about a lock-out. That this was taken up by a firm owned by the National Enterprise Board was of great significance. To me at least it meant that we were clearly fighting the Government, not just the bosses. When Rolls Royce locked out its employees they asked workers at firms doing sub-contract work to black Rolls Royce jobs. Every firm asked did so. But there was a problem. About 20 firms, small ones, had conceded the unions' claim. Several of these were on sub-contract to Rolls Royce, whose shop stewards committee wanted them to black the work. But the District Committee of the AUEW, the biggest union in the Confed., said no. The unions having given their word must keep it: if these firms had conceded the claim they were entitled to work. They couldn't understand that the struggle had widened: Maggie Thatcher and her friends hadn't conceded.

Worth it?

Why was the strike called in the first place? Duffy being in the AUEW was up for election next year and had to try to prove himself. Also his pride was hurt by the cavalry way the EEF treated the original four point claim.

Was it worth it? No. The Confed. negotiated on two levels, the important one being the local one. The national claim made the fight for the local wage deals so much harder. Indeed the executive of the AUEW told the EEF that if they accepted the national claim they would see that the local wage claims were kept to a minimum.

Lessons

What should we have done? We should have politicised the strike. Easier said than done but at least we should have tried.

It should have been pointed out that we were fighting the Government, not just the EEF, and that only widening the struggle to involve all sections of the class could bring them down.

Other sections of the working class are going to find themselves in struggle with the Thatcher regime. The best way for the engineering workers to break out of a straightjacket settlement is to side with them in their fight to defend living standards and shorten hours.
The supplementary benefit scheme works to ensure that no one is too poor to survive. The D.H.S.S. Department of Health and Social Security realises that it does not work too well, and have produced a document - "Social Assistance" - which shows how they want things changed.

• new claims

For the first eight weeks of their claim, unemployed or disabled people, people caring for elderly or sick relatives at home, widows and single parents would be put on a standard pay-ment regardless of rest - with no back payments to help with arrears. Those who resigned from, or were sacked from, their last job, would still have 40% deducted from this basic rate for that period.

appeals

The scheme would be generally removed from judicial review. Lump sum payments needed for furniture; clothing etc., have in fact, often been increased when an appeal has been made against the decision. This right of appeal is to be completely taken away.

exceptional needs

People with exceptional needs - diabetics, those particularly sensitive to the cold, those who need regular transport to and from hospital for example - will no longer get any "exceptional circumstances additions" but will have to rely upon a dentistry 6 monthly payment of £6.50 per single person - top waste!

pensioners

Over 2 million pensioners need to claim supplementary benefits due to inadequate pensions. The Supplementary Benefits Review recommends that the rate of benefit for pensioners be reduced by 40p.

school leavers

Sponsors would be unlikely to offer sponsorship to immigrants in the future. If a sponsored settler needed to claim, the sponsor would be expected to support them. School leavers will no longer be able to receive any benefits at all until the next term begins. This leaves them dependent upon their parents and more likely to take the first job they can get.

breadwinners

When two people of the opposite sex live together, one would be identified as the "breadwinner" and the other as the "dependant". All women would be initially regarded as dependents, having to challenge the main status with her own employment record. Three-quarters of all women who would in this way never be treated as "breadwinners".

equal treatment

The proposed "unmarried breadwinner" scheme would not bring equal treatment for men and women claiming supplementary benefit. A system which defines certain claimants as dependent on other people and refuse to provide them with an independent income would put them in a position of having their personal relationships and control of their own lives dictated by the state.

minimum incomes

The review team did consider treating all claimants individually but dismissed the idea as too expensive! However, if a basic minimum income was paid to those out of work - considerably higher than the current level of supplementary benefit - a vast proportion of today's claimants would no longer need to claim.

The biggest problem with supplementary benefits is that the money is simply not enough to live on. The review team admit that benefits are too low, but they do not recommend any more money to the scheme. Their answer is to admit that some claimants will receive "rough justice" - as if they didn't already.

national campaign

By happily dishing out their rough justice for people already in poverty they do no less than gamble with lives, and make whole sections of the community even poorer. If you would like more information about the review, or would like to join the "National Campaign Against Social Security Cuts" you can contact them at: Flat C, 30, Goulson Square, London W1. Tel: 01-2214827.

The woman who believes public spending should be cut - so we can spend more on arms. This is known in politics as being 'moderate'.

Shorter working week

Most workers have claims pending for a shorter working week. But nobody has really made the breakthrough yet. It is vital that it should be made - apart from benefiting the workers directly concerned, it could cut unemployment "at a stroke".

The print union, NGA, is making a top-priority push for the 35-hour week. And even traditionally more "backward" sections of workers are realising how far their conditions fall behind their counterparts in the Common Market and other countries - for instance, the farm workers have a claim.
SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN TAKES OFF

A GROWING number of groups and individuals on the libertarian left are becoming involved in the Campaign for Solidarity with the Soviet Working Class, following the initiative taken by members of the A.C.A. and Solidarity.

The Campaign is also spreading overseas – the Spanish Anarchist-Communist group La Cecilia are organising a similar campaign concentrating on the defence of the comrades who have been interned in the infamous Srebnsky Institute, a psychiatric institution for the imprisonment of dissidents. The article announcing the formation of the campaign which was published in "Bread and Roses" has been re-published in the Portuguese libertarian journal "A Batalha".

The British campaign held a meeting on December 9 to discuss the initiation of a continuing campaign of direct action (we have several potential targets in mind): aimed at winning further support (in particular from the organised working class movement), gaining publicity in the mass-media, making more widely known the struggle of the Soviet working class against the parasitic bureaucracy and the terrible plight of those who have suffered imprisonment and victimisation at the hands of the K.G.B. for their participation in the struggle.

Unless militants in the West speak out on their behalf, many of them, their health undermined by the harsh conditions of their imprisonment, face death behind the barbed wire of the Gulag.

Future activities include a meeting on the anniversary of the Kronstadt revolt and the repudiation of Petrovchenko’s (chairman of the Kronstadt Commune) pamphlet "The Truth About Kronstadt" – a briefing document about the current struggles of the Soviet working class, which will be circulated to the trade union movement, is being prepared.

All donations to T. Liddle, 83 Gregory Crescent, Elitham, London SE9 9RZ.

In fact, you don’t have ‘anarchy’ anywhere in the world today – though here and there you can find promising glimpses of what could be.

Just occasionally you find something which the powers that be would condemn as “anarchy”, which we anarchists would hail as such.

So, to answer this question about the 80’s, they look like being a time of increasing chaos (not exactly sticking our necks out very far saying that) in which the advancing decay of class society will make the story so far look fairly rational.

A lot of people, disturbed at being in the grip of forces they can’t control, frightened by a world gone mad, will seek irrational "solutions" in a form of madness themselves. Apocalyptic religious sects will be on fertile ground.

But others will look for a more sensible way out of the mess by seeking to take control of their own lives, the places where they work, their communities, their environment, in free and equal co-operation with their fellow human beings. So yes, we do expect the 80’s to see an increase in anarchy.

We are of course going to do our little bit to try to undermine the power of every government and grealise government, and try to ensure that libertarian communism prevails throughout the world. We are happy to work with other libertarians and anarchists in this – on a clearly thought out and agreed basis.

We think this paper has a role in playing in making the world a better place. If you agree (or even if you’re a bit sceptical) we’d like to hear from you.

Help us make it the anarchic eighties!

All letters, articles, cartoons, illustrations, photos, etc., for Bread & Roses, should be sent to Box 2, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS. Same goes for all communications to the ACA. Cheques also should be made payable to the Anarchist Communist Association.

Cont, from page 3

In for £10 a week for a 35 hour week. This represents more than 100% on their present wage. Of course farmers will say they can’t afford it. As a country boy myself, with plenty of experience of gathering tatties and so on as a “casual”, I know what farmers are like. They mean all the way to the bank.

NO FENCE TO SIT ON

The bosses have a crisis on their hands. They are trying to make the workers pay for it. In these circumstances there can be no standing still for the working class. We either go forward or back.

We cannot afford to be defeated. It was the defeats of the Twenties which led directly to the terrible experience of the Thirties.

We mustn’t fall for the bosses line about “one man’s wage rise is another man’s price rise”. The bosses are rich. They can afford wage rises without putting prices up.

And if they won’t bloody well do it, then it’s high time we got rid of the bosses once and for all.

The workers - UNITED - really can’t be defeated.

SECC.

will it be the Anarchic 80s?

At the start of a new year, indeed, in this case, a new decade, is customary for newspapers to print some waffle about the significance of this. We have decided to follow the custom – though, of course, ours will be better waffle.

What are the prospects for anarchy in the eighties, then?

At the risk of sounding pedantic, it depends what you mean by “anarchy”.

Politicians, television pundits, and hack journalists, use “anarchy” to mean “chaos”, which includes just about anything they disapprove of.

Self-proclaimed anarchists, like us, use it differently. Use it properly.

"Anarchy" means a condition of society in which there is no government.

It does not mean a condition of society in which there are competing governments or non-governments. It does not mean a condition of society in which a government is behaving even worse than usual.

So you don’t have “anarchy” in Ulster. What you’ve got there is too many governments.

And you don’t have “anarchy” in Iran. What you’ve got there is a fanatically Muslim government.

In fact, you don’t have anarchy anywhere in the world today – though here and there you can find promising glimpses of what could be.

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We have a pamphlet "Introduction to the Anarchist Communist Association" which is available from us for 20p inc. p&p.

British Subscription Rate £2.50 for 10 issues
International Rate £4.00 for 10 issues
Box 2, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8.
POPE TO VISIT GLASGOW

We'd like you to meet:

CHERYL LADD
who says that life isn't always heavenly, even for an angel!

POPE JOHN Paul II will fly into Glasgow for the St. Cuthbert's Day celebrations. This was the shock news from Rome last night. The brief announcement came only hours after a major speech by his Holiness in which capitalism was described as "swinish and humanly degrading".

He called on all true Christians to embrace the philosophy of anarchism and take over the means of production and exchange from the bosses. "Our salvation lies in our own hands", he said in his emotional appeal.

Before the stunned crowd of 79,000 in Milan's largest football stadium, His Holiness made special reference to Scotland as "a nation in the utmost peril". He drew attention to the proliferation of nuclear bases and the dumping of atomic waste in Siziland as "a crime against the Scottish people".

PLEA

The word from the City is that shares have tumbled disastrously since the Pope's Scottish visit was announced. It was rumoured in London last night that a top civil servant was on his way to Rome in a last-ditch attempt to persuade His Holiness to call off the trip to North Britain in the interests of public safety. But it is generally conceded that there is little likelihood that the Pope will alter his plans.

THE POPE'S TIMETABLE

THE BIG DAY

1.30 Arrival of Vatican jet at Glasgow Airport.
2.30 Estimated time of arrival at George Sq. of Pope leading a march of Socialists, Anarchists, Trade Unionists and Tenants' Groups.
3.15 Estimated time of departure from George Sq. after circular and snubbing City Chambers and inhabitants therein. On to the Horseshoe Bar for pie & beans, and small refreshment.
5.00 Auntie Janies for dinner.
6.30 Mass singalong at Glasgow X.
7.00 Adjourn to "Sally Field" for Darts Championship needle match with Fustark Glass. (Proceeds to Glasgow Anarchist Group).
11.30 Tiffanys for a Knees Up.

FRANTIC

Sources in Whitehall admit that cabinet ministers and MPs of all parties are "quaking in their shoes" at the thought of ill-judged and inflammatory statements which the Pope may make during his tour of Scotland.

The Scottish Office is particularly concerned that the Pontiff may allude to the gruesome conditions in Scottish prisons, with the recent riots at Peterhead still fresh in mind and the controversy over the "cages" at Portobello still raging. The police too are worried that the Pope may mention the unexplained deaths of people whilst in police custody both North and South of the border.

"Yes, it's all here! So, go on, go and get an eyeful (and an earful) of the precious patrimony and the rest of the gang, you won't regret it. I was converted - and you'll be too, and I wouldn't mind betting my relics on that!"

Cliff Richard

"When one considers the basic subject matter, one can only lament an opportunity totally squandered. In vain I looked for spiritual dignity, historical veracity or a quick flash of public hair."

Prince Charles

"What a mind boggler! !!!!! It doesn't matter a preatent earpiece put like me to squat the clue in the title.... POPE .... Dig the rhyme? POPE = DOPE ... Right! THAT'S where It's at and how! Howseeds! !!!! star out, too much *** like !!!! NICE .... yeah...... RIGHT! !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! SORRY!

David Bowie

"SAINTS preserve us."

The Queen

"Wow! If the Vatican's really like this, I'll switch any day."

Archbishop of Canterbury

"But I'm not sure it's the Pope I've been up to..."

Bobby "Don't Care"
Undoubtedly the Pope has paid the Scots People the highest compliment in coming here. Characteristically the Scots people have thrown themselves into preparing their traditional hospitality, and as a result Brewery shares have trebled.

Certainly the common man seems to have found a saviour in Pope John Paul II. In twelve months he has become the most popular man on earth. He is today, as his nick-name implies “John Paul Superstar”, and his fans have gone into ecstacy just as much as the most fervent followers of Sinatra, Elvis or Linda Lovelace.

However, the Pope’s hopes that the Scots people will throw off their shackles may be groundless. Is he fully aware of the proud subservience of the native Scot?

The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Scotland explained last night in detail why he will not meet the Pope during his forthcoming Scottish tour. The attitude of the Moderator and of the Clerk of the Glasgow Presbytery has led to bitter debate within the Scottish churches.

In a personal statement last night the Moderator said: “Let me put it like this. I know old Red Socks when he was just plain Lotek the Pole, and let me tell you right away, he had some very peculiar habits, even in those days. Far be it from me to calumniate the Holy Hiker, but I could tell you a few things that happened in Krakow that would make your thing stand on end. I don’t want to be the one to point the finger, of course, but do you know that he wears a reinforced corset under his cassock?”

On things in certain, however. The great debate within the Protestant churches is going to continue. Some of the main talking points are as follows:

**Concern**

- Is God an astronaut?
- Was Jesus on drugs?
- Was Mary a house robot?
- Should Rangers FC sign Papineau?
- May sodomites enter the clergy?

**Cleaning**

Dogs are dirty, birds are filthy, fish are clean except for the intestines which are dirty.

People love to wash, and that’s why the eyes of Jesus chase them. Dogs don’t go to heaven, they turn into worms, but good Christian people stay just the same, younger and smelling good all the time. All the people get washed when they die and sit at the table of Holy Lightning with Jesus, eating all that clean food. Jesus smiles when he sees the people washing. He knows that people like cleanliness and that’s why he likes them better than the animals who eat any crap dirty.

Clean people who don’t smell like vinegar sit at His table, only younger, with new hair, teeth and skin, all naked but not provocative, eating all that clean food. That’s why it’s important to get the old folks soaped and combed and into bed between those nice sheets boiled four times and ironed into nice even creases – twelve creases for Jesus — and their toenails pared. Our old people look good, just simple people the color of milk and veal roast. When it’s time Jesus calls them, He says: “O have you pared your nails?” And they answer: “O yes, Sweet Lord, we have pared our nails and ironed our sheets twelve times.” And Jesus says: “Are you clean?” Which is a joke because He knows that they are and the old folks laugh a lot at this. And Jesus says: “Do you smell good and are you the color of veal roast?” And the old folks answer: “O yes, Lord, we smell good and we are clean and our thoughts are like white sauce and our blood is like water and we are ready, O Sweet Jesus.”

Then Jesus gathers them up in His arms and gives them clean teeth, the better to eat at His Holy Table, and clean ears, the better to hear His Holy Word, and clean eyes, the better to see and worship Him.

**Tee Shirt OFFER**

* Embroidered (Not printed) in five Vibrant colours of Pope with
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* Chest sizes 25” to 44”. Unisex Childrens & Adults Fitings.
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Vatican City (Opposite Adriano’s), Rome.
LEARNING FROM LIFE

A LOOK INSIDE WHILTON FREE SCHOOL.

I always get a lot of pleasure from visiting White Lion Street School. It is not just the friendliness of the place, there is something else - atmosphere of excitement and vitality. There is always something interesting going on.

The last time I was there, half the school were vigorously debating blood clots. And lively debate it was too, with the youngest (about 5), putting across her point just as strongly as the adults - and listening just as carefully. In fact I noticed it was the children rather than the adults who insisted on politeness if someone interrupted.

The children were not obliged to attend the debate - indeed they are not obliged to attend any event. They were there because they were interested.

Some of the children who were not interested in the debate were helping to make the school dinners in the kitchen (stuffed baked potatoes and celery knot-delectable)! In theory there is a role for who makes the

Many people would not think of these activities as "real" education - but what is real education? Is it inventing new Latin grammar? Or learning the choice of medieval battle? Or might the answer be found back in the White Lion Kitchen?

"How many pounds of potatoes do we need?"

"Read the recipe".

"But the recipe is for four people not 4!!"

"Well multiply it!!"

"Where did you buy those spuds anyway?"

And on.

That is REAL maths, REAL reading, REAL domestic science and those who bought the spuds experienced REAL economics, REAL business management and a dozen other "REAL" experiences.

This educationalists persist in ignoring. Of course the children are taught arithmetic, Reading, and Writing, but unlike most kids, they have to use the skills in the kitchen, at the market, in the post office and all the other places they go to as part of their school week.

To my mind this is what White Lion is all about. Education is part and parcel of everyday life. The world is full of exciting and interesting things - kids know this, and are keen to learn given a chance. Children are born with a curiosity and thirst to do things.

White Lion encourages these natural, healthy desires in an atmosphere of support and freedom. What a contrast this is to the long despotism of my own school days. Sitting chained to a desk while some old fart, dressed on and on - he probably feared to be out of there as much as we did.

It is true the occasional teacher managed to make metaphysical poetry or something even interesting, but what was worth of it was all way. You were virtually nothing that was any use.

Is it any wonder that so many people just want to leave as soon as they can? Why should they care for similar and Latin grammar?

They want to be welders or shop fitters, car mechanics, or just free of school even if that means going to work.

After all the school has already decided these kids don't matter. The people that are interested are the N.S.M. Managers the next generation of middle class. The whole school is geared towards preparing them for exams.

And why not? The school has already decided those kids don't matter. The whole place is totally dedicated to the minority of kids who will be academically successful. In short middle-class teachers select middle-class kids and pin labels on them: N.S.M. MANAGERS. If they do the job well, then everyone accepts that a privileged class is justified.

The fact that the free working class sons and daughters learn through their middle class "better" and move up the social ladder is real event. So too is all the recent talk about new and faster exams.

The emphasis on competition will both maintain and perhaps make easier for people to accept the con that we need a privileged class.

Co-operation, not competition is the key to White Lion Free School. Each adult and every kid has responsibility for running the school. All decisions are made at the school council meetings and a child's voice can count for as much as an adult's. There are no boards of governors, because the people at White Lion believe that you cannot have true democracy unless you have true equality and that means no hierarchies.

Everyone takes a turn at doing the various jobs. They even carefully rotate public appearances so that one person becomes a "star".

To my mind White Lion Free School is organized in the same way an anarchist would like to see the whole of society run.

So we asked one of the adults what was the system worked.

"It works remarkably well. We have a role system and everyone shares the cooking, cleaning, teaching and administration." When are all the staff qualified teachers?

"There are two parents who work here - one part-time and one full-time. They are not qualified and don't have degrees. One is a local mother. Because her children came here she became more and more involved.

We don't believe qualifications are necessary in White Lion School,

But we encourage people to stretch themselves and take courses in any area they feel inadequate.

Do they any trouble with the unions?"

"We prefer to call ourselves 'workers' rather than 'unionists'. NUT members don't approve of what we are doing, because we emphasise deprofessionalisation of education. We are joining the T&G (UN)."

The media has tended to emphasise the success White Lion has had with so-called "problem kids". Are they happy with this image?

"We have a wide mixture of kids, from gutter-age upwards. Many of whom did not have any problems in the ordinary schools. It is quite wrong to portray us as a "truncheons centre. Our approach helps EVERY kind of child."

And what is special about this approach? It is the emphasis on the problems and interests of the individual child. The children have all about everyday life and how to deal with it. The role of the adult is to help them organise their experience and make the best of it. The last time I was there one group was off skateboarding and another had organised a long weekend in Venice.

The front door of White Lion School is always open and there is a constant coming and going. This is no prison where the inmates are tortured with boredom. The kids are free to go out and explore the riches of the world and they take full advantage of the opportunity. They love it.

Are you interested in free schools, alternative education and community based teaching?

The Glasgow Free School Association exists to promote the ideas and help put them into practice.

We believe that the state system of education exists to serve the State and Industry. It is based on a meaningless artificial curriculum. The curriculum is irrelevant and when the kids rebel against this they are literally beaten into compliance.

If you are interested, phone David 041 631 3570

The school is a real school and 99% of the children stay until they leave.

If you have any questions, please phone or write to David 041 631 3570.
Danger! Idiot at work

THIS BLOODY IDIOT de LEAN NANN

In Glasgow, a city with one of the worst housing records in Britain, strange things are happening. In yet another desperate attempt to get their own house in order, the district councillors have established new management structures in their various offices of their Housing Management Dept.

In a post-war scheme of about 10,000 houses and 45,000 occupants, the new housing manager there, McLennan, is the latest in a long line of idiots.

Mind you, we've had hundreds of them before, but this McLennan is the most extreme bloody idiot of them all. Why? Get tuned and listen.

This idiot was given the gift of developing a quarter of a million pounds of our money should be used to help the Castlelilmak people to live life... such as play-arms for children, New

sinks and baths; help for the elderly with winter problems or any sensible idea that the money could be used for.

He has power to buy any good idea needing cash, suggested to him by the people of Castlelilmak.

He was instructed by our councillors to hold meetings and find out what we had to suggest.

What happened? - this fly man is an ecologist - he likes flowers - he likes spending money - and somehow people of Castlelilmak understand the beauty of having nice looking gardens. He also has friends who have barmbones that sell bulbs and trees. And what do you think he decided? He decided he would not buy any more ideas from the people of Castlelilmak until he decided how to spend our money. And here's how he spent it.

Out of £250,000 he spent £20,000 on planting bulbs, £50,000 on planting trees, £5,000 on plants and shrubs, £40,000 on gardens and hedges, £3,000 on railings for walls and decoration £1,000, total £85,000 on bulbs, trees, plants, shrubs and hedges and trip ways - yes £85,000.

For that?

When we in Castlelilmak claim union got wind of this, we told him, "No! Help the people."

MONEY MATTERS, (or does it?)

Two chaps boarded a train and sat in the same compartment. This was the patter.

"Going far?"

"No, just a couple of stops. I'm going down for the weekend to see my brother-in-law. He has a few weeks free. He's on strike."

"What does he work at?"

"He works in the mint, printing money."

"Your joking, of course."

"No, not in the least."

"How long has he been on strike for then?"

"No, don't tell me! More money? Right? I would, but the mint was already making plenty of money."

"For himself, though."

"Yeah, right! If he goes on strike for a wage increase, it means the price of money will increase. Therefore, his increase will decrease in the value of the pound decreases."

"You're only half right. As it happens, the mint has installed new pressing presses which print twice as many notes in the same time as the old presses. So they double the output, which gives the mint workers a rise, as they are on bonus. But if they produce two pounds in place of one, then the law of supply and demand means the value of the pound will decrease by 50% and will be worth only 50p. The monetary system, say £30, they are paid in wages will then be worth only half its present value, and that would be £15. So they need £60 in notes to equal the present value of £30. That's the real reason they are on strike."

"Why don't they take it to arbitration?"

"Oh, they did."

"What happened?"

"Well, there were three men on the arbitration tribunal and they were to be paid £10 per day for six days, which would be £60 each. However, that was before they knew what the dispute was about. When they did find out they noticed the £60 would only be worth £30 when the strike was over, so they asked for a built-in settlement that would give them £120. The mint refused to put this into a written contract since no devaluation of the pound has, as yet, taken place, so the arbitrators held a meeting and went on strike and the mint had to call in another arbitrator to arbitrate in the arbitrators strike."

"What if all the strikers lose their case?"

"Oh, Christ. I hate to think. As I pointed out, the pound will be worth only 50p, which equals a 50% reduction in real wages. That will only half the good that can be done now, which will mean a 50% increase in prices. Naturally the Union will want 50% increase in cost of living bonus, but the government will allow only 10% wage increase which will be equal to approximately £6 which equals the value of £3. The Union will recommend £12 to be equal to the value of £6. Because of the 50% price increase nobody will be able to buy anything which will lead to cut backs in production. Workers will be paid off and we will have severe unemployment. As the mint workers become unemployed, the production of money will cease, which will mean an increase in its value because of its scarcity. This rise will bring the pound back to its present value and everyone's dodle money will have doubled. People will have so much money to throw around it will cause raging inflation and the country will go bankrupt."

"Doesn't seem possible, does it? Are you going to see your brother-in-law anyway?"

"Oh, I'm going to try and borrow a few quid. Things are a bit rough. For the past three weeks I've been on strike!"

DON'T YOURSELF

All the shadow boxing is over between the T.U. leaders of the swimming unions and the employers. Most workers now know that the conventional means of strike - going on the cobbles - have had their day. Many more effective forms of strike action have been devised within recent decades. The rank and file are aware of them. Aren't the T.U. leaders?

Imagination is there but seriousness is not. The reason why they think people called a two day strike is because they don't have to pay strike benefit money. Furthermore, they may not be able to have control a general strike and this is important to them.

Trade unions want to control their members. Officialdom has a stake in the system. Hence the reason why officials oppose the idea of unionism operating against the system of nationalisation.

Much re-shaping of thought has to be performed. Many militants still think that the trade union is still to be used merely as a defensive weapon against the employer and as a tool to discredit any particular government. They do not foresee any development of unionism replacing government as such.

Unionism, therefore, remains a house divided against itself. Unions are divided and sub-divided. Instead of there being one union for each industry we have a number of unions within any given industry. One union would make many officials redundant. It would also tend to develop class solidarity.

The T.U.C. not wanting a repetition of the engineer's prolonged strike are now advocating strikes at a lower level. This would be more effective against the onslaught of government attacks on working class standards of living. However, organisation and co-ordination are essential.

Although each factory may adopt its own means of struggle it would be wise if there were links through the respective

works committees. In this way perhaps two or more factories could work with union to mutual advantage. It is also essential for workers to start thinking in terms of ownership and control of industry by their own democratic self-government. This would tend to create an industrial organisation on a class basis rather than on the basis of craft as in the older unions or as a motley mass as in the younger unions such as the Transport and General Workers Union.
DOWN WITH POPULATION CONTROL

No, I'm not against voluntary contraception. I've practised it myself, but all over the world pressures on people are overwhelmingly against the right to have children.

So far there's been no need for population controllers to force their policies on Western women and men; the conditions of industrial capitalism have done it for them, as any "liberated" woman trying to do two jobs could explain to you. According to the New Internationalist, a publication concerned with world development and in favour of family planning, "All over the world people are deciding to have fewer babies. . . . It is in the industrialised world that family size has dwindled most. . . . Economic pressure is the main brake. . . . For unlike the children of the developing world, who cost little extra and can be economic assets by the age of ten, children in the affluent world remain expensive financial liabilities at least until their education is finished."

capitalism

Long, fixed hours of wage-labour a long journey from home mean that children must be excluded from economic life, and women or men looking after children at home become financially dependent (on their partner or the state) and looked down on. There's no halfway - you're a full-time employee or a non-person staying at home, perhaps with a low-paid dead-end part-time job. And the unions, with their rigid ideas, like it that way.

pressure

But the population controllers are taking no chances.

The National Health is pushing birth-control on women at ante-natal clinics, with loaded questions and smire remarks about their contraceptive methods. An obstetrician to whom I protested about this said, "Obviously, small families are better from every point of view." Full stop.

will the pill be compulsory by 1984

In August the Scottish Sheriff ruled that an unmarried mother should receive only £1 per week token maintenance from the father because she hadn't used the Pill. The Secretary of State for Scotland, George Younger, refused to intervene, giving constitutional reasons.

I don't wish to interfere, but do you realise that world population is going to increase by nearly 50% in twenty years? What are you going to do about it?

plenty to go round but who gets it?

The N.I. tells us, "It is estimated that only half of the world's potential agricultural land is now being cultivated. . . . It has been estimated by W.H. Pawney of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation that the earth's resources could feed ten times its present population."

A UN conference last spring reported that "Eight hundred million people are destitute. . . . Other reports show they are getting hungrier, although food production is growing faster than population in the Third World, because they are too poor to buy enough to eat." (Geoffrey Lean, Observer)

what do you want?

But what it boils down to is not one person's statistics or the other person's forecasts, but whether you think human life is a good thing. If you think birth should be welcomed and old age cherished, you will see any problems of resources or of space as just that: not as problems of too many people.

The population-control enthusiasts have a capitalistic outlook - all they care about is technology and money for the benefit of a superhuman elite. Ideally they'd like the proles to be born at 16 and die at 50, or better yet have all the work done by robots.

So they tell women that being well-groomed, child-free and steadily employed in some nice clean air-conditioned office is liberation and fulfilling
THE A.C.A. - WHAT WE STAND FOR

FREEDOM AND EQUALITY

The Anarchist Communist Association exists to fight for a free and equal society in which people control their own lives.

Society would be planned so that people give what they can and get what they need. In place of government there would be a network of workplace and community councils.

Anarchism is not an abstract theory or a utopian dream. It gets its ideas from the practice of working people struggling against their exploitation. In Spain during the 1930s thousands of ordinary people controlled their own lives in this way through factory, street, and village councils.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The courts and parliament, police and army, exist to protect the interests of the rich and powerful.

We know from experience that it is useless to try and reform these institutions by electing representatives to parliament. Neither can they be captured and used in our interests after a revolution. Both simply lead to swapping one form of exploitation for another.

They need to be destroyed completely and immediately replaced with workers' and community councils. If this is to be achieved, we will need to take up arms to defend ourselves.

A REVOLUTION OF EVERYDAY LIFE

Relationships now are based on domination and submission: bosses over workers, men over women, adults over children.

We seek to change all of this. We seek not just an economic revolution but one that also frees us in our social and personal relationships.

DIRECT ACTION

The way to build for revolution is through direct action. This means ignoring official ways of protesting such as general elections. Instead, tactics such as occupying factories and squatting empty houses should be used.

It also means making sure that every struggle is controlled by the people concerned and not, for example, by full time party or union officials.

INTERNATIONALISM

Exploitation not only happens in this country. Ordinary people are exploited throughout the world. In the "communist" world as much as in the "free" world.

The experience of every previous revolution shows that there can be no successful revolution in one country alone and that we need to unite with ordinary people everywhere if we are to be free.

ORGANISATION

If we want to achieve a free classless society, we must organise in the same way.

The A.C.A. rejects equally the idea of creating a party in which a central committee hands down orders to the members and also the dis-organisation of other anarchist groups. Our organisation aims to provide an alternative to both.

Organisation is necessary because it breaks down our individual isolation, helps us to share our experiences, and to co-ordinate our activities. In this way, each thread of resistance can be gradually woven into a tapestry of revolution and freedom.

INTERESTED? There are ACA contact addresses in Birmingham, Burnley, East Anglia, Glasgow, and London. For more details write - or fill in the thing below - and send to ACA, Box 2, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS.

I want to join the ACA

I'd like more information about ACA

(tick whichever is appropriate)

NAME

ADDRESS


But Brian Barnes has since been in dock. After hearing the case, the fact that the local authority will not necessarily allow the office block by Battersea Bridge Road (making the demolition totally spurious), and the time it took the painters to do the mural - 15 months, the magistrate gave Brian an absolute discharge.

And the fight continues. The luxury flats and offices will do nothing for the people of Battersea. No-one disputes that the needs are low-cost housing, unskilled and semi-skilled industrial work, nurseries and public services.

Morgans can't make money out of that, needless to say, so they will not give up without a fight.

Mickey Mouse's are in flames - Battersea's answer to a scheme for a tourists' Disneyland in Battersea Park.

DURING the protest on the wall on June 6th, no end of supporters turned up and so did lots of police. Even the much loved SPG of Southall fame came with guns.

Some folks had to be nicked; they were. The Murallists defence Fund is being supported by the sale of sets of colour photos of the mural at 70p. Write to Bread & Roses for a set.
Dear A.C.A.

Thanks for your statement of aims and principles, constitution etc.

Having read through this I would like to make one or two comments (if I may be so bold). I gather that members are expected to agree with the gist of what is stated, although party lines is not what you are looking for. To me the main gist seems to be the usual (not using the word derogatorily), workers control, direct action, participatory democracy etc. As I said in my letter (to the ACA) I do consider myself a communist and thus logically agree with these aspirations. However there is another aspect of your ideas which I find harder to swallow and I want to know a little more about this. This is the class struggle aspect. Before I am accused of reactionary middle-class elitism/enemy of the working class I will repeat that I am in favour of workers control and the elimination of non-productive social classes etc. But I must say that generally when I am lectured about the class struggle wage etc., I feel I am stuck with someone in a 19th century time warp.

I, myself, find myself more inclined to agree with the Anarchist Communism of the Murray Bookchin's of this world as opposed to the Alex Berkman's although I recognise (I hope) the weaknesses and strengths of both. If you have read Bookchin I am sure you will understand me if you haven't I shall try to summarise him.

Bookchin in my way of thinking feels that the traditional view that the liberation of the working classes is the job solely and supply each other, and ultimately become independent enough to say "pass off" to the bustle of the old regime, was vital. If Anarchism is ever going to be achieved, can it be brought about by a sudden vague, distant future event labelled a "Revolution" - however uncomfortable?

The real revolution is going on now, and the contribution of people setting up devices for alternative living should not be ignored. They are also at the sharp end, doing the hard bits, in providing the rest of us with somewhere to go when the last copper has been gently but firmly relived of his bit of lead pipe. It's down to us, who profess some belief in Anarchism to learn from their mistakes, and give them what support we can.

Bob Lann
Nottingham Anarchist Group

Dear Bread & Roses,

Your flat 'NO' to the question of whether the setting up of workers co-operatives is a contribution to the formation of an Anarchist society in perplexing. You rightly point out that all co-op's, communes, and collectives operate in the very society they are trying to change, and last their other widely recognised defects.

But I should have thought that the construction of an expanding network of such groups which could eventually support

Love and Rage,
Carl Harp

Please send money for Carl's legal needs to his defence fund:—

Hennie Mulder
Haptoei International
P.O. Box 10658
Amsterdam, Holland

Dear Bread & Roses,

I welcome the articles you published in the last "Bread & Roses", and hope your readers will join or form anti-nuclear groups to work with in an "organisation" to stop nuclear madness.

Right now they can help by reporting all movements of contaminated fuel in Britain — the atomic reactors produce no end of waste — three tons of radio isotopes frequently pass through our area. I enclose a diagram of one of the transport "flasks" with this letter.

The only safety tests have been done with scale models — what if an 80 mph passenger train hits one?
Lethal!

My group fights the atomic madness with direct action and other means and welcomes new fighters.

Will you publish our contact address?: 9 Combermere Rd, London SW2.

Thanks,
J. Turner
South London Anti-Nuclear Affinity Group

from carl harp

Dear Friends,

I was very pleased to receive the little package with your paper, and the pamphlet introducing your association coupled with the note of solidarity. I too am an A.C., and was excited to receive your literature; what a fine little paper you have, and your pamphlet is great. I salute your efforts. I also thank you very much for your support of me in your paper.

Enclosed is a newspaper clipping updating my situation — as you can see I went through a rough go, nearly didn't make it, and am now in the California State Prison known as San Quentin. Robert Shane Green and Robert C. Washburn are still at the Washington State Penitentiary, and so far are well. I too am well and doing o.k. They could use mail for the spirits (P.O. Box 520 Walla Walla, Wa. 99362).

My new address for awhile is now P.O. Box C-7100

Tamaal, Calif. 94964. Please keep me on your mailing list and I shall try to contribute articles now and then.

I wish to thank all of you who helped with my defense fund — it is important that I have that help to get any justice at all, every dollar helps even if that is all it can send. Letters of protest and support are also vital and appreciated; they keep me safe and give me strength. I have been struggling for six years in prison now, it gets harder and harder as I go along cause they hate me more and more, but I can take their hate and more if I know I have your love my friends and your support. I have no idea how long I will be in this prison, but wherever I go you will eventually know it — always know you are in my thoughts, I send my love to you all.

I trust you all know the Importance and value of study? The best two books on A.C. are Malatesta's "Anarchist" and Alexander Berkman's "The ABC of Anarchist Communism". Study helps both theory and practice. Know what you're about! And remember unity is the main weapon of struggle...

Love and Rage,
Carl Harp

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J. Turner
South London Anti-Nuclear Affinity Group

of the working classes is not so sacred as many on the left would appear to believe. He argues that the dialectic (primarily Marxist) which explains the change from one class society to another, cannot be applied to the transformation of a class society into a non-class society. For a non-class society to be reached, a non-class must be wrought within the old structure who will act as catalyst for change (I myself feel that these ideas are not so new as they appear. Certain elements can be found in Bakunin’s writings).

The big question then for me is what is the ACA’s view of the class struggle? How "sacred" are the older views to you? and to what extent may people join the ACA who do not hold traditional views but perhaps have sympathy with the type of theory I have outlined?

I look forward to hearing from you on this question, I hope I don’t sound too theoretical and anarchologistic but I am still interested in joining the ACA but as I am sure you will agree the aim of the ACA is to bring people together with the same similar ideas; for this to be done people must air their ideas. All the best,

Neil
On the night of July 8, prison guards at the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla went on the rampage. They began by severely beating five prisoners—Darney Atteberry, Manuel Rampola, Danny Clark, Lynn Brooks and Gary Jessee. One brother, Carl Harp, who was in the same cellblock, began screaming at the pigs. They then started on Harp. They maced him and beat him. They stripped him of his clothes and tortured him. In response to this latest murder attempt, prisoners are demanding the firing of Ward Spaulding. For their part, old ‘Get-tough’ and Governor Dix Lee Ray are trying to blame the assault on 13 guards. The guards certainly deserve anything they get, and more. But this doesn’t hide the fact that Spaulding and Ray are personally responsible for the rape and the beatings.

Walla Walla has been deadlocked since June 15 when a guard was killed. This death is also the responsibility of Spaulding, Ray, and the state of Washington. For years conditions at Walla Walla have been kept under the radar and the making of a torture chamber. The Intensive Security Unit where prisoners are kept all day long in cells bigger than the average bathroom: the Behavior Modification Unit where prisoners are beaten with straps, tied down to beds until they piss on themselves, and drugged until they are zombies, the ‘parole hearings’ where the fact that you look at a guard cross-eyed means continued imprisonment. This kind of treatment inevitably means something is going to blow up. Since the mid-June deadlock began, there has been a war going on in the prison. Prisoners weren’t even allowed showers. July 7, guards took several prisoners out to the yard and beat them. The prisoners responded to these attacks. July 8, 9, prisoners smashed up a cellblock. That night, the guards went on their vicious attack.

Carl Harp was a special target. He was number one on their hit list. The state and the keepers have a good reason for wanting to kill Harp. He is a political prisoner and a consistent fighter for the rights and the lives of prisoners. He played an important role in the 1977 strike at Walla Walla, one of the longest prisoner strikes in U.S. history. He was a founding member of Men Against Sexism, a multi-national prisoners’ organization that fought for the rights of gay prisoners. Harp was one of three prisoners who took 10 hostages in May, demanding a federal investigation of the prison. Harp’s life has been threatened before, but this time the guards felt they had the ability to carry it out. The politics of the attack were clear. Harp says: “I was shocked when they raped me—I couldn’t believe it. The pain was beyond words and then they beat me until I was in a daze and could feel no pain, calling me a political prisoner and a jailhouse lawyer.” They will still be trying to kill Carl Harp. He has been transferred to San Quentin. This is where George Jackson was assassinated. Harp needs support.

MORGAN GREED

So why did McGee’s start demolishing the wall? Well, they do not work for free. Their plumbers were multinational firm Morgan Crucible. Morgans gave the three went much further and ratted down the road.

This was taken over by the angry and opposing painter, the police closed the road to traffic. … June 6th, Derby Day, it stayed that way and HM the Queen had to take another route to the races at Epsom.

Eventually the police managed an arrest, then Brian suffered the fate of all those “helping the police with their enquiries,” but not until evening.

They did not like what the mural showed… Its design was done after consultation with local people and as it got under way, the office blocks, concrete high-rise flats and old factories were shown being swept away— Including Morgan's factory!

What replaced them was houses with gardens, small industry, leisure playgrounds and a swimming pool—oh, and a route master bus!

With plenty of locals ready to defend that message, Morgans had to sneak-attack at night.

Spit was, however, second to profit and the wall soon repaired with a company from a large GLC-owned site, which together with their factory site they intended to develop speculatively for office and flats— Just what the broom was sweeping away.