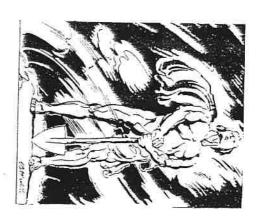
SHARPLEY LIBRARY INFORMATION BULLETIN NUMBER 3



ANARCHISM IN AUSTRIA: A BRIEF OUTLINE

radical opposition against the employers organised in the "ARBEITERBILDUNGSVEREINEN". They represented a to intimidate and divide in which all shades of socialists were represented and who were mostly Until 1879 there existed in Austria a fairly uniform workingclass movement in their interest to oppress the rising working class movement, them. and the state. These on the other fairly

its repression to an unheard of level. an increase time influenced by federalism and anarchism. They had since system. The majority however stayed in had wished, The first really bad split in the movement led in 1879, as the government of eighty thousand members. At the same time the state to the participation of a the radical section, which was at this part of the moderates within the 1883 registered intensified state

part of the movement. had to take Vienna and Neustadt forced the anarchists underground and hence Johann Most and Josef Peukert. It was so bad that agitators were Trials with long prison sentences to follow became common place, an illigalist line which resulted in the disbandment arrested, deported or had to flee abroad, as in the the state of emergency in forth they case of most

entry opposition. control a legal parliamentary party far more easely that any extra parliamstrongly supported by the government as they believed that one could inbetween the radical party and the moderate socialists. This idea was strong personality who propagandised the cause of the "centre party" The "legalists" had found in Victor Adler, a one time German nationalist

Democratic Party. The anarchist movement quickly began of course was never part of the government plan in legalising the Social Austria opponents and it was therefore possible for many anarchists in Hainburg. As a result the state relaxed its repression on political So in 1889 the Social Democratic Party was founded at a conference held and once again take up their agitation against the state, which to expand, to return to

years of the clerical fascist dicatorship of Dollfuss, all anarchists group who rejected "cultural anarchism". This group in 1927 took direct way, several anarchist groups founded GARTENSIEDLUNGEN, they defended the or no political influence. But they were very strong in a politically cultural unity to improve their position. The anarchists were soon to reemerge again, anarchist groups, publications and organisations were outlawed. There followed appeared but its mailing list fell into police hands and many anarchists persecuted.Ramus was too dangerous to let go, he managed to escape but was action against anarchists who were active and in fact there existed a by simply occupying a part of the Donau. Anarchists were also active isational qualities soldiers in 1918/19. A great help was Pierre Ramus who was a fine public and had some influence over the now defeated and unemployed returning organised but theyquickly fell apart with the outbreak of the First World than a few hundred members. Some small anarcho-syndicalist these years times were bad for the anarchist movement which never had more threads of Tolstian thought. But it failed to influence the workers within various 1907 Pierre Ramus (Rudolf Grossman) published the "Anarchist was above all an appeal for anarcho-communism, though it did contain some 1893 the movement state. The socialists were unaffected by these laws and took the opport second city of Austria. Pierre Ramus and his followers were not the only claim to be sphere of the social with their lives for this mistake. of anarchist, well read with strong individualist tendencies. During autonomous VERSORGUNSEINRICHTUNGEN and introduced naturism ${\bf \tilde{s}}$ and who groups. The state was soon to react and repression followed, all on a boat on his gain. Once again the social democrats were quick to rush in and resistance, with "terrorist" the had no rivals to talk of. But he lacked the necessary organstate and set anarchists seem to have held together during these peoples choice. Between the Wars the anarchists had little and therefore failed to use the wide spread unrest experienced a democrats, instead it began to attract a "bohemian way to Mexico.In 1936/37 an underground publication the Palace of Justice on fire. During $\mathcal S$ growth of several thousand members styled acts of vengeance against militant underground groups were Manifesto" in Graz, to Vienna were

organised by Luise Eisenwenger published a paper DER ANTIMILITARIST which LIBERTE in Graz published by Ferdinand Gross, and a lasted until 1965.As recent as 1974 there was at the same after World War Two there was little founded in Vienna with a time, they were followers of Ramus. In 1979 small circulation of Fifteenhundred group of old was only one paper BEFREIUME activity, comrades in 1955 the paper were

that Austria is a very rural based society. syndicalist groups active at present, but then we should remember comrades there. To the best of our knowledge there are no anarchoin Vienna and Graz, and several magazines are published by the Today there is an active anarchist movement in Austria, especially

NOTES:

translated: IF

- 2) Gartensiedlungen; Garden settlements/allotments. 1)Arbeiterbildungsvereinen; This was a type of organisation which cross between a workers educational club and a trade union.
- 3) Versorgunseinrichtungen; Nursing homes.
- 4) Information on anarcho-syndicalist groups is very hard to come by in their attempt to unionise themselves. fact in the 1930's the BHS failed to support the waiters and drivers in any form of organisation other than loose affinity groups.In we must assume the anarcho-syndicalists of Austria, did not believe were present at the IWA Congress in Toulouse in 1951 representing LOSER SOZIALISTEN (Union of Anti-authoritarian Socialists) and some of it seem to be very confused, i.e.the BUND HERRSCHAFT-
- and the workers was without arms, having been betrayed by middle class army officers when the time was right. When the SDP was outlawed in 1934 they called betrayed not by the SCHUTZBUND who would have willingly fought to so allowed the police to escape from the burning Palace.This time holding the crowds back from the line of police fire, but in doing armed militia under the control of the SDP, did save many lives by call until they once again gained control. The SCHUTZBUND, would lose control of the situation went along with the strike strike was called and the socialist party leaders fearing that they were using it as a position to fire on the crowds, stormed the Palace of Justice, which was occupied by the police who batonning and shooting workers were aquitted by the court in Vienna. Quickly a workers demonstration was organised, fighting broke out with mounted police death, but by the the workers to rise up and save them, but by then the SCHUTZBUND closest Austria ever came to revolution, the people were 15th 1927, some fascists who had murdered revolutionary a group of comrades set the building on fire.A had had enough of the SDP leadership of the SDP who could never decide the crowds. The workers fought back and it was at a workers general