ASPECTS OF ANARCHISM

RIGHTS

Rights constantly crop up in our lives. Almost all debate and choice about what we can or cannot do is coloured by talk about different rights. Natural Rights, Human Rights, Children's Rights, Animal Rights, the Right to Life, The Right to Die, the Right to Know, the Right to Privacy and endless others. All are appeals for people to get what they deserve and what they are entitled to. Collectively rights amount to a universal fairness, which, if truly they were all respected, would leave no one with cause for complaint. All that is needed for any disputes in society to be resolved is for conflicting rights to be weighed against one another and the most equitable solution found.

It will surprise few of our readers that we think this view is utter rubbish and we shall not disappoint those who were expecting the famous quote by saying we agree with the philosopher Jeremy Bentham who said that natural rights were "nonsense upon stilts". The plot of the rest of this article will follow with a very brief look at rights, a longer critique of what's wrong with them and more importantly what anarchists can use as an alternative in political dialogue. Obviously we are not going to say that changing the theoretical framework of political discussion can bring revolutionary change in itself. However we do say there is a reciprocal interchange between ideas and practice which grows from one another. In this instance a rejection of campaigning for our 'rights' when in struggle enables us to see beyond immediate goals within the confines of present society just as actual struggles have shown us the need to go beyond what the bosses can concede in terms of rights.

Are Rights Right On?

As promised there will be no long lecture on the historical and philosophical origins of the concept of rights. While we would not dismiss this topic as pure Kant, it is all Pain for Little gain and will be Locked away for the moment. Those comrades who find it grist to their John Stuart Mill's will find a plentiful literature on the subject that we have no space for here.

Suffice to say rights became a major political influence with the American and French revolutions and have since expanded to almost all aspects of human interaction. One distinction worth making is between positive and negative rights. The latter are rights which allow individuals freedom from interference from the state. These rights, mostly advocated by ideological R0 Organiser! liberals, were in general the first to be put forward e.g. the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in the American constitution. Positive rights have come later, pushed for by state socialists and Keynesian capitalists. They differ in requiring action by others or the state to ensure their fulfilment. An example is the right to work.

To enjoy this right someone must provide a job for you to do. The distinction between these two types of rights is by no means clear cut and they are united by the justification for their existence. All these claims of rights rest on being part of a natural order with which human society should conform. This is the concept of Natural Rights. Human, Animal or any other sets of rights that apply to individuals because they are members of certain groups are subsets of these Natural Rights.

What's Wrong With Rights?

Logically there are gaping holes in the theory of rights. Firstly there is no evidence that rights exist as part of a supposed natural order. Even if they did, to move from what actually is to what ought to be is not necessarily so (naturalistic fallacy if you want to know O.J. Moore about it). For example it is natural for people to die of disease but that doesn't mean we shouldn't try to cure the sick. Secondly, rights accruing to certain groups have problems of demarcation. Do human rights extend to foetuses? Do animal rights extend to non-human varieties?

However to anarchists these are minor quibbles. Our objection to rights rests on their political content. Rights are only of use if they can be enforced. To which we must ask - who decides what rights there are and who will make sure they are put into effect? This cannot be simply side-stepped by more 'democratic' or anarchist forms of decision making. The idea of rights presupposes that there is a correct answer to be discovered and that makes it an issue for experts. Anarchists do not believe that there are factual answers to how people interact. It effects everyone in a community and everyone should participate in the making process. No one is greater expert on you than yourself. Of course if you want to build a house you would be foolish not to seek people with expertise in architecture or bricklaying but they have no greater knowledge than anyone else in the community as to whether a house needs to be built. These types of decision can be blurred on occasion but with rights we can see a definitive difference. Rights are the product of a hierarchical society. If you are in dispute with someone over a clash of rights you must appeal to a higher authority. When decisions go against people in British courts they go to the European Court of Human Rights. Regardless of whether they win or lose they have surrendered control of their own lives to someone else. We are not saying that the idea of rights is a manipulative can by capitalism to divert rebellion into acceptable channels but it is product of capitalist, individualistic and authoritarian thinking which cannot serve as the basis for a society of freedom and equality.

Right On!

What can be done about this? Obviously we shouldn't give up what practical rights the bosses have conceded to us in the present. In fact they should get a hearty kicking for even thinking about taking away our rights in the past. Striking, free abortion etc. Unfortunately they've already done most of that if we ever had it anyway. We need the bosses to gain power for ourselves that they can't take away. Without speculating on much of a future anarchistic society we can see some key features of it emerging through the struggles of our own class in the here and now. One of these is the kind of arguments we use in settling points of controversy even as the term anarcho rejects opinions that rely on their justification on what is 'naturally' the case or on someone's judgement simply because of who they are. Instead we aim at a leadership of ideas that convince people because of their own merits. Real decisions about people's lives cannot be resolved fruitfully by recourse to abstract categories, however benign they may appear. To place our faith in rights is to abdicate responsibility for our own decisions and surrender to a tyrannical subter but more all embracing than the cosh.

This is the last in the series 'Aspects of Anarchism. We start a new series 'Myths on the back page next issue.
1 The Anarchist Communist Federation is an organisation of revolutionary class-struggled classes of anarchists. We aim for the abolition of all hierarchy, and for the creation of a world wide classless society: anarchist communism.

2 Capitalism is based on the exploitation of the working class by the ruling class. But inequality and exploitation are also expressed in terms of race, gender, sexuality, health, ability and age, and in these ways one section of the working class oppresses another. This divides us, causing a lack of class unity in struggle that benefits the ruling class.

Oppressed groups are strengthened by autonomous action which challenges social and economic power relationships. To achieve our goal we must relinquish power over each other on a personal as well as political level.

3 We believe that fighting racism and sexism is as important as fighting all other aspects of the class struggle. Anarchist-communism cannot be achieved without eliminating all forms of oppression first.

4 We are opposed to the ideology of national liberation movements which claims that there is some kind of common interest between native bosses and the working class in face of foreign domination. We believe that working class struggles against racism, genocide, ethnocide and political and economic colonialism. We oppose the creation of any new ruling class. We reject all forms of nationalism, as this only serves to redefine divisions in the international working class.

5 The working class has no country and no national boundaries. It must be completely overthrown without the use of armed force, violence as well as liberation.

6 Unions by their very nature cannot become vehicles for the revolutionary transformation of society. They have to be defeated in order to function and so cannot play a part on its overthrow. Trade unions divide the working class into employed and unemployed, trade and craft, skilled and unskilled, etc. In this way the working class is constrained by the fundamental nature of unionism. The union must be the basis of all our revolutionary organisations, and be controlled by everyone in them. These autonomous organisations will be outside the control of political parties, and within them we will learn many important lessons of self-activity.

7 Unions as anarchists organise in all areas of life to try to advance the revolutionary process. We believe a strong anarchist organisation is necessary to help us to this end. Unlike other so-called socialists or communists we do not want power or control for our organisations but always try to organise as a federation of workers. We reject sectarianism and work to build an anarchist international revolutionaries throughout the world.

8 We demand the overthrow of the capitalist, imperialist, racist and genocidal system. The working class has no state. It cannot be amputated. It must fight for its liberation. They have to be fought, not only to break them but to show the way to a new world of freedom.

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10 We are opposed to the state, and to the political parties which are its instruments. We call on the working class to resist the further attempts of the bosses to redivide divisions in the international working class. The working class has no country and no national boundaries. It must be completely overthrown. We are opposed to the national liberation movements which claims that there is some kind of common interest between native bosses and the working class in face of foreign domination. We believe that working class struggles against racism, genocide, ethnocide and political and economic colonialism. We oppose the creation of any new ruling class. We reject all forms of nationalism, as this only serves to redefine divisions in the international working class.

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THE DAY WE WENT TO VOTE

ELECTION DAY 1997 was a bad day for the people - the government got back in. John Tweedledum resigned and Tony Tweedledee got to bow his knee to the RA. It was not a good day for Queenie. His first Cabinet had no women - the government got back in. John Prescott shot himself and all over the country, moundsof world didn't turn for work. party food went uneaten except by dogs and the homeless who found the dustbins outside police offices overflowing. Panduits babbled, television blared and the newspapers predicted chaos, then fell silent. Ex-MB's turned up at Parliament and carried on talking, proved only to chase curious mocking people off the benches. No one paid attention.

October 1997

Rather than read the Queen's Speech, Brenda resigned and Charles III crowned by Shane Bhagwan Rajneesh, four ex-Bishops and their husbands, newly converted to the Church of Tony. John Prescott shot himself rather than be ousted as a closet socialist by the Moral Militia. The last New Age Traveller was rounded up and all over the country, moundsof world didn't turn for work. party food went uneaten except by dogs and the homeless who found the dustbins outside police offices overflowing. Panduits babbled, television blared and the newspapers predicted chaos, then fell silent. Ex-MB's turned up at Parliament and carried on talking, proved only to chase curious mocking people off the benches. No one paid attention.

September 1997

Ex-Ministers tried to think of ways to pass and things to do, then gave up. Whitelhall went up in flames and the deer were sent left and forgot to lock the doors. Realising teachers wouldn't work if they weren't being paid, the children poured out of their prisons and went home. Industry ground to a halt as people of all ages got to know each other again.

June 1998

Farming went organic as chemical plants closed and diggers and farmers invaded the land. Thousands headed west and north to build wind farms and wavepower stations. The National Exhibition Centre was turned into the biggest car recycling plant in the islands - in they went and out they came back to life. Everyone could enjoy the now. The rest, as they say, was history.

April 1999

AIDS was final conquered and transmission rates plummeted. As stress, authority and fear receded and food became available everywhere mental illness and malnutrition started to go into history's dustbin. The Pharmaceutical companies sued for protective bankruptcy and workers tired of poisoning themselves and the rest of the world didn't turn for work.

July 2000

The Moral Minstrels surrendered the last ICBM stolen in 1998 and went home, piling guns in vast mounds that soon found their way to the smelting plants. Millions of Mexican Americans were reunited as the border dissolved and did America itself. There was an attempt to reintroduce money and markers but the sight of people trying to buy and sell things they could get for free made so many people laugh that the 'Merchant Princes' gave up and handed apartments stuffed with goods they didn't need.

January 2001

This next century arrived, just as the last government closed down and the last policeman huss up his gun. In any case, losing the uniforms the year before made pricing people less stressful. The biggest internet conference in history linked 4 billion people and satellite lasers were used as a works display that moved around the globe.

The rest of your life

It was suddenly realised that there weren't so many problems left so people stopped trying - things would work out. The people who liked sorting things out could go on working at them, while the rest of the people did the things that they liked. Pretty soon people stopped fighting over the past and worrying about the future and started enjoying the now. The rest, as they say, was the end of history.

ACF Foreign Language Pamphlets

Thanks to the efforts of committees in Yugoslavia we now have translations of our pamphlets As We See It and The Role of the Revolutionary Organisation available in Serbo-Croat. If you know anybody who speaks Serbo-Croat in Britain, or you have contacts in Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia, Slovenia or Macedonia where people are employed, unemployed, or working at them here, please let us know. They are available for 50p plus post from the London ACF address c/o 84B Whitechapel High St. London E1 7XQ.

Similarly we have a Greek translation of As We See It. If you can circulate this among the Greek speaking population here, or have contacts in Greece or Cyprus then why not send in a copy? 50p plus post from London address.

A Portuguese, French, Italian and Spanish translation of our Aims and Principles is also available for 20p plus postage.
Chaos or Anarchy?

The peoples of the Balkans have a history of authoritarian domination from invading imperialists and home grown tyrants alike. The present crisis has its roots in the Congress of Berlin in 1878 when the imperial powers carved up the world. Albania was given to the Ottoman Empire. Albania has been bled by foreign masters for most of the last thousand years. It has suffered under Byantine, Serbian, Ottoman and Italian domination and domestic tyrants.

*Corrupt Officials*

Our own dear Queen was presented with a silver box from President Sali Berisha and Barone Chatler and looks charming in a silver necklace and matching belt that were looted from Albania's museums and illegally imported into Britain. After all, laws are only for ordinary people.

The banks that have collapsed after the capture of Vitrolles, three other town halls had been taken by the FN. This dramatic rise is a result of years of Socialist rule under Mitterand where the working class became embittered and bewildered by the high hopes invest in a Socialist administration. These illusions had been reinforced by the Communist Party and by the extreme left. The fact that vicious anti-working class measures were carried out under Socialist rule was not something that the leftists were prepared to admit before the elections that swept Mitterand to power.

Racism is deeply engrained in French society. There is the legacy of racism from the days of French imperialism. There is the sense of cultural superiority nurtured by the French Revolution (when the bourgeoisie overthrew the monarchy) and by Napoleon. There is the legacy of the Algerian war, when the French were forced to withdraw and the FN had to be serious and challenged, both theoretically and physically, before it could grow.

*Roots*

Now the FN has grown considerably and is putting down roots through its strategy of capturing the town halls. In the municipalities it has captured, hounding of the immigrant populations, including the Algerian population of Kosovo.

*Voters of the Revolution*

The electoral success of the French far-right party, the National Front (FN), has been a surprise to many. The party, which won 19 per cent of the presidential vote in 1995 and 25 per cent in the legislative elections in 1997, has gained support from a wide cross-section of society, including the working class, the unemployed, and the poor. However, the FN's success has also raised concerns about the future of democracy in France and the challenges it poses to the established political order.
physical attacks, increases, and the public libraries are purged of books, as in Orange, that upset the FN. Various cultural groups are deprived of funding, and black libraries are riddled with FN members, to dismiss the director of the National Theatre of Dance and the_position of the local police, themselves thoroughly riddled with FN members, to dismiss the director of the National Theatre of Dance and the

"The core of the FN was an alliance between reactionary Catholics, outright fascists from the now defunct Ordre Nouveau, reactionaries from the old Poujadist movement. Now however, the FN is going beyond its pettiness and small big business supporters to the working class. Within the last year increasing numbers of working class people have attended FN rallies and some of the FN vote is certainly from the working class.

**Attacks on the Anarchists**

The only credible alternative to the FN is coming from the anarchists. We have deep criticisms of the Federation Anarchiste(FA), the anarcho-syndicalist union the CNT-F, and organisations like Alternative Libertaire (sound on a lot of things but with current) and Organisation Communiste Libertaire (sound on anti-imrnigration laws). Nevertheless, these anarchists have not often been at the forefront of the struggles both in the workplace, and in the struggles in defence of abortion rights, divorce and illegal immigrants. Alongside the rise of the FN there has been increasing combative in the working class and there seems to be a growing polarisation of French society.

The FN and indeed the boss class in general is aware of the appeal of anarchist ideas. As a reaction to these developments this has been taken by the FN and by the government against the anarchist press. The leader of the FN, Le Pen, took a renewal of an alliance with the Federation Anarchiste's paper Le Monde Librelibaire, because it contained a cartoon that upset him. Around the same time, Debre, the Minister of the Interior, used Le Monde Liberaire for abuse, slander and harassment. Shortly after the murder of policewomen in Paris, the MP Christine Boutin, a leader of the Socialist Party, used the anarcho-syndicalist paper Le Combat Syndicaliste for denunciation of anti-immigration groups. These trials are pending. In the case of the FO, whose chief of staff has been arrested, there are serious questions of窜犯 of terrorism.

**Footnote: A New Popular front**

As social unrest increases rapidly and the old French state starts to break down, it is difficult to see whether the left is looking for a solution that will maintain capitalism and restore stability. In the leadership of the CGT, the union central dominated by the PCF, 'resigned from the party. The conference set out to prove to the boss class that the PCF was a nice tame pussycat of a Party whilst at the same time offering an "alternative" to the working class. In council with the Socialists a new Popular-Front style administration will be used to defuse the unrest that is gathering a head of steam.

As is a repeat performance of the 1968 "Government of the Left" that included the PCF as well as small leftist parties like the Unified Socialist Party(FPS). In this period the Socialists were undertaking the work of the PCF. The PCS is attempting to show that this time they are more in tune with the working class. This was behind Le Pen's remarks distancing himself from the previous leadership of Georges Marchais which had enthusiastically supported the Soviet Union and its allies. Like Blair, Hue sings the praises of the market. Like his counterpart, in Italy, Hue will lead a PCF that will collaborate in vicious attacks on any gains made in the past by the working class. Whatever in order to do this, the PCS needs to bring in new allies. It has lost a lot of influence and respect within the French working class. In order to regain some

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**Storming Petrol Pumpets**

London AFC are proud to announce the appearance of a new pamphlet in the Stormy Petrel series.

_A Brief Flowering of Freedom: The Hungarian Revolution 1956._ An exciting account of one of the first post-war uprisings against the Stalinist monolith. Also includes a history of the Hungarian Revolution.

**Mataste's Anarchism and Violence**

_Complete with a new introduction by an AFC member this important document in the history of anarchism theory refutes the common misrepresentation of anarchism as mindless destruction while restating the need for revolutionary self-defence._

*The Friends of Durruti:* The Friends of Durruti were a much misunderstood group who attempted to defend and extend the Spanish Revolution of 1936. Included are an historical introduction from an AFC member and two political statements from the Friends themselves.

Copies of these pamphlets are available from

_AFC(London) c/o 84b Whitechaple High St, London E1 at 75p including postage._

Next from Stormy Petrel: _The Italian Factory Councils 1920-21._

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**Storming the Bulgarian Parliament**

However, Zajedno is as much implicated in Serb nationalism as the SPS. Vuk Draskovic and his Serbian Renewal Movement has made rapid ultra-nationalist speeches in the past and organised a paramilitary organisation, the Serbian Guard, which fought in Croatia, before he made a U-turn and became anti-war. Zoran Djindjic, leader of the Democratic Party, is a supporter of the Bosnian Serbs "murderers leaders, in particular the apostle of ethnic cleansing, Radovan Karadic. Both he and Draskovic have refused to stay in power. The protestswere, to use a dictionary of Serb nationalism, to bring in new allies. It has lost a lot of influence and respect within the French working class. In order to regain some credibility, it must bring in new partners from Trotskyism. It would like to gain the support of the now defunct Socialists, Latte Ouvriere and the Ligue Communiste Revolutionnaire. So far, Latte Ouvriere has held them at arm's length, but already the 1968 veteran and leader of the Ligue, Alain Krivine, has appeared on joint platforms with the PCS. There is a good chance that Krivine will serve in a future Popular FRONT administration. Already he has been given extensive coverage by the ruling class media. A Trotskyist legitimisation of a joint front-PCF-governance would possibly open the way to growing disillusionment and the final collapse of the NUM. These manoeuvres it is vital that a credible revolutionary alternative be offered.
succeeded in bringing about the
disorganisation of the working class, who as
well as taking part in anti-war protests were
taking industrial action over pay and
conditions.

Milosevic needed to drop his former
Bosnian allies in order to get the sanctions
lifted. The Dayton agreements meant that
the Americans would continue to back him
if he did this, and ensured stability in the
region. In the process, Milosevic has now
lost the support of the Orthodox Church,
much in favour of the market,

which as in other East European
countries would mean greater
unemployment and further shut-
downs of state factories. The working
class situation is so severe that soup
is given to the poor in the schools.

The fall of Milosevic would
strengthened the possibility of the
collapse of his regime. These
events could have immense
repercussions. The working class
movement in Yugoslavia had
prevented a far worse situation
from happening.

CROATIA

Franjo Tudjman, the nationalist strong man
of Croatia, has been threatened by mass
protests against his government, led by
former Communist Party members. Tudjman
has since blocked the formation of a
effects. Tudjman himself is facing
repercussions. The working class
revolutionary movement that
in the early 1990s in eastern Europe were
used to bring about the end of the
Communist regime. In the aftermath, the old
Communist Parties transformed
to give blood.

Every third day is put to use
making waste and pollution obsolete. This
thinking. Products need to be seen not as
"waste" is meaningless.
Perhapsthe most perfectly balanced, but fertiliser for farmers’ fields.

Information and education is the key to success for industrial ecology, expensive new technologies are too costly and too easily abandoned; it is estimated that it will take more than 10 years to recover the costs of introducing wood-firing technology. The real incentive and education is the key to success for farmers’ fields.

The only resource which we possess and which is our most important animal resource and an important component of our natural economy is the fertile soil beneath our feet. Soil is the key to our future, and yet it is too often forgotten and overlooked, relatively easy to create eco-industrial parks of farming and industry. The only resource which we possess is the fertile soil beneath our feet, a thin layer that continues to be plundered and wasted.

If you make yourselves the soil, and not the price of your products, then your farm will be a sustainable one. Geologists and farmers both agree that 'wilderness'. Capitalist production is not only wasteeful in terms of the environment but also in terms of the economy. Capitalism is the amount of waste it generates, and this waste is not only a loss of potential wealth to the economy but also a loss of potential to the environment. If we are to maintain a sustainable future, we must work towards a system of production based on the principle of 'totalitarian one world government'.

The growth pattern that capitalism is creating is not economically sustainable. It is creating a monoculture economy where the only resource that we possess is the fertile soil beneath our feet, a thin layer that continues to be plundered and wasted. Capitalism is the amount of waste it generates, and this waste is not only a loss of potential wealth to the economy but also a loss of potential to the environment. If we are to maintain a sustainable future, we must work towards a system of production based on the principle of 'totalitarian one world government'.

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The idea that economic growth can be sustained is a myth, and it is not sustainable. Capitalism is the amount of waste it generates, and this waste is not only a loss of potential wealth to the economy but also a loss of potential to the environment. If we are to maintain a sustainable future, we must work towards a system of production based on the principle of 'totalitarian one world government'.

As an Environmental Council professor put it, "Sustainable development is important. Don't talk about 'sustainability', talk about 'sustainable development'."
Aimed at managers, client advisers and

Our Second Offence - Final written

Nigeria and the assassination of Chico Mendes the Brazilian anti-loggling leader. Environmentalists now commonly face legal intimidation worldwide in the form of Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs). They rarely come to court and are designed to frighten people into silence. In Britain, the McLibel case is an example of SLAPP that backfired. Other examples are government legal action against the M11 and Twyford Down campaigners and provisions in the Criminal Justice Act which penalise intent rather than action.

Life and Death

The response of companies and governments to environmentalism has shown that they know it is a life and death issue, part of the class struggle for Capital and the majority of humanity, the working class. It is vital that class struggle libertarians and environmentalists argue and act together in the fight for an equal human society which is in harmony with the rest of nature. Hopefully this process has started to happen. For example, Earth First in the US has realised that they were not with logging workers but with companies and government and stopped their anti-worker tree spiking. In Britain, we have the joint actions of the Liverpool dockers and the anti-racists campaigns to show us the way.

Three Strikes

The Three Strikes strategy was thought up as a way of exposing dole workers and management who are using the JSA to harass claimants. Unions like the CPSA, as well as the TUC and many on the Left, have condemned this initiative. Indeed the CPSA countered the demand of security screws to protect dole workers from angry claimants. Nationally, the dole workers unions have done little to practically resist the JSA, and their members have been implementing both the JSA and Project Work. Locally, some union leaders were cowed by the CPSA, and pointing out unemployed activists. Unemployed activists in Edinburgh reported to the Groundswell meeting that a 'Third Strike' was being issued against a claimant adviser. The whole question of the Three Strikes strategy by the Left reveals that once again, they are not the solution, but part of the problem. For example, which can reach in Socialist Outlook, paper of the Trotskyist group of the same name, an article by one Keith Sinclair called 'How Not To Fight the Job Seekers Allowance or Three Strikes that Shouldn't be Supported'. The remarkably ill-informed article (aren't Trots supposed to be in the vanguard of theory?) tells us that the Three Strikes strategy is 'no longer the national policy of that group'. The hack then goes on to tell us that: 'The Three Strikes policy cuts across attempts to win over job centre workers to actively oppose the JSA. Left activists in the CPSA are put on the defensive, as management and right-wing union officials combine to suggest that all anti-JSA activities are targeted at CPSA members. Three Strikes makes it more difficult to win over job centre workers, and is, in reality, a gift to management and the right -wing leadership of the CPSA'. We are also told that the 'main advocates of Three Strikes' tend to be from an anarchist background. However anarchists and syndicalists who operate within the existing trade unions and Trade Councils are often opposed to Three Strikes. Support for Three Strikes is often linked with a refusal to put pressure on the Labour Party and union leaderships to fight the JSA and Project Work(1).

Let's look at this statement in detail. From our own involvement in anti-JSA activity it is certainly not our view that Three Strikes has been abandoned by Groundswell. There was certainly no visible opposition to it at the last meeting. Indeed, there seemed to be a general approval for any Three Strikes action. As to the statement that anarchists and syndicalists were opposed to it, well, it does not seem true of the comrades of the Socialist Outlook group, like one Paul Taylor is no underworld figure, he does not seem true of the comrades of the Trotskyist Solidarity Federation. The only other syndicalist group openly active in the Trades Councils are the Syndicalist Bulletin people. We were not aware that they opposed Three Strikes. Perhaps we can have some information from them on their stance!

Ludicrous

Then we come to the ludicrous and misleading demands to put pressure on Labour and the union leaders (and end up wasting our time). There are no plans to repeal the JSA from Labour, indeed there has been no opposition from them at all. In Gordon Brown, Labour Shadow Chancellor, has made it clear that he will not remove the JSA and proposes that the young unemployed work for their dole. To plan to guilty during the trial and gave evidence against Mark. Finally, the jury were unable to decide, and despite protests from the defence, were given tapes to listen to which had been secretly recorded by the police during family visits to Mark while he was on remand. In these tapes he was heard to say how he hated Marriot and the police for the way in which he was being treated. In context these were not surprising comments. He had been held for a long period in police 'container' cells, where he suffered from claustrophobia and deep depression, never having been locked up before, and he made a serious suicide attempt. Added to this his girlfriend was repeatedly visited her demandingshemake

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Supporters Group Newsletter, and the ALF press officer were arrested at the instigation of ARNI (Animal Rights National Union, part of Special Branch). This was the culmination of the Washington, which the police had claimed had been running since 1991 and included 55 police raids in Britain during 1995 and 1996.

The six were charged with conspiracy to commit crimes against the state, including 55 police raids in Britain during the same period. The police will be appealing this decision at the High Court this Easter.

This is a blatant attempt to silence political opponents through legal process. It must be opposed.

Contact: GANDALF
Defendants Campaign, PO Box 66, Stevenage, SG17 1TR

Antifascists on Trial in Poland

AFTER REPEATED VIOLENT attacks by fascists in the town of Radomsko on young people there, a group of them got together to defend themselves as the authorities had turned a blind eye. A fight broke out and the police arrested 17 antifascists. It later transpired that a fascist had died.

There are now 13 people in prison awaiting trial for the death, and 4 others are to be tried in a juveniles court. They need your support and desperately require money to help pay legal costs.

Send messages of support to: Krysztof Biedka, Stanislaw Szczenkiewicz.

Organise!

Dear Organiser!

JIM IS RIGHT (see last issue of Organise!) To equate a "project that questions the totality" with "pacificism and gradualism, with no conception of class struggle or revolution" does indeed demonstrate that "the ACF's understanding of anarchism is one of total submission to the laws of the market, the denial of class struggle, and the capitulation of the struggle as a whole."

As John Zerzan has said, "It seeks to broaden and deepen our understanding of it.

Which brings us to Bookchin. It is hard to believe you suffered "no criticism of fascists" when you featured his bannerheads last issue. Didn't you realize you were being patronised by this pretentious college don peddling his "liberal" version of the "age of salvation"? Didn't you know Bookchin's no anarchist communist? To everyone's horror he's seeking to use his short-term political advantage as a lever against anarchist-primitivism, he's the founder of modern ecologism, which is erroneously seen as supplanting all other cultures, including anarchist communities. Murray Bookchin's latest book Th.ought has founded on the rock of libertarian municipalism, which Michael Williams's expose of Ecologist Industrial show, in practice, is to be liberal/refusal as anything you're expected from the Green Party in the UK. It is a distinctively American movement, to put it mildly conservative, and even if a few of Bookchin's followers are trying to develop a "classical" anarchism, it will become a fact that we don't deny class struggle. But don't write off the entire movement. You haven't done this yet."

PUBLIC LECTURE

"Maoism and the liberal/humanitarian/socialist camp"

By D. Le Blanc

We would like to invite you to attend a public lecture on the relationship between the "liberal/humanitarian/socialist" camp and the "mouths who opposed". The lecture will be held at the Green Anarchist Centre, 21-400 Lukow, Poland.

More information:- MRE, Box 74, 04-520 Warszaw 106 Poland or ACK-ABC / c/o GIS, PO Box 1457, 45-716 Opole Poland

Gellerd Van De Berg 1909-1997

LIFE LONG ACTIVIST and council communist Gellerd Van De Berg died February this year after a long illness. Gellerd was active in the workers' struggles in his native Netherlands and across Europe. A member of the communist tendency influenced by Anton Pannekoek, he was a strong communist tendency influenced by polemic "Left Wing Communism-Anarchism in the Workers' Movement". He started contributing to social critique. He was one of many those who listened. He was in Paris in May 68 where he denounced the "heroic" student revolution. Gerrard was always experienced in the workers' and greatly respected for his integrity and fierce intelligence. He used whatever medium he could to get his message across, broadcasting on the airwaves or talking face to face he gained the respect of those who listened. He was in Paris in 1958 when he denounced the leadership of the student movement for its lack of revolutionary theory. In 1973 he participated in a year long factory occupation in France where he influenced the dispute towards a redistribution of wealth. He was a stalwart of the solidarity movement for Spain and later a campaigner against the Vietnam war. Gellerd was always active until ill health restricted his abilities in his last months. He was an inspiration to successive generations of Dutch radicals and his funeral was attended by around 150 mourners who knew him from different times and areas of struggle. He will be missed.

Ono Tsuzuburo 1933-1996

ONO TSUZUBURO was born in 1933 in the Japanese town of Osaka which was experiencing transformation into one of the great industrial centres of the world. Of course, was accompanied by great industrial and economic unrest. He attended Tokyo University in 1950, dropping out after three years because of the objections to the authoritarian forms of education there. He then came in contact with the growing anarchist movement. He started contributing to the new paper Aka To Kuro (Red and Black) in 1923 writing anarchist poetry for which he was imprisoned for a year (1930-31). By about 1934 he had moved to a Marxist-realist position, his poetry continued to be filled with social criticism. He was one of many active in the cultural wing of a vigorous anarchist movement (See our pamphlet on the Japanese Anarchist movement by John Crump).

The ACB in Northern Ireland two years ago, after a later wave of disagreements which saw the young age of 18. Adam was one of several comrades who set up a group of himself with others even more conservative and historically doomed than himself.

It is as if you find Bookchin's response to Bookchin's Society and Economy is an "archaic" and "victorius" while the original progressive movement. As far as we know, Bookchin's partner is one Fred Halb. His dubiously derivative, scrappy and poisonous Ecocriticism is filled with all the usual anarcho-ecologists' just like the Talattay play mentioned above. A curious line for a Green to take, you might think, but libertarian municipalism is the safest yet. Halb's latest ideology is to use Bookchin's journal, Green Perspectives, to accuse Jason McLean, the editor of a rival US anarcho-primitivist journal, Anarchy, of promoting Holocaust revisionism! So Bookchin has some gall to accuse others of "alright amendments are not enough." We do not intend to publish this line by M. Zeronian anarchists. As John Clark once said, "We are a culture, an idea, the idea is to publish the book.

Its lack of revolutionary theory. In 1973 he participated in a year long factory occupation in France where he influenced the dispute towards a redistribution of wealth. He was a stalwart of the solidarity movement for Spain and later a campaigner against the Vietnam war. Gellerd was always active until ill health restricted his abilities in his last months. He was an inspiration to successive generations of Dutch radicals and his funeral was attended by around 150 mourners who knew him from different times and areas of struggle. He will be missed.

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Dear Organiser,

We, Turkish and Kurdish anarchists who live in Britain, first would like to express very briefly the solidarity that we see in the work of co-ordination, communication and solidarity that we take part in. Then we will put forward our ideas, which we think could be part of or trying to be part of the anarchist movement in Britain.

We think that the British anarchist movement is at the moment in a situation in which it is disorganised and atomised, and it has no aims nationwide. And except this, Bookshell which is organised every year and gradually becoming a nationwide organisation, we do not see such other, and we do not communally informing each other, because we think that this is not our task. However, we also know that this is not true. Everybody, people, groups, organisations, need to discuss this and other things we have mentioned in this letter and send all your replies to the address below.

In solidarity,

Turkey Group

OPEN LETTER TO ALL GROUPS IN THE ANTI-ELECTION ALLIANCE AND OTHERS

Dear Organiser,

We welcome the initiative that has been created by the formation of the Anti-Election Alliance. We feel that it is a real opportunity for the anarchist movement in Britain.

The lack of communication and solidarity among the anarchists is getting more and more obvious. The idea of an Anti-Election Alliance is a good beginning to improve this. We hope that all anarchists and anarchist groups will join this Alliance and co-ordinate our movements.

We propose that the Anti-Election Alliance should send a letter to the national anarchist organisations and groups to invite them to join this Alliance. They should also be invited to send two representatives to the meeting of the new Alliance to be held in London on 27th May.

We hope that all the anarchists will join this Alliance and that it will become a nationwide organisation.

Consider this as a forum for co-ordination and communication of various groups work together anywhere as the only practical approach.

Sincerely,

The Anti-Election Alliance

Anarchist Communist Federation

Anarchist Communist Federation is an organisation of class struggle Anarchists. For contacts:
- Scotland: ACF, c/o 84b Whitechapel High St, London E1 7QX
- Wales: P.O. Box 10, Pontypool NP4 8YH
- USA: Anarchist Communist Federation, 2420 NC Ave, N.W., 20008, Washington, D.C.
- Canada: 257 Main St. #209, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P3
- France: ACF, d’Amérique du Nord, 43 rue de Nevers, 75009 Paris, France
- assorted...