
***Shechita Barbaric? Oy Vay! Have You seen the
Spanish Method of Cattle Slaughter?:
A Sideways Look at the Lunatic Fringe Opposition
to Kosher Meat from the "Jew-Wise" to the
"Animal Rights" Lobby***

The I.T.M.A. Team

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I would commend this pamphlet on two grounds. First, it is so hilariously funny that I almost had a seizure on reading it. Second, it is a devastating attack on British national socialism.

This is an exotic, minority doctrine, with no chance of coming to power. Many think otherwise. My Editor, for example, believes that national socialism is the hegemonic doctrine of our age, and points to the influence enjoyed by the anti-smoking groups and the advocates of an "industrial strategy". But this, I think, is to miss the point. There are many continuities here with the German national socialists, and much rhetorical advantage is to be gained by showing these. But there are many continuities between the German national socialists and authoritarians everywhere, if we look only at the fun-

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damental attitudes of distrust of freedom and longing for an organic, unthinking collectivity. In common with most people, I am not thinking of these fundamental attitudes, but of actual opinions. And, thinking of the Jewish conspiracy theories and odd economics by which our national socialists at once distinguish themselves from all other current movements and assert their continuity with the ideals of Adolf Hitler and Alfred Rosenberger, I am right in calling them an exotic minority.

Still, they are interesting, and this pamphlet goes far to satisfying that interest. It opens with a letter purportedly from Arnold Leese, a veterinary surgeon, to a vegetarian magazine, railing at the cruel methods used in Jewish slaughterhouses. Readers are urged to write to the Chief Rabbi to record their own protests. Fifty did so.

Now, Mr Leese died in 1956. Even so, he was an anti-semite of such commanding reputation that his name is still used to spread what remains the most potentially acceptable of anti-semitic doctrines in this country. Few people here seem to believe that the Jews kidnap and sacrifice gentile children. Only a few more believe that they own the banking system, or determine our foreign policy. Even fewer than those who believe seem to care. But cruelty to animals is another matter. That will always provoke outrage where proved. Thus the concentration on Jewish methods of slaughter.

The pamphlet describes the origins and growth of this campaign, showing the unbalanced argument on which it rests. Certainly, holding an animal's head in a vice and then cutting its throat is horrible. But the campaigners never tell us about equally horrible normal methods of slaughter. Nor do they mention the vastly more horrible methods of slaughter used in Spain, to name only one errant country. Nor do they acknowledge the important role played by Jewish philanthropists in setting up the animal welfare charities and in securing what few statutory protections animals enjoy. If this last is ever admitted, it is only to show how cunning the Jews are to have bought off the opposition so long before it emerged.

These issues - and others that I do not mention - are all discussed with a proper scholarly seriousness. Indeed, the author probably knows more about these aspects of anti-semitism than most anti-semites. There are 69 end-notes, and every work used is given its full citation. This makes the pamphlet a good starting point for anyone who wishes to study the history and doctrines of British national socialism. For anyone who wants a brief but authoritative overview of the subject, it is simply the best place to look.

Howard Perkins

Editor's Note: Copies of this pamphlet are available from the following address: InfoText Manuscripts, c/o 93c Venner Road, London SE26 5HU, Tel: 081 659 7713. The Price of £2.99 includes postage and handling within the United Kingdom.
