

ing, July 16th, very large meeting in Victoria Park, speakers, Leggett, Banham and Quin, the last keeping on the platform till he was thrown off by the police at closing time. Audience interested. Literature sold exceedingly well, 76 copies of *Weal and Freedom* being sold during the two hours' address. The S.D.F. station in the vicinity was comparatively deserted. We had no opposition, the audience agreeing to the principles laid down. We appeal to comrades to pay us a visit in the East End. It would not be waste of time to come down this way.—Saturday evening, July 22nd, meeting at Peckham, addressed by Banham and Quin from 8.30 till 10.30. Opposition from a small local employer, who maintained that anybody who by any means came to be without the means of life should starve to death.—Sunday morning, 23rd, Victoria Park, large meeting, addressed by Quin and Mowbray. Meeting held till the very end of Mowbray's address. *Weal and Freedom* sold well. There were an extra number of police around the meeting this morning. I counted 5 or 6, ordinarily there are not more than 2.—Large meeting at Hoxton Church, addressed by Turner, assisted by Primmer. Animated discussion took place afterwards.—The people in the East End here seem to sympathise in the objects and methods of Anarchy, especially in Victoria Park, and this being the case I think that perhaps no other part of London would better repay a careful and continued working up than this district. What we want is a fresh supply of speakers. We should be glad of any assistance.—C. T. Q.

Finsbury Park.—The meetings begun in April in this stronghold of suburbanism have been continued every week, with the exception of one very wet Sunday morning; the sale of *Freedom* and pamphlets has been fair. The material side of the movement has but little interest for the tolerably comfortable folk who form the bulk of the audiences, and whose chief concern seems to be to ensure for themselves as easy circumstances in the next world as they have enjoyed in this. Yet, oddly (or naturally?) enough, the philosophy of Anarchism seems to have a most disturbing effect upon both their faith and morals. It is like a child hearing thunder; he does not understand it, but the knowledge that his mother has covered up the looking-glass is sufficient to make him tremble. He cannot help listening for the next peal, any more than these good park frequenters can disguise their enforced interest in our principles. Very valuable help has been rendered by J. Presburg and Agnes Henry.—H. C.

Regent's Park.—For some time past Regent's Park has been a busy place with all sorts and conditions of speakers. The Anarchists have held their own; for morning after morning they turn up, wet or dry, debating, speaking, and selling literature.—Samuels, Turner, Cantwell, Presburg and Reid are the chief speakers from the "Commonweal"; while Wess, Agnes Henry, Hyde and Macdonald represent "Freedom"; and most of all active in selling literature and discussing are to be found the members of the "Torch" group.—These meetings under trees and in the open spaces of the great city are beneficial to all concerned: they strengthen weak orators by gentle introductions to the platform; by stimulating a spirit of quiet discussion; this ripens into that of active debate, and soon we see new speakers mounting the chair in the calmest possible manner, proclaiming to all the winds that blow the main principles of Anarchy.—Speakers are not born; but grow petal by petal into full blown orators, and so these open-air meetings are splendid training ground for young enthusiastic Anarchists.—Many of our old chronic enemies have been driven right out of the Park; Tretoallers, advocates of Thrift, Christians and nondescripts are vanishing Sunday by Sunday; and on the open nothing but Anarchists, Fabians and Humanitarians are to be found; but under the trees, well in the shadow, a few pot-hunting Christians can still be found trying to make a noise.—F. M.

Warner-street, Clerkenwell.—The Italian propaganda has been very active during the past month. Very attentive audiences have been addressed by Comrades Agresti, Pietraroya, Merlino and Malatesta. Several of the listeners who were at first opposed are now convinced of the truth of Anarchism, and there seems to be promise of effective work by the group which has been formed among them. Henceforth the Italian meetings will be held at 47, Corporation Row, near Clerkenwell, on Sundays between 6 and 7 p.m.—A. H.

Clerkenwell Green.—The meetings here have been carried on steadily every Sunday from about 7 to 10 p.m. They are well attended by a decidedly mixed audience, many of whom attend regularly and seem to be seriously interested in what they hear. Although there has not yet been very much discussion, such as has arisen has been serious and sensible in character. The comrades who have been speaking here, Tochatti, Merlino and A. Henry, would be glad of more assistance. During August particularly it is to be hoped that comrades will make an effort to turn up, as Comrade A. Henry will be out of town and Comrade Tochatti speaks at other meetings as well. It would be a great pity that the propaganda should flag in this very promising quarter.

Hyde Park.—July 2nd, good meeting opened by Comrade Samuels, who gave an account of the arrest of Comrades Cantwell and Young, the proceedings before the magistrate, and the action of the police spies. Cantwell also explained what took place on that occasion, and mentioned the fact that there were plenty of bills posted up without the printer's name and address. Tochatti then addressed the meeting and called attention to these petty prosecutions which were the result of class antipathies. Those who interpret the law took good care that an expression of their hatred should stand instead of administering justice, and referred to the Walsall Anarchists as a case in point, and to the presence of detectives at all our meetings: we had a good supply to-day. Comrade Barker followed, and denounced some pseudo-Anarchists, who seem to turn up for the sole purpose of annoying the speakers, interrupting and breaking up the meetings. As Barker said, it would be far better for them to keep away if they could not support the speakers, who have quite enough to do to keep the meeting together. If any so-called Anarchist has a grievance against another Anarchist it would be far better to postpone his denunciations for some more opportune occasion than a public meeting. Our principles get dragged in the mud quite enough without the help of "friends." Other speakers addressed the meeting.—Sunday, July 9th, good meeting addressed by Barker, Samuels, Tochatti, Gittens. Opposition from a temperance advocate, with the same old tale, also a very good speech from a Social Democrat, but the same old arguments; both were ably replied to by Barker, Samuels, and Tochatti.—Sunday, July 16th, good meeting held by Comrades Barker and Reid. The latter had a debate with an individual who is generally to be seen in the park, mostly making collections, at which game he seems to be an adept. I need hardly say Reid squashed him. Barker was asked a lot of questions to which he replied at length. Speeches were also made by Gittens and Presburg, who spoke for a considerable time.—Sunday, July 23rd, Reid had a large meeting: opposition from ex-navy man which caused some amusement; also from a silk-hatted man, who emphatically declared he (Reid) was preaching discontent; how ver, the crowd did not seem very shocked by this assertion, nor did his respectable appearance seem to have much effect. Another good meeting was opened by a comrade, followed by Atterbury, who used the reduction of 25 per cent. in miners' wages as an illustration, whereupon an individual inquired if he was a miner. Atterbury replied in the negative, he then insisted that he (Atterbury) could not know anything about it. However, Atterbury used another illustration to oblige him. Gittens followed with a good speech, then Barker. He had some opposition from a Quaker, who spoke in a very quiet earnest manner, and said in his opinion the best means that could be used was moral force, that religion was all humbug, and that it was the greatest evil we had to contend with, ten times worse than the drink question; respectability also was a great curse, he thought. Barker replying said that the

best means to be used to alter the present state of things was education, but at the same time could it be justly asserted that we had no right to use force? Force could be used individually as a protective weapon by the victims of society. Tochatti said that the only remedy our friend the Quaker seemed to have was moral force. He called his attention to the fact that the environments of the worker to-day prohibited the use of moral force, and pointed out the impossibility of acting conscientiously. It often happened that any attempt on the part of the worker to do his work honestly, or to speak the truth, had the immediate effect of his swelling the army of unemployed; we were the creatures of circumstances modified by our innate tendencies, and our revolt against the present system was, that with its financial swindling and brutal competition it was grinding out the instincts of liberty and morality. Our friend the Quaker referred to churches as steeple houses which were not in the true sense of the word sacred; Tochatti quite agreed with him, and said he believed with Novalis that the only sacred temple was the human body, not built by hands; but the present system of society trampled and degraded all that was sacred and pure. The rain brought a large and interesting meeting to a close. Good sale of literature and papers.

WILLIAM ENGLISH,
(Carmagnole Group, Hammersmith.)

Peckham.—During the past month we have held regular meetings (with the two exceptions on account of weather) at Peckham Park-road on Thursdays and Sundays. Speakers, Comrades Levings, Sullivan, Atterbury, Quin, Buckering and Banham, "the boy Anarchist," as he is usually styled. Interesting discussions followed most of the meetings, although at times, at Commercial-road, we have had rather a noisy audience. But somehow "the boy Anarchist" generally manages to tame and quiet the hostile element in the crowd, and even win their sympathies, a feat which more experienced comrades have hitherto failed to accomplish.—Thursday, June 22nd, we had a splendid meeting, the presence of a mounted policeman drawing an enormous crowd together; opposition of the following order: "You must have some sort of government; there always has been government and there always will be." Comrade Banham, in reply, instanced the Russian sect known as "Doukhobovys," mentioned by M. Taskin in his work "La Russie Sectaire," who live as practical Anarchist Communists, without government or masters, and among whom crime and poverty are unknown.—Sunday, July 2nd, at the local S.D.F. meeting, after a comrade had put questions to the lecturer, Comrade Banham opposed, and the chairman put it to the vote as to whether our comrade should oppose the second time; to this we objected, but a full two-thirds majority voted that our comrade be heard again.—Monday, July 3, we held, or attempted to hold, a mass meeting on the Triangle, to protest against the waste of wealth on "Royal Vermin," whilst thousands are being slowly done to death by overwork and underfeeding. It was truly, as the posters had it, "an indignation meeting," only instead of the crowd showing indignation at the extravagant waste on Royalty they vented it on us, and on the writer of this report in particular. Comrades Samuels, Banham, Levings and Alsford (of the Deptford Independent Socialist Society) endeavored to speak, but the mob (which undoubtedly was an organised one, brought there with the object of breaking up the meeting) would not listen to them. They finally broke up the meeting by force, and the writer and Comrade Banham were escorted down Rye-lane by a howling mob of about 700 respectable Royalist rowdies, who varied the performance with shouts of "Down with the Anarchists!" and such like. Finally, the matter ended by Wm. Hart's being taken to the police station, where a charge was preferred against him by a blackleg painter, but as it was not substantiated the Inspector on duty refused to take it. Irritated, no doubt, at not being able to charge our comrade, the Inspector, in a bullying and blackguardly manner, ordered him out of the station, or, as he said, he would "kick him b— well out of it." He also informed our comrade that they did not give "b— protection" to Anarchists. Of course not; we never expected as much. We know, and most workmen begin to recognise the fact, that the police exist not for our protection but solely in the interests of the master-class. Managing to avoid the Inspector's boot our comrade got into the street again, to find that the mob had dispersed. Nothing daunted, we are still pegging away, and intend to keep at it, thoroughly convinced that even these bigotted Royalists will yet be brought to see the truths of Anarchism. We have a lot more to report, only are afraid we have already trespassed too much on your space.—W. H.

[* * Enfield and provincial reports held over for want of space.]

NOTICES.

LONDON—

Open-air meetings: Sundays, 11.30 a.m., in Hyde and Regent's and Finsbury Parks, and at Mile End Waste, Kensal Green, and Peckham Park-road; 3.40 p.m., Hyde Park; 5 p.m., Clerkenwell Green; 7 p.m., Mile End Waste. Saturdays, 8 p.m., Hyde Park.

The Commonweal Group meets every Tuesday, 8.30 p.m., at Grafton Hall, 55, Grafton-street, Tottenham-court-road, W.

Grafton Hall.—Public meeting, on August 10th, 8 p.m.: Release of the three Chicago Anarchists.

Peckham.—Open-air meetings: Sundays, 11.30 a.m., and Thursdays, 8 p.m., at corner of Peckham Park-road (opposite the Gas Works), Old Kent-road; Saturdays, 8 p.m., corner of Commercial-road (near Old Kent-road Station.)

PROVINCES—

Annual Anarchist Gathering.—We would remind all comrades that the usual August Bank Holiday gathering of Lancashire, Yorkshire and Midland Anarchists will take place this year at Monsal Dale (near Buxton). Trips are run from most towns on the Midland Railway at low fares. All Socialists are invited. Any further information required can be obtained from the Sheffield Anarchist Group, 63, Blonk-street, Sheffield.

Brighton.—Open-air meetings: on the Front, weekday evenings at 7; on the Level, Sunday afternoons, at 3.

Sheffield.—Meetings are held Sundays, at the Monolith, 11.30 a.m.; at West Bar Pump, 8 p.m.

Norwich.—Communist Anarchist literature may be obtained of A. D. Moore, 24, Rose-yard, St. Augustine's, Norwich.

NICOLL FUND.

RECEIVED FROM JULY 1st TO JULY 31st:—

Baker, 2s.; F. Pope list, 3s.; Leicester Comrades, 8s.; M., 2s. 9d.; Gutzkow, 1s.; Sheffield Comrades, 6s.

M. Galbraith,
19, Conderton-road, S.E.

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