



Let's do our own thing

As a relative newcomer to anarchism (approx. nine months), perhaps I don't fully appreciate the difficulties, but it seems to me that a radical re-think is necessary if the present libertarian trend in left-wing socialist forces is to be utilised.

We should all recognise that anarchism is aloof from the rest. The wheel turns full circle and we find strange bed-fellows in Fascism and Communism. The leadership-complexes of all other ideologies of a "socialist" nature make anarchism the only truly social ideal. Therefore I think that the time is long overdue when this was made clear by independent action by comrades. Too long anarchists have merely trooped along with the rest - witness Grosvenor Square on October 27 when we did most of the work and (except the 'Guardian') the press gave the Chairman's stooges all the kudos. It's about time some anarchist demonstrations were held, putting forward our own distinct point of view. The pleas for "solidarity" with other groups should be disregarded. Too often "solidarity" means "subversion". "Backs against the wall, anarchists" is the inevitable result of coalition with essentially un-anarchist groups. Join the Trots or Maoists or Guevarists and you lose anarchy in the midst of cults of leaders and directives from the Politburo.

Let's have some anarchist action by anarchist comrades with anarchist ideals in view. Let's put ourselves across instead of letting anarchism remain identified with chaos in the minds of the people. As Dylan says:

"And keep your eyes wide,
The chance won't come again."

Fraternally,

Ian Cowburn
(Preston Anarchist Group)

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

From: Tony Kelly, Selene Community,
Bryn Villa, Ffarmers, Llanwrda, Sir
Gaerfyrddin.

..."I agree, of course, that boring as "Freedom" is, it performs an essential function, or guards an essential freedom. I think my feeling about it is reinforced by the fact that our advertising in its contact column produced such a poor response. While we expect a poor response in most media, I find it difficult to understand how anarchists can remain passive towards a concept through which (and really only through which) they can bring about the sort of society they want, and without the (apparently) obligatory street-fighting, etc."

(Single copies of 'Communes' 24 are available from Tony @ 2/- each - JBC.)

MERSEYSIDE ANARCHIST MEETINGS

Tuesdays 8.00 p.m.
at 118 High Park St., Liverpool 8.

VENUE OF FRIDAY MEETINGS ALTERED

The meeting today, January 31, will be the last one at Lodge Lane before the venue is changed. Friday night meetings will continue after that, for the time being, at 6, Hawarden Avenue, Liverpool 17. The meetings will start at about 8.30. Buses: 72, 73, 80, 86, 60, 46, 5, 87; ask for the junction of Ullet Road and Smithdown Road.

Meeting at CHRIS KNEATH'S flat, 52, Belvidere Rd., on Thursday February 6, to talk about a bookshop/workshop co-op.
(Bring own mugs if you want coffee!)

Material for Insert to: 6, Hawarden Avenue, 17, preferably by Tuesday