May Day for anarcho-syndicalists is not just another holiday or excuse for peaceful protest marches. For us it symbolises worldwide workers' solidarity. A day for workers' actions against the capitalist system and to work towards a general strike in pursuit of major reductions in the length of the workday.

But this year 1986, is of special significance for anarcho-syndicalists throughout the world. Exactly 100 years ago today a chain of events started which led to the execution by the State of the Chicago Martyrs. On 1 May 1886, 800,000 workers from all trades and factories went on strike in support of the eight-hour work day. In Chicago, a stronghold of immigrant labour and anarchists, 300,000 workers struck and marched through the city streets in a huge display of proletarian power. Before the Chicago May Day strike action began, the management at McCormick Machine Co. (now International Harvester) had locked out 1,500 workers over a wage dispute. On 3 May, when pickets attempted to prevent blackleg labour entering the plant, the Chicago police opened fire on the workers, killing four and wounding many more. Outraged at this act of naked aggression, radical anarchists called for armed resistance against the bloodthirsty Chicago police, and a protest rally was called for the following day (4 May) at Haymarket Square. Speeches condemning police violence and capitalist oppression were given by three leading anarchists: Parsons, Spies and Fielden. As the meeting came to an end, 200 police moved in on the crowd. Suddenly, a bomb was thrown and exploded in the midst of the policemen, who immediately opened fire on the assembled workers. Several policemen and many workers were killed.

In the hysterical aftermath of the Haymarket tragedy five anarchists were convicted and sentenced to hang by a specially constituted tribunal. On 11 November, Black Friday, it murdered Parsons, Spies, Fischer and Engels. Ling had committed suicide the previous day. They were later shown to have had nothing to do with the bombings.

On 14 July 1889, on the hundredth anniversary of Bastille Day, an American AFL delegate attending the International Labour Congress in Paris proposed that 1 May be officially adopted as a workers' holiday. This motion was unanimously approved and since then May Day has served as a date for international working class solidarity.
Adenbrookes

With official union recognition that their charges have been removed from their cause, it appears that, again, Adenbrookes strikers will be unable to accept the proposal agreed to by Cambridge Health Authority. The strike needs a far cry from a year ago when they staged a national day of action over Adenbrookes. Now it's "nothing says they'll do anything in the future."

Union officials and Labour poli-
sicians are holding talks on the Cambridge picket lines.

Privatisation — the key question is this now.

One way is to give a con-
tract to a private hospital to carry out treatments on NHS patients. The NHS will do the follow-up care. This means that the private hospital has to have long waiting lists, thereby threat.

The other way privatisation could be a means of treatment centre (after all this problem is not going to go away). The answer is simple — in-house tenders. The authority is responsible for some 200 supply pipes.

...it is bound to reveal the dreadful state of the water put into Britain's water system. The image of the heartland of the Lancashire mill towns were described as "an affront to the environment, Michael Heseltine..."

The unions are back-pedalling and seem to have given up more for their own interests than the common good of the health service patients and the patients of the Royal Sussex County Hospital. The unions have gone on the offensive and are trying to protect their members. But the unions are no longer the only group that can begin to demand their pay rates cut by up to 45%. As home owners, they are more likely already up to £70 less than the average the unions can't afford.
SINCE BY-ELECTIONS ARE WITH US ONCE AGAIN WE THOUGHT IT APPROPRIATE TO PRESENT A PIECE OF FICTION!

**club colours**

BY GEORGE FLASHER

It was stick-colouring time in Flasdeposoria, the qualitatively sterile state which existed itself on its democratic system. "Stick-colouring" was the polling given to the election in which, every single year, the adjectives of Flasdeposoria were enticed to cast a vote for a colour. The colour receiving the most votes would be used to paint the large wooden sticks which were used in the much simpler one morning each week, given to the election in which, the citizens of Flasdeposoria felt sure that the integrity of their democratic system was safe from unhealthy influences.

"Stick-colouring" was the name of the Vogren process, which was used in the much simpler one morning each week, given to the election in which, the citizens of Flasdeposoria felt sure that the integrity of their democratic system was safe from unhealthy influences.

Are you up for the challenge? You can use the text to answer this question: What is the main conflict in the story? What is the resolution? How does the story end?
EDUCATION THE LIBERAL LIE

As I think — a libertarian has come to be very clever folk. They often mention the years of study they spend preparing to become teachers. They should know better than I do, the meaning of the word "libertarian" and be capable of communicating their personal viewpoints to relatively few individual children, and their own insidious goals to the wider institution of the school. In passionately few observations I have to make on the subject of state schools. Few teachers merely to be stating the obvious.

My point is that in the present system, the "libertarian" teacher is just like the "cause of intelligentsia" a contradiction in terms.

Consider the two-fold function of the classroom. Firstly, it provides day-care — care for the young between four and fifteen, keeping them off the streets and out of mischief; secondly, it is the teaching of important business of being economically active. The latter one of these is the more important.

Secondly, the school function as a production line, turning out docile workers, and as a business, it is trained to run on time, take orders uncomplainingly undertake meaningless and repetitive tasks, speak only when permitted, fall into the same pre-determined slot in the hierarchy and recognise the position of others above them, and below... Compared with this the more educational skills most school-grown pupils pick up seem rather insignificant. It could be argued that schools are not like this now. But it is still a fact.

Children are allowed to talk, to select in what order they do their study they spend preparing for their children's lives, to select their clothes they like, to select their teachers, and teachers in state schools at that. When someone talks exclusively about the "real" world carry on the study of social control, s/he takes their place along with the gutter press, the pop industry and advertising — a whole line of smiling benevolently as "the world of the children with their odious lies, children they can't relate to and whom they see, relate to, isn't worth learning in the first place, and the rest they can't relate to and whom they see, just as they taught themselves to speak a more difficult language than reading, east and west.

What then is the answer? I'd offer a simple answer. Don't teach them at school all. It is almost like teaching adult company, with freedom to do things they want, they can hardly help getting educated. Parents more and more are people on the dole, they don't need to send their children to school to keep them off the house and out of the streets.

The children are interesting and interested. Anything their parents have forgotten from their schooling probably won't worth learning in the present system, and the rest they can easily teach their kids themselves, just as they taught themselves to speak a more difficult language than reading, east and west.

What did you learn in school today? The strong are admired. The clever belong. Question authority. That was the truth I learned in school today.

...AND THE SYNDICALIST TRADITION

"EDUCATION is far too important to be left to the state. It is this realization that has traditionally led syndicalists to educational movements outside church and state,"

The French CGT, before the Great War, understood this well. They felt when forced to deal with a wet liberal teacher at school to remember reading an article by just such a teacher, a young failed infant teacher. He related how, after being asked to leave by the 6-7-year-olds that he "didn't like making them do things they didn't want to do."

The reply was: "If you say you don't like doing that, to us, why do you still do it?"

This teacher's liberal conscience would have been more rare to the children if it had resulted in his acting honestly; instead of pretending his presence in the classroom was turning Schools into Libertarian Education. In any case one can work it out. What was the answer for syndicalism? wouldn't the only thing they can do be honest with themselves and with the rest of us. There is the answer for syndicalism! The few educational skills being trained in the hierarchy and recognised the position of others above them, and below... Compared with this the more educational skills most school-grown pupils pick up seem rather insignificant. It could be argued that schools are not like this now. But it is still a fact.

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the state dictates for them. In a syndicalist school there will be no full-time teachers, for there will be no more parasites. After the teacher had completed her four hours daily work, she would set up her bar skill-like, wise the agricultural workers, or such as have special skills, such as artists and musicians, making merry and instructing the classes of the liberal teachers as long as life goes on and they grow up demanding more and more.
THE BACKGROUND

After World War II, the Dutch union movement had to be rebuilt. A prominent initiative was the creation of the EVC (the United Congress), instigated by the Communists along similar lines to their other European union strategies. This attempt soon collapsed, and the union movement dispersed into several union organizations. The three largest are — the NVV (Social Democrats) — the CNV (Catholics) — the OVB (Independent Unions).

Three years ago, the OVB and NVV began to link up with the parts of them actually joined officially, and more recently, the CNV. All three unions have federations and centres based in the workplaces. The OVB's national federation is the OvB, which is in favour of workers' self-management. The OVB believes that the liberation of all workers cannot take place in a single country; it requires a total world order embracing all nationalities. In the real world, where all the interests of workers will be safeguarded and there will be no longer any restraint on the workers' international democracy.

According to the OVB, all organisations from the workplace to the government, which are based on class collaboration, along with the control of science, technology or religion. However, it does not itself have any links with the wing, anti-capitalist workers' organisation.

AIMS OF THE OVB

"The defence of the material and spiritual interests of the working class, particularly at the place of work..."

Therefore the OVB opposes all forms of domination over the working class, whether material or ideological.

The OVB believes that all workers are perfectly capable of deciding individually and collectively, on their own future.

Naturally this means that each must take part in decision making not only in the workplace but also in the community, as a consumer, a claimant, etc.

But the right to decide for oneself one's own life cannot exist in a capitalist society like ours... only in one where all the production and administration are organized by the workers themselves. The OVB is in favour of workers' self-management. The OVB believes also that the liberation of all workers cannot take place in a single country; it requires a total world order embracing all nationalities. In the real world, where all the interests of workers will be safeguarded and there will be no longer any restraint on the workers' international democracy.

THE CENTRAL FIGHTING FUND

Financed by a proportion of the dues and by donations, this fund exists to make daily payments to any OVB members engaged in disputes, strikes, etc. in some cases it may be used to assist non-members of the OVB.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Through its National Legal Assistance Bureau and its local branches, the OVB gives advice and cash help to all members of over three months standing who are up to date with their dues. This covers problems such as pensions, social security, wages under dismissal, etc.

The OVB's National Executive is elected by the Congress.

THE CONGRESS

This is the supreme decision-making body of the OVB. It meets at least once every two years and is composed of delegates elected by the members of the General Council.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL

This is composed of delegates from each organisation in the OVB, and from the National Executive which is elected by the Congress.

For export to Britain during the strike, until then their action is the only means by which the Congress can mount a direct attack on the state and the bosses. But the OVB only seeks recognition for workers themselves and seeks it only through the class struggle.
The 1926 General Strike was the largest in a series of industrial disputes that occurred in the United Kingdom between 1919 and 1926. It was the third major strike in Britain's history, and it was preceded by two other major strikes in 1919 and 1921. The strike was a result of a dispute between the miners and the coal owners over wage reductions. The strike began on May 3rd, 1926, and lasted for ten days.

The strike was a major event in the British political and social history. It led to a shift in the balance of power between the trade unions and the government. The strike was also a significant event in the history of the Labour Party, which was formed in 1900 and had been growing in strength since then. The Labour Party had been advocating for the workers' rights and was a key player in the strike.

The strike was also significant because it was the first time that the government had to deal with a nationwide strike. The government was forced to take action to deal with the strike, and this led to a shift in the balance of power between the trade unions and the government. The strike was also a significant event in the history of the Labour Party, which was formed in 1900 and had been growing in strength since then. The Labour Party had been advocating for the workers' rights and was a key player in the strike.

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HEALTH TODAY...

Addenbrookes

With official and public recognition and threat not only serves to stop the spread of the disease, but also to force it to accept work offer from the private Health Authority. The attitude of 'Cowie' seems to have been that ever since they were called for a 12-hour day of action at Addenbrookes. Now it's nothing but an embarrassment to the union officials and Labour polticians whom once stood on the Cambridge picket lines.

What it means

Privatisation - taking work from the Health Service and giving it to private firms, which can take two main forms. One way is to give a contract to a private hospital to carry out treatments on NHS patients. This often happens when the hospital has been sold to a private firm. The private firm will usually go to the cheapest offer, no matter how inferior their service may be. The other way is for a private hospital to carry out the work, which may be the case when the private hospital is run by the Health Authority, which means that if there is any waiting list, the waiting list will be reduced.

In practice

As Addenbrookes, only two months after privatisation a report by the Borough Council and the Health Authority states that 40% of its services have been privatized. A letter from the District Council for the district of Addenbrookes and the Community Health Authority for the private hospital's tender. The Health Authority considers offers from private firms and also the hospital's own staff. The offer is accepted as an "in-house" tender, and the hospital is paid a fee for this. This is overruled by the Health Minister, and a private hospital is awarded the contract.

The Health Authority is not forced to accept work from private firms, but it is bound to reveal the dreadful effect of the privatisation of NHS hospitals.

The Tameside experience

The authority's computer plan provides for a "widespread problem of poor (drinking) water quality" with a "problematic quality" of water. The Lancashire mill towns were built with clean water pipes for the most part, but the water main is now filled with raw sewage. The water authority has been forced to accept work from private firms, which can only be done if the Health Authority orders them to do so.

Meanwhile, up the hill, the authority is responsible for accepting the "cheapest private firm" for the work. The deal is carried out, and the private firm is forced to accept work from the Health Authority. The private firm is paid a fee for this, and the Health Authority is paid a fee for the work.

The future

So far 223 contracts have been signed, and 181 of them have been with private firms. The Health Minister wants to find a way of getting the work done, but this is not the way to do it. The Health Authority is not forced to accept work from private firms, but it is bound to reveal the dreadful effect of the privatisation of NHS hospitals.
HOW MUCH DO I GIVE?

and the banking and insurance sector gave £504,142.

Unigate £25,000

(Their presence in the NAR members

which killed 85 innocent trav-

Revolutionary (sic) Nuclei came
designed to destabilize Italian

military intelligence and

bombing was only one chapter
to London after the Bologna

terrorists in Italy which included some of those respons-

gangs, right-wing politicians

in the British fascist move-

five years London, not Tripoli,

launch a bomb strike on West-

TE RRORISTS HIDE

IN LONDON

A lot has been made of Libya

The West's most pow-

crime is behind

torture, economic

rapes, impoverishment

of entire peoples, but if
deserted individuals with bombs they are

were castigated as vile ter-

penseful and reasonable -

heard some politicians, after this attack, calling the terrorists
criminal for not fighting

in the open, when if the individuals concerned were to show their faces

the State of Terror would not hesitate a

second to blast them off

the face of the Earth

with their tanks, fighter-

bombers, battleships etc.

Anyone who's worried

airline hijackers when there are huge nuclear bombs to destroy the world several times

over lacks a sense of proportion to say the

TERRORISTS HIDE

IN LONDON

A lot has been made of Libya

as a centre of international terrorism. But what about the terrorists living

freely in London?

Members of the Italian Armed Revolutionary (sic) Nuclei came to London after the Bologna

railway station bomb outbreak which killed 85 innocent travellers in August 1980. This

bombing was only one chapter in the "strategy of tension" designed to destabilize Italian

society and pave the way for Fascists to come to power.

The conspiracy involved the shadowy FS Fascio Lodge business-

men, right-wing politicians, military intelligence and

Carabbi officers. The bombing were carried out by MR Faro

soldiers.

Five of the MR Faro fugitives in London have been convicted in

absentia in a trial of MR Faro terrorists in Italy which is

considered too sensitive for the Bologna massacre.

The presence of the MR Faro members in London was confirmed in

1981. Seven were briefly arrested,

but the verdict was annulled on technical grounds.

And, even though they have been living freely in London, and

had been taking an active part in the British Fascist move-

ment, a new extradition treaty between the UK and Italy may

yet end their anonymity, but the fact remains that

five years ago, London, not Tripoli, was their safe haven for five years.

In these respects, the British government didn't exactly leave no stone

unturned to bring these hated Fascists to justice. Is the Italian government still

willing to continue to launch a bomb strike on West-

minster?

THE TORY PARTY - HOW MUCH DO YOU GIVE?

DIRECT ACTION readers may

note themselves as supporters of the Tory Party,

but have you ever thought how

much you contribute indirectly through everyday high-street

firms which give donations to

the Tories? In 1984 the following comp-

nies donated to Tory Party funds:

British Car Auctions £11,250

Brick House Stores £10,000

These were very keen to come to the unions in order to

get the issue of political contri-

butions cleared, but there was

no way over what happens to the

money they spend.

But one way we could make completion clear is through the

wealthy giants is through a

campaign to give some economic

muscle to low-income and even

unemployed people.

WHEN CHEAP MEANS DEARER

Nottingham County Council has threatened to take

the Central Electricity Gener-

ate to court ifLang-

age-Jone to the County's roads

does not take the minors' cases.

The number of lorries to

Cottam power station rose from

50 the day before the strike, to

a total of 524. Burton traffic increased from

10,200 lorries per day

According to a report to the
council the extraordinary
traffic caused "premature fail-

ure" of two roads. The CEMC

offered to settle out of court:

for £500,000 but the Council

wants the full figure of £3 4m.

This bill is embarrassing the

Tories, who have been trying

that lorries are cheaper than train freight for transporting coal to

power stations.

THE TORY PARTY - HOW MUCH DO YOU GIVE?

In last September, Brian Bamford

a local libertarian was arrest-

ed in a negative manner, when NOWERS came to cut

electricity supply to the homes of Nationalists, he was soon

beaten up by cops. Now, the NAR have decided that the loyalty is that they are now

in the police service. More robust arrests took

place last month. Nottinghamshire Police

the new Henderson secretary of the movement pulled in to

visit his friends. The injuries sus-

pected of the police by the NAR were not

reported.

A number of witnesses say

blew were aimed at those

required medical treat-

ment. This time the

was resented by the men, and

the newly appointed Chief Con-

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