

## News from Nowhere

The comrades at *Cienfuegos Press*, "Over the Water", Sunday, Orkney Islands, KW17 2BL, Scotland, are trying to drum up operating capital for their excellent book and pamphlet service. For a low \$12 sustaining subscription you can get all their new titles for 1977, the review of anarchist literature, and a ten per cent reduction on all their present stock. This is a good deal, write for details and see.

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**Anarchist Youth** is being organized for anarchists under age 21. They seek to abolish ageism, public schools, and the State by boycotting all three. All interested anarchists write: Wayne Shaw, c/o Aurora, P.O. Box 1163, Madison, Wisconsin 53701.

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For those who would rather hear their anarchism than read it, **Our Generation**, 3934 St. Urbain, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, is making a series of cassette tapes available, including talks by **Augustin Soucy**, **Murray Bookchin**, and **Karl Hess**. They want to trade for other folks' tapes, too.

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**Free Spirit Press**, Main P.O. Box 24112, Oakland, California 94623, is looking for print projects that "will help end capitalism and bring about a self-managed society"... **The Great Atlantic Radio Conspiracy**, 2743 Maryland Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21213, is soliciting manuscripts for an anthology of contemporary anarchism. They also have an annotated catalogue of 120 tapes on subjects like Mayday, psychosurgery, etc.... **Come/Unity Press**, 13 E. 17th St., New York, N.Y. 10003, is a libertarian print collective which teaches others how to use print technology for free. The group itself asks only for donations to cover overhead and supplies, and will publish almost anything you're willing to work on yourself. Their latest pamphlet is **Rakunin on Violence**.

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T Shirts with a portrait of Lenin on a soup tin and the slogan "57 Varieties - All unfit for human consumption," are available from the **Aurora** collective, Box 1163, Madison, Wisconsin. Most sizes are available; cost \$3.00.

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The **International Anarchist Federation (IFA)** conference planned for November 1976 has been postponed to April 19-11, 1977 in Paris. For further details contact: CNT, 33 rue des Vignoles, 75020 Paris, or Grigoroff, 20 bis, rue Tourlaque, 75010 Paris, France.

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Comrades in Connecticut and surrounding states can tune their FM radios into **None of the Above** on WUHF-FM, 91.3, Mondays 8-9 or WHUS-FM, 91.7, Wednesdays 8:30-9:30 for programming suited to anarchists. **Eric Gordon**, 39 Vine Hill Rd., West Hartford, Connecticut 06110, who produces the show, would like to receive news information from anarchists... **For The End of Prehistory**, a 3-hour tape about contemporary capitalism and its suppression from a Situationist point of view, write P.O. Box 1213, Berkeley, California 94701.

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**Anarcho-Feminist Notes** has merged with **Emma** (Feminism-Anarchism). Copies of the new publication are available from **Karol Johnson**, 1821-8th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50314. **Synthesis and Philadelphia Solidarity** are in the process of joining forces. Subscriptions to the combined publication are \$2.80 for a year from P.O. Box 1858, San Pedro, California 90738.

The **Redwing Workers Organization**, c/o P.O. Box 1902, Des Moines, Iowa 50306, has circulated the first part of a series on the need for organization in the left libertarian movement. They want to engage as many people as possible in the debate.

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There has been a flood of new publications dealing with all aspects of the anti-authoritarian movement... The long awaited issue 4 of **Roots**, Box 344, Cooper Station, New York, N.Y., the colorful 50-page publication of **Ecology Action East** is out. It is free for the asking, as is **No Limits**, P.O. Box 2605, Madison, Wisconsin 53701, an entertaining new anarchist publication arising out of a split with **Free For All** in that city... Individuals will want to check out **The Storm** (A Journal for Free Spirits), 227 Columbus Ave., Apt. 2E, New York, N.Y. 10023... **Libero International**, C.P.O., Box 1065, Kobe, Japan, 650-91, is an excellent quarterly in English about the anarchist movement past and present in the Asia/Pacific region. Donations help this effort... A new issue of **Leftward**, P.O. Box 429, Station E, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, is available with articles on the **United Farmworkers** boycott, Sugar and Wealth, and the Canadian Post Office strike.

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**News from Nowhere** takes its name from the famous anarchist novel by William Morris. It is a column of anarchist and anti-authoritarian news, reviews, contests, and brief reports culled from various sources. Suggestions and information for the column can be sent to: The Open Road, (News From Nowhere): Box 6135, Station G, Vancouver, B.C.



Mountie riot squad guards road into plant after breaking-up wildcat strike.

## Workers' barricades fall in courts

Workers at a Canadian aluminum smelter who successfully defied the open threats of the company, the courts and the bureaucracy during an 18-day "illegal" wildcat strike last summer are finding they can't let their guard down even after the picket line action has subsided.

The Canadian Association of Smelter and Allied Workers (CASAW), a charter member of the fledgling independent Canadian union movement, has been hit with

smelter in the world, in an isolated company town 400 miles north of Vancouver, represented one of the most militant Canadian labour struggles in recent times. For 18 days, the workers surrounded the plant and barricaded the road in, forcing the company to airlift supplies to its besieged management staff in order to prevent a costly shutdown of the machinery.

The workers repeatedly refused to accept recommendations of the union leader-

first such defiance in the history of the two-year-old board, which was designed by the previous social democratic government of B.C. to ensure "peace" by managing industrial relations along Swedish lines.

As the strike progressed, the barricades were strengthened by the presence of hundreds of friends and relatives from Kitimat, nine miles away. Messages of support poured in from the province and the rest of Canada.

labour solidarity between workers of two "nations." New LRB orders had to be handed down, and the Quebec workers were finally forced to abandon their picket.

Following their departure, Kitimat workers re-erected their barricade across the road, and again had it dismantled by the police. But the work-stoppage continued.

Workers spoke of their defiance of the three back-to-work orders as the end product of "an explosion of bitterness after 20 years of mistreatment by the company." Working conditions in the plant had been described as "horrendous."

According to an union strike bulletin: "CASAW union members manning the picket lines are determined to get justice and fair treatment from their employer... and are well aware that their strike is illegal. If a multinational corporation can use legal means to force workers into submission, something has to give."

Having failed in their bid to get the contract reopened, the workers, after a tie vote decided to return to work.

The collective militancy of the workers subsequently paid off when they beat contempt of court charges brought against 12 activists for defiance of the LRB rulings. As well, 32 workers got off on charges of obstruction.

The main penalty the workers have had to pay up till now is that 29 of them have been suspended for periods ranging from one to eight weeks.

Local president Burton, one of those suspended, emphasized that throughout the strike the leadership was carrying out the wishes of the membership.

"I try to be as honest as I can to the membership and then leave the decisions up to them," he said. "I don't abdicate my responsibilities, but I do think the union should not be run by a professional bureaucrat or controlled only by the active element within the union."

Follow CASAW developments in the Barricade, publication of the B.C. Law Union, 207 West Hastings, Vancouver, B.C. CASAW can be contacted at 334 City Centre, Kitimat, B.C.



Alcan union members

a \$1.3 million dollar damage suit by the multi-national Aluminum Company of Canada Ltd. (Alcan).

What the company failed to accomplish on the picket line—namely, break or seriously weaken the union—it's hoping to do through the courts.

The 1,800 members of the Kitimat, B.C. local of CASAW are taking the new threat very seriously. As local president Peter Burton put it:

"They are simply continuing the same kind of action that led to the original strike in the first place. There is an ongoing, continuous deterioration in the treatment of workers here in Kitimat, and that has not fundamentally changed since the strike. This damage suit only makes things worse."

The wildcat strike at the second largest aluminum

ship to lay off the illegal acts. Instead, they took the conduct of the strike into their own hands. They also had to defy the B.C. Labour Relations Board, which three times ordered them back to work with the threat of contempt of court.

The wildcat began with a walk-out by union welders and electricians over the dangerous working conditions and other grievances, but it quickly spread to the entire work force as the demand was raised to re-open the entire collective agreement.

The strike was a direct challenge to the federal government's "anti-inflation" policy of restricting workers' wage increases to eight per cent while virtually ignoring large price increases.

Each time the LRB ordered them back to work, the workers voted to continue the strike. It was the

But in a pre-dawn raid by a fully equipped riot squad of 200 Mounties (they have a long history of anti-union interventions), the siege was finally lifted on the tenth day. There was no violence, but a total of 32 workers were arrested in one of the most massive displays of police intervention in a strike ever seen in Canada.

After dismantling the workers' barricades, the police left a detachment behind to "stand down to assist the company in securing its property."

However, only four hours after the arrests, a new picket line was set up by eight workers from Alcan's strike-bound Arvida smelter in Quebec.

Members of the Federation Syndicale Setaur Aluminum of Quebec, the eight workers had been flown in from an unprecedented gesture of