

**Early advertisement for the Earth
First! Journal**

Autumn 1987

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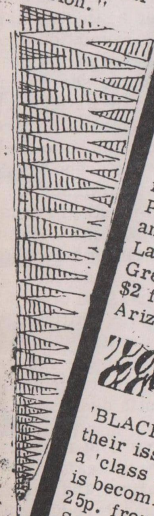


BOOKS

'SQUATTING IN WEST BERLIN'.
Hooligan Press. £2.00.

West Berlin, because of its four-power status, is allowed no army, so young Germans could stay in West Berlin and avoid army conscription. That and the housing shortage created the three year squatting movement which developed into a whole alternative culture. It was put down with police brutality and unending legal attrition.

This well produced 32 page A4 pamphlet/book describes the excitement, idealism and disillusion. "It was a very different kind of squatting from the kind we have (in Britain). It was a political movement orientated around squatting and it was conscious of being so. Very few of the people involved squatted because there was literally no alternative. Opening up a house was a political decision."

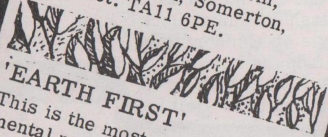


'BLACK SHEEP' has brought out their issue No 4. Although it has a 'class struggle' appearance, it is becoming increasingly green. 25p. from Box 'D', Mandela, Swansea University, Singleton, Swansea. SA2 8PP.

NEW MAGS

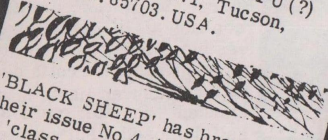
'GREEN OPTIONS'

The first issue was a bit weak, the second stronger with a firm commitment to decentralisation. But how will they cope with the dilemma that if you decentralise power to the bioregions (by decentralising the levying, collection and spending of taxes), you can then no longer redistribute wealth between the regions. You've no parliamentary mechanism. We watch with interest. 60p. from Lockyers Farm, Compton Dundon, Somerton, Somerset. TA11 6PE.



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VIDEOS

'ROAD OR RESERVATION'

The opening scene of this film begins with a bus plus passengers travelling through suburban Britain, passing through schools, towns and children playing in the streets. The precise date of this footage I do not know but it is certainly very reminiscent of the late 60s, 1970s era. The 'Road or Reservation' is accompanied by quite melodic music, which appears again in later scenes, during and after individual interviews.

The whole film is based around the lives and tribulations of three family groups. The first is the Parkers, English Romanies. When they are presented with an American glossy magazine depicting the romantic view of Romany gypsies, they just laugh!

As a family they are very self-sufficient, leading a communal, family-orientated lifestyle in trailers. When asked about their feelings towards society, they voiced suspicions and their father talked about how his children were learning to survive in an uncaring world. Within their unit there did seem to be some division of the sexes but this proved no problem, merely a necessary practicability.

The second group were Irish New Age travellers, who travelled around in antiquated, highly painted and stylised decorated carts, a very capable family who performed such tasks as collecting refuse materials and grind-stone-room'.

An interview was given by John Cloister who is a member of the Irish Travellers Council. He touched upon the plight faced by many travellers of disgusting residential camp sites, inhumane local and county councils etc. One very poignant shot in the film showed a crane actually removing a caravan by hoisting by it into the air.

The Joyces still follow traditional patterns of lifestyle, despite being constantly on the road. One scene showed the marriage of a young couple connected to the family.

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The Ted K Archive

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Green Anarchist #17.
<thesparrowsnest.org.uk/collections/public_archive/16089.pdf>

www.thetedkarchive.com