

nottingham bulletin.

MAY '82

20p

No. 13

SHOCK REPORT REVEALS LEGAL ABUSE in NOTTM

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES, NOTTINGHAM GROUP HAS JUST COMPLETED A MAJOR REPORT ON THE ACTION OF THE POLICE AND THE SPECIAL COURTS DURING THE 'RIOTS' LAST JULY.

The report, called 'A Cause for Concern' found damning evidence of legal abuse:-

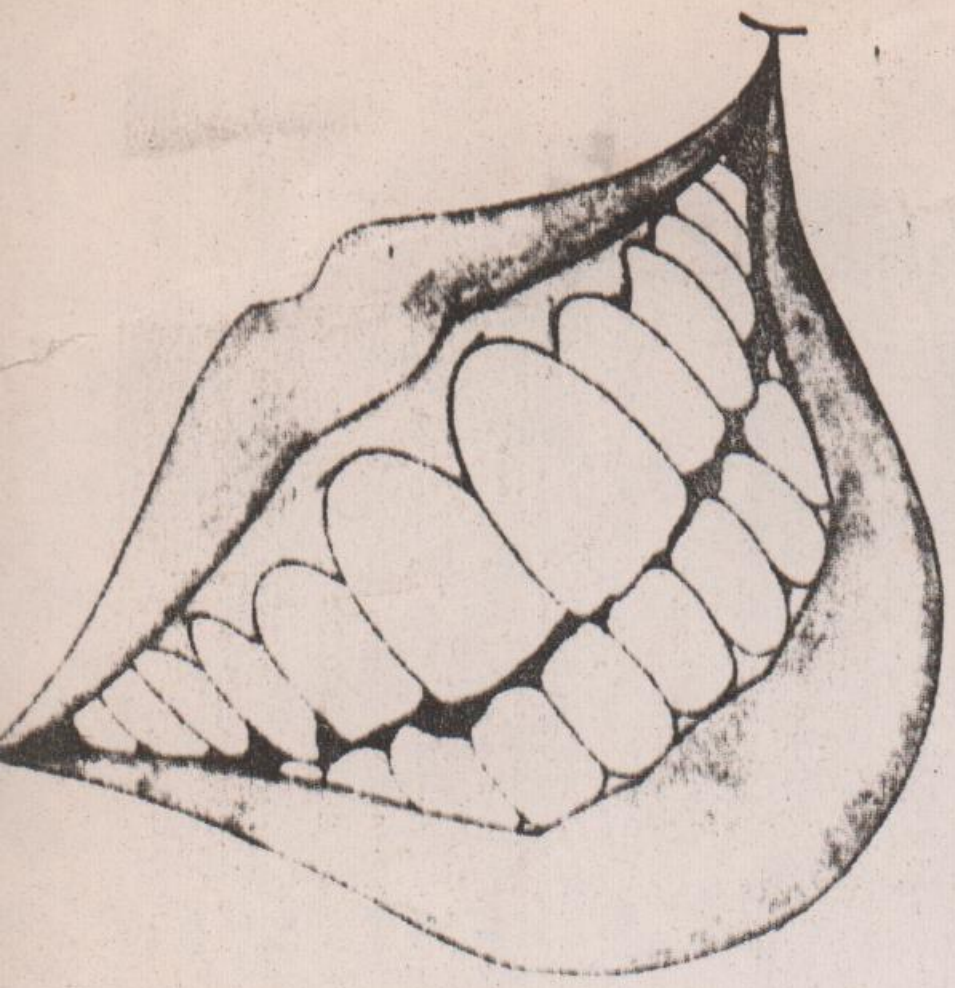
- *Over-reaction by the police leading to a sweeping-up operation with indiscriminate mass arrests.
- *The ignoring by the police of Judges Rules.
- *The refusal by magistrates to allow legal representation of defendants.
- *Harsh sentencing.
- *The rejection of the 'innocent until proved guilty' principle.
- *Imprisonment of innocent people,

The Nottingham report made many recommendations including a new police complaints procedure; a bill of rights to protect the accused; police accountability to the community; and a public inquiry into the action of the police and the special courts.

Full copies of the Report are available from 118 Mansfield Road.

THE NEXT MEETING OF NCCL (NOTTINGHAM)
WILL BE ON MAY 13 AT THE I.C.C. AT
7.30PM.

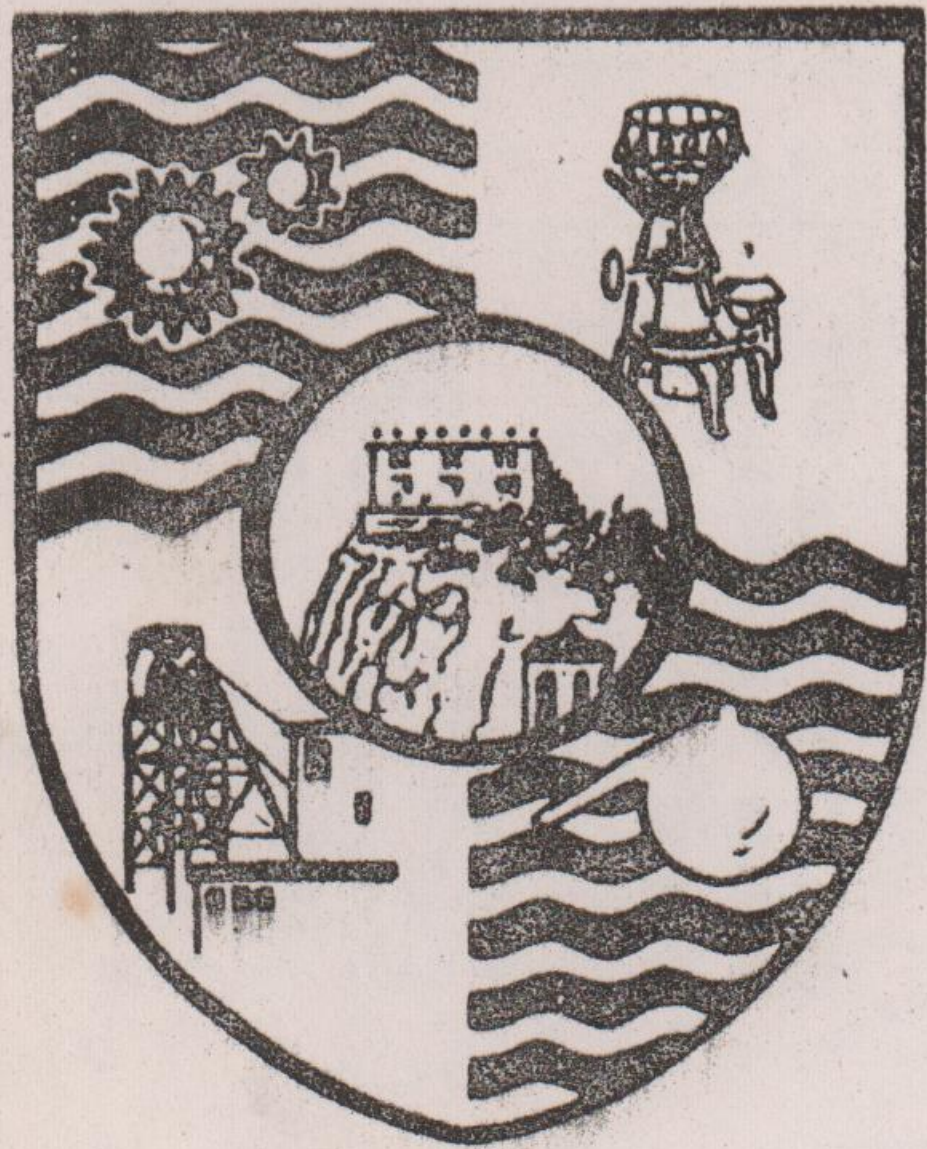




THE MOUTHPIECE of THE LABOUR & COMMUNITY MOVEMENT in NOTTINGHAM

NOTTINGHAM BULLETIN IS JOINTLY PRODUCED BY NOTTINGHAM TRADES UNION COUNCIL (T.U.C.), AND 118 WORKSHOP. It's columns are open to contributions from people in the trade union and labour movement, tenants and community movement, women's and ethnic minority organisations, and the unemployed.

NOTTINGHAM & DISTRICT TRADES UNION COUNCIL



THE NOTTINGHAM & DISTRICT TRADES UNION COUNCIL which was established in 1890, constitutes a permanent local centre for Trade Unions and exists, amongst other things, to watch over the local interests of labour, and to take part in national and international efforts to promote the welfare of the workers. Registered with the Trades Union Congress (T.U.C.), the Trades Council is its local representative and deserves the full support of ALL local union branches. The Council consists of delegates of local Trade Union Branches in affiliation, which affiliate at a fee they can afford.

For further information on how YOUR Branch can affiliate, please contact the Secretary, Chris Preston, 12, Emmanuel Avenue (NG3 6HF), or telephone NOTTM. 51035.

THE TRADE UNION WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

has been set up as a sub-committee of the Trades Council to promote equality for women in Trade Unions and to be a focus for united action on issues relating to women at work.

The Committee meets monthly and reports back to the Trades Council. All T.U.C. affiliated unions are urged to nominate delegates to attend. As the aim of the Committee is to strengthen the position of women in Trade Unions, there is no limit to the number of delegates.

For further information, contact Gwyn Jackson (TEL: Wk 91/649735 H. 865904.).

THE NOTTINGHAM CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE CUTS was set up by the Trades Council in 1977 to aid and co-ordinate the resistance to cuts in socially necessary public spending. Affiliation is open to Trade Union organizations, organizations of the unemployed, Ethnic Minority and Women's Groups, Tenants and Community Groups, single issue campaigns and political organizations. The Fee is a nominal one of £2p.a.

For further information, please contact the Secretary, Ian Juniper, c/o 118, Mansfield Road. (TEL: Nottm. 582369).

118 WORKSHOP

118 WORKSHOP is the RESOURCE & RESEARCH CENTRE FOR TRADE UNIONS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS in Nottingham, set up in 1979, and is affiliated to the National Network of such Centres.

It provides a local integrated research, information and printing service - background research; a library and information service; opportunities for informal adult education; photocopying, typing and printing facilities; cheap meeting rooms; etc. - and concentrates on issues of poverty, health and safety at work, employment and the local economy, public services and the media.

Its purpose is to promote "a greater social, economic, racial and sexual equality" (Workshop Constitution) and is committed to supporting local trade union and community organizations in their efforts to gain greater understanding and control over their lives. Accordingly, affiliation is open to such organizations and groups which need the services and facilities of the Workshop. Affiliates are entitled to use the complete services of 118 WORKSHOP and to receive each issue of Nottingham Bulletin, 118 WORKSHOP reports and publications, and minutes of meetings. Affiliates have the power to control the affairs and direction of the Workshop through taking part in Membership Meetings.

For further information, please contact the Secretary, Joan Matthews, c/o 118, Mansfield Road. (TEL: Nottm. 582369).

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All initialled articles are the work of individuals, & do not necessarily represent the views of the organisations responsible for the Bulletin's production. Articles & contributions to be sent to NOTTINGHAM BULLETIN, 118 MANSFIELD RD., NOTTM. (tel:582369). Deadline for next issue:

Publication Date:



editorial

CAROL WOOLLER

This edition of 'Nottingham Bulletin' focuses very much on the work of Nottingham Trades Council, and of 118 Workshop. These two bodies are the joint publishers of the 'Bulletin', and as a member of the Trades Council and Chair of 118 Workshop, I am delighted we have the chance to "blow our own trumpets" for once.

1982 sees the 92nd anniversary of the Trades Council, which last published an annual report in 1975. We are including in this edition a report of the work of the local TUC over the past year. We hope that this will create more awareness of its activities, and encourage more local Trade Union branches to affiliate and become involved: the voice of the trade union movement in this area needs to be heard loud and clear, especially now. Norman Tebbit's impending legislation, and his call to the unemployed to "get on yer bikes", is certainly not motivated by compassionate concern for the job security of our local Raleigh workers!

118 Workshop is also featured in some depth in the following pages: its contribution to the local community and labour movement has been considerable over the past two years, and is still not as widely known as it should be. There are very few 'resource and research' centres

Chairperson:

118 WORKSHOP



in the UK which serve both the labour movement and the community, linking the fight for a better society in the workplace and in the home, and Nottingham is fortunate to have such a centre.

Unfortunately, some controversy has arisen recently about the role of such centres as a result of a circular issued by the T.U.C. (which was debated at the February Trades Council meeting). The General Council of the T.U.C. has apparently been considering the roles of centres like 118 Workshop as there are currently proposals for several new ones to be established "...as a consequence of some Labour-controlled local authorities being prepared to make substantial grants available".

The General Council is concerned as to whether such centres are fully accountable to affiliated unions and the T.U.C. "If they are not, there is a danger that alternative trade union structures would begin to emerge and be used to drive a wedge between unions and their members."

A review is presently taking place of the T.U.C.'s regional machinery, which is also considering the question of resource centres - in the meantime, the General Council have decided that "no T.U.C. body should proceed to establish a new resource/research centre and should not participate in discussions leading to the establishment of such centres".

For 118 Workshop's part, we endeavour to be fully accountable. We have an affiliated structure which is open to not only local trade union organizations, but to community, women's, campaigning and welfare groups, and we would encourage all who need our services to affiliate, to use our services, and to take an active part in the management of the Workshop.

My own view, and it is one which is widely shared, is that unions ARE their members; and that the role of resource and research centres, far from creating divisions, is to strengthen the organizations of working people, both in the workplace AND in the community.

To quote from the Workshop Constitution:

Rudi Narayan in Nottingham

More riots could be expected this summer, unless the Government is prepared to take a comprehensive approach to the problems of the black community in Britain. That's the message from barrister Rudi Narayan, who recently came to Nottingham to speak at a cultural day organized by Trent Polytechnic's Afro-Caribbean Society.

His visit was part of a nationwide tour to promote the newly formed black rights movement which is trying to improve the civil liberties of black people. Mr Narayan said he was particularly anxious to involve young people in the movement, and plans for an office in Nottingham and a 24-hour help line to provide legal help are to be considered.

An inauguration meeting in June is to be held and guest speakers will include Lord Scarman and black lawyers from America.

Andy Tyrer,
'OATS' Reporter, T.P.

AIMS.

- a) To provide research, information and other resources for trades unions, community organizations and voluntary groups primarily in the Greater Nottingham area with the purpose of promoting a greater social, economic, racial and sexual equality.
- b) To provide development support to organizations and opportunities for informal adult education.
- c) To establish links and working relationships between trades unions, community and other organizations.

We would encourage all groups and organizations who agree with, and who can benefit from these aims to affiliate, and to make as extensive a use of the Workshop as possible.

Best wishes,

Carol Wooller.

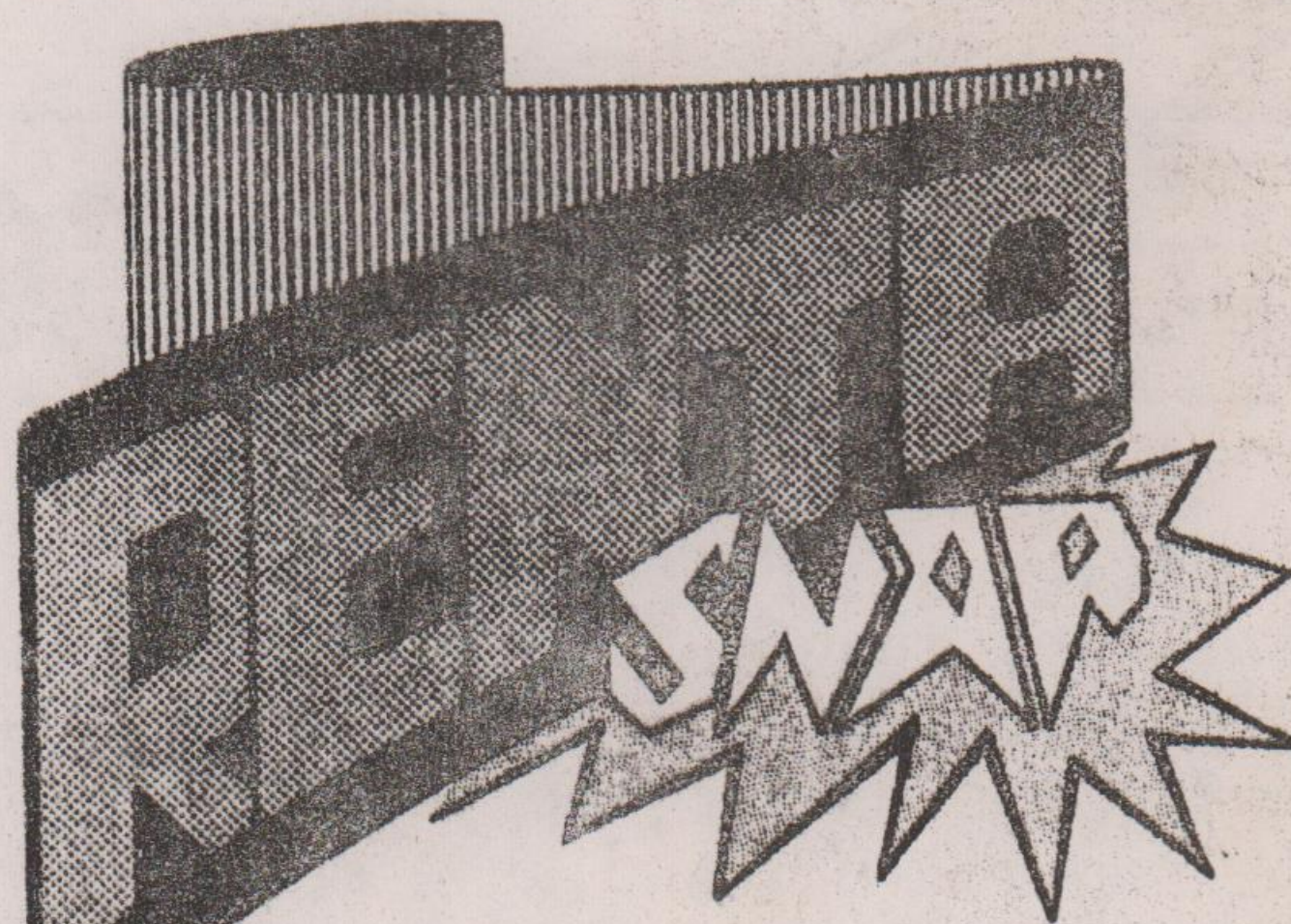


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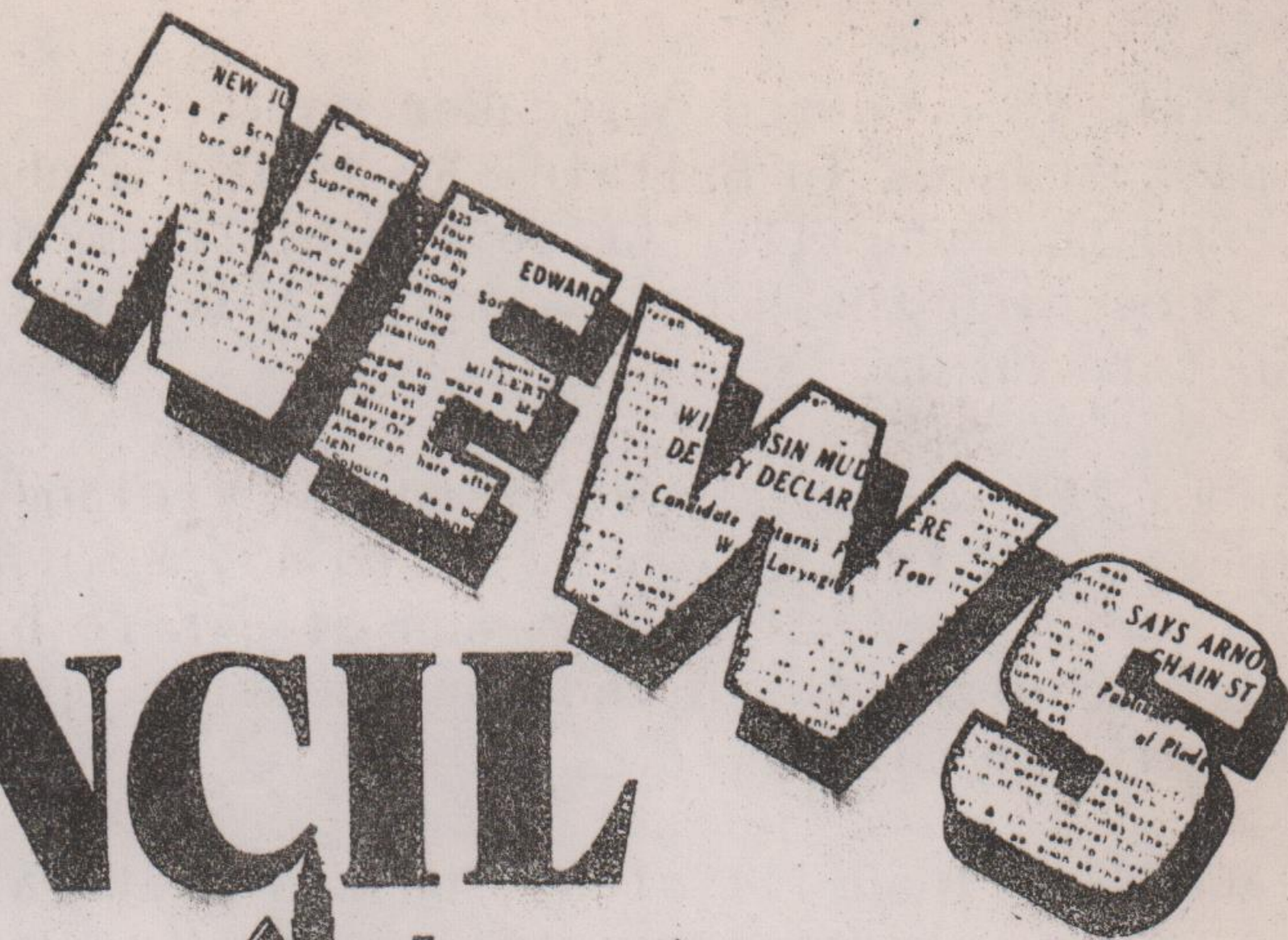
NG1 3HL
tel: 582369

CND DEMO June 6th

by train £6.50 (waged) £3.50 (unwaged)
and £1.50 (under 15)
by coach it's £3.50 (waged) £2.50 (unwaged)
Further details from 15 Goosegate; 582561



TRADES COUNCIL



Annual General Meeting

NOTTINGHAM & DISTRICT TRADES UNION COUNCIL.

OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES, 1982/3.

PRESIDENT: Brian Simister (NATFHE). **VICE-PRESIDENTS:** Don Devine (TGWU) Vernon Gapper (AUEW-TASS). **SECRETARY:** Chris Preston (SLADE). **TREASURER:** Dave Rowley (NALGO).

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Jill Murdoch (TSSA).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: John Bell (NUR) George Box (NATFHE) Ray Coward (NUSMW) Sandra Durkin (CPSA) Gwyn Jackson (NALGO) Ian Juniper (ASTMS) Denis Rovetto (NUM).

DELEGATES TO NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TRADES COUNCILS:

Albert Attwood (NUPE) George Box (NATFHE) Reg Hall (SOGAT) Chris Preston (SLADE).

ANNUAL CONFERENCE DELEGATE: Chris Preston. **TYLER:** Ray Coward.

Council meets every third Wednesday in each month.

Executive Committee meets on the last Wednesday in each month.

92ND. ANNUAL T.U.C. REPORT - MARCH 1982
- CHRIS PRESTON : SECRETARY.

A MONTH BY MONTH BLOW ACCOUNT.

MARCH. With our support, a dispute with the W.E.A. was resolved. Plans for the Peoples March were going ahead - a good town committee was in operation. We took a report from the Council of Civil Service Unions, which was an unprecedented coming together re: their dispute.

APRIL. Peoples March plans - final preparations. Support was given to the Civil Service Unions - half day strike on 14th April. We passed a motion condemning the blanket ban on demonstrations in many towns by the Home Secretary.

MAY. We supported the C.N.D. demonstration that had taken over 1,000 from Nottingham to London. The best May Day for some years

had been held. The Peoples March had successfully passed through Nottingham,

Peoples march

for jobs

over 2,000 marching. The Council had opened up the Council House for the evening. The Women's Committee held its first conference.

JUNE. We received a speaker on the disturbances in Britain. We issued a challenge to Councillor Green re: his comments concerning the Peoples March, which was not taken up.

JULY. We discussed the issue of Ireland, passing a resolution by 21 to 19. We noted the riots in Nottingham and elsewhere by a resolution which included setting up an Ad Hoc Committee.

AUGUST. Financial situation was critical, 31 unions had not re-affiliated. May Day costs were £500. Agreed to support the NUR in their dispute. We received a speaker from the City Council concerning the cuts and the Council's role. A large meeting had been held thereby continuing the process of setting up an unemployed centre.

SEPTEMBER. Troubles at Phoenix Nursery were noted. The national T.U.C. Jobs for Youth Campaign was started. A motion was passed concerning women and unemployment.

OCTOBER. Continuing difficulties re: the unemployed centre were noted. Dispute at Plessey was noted. Report was received of Trades Council visit to Minsk. Notice of Women's Festival in March.

NOVEMBER. Jobs for Youth Campaign in Nottingham. Not a lot of support from movement noted. The London Demonstration was small. We passed a resolution re: lifts at Nottm Central Station for use by the disabled.

DECEMBER. A resolution re: YOP was sent to T.U.C. with a further resolution concerning Ireland.

JANUARY. We took a detailed report of the finalised preparations for the Women's Festival. With some difficulty, we put a May Day Sub-committee together.

FEBRUARY. Was taken up with debating the issue of Solidarnosc - and particularly the recent demonstration in Nottingham. I was reminded of what an old timer, from the Trades Council, said to me many years ago, that though the Council sits in its own right, it must be aware that it sits to represent the overall Trade Union Movement of the town.

DRAWING THE THREADS TOGETHER.

SOME YOU LOSE.....

Over the year, we have lost some affiliations. Some branches having gone out of existence, due to falling membership and the residue combining with another branch. We have welcomed some half dozen new branches, including two from a hitherto unaffiliated union, the Society of Civil

and Public Servants, and similarly from COHSE.

The last year has shown the need for concerted united action being taken by the movement. At the start of the year we had resolute steps being taken by Services and industries e.g. the Civil Service Unions, which had a large demonstration through the town, with industrial action being taken over several weeks. We saw the Hosiery Union bring 5,000 on to the streets demonstrating.

These actions, of themselves, were not enough to change Government policy which was the intention. This time last year I spoke of the Trade Unions being in a position of strength or of weakness in 12 months time. They would be either on the offensive or on the defensive. Now we have reached that position, the Government is clearly still on the offensive e.g. Tebbit's anti-union legislation. One could read into that, that if one side is on the offensive the other must be on the defensive.

MARCHING FORWARD.

It is my firm opinion that the Peoples March showed us the way forward - bringing together, during the summer months, those out of work, representatives from those still in work, mobilizing whole sections in every town. Here in Nottingham over 2,500 including Labour Party, Council many colleges and schools, and dozens of Trade Union members and banners. It showed on some scale not only what has to be done on a national scale but indeed how to do it.

FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN 1981.

I believe 1981 is seen as the start of the fundamental changes that are needed in the Labour Party. I think it is important that the democratisation process that is taking place, does not embarrass practices in some Trade Unions e.g. the reselection process, where in many Trade Unions, once elected OR appointed (like the T.U.C.) one is there for life.

Arthur Scargill has perhaps shown us the way with his assurance that he will stand for election every 5 years. Whether to ballot and how to ballot, particularly in relationship to the Labour Party leadership and currently our 40% say, has to be answered.

BUT these questions are up to individual unions and their respective rule books.

MOVES WITHIN THE MOVEMENT.

In this forthcoming year we are to see

agricultural workers join the Transport & General. The print industry is to see SLADE join the National Graphical Assn. with talks with the National Union of Journalists, while NATSOPA is to join SOGAT. The Hosiery Union is to come together with the Dyers and Bleachers, to mention but a few.

However, though we can hope for strength to come from these larger organizations, do not let us kid ourselves that it will come automatically. Indeed these unions that I have mentioned are not amalgamating in the first instance for greater industrial strength - it is out of necessity to preserve their very existence. Falling membership being a critical factor, together with financial difficulties, payments in to benefits out, wages to full timers, etc. - they are all cutting back.

BUT it is interesting to note that the NGA and NATSOPA have consistently not sent delegates to this Trades Council; the Dyers and Bleachers and the Agricultural Workers have consistently refused to re-affiliate. I would suggest that there is a correlation between the facts of weak unions having to join forces in order to survive, but having no history of relating to the wider movement.

LET'S SEE ACTION.

The forthcoming year undoubtedly needs action by the Labour and Trade Union Movement. Not only action but UNITED action. We have facing us Tebbit's anti-trade union laws. If they get through and become operational it will be because of our weakness. In other words if we stop them becoming Law and operational, it will be because WE, the Trade Union Movement, has stopped them. If we do not, as in 1971-74, the Trade Union Movement will be unrecognizable in a few years time.

THE UNEMPLOYED CENTRE AT LAST.

We have the unemployed centre just starting off. Hopefully this will be the main thrust of the Trade Union Movement in this town, bridging the gap to those out of work. The degree to which this happens will largely depend on the attitudes and work done by Trade Union branches and work places. Though money is essential, and taken as a commitment, that is not all that is required.

There has been a great deal of work done by individuals; apart from excellent donations, the Trade Union movement has largely not taken part as yet. We must work for this to change. It is hoped to open the centre in late April - it will give us the opportunity to focus on the

disproportionate female and youth unemployment; to campaign and work alongside with.

It is no accident that the Tories are deliberately deepening the recession, creating over 3 million unemployed, pick on those sections least able to fight back. I include in this section young people and school leavers. They are not organized and are under-represented at all levels in our society - which is clearly strongly related to the riots last summer.

The Tories, through YOP, realised that they could appear to be providers for young people. They quickly realised the value of YOP as an anti-labour movement weapon. Cheap labour, low wages, etc. have meant that the youth have been used as a trojan horse being pushed into the workplace, and into the trade union field. The Trade Unions locally and nationally must fully understand the contradictory nature of the argument, and work to expose the real nature of the Tories thinking and their policies.

THE TRADES COUNCIL NEW YEAR.

We are entering our new year again with murmurings from the Civil Service Unions - no wonder as many have been offered nothing as wage increases. The Government took on the united Civil Service Unions last year and largely defeated them - there is no reason to believe that this will not happen again. The Government chose not to take on the miners over the pit closures.

The Government, through denial of investment, took on ASLEF and tried to smash it - they failed. The expectations of the triple alliance were never fulfilled. Though ASLEF has survived a battle, it is still fighting the war in a relatively weak position - and so the same can be said of most of our affiliated unions. At no time did ASLEF during their dispute, contact or seek support from the Trades Council.

We MUST set our stall out to be a body that is relevant to the Trade Union Movement of today, through the content of our agendas, resolutions and action. Individual Unions must learn that they can no longer enter into battle one by one. Our next year MUST be a concerted fight for united action.

Chris Preston,
March, 1982.



Established 1890

AFFILIATED TRADE UNIONS & BRANCHES, 1981/82.

BAKERS, FOOD AND ALLIED WORKERS' UNION

- Notts & E Midland.

BANKING INSURANCE AND FINANCE UNION (BIFU)

- Nottingham.

CIVIL AND PUBLIC SERVICES' ASSOCIATION (CPSA)

- D.T.I. Nottingham
- Notts & Derby M.S.C.
- Land Registry
- D.H.S.S. South Notts.

CIVIL AND PUBLIC SERVANTS, SOCIETY OF (SCPS)

- Customs & Excise
- Land Registry.

COMMUNICATION WORKERS, UNION OF (UCW)

- Nottm No 2.

CONSTRUCTION, ALLIED TRADES AND TECHNICIANS, UNION OF (UCATT)

- Aspley WE 021
- Nottm G5 BE 269
- Nottm WE 127.

ELECTRICAL, ELECTRONIC, TELECOMMUNICATION AND PLUMBING UNION (EETPU)

- South Nottingham (17483).

ENGINEERING WORKERS, AMALGAMATED UNION OF (AUEW)

- 42 RE - E8
- 125 HE
- Nottm No 1.

FIRE BRIGADES' UNION (FBU)

- No 6 Area.

GENERAL AND MUNICIPAL WORKERS' UNION (GMWU)

- Nottingham branches.

HEALTH SERVICE EMPLOYEES, CONFEDERATION OF (COHSE)

- Nottm South.

INLAND REVENUE STAFF FEDERATION (IRSF)

- Nottm Taxes.

LITHOGRAPHIC ARTISTS, DESIGNERS, ENGRAVERS AND PROCESS WORKERS, SOCIETY OF (SLADE)

- Nottm.

MINEWORKERS, NATIONAL UNION OF (NUM)

- Notts Area.

MUSICIANS' UNION (MU)

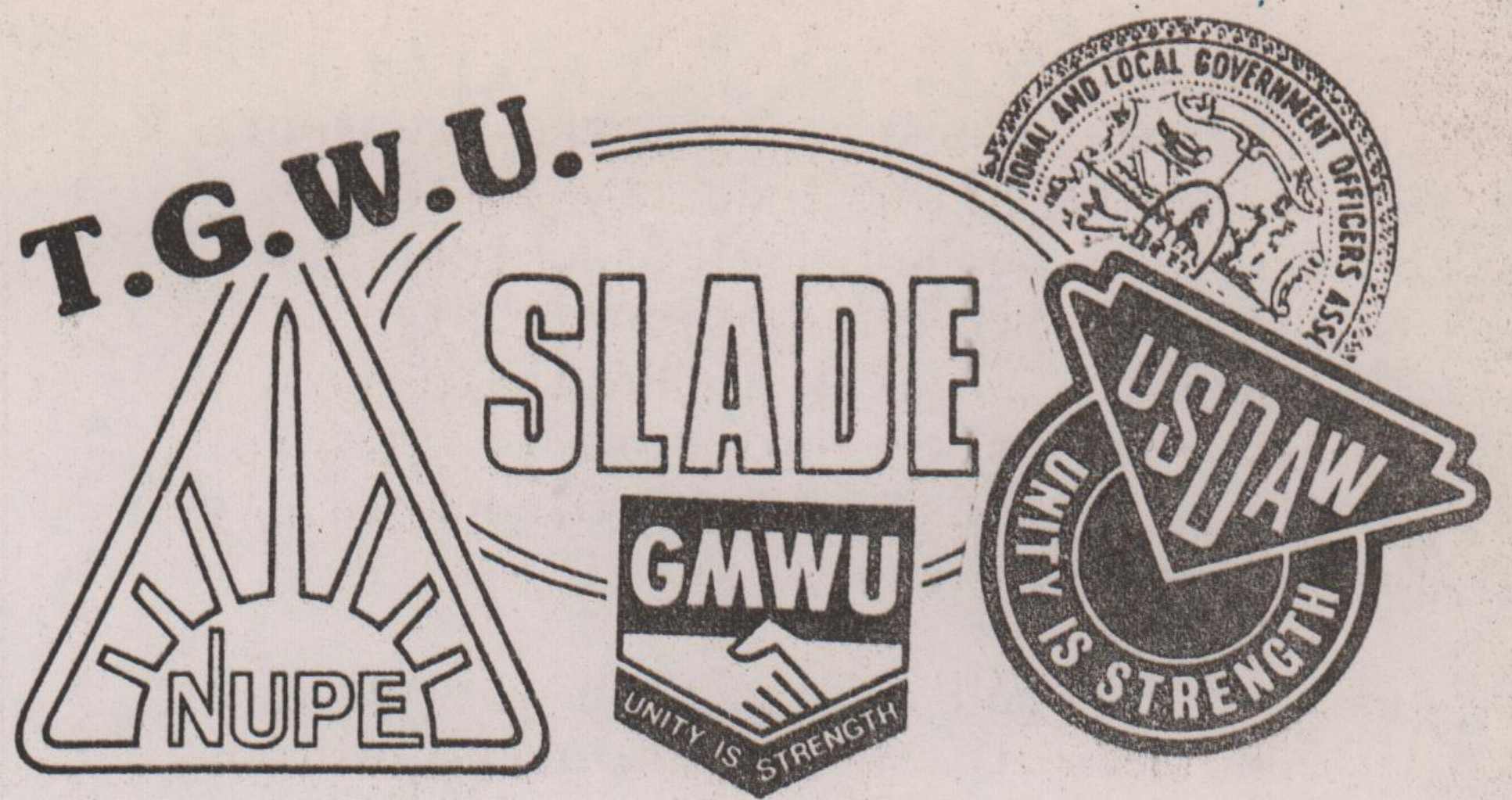
- Nottm/Derby.

NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (NALGO)

- Nottingham Gas.
- Notts County Council
- Trent-Severn Waterways.

POST OFFICE ENGINEERING UNION (POEU)

- External.



PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, NATIONAL UNION OF (NUPE)

- Rushcliffe
- Nottm No 3
- General Hospital
- University
- Kimberley
- Social Services
- Carlton
- Nottm Health
- A.P.T. & C. Notts
- South Notts Health
- University HMC 'B'.

RAILWAYMEN, NATIONAL UNION OF (NUR)

- Nottm No 5
- Nottm & District Rail
- Bulwell.

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL STAFFS, ASSOCIATION OF (ASTMS)

- East Midlands Insurance
- Lenton
- Trent
- University.

SHEET METAL WORKERS, COPPERSMITHS, HEATING AND DOMESTIC ENGINEERS, NATIONAL UNION OF (NUSMCHDE)

- Nottm.

SHOP, DISTRIBUTIVE AND ALLIED WORKERS, UNION OF (USDW)

- Nottm Food Trade E43
- Nottm Area Holding E193
- Nottm Midland NAAFI E52
- E Midland Meat Trade E26
- Boots Admin Sup. SATA E112
- E Mid SATA E104.

TAILORS AND GARMENT WORKERS, NATIONAL UNION OF (NUTGW)

- Nottm.

TEACHERS, NATIONAL UNION OF (NUT)

- City
- South Notts.

TOBACCO WORKERS' UNION

- Radford.

TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION (TGWU)

- 5/402
- City branches.

TRANSPORT SALARIED STAFFS' ASSOCIATION (TSSA)

- Nottm.

MOTIONS PASSED AT COUNCIL MEETINGS, MARCH '81 - FEBRUARY '82.

UNEMPLOYMENT/WOMEN.

This Branch notes that women are bearing the brunt of unemployment. One of the factors affecting women and not men is the view, still all too common in the Trade Union Movement, that women's right to work is an optional extra, and that women's economic dependence is acceptable. This is an idea that should be opposed and challenged by the Movement. We therefore call upon the leadership of the Movement to organize a national demonstration for A Woman's Right To Work. The demonstration should stress the importance of women's independence; the need for defence and extension of services, especially child care; the special need to defend part-timers' jobs, and fight for adequate maternity leave; and the fight against low pay and segregation. The demonstration should include special facilities for children; and in the localities the Trade Union and Labour Movement should be encouraged to organize creches for the day.

- NALGO: NOTTS COUNTY COUNCIL BRANCH (SEPT. '81).

UNEMPLOYMENT/YOUTH.

Council rejects the elements of compulsion announced in the new proposals put forward yesterday to provide training for young unemployed people. We also declare that the proposed allowance of 15 pounds is totally unacceptable and call for an allowance equivalent to average earnings of 16 - 17 year olds in full employment. Any such allowance should also be paid to those young people over 16 who attend full time courses of education in schools or colleges.

- NUT (DEC. '81).

UNEMPLOYMENT.

Council is very concerned at the recent talks between the Government and C.V.S. We oppose:- i) the use of volunteers as a substitute for proper paid employment and as a means of preventing the creation of new jobs; ii) voluntary organizations co-operating with the Tories' efforts to develop voluntary work in order to create a more favourable climate for further cuts in services and further redundancies in the public sector; and iii) any legislation or Government practice aimed at forcing the unemployed into community service. We therefore call upon voluntary organizations approached, not to co-operate with the Government in the expansion of volunteer programmes which may have the effects described above; call on our members to refuse to co-operate with such volunteer programmes; and call on Trades Councils to which we are affiliated and the regional TC to support this policy.

- NUPE: NOTTM SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH (MARCH '81).

This branch calls for some form of public debate between the Trades Council and Councillor Green on the comments he made relative to unemployment, during the time the Peoples March was in Nottingham. Furthermore we feel that a person in Cllr. Green's position, by being allowed to make this very misleading statement which was allowed to go unchallenged, can not only cause great harm but also give the public a very wrong impression of the true position of the unemployment situation in this City and elsewhere throughout the country.

- NATIONAL UNION OF SHEET METAL WORKERS (JUNE '81).

Recognizing the good intent and aims of the Right To Work Campaign, the AUEW No 1 Branch has agreed to sponsor the Right To Work March to Blackpool. We call upon Council to support this March by means of sponsorship in a like manner.

- AUEW: NOTTM NO 1 BRANCH (SEPT. '81).

INDUSTRIAL.

This Branch Committee calls upon Council to support the action taken by the NUR in support of a just claim for a wage increase of 11% without productivity strings (as agreed by McCarthy report on rail pay/conditions); and calls upon all Trade Unions locally not to cross picket lines and not to do work usually done by NUR members in the event of industrial action (e.g. strike action) being called by the NEC of the NUR as from 0001 hours, Monday 31st August, 1981.

- NUR (AUG. '81).

This Branch calls upon Council to help stop further the steady decline of inter-city direct main-line routes from Nottingham. In the light of the British Rail Board proposal to close the Leeds-Carlisle line to express passenger services, thereby necessitating the diversion of the already much maligned Inter-City direct Nottingham-Glasgow service (and vice-versa) via Manchester and Preston, causing longer journey times and inconvenience to local people.

- NUR: 1142 BRANCH (OCT. '81).

LABOUR MOVEMENT.

This Branch notes that certain divisions exist within the Labour and Trade Union Movement governing opinion within that movement. However, whenever these divisions manifest themselves in direct criticism by one body of opinion to another, we are appalled that either body should resort to the use of the Courts, which have consistently refused to judge in favour of working class organizations. We therefore urge that every layer and body of the working class movement generally condemn Vanessa Redgrave's and the Workers Revolutionary Party's use of the courts against the labour movement press. We call for a Labour movement inquiry to investigate statements relating to this case made in "Socialist Organizer" which caused the WRP to react in this manner.

- AUEW: NOTTM NO 1 BRANCH (JUNE '81).

Council notes T.U.C. Circular No 71 (1981/82) re Trade Union Resource Centres which states that the General Council has decided that no T.U.C. body should proceed to establish a new resource/research centre and should not participate in discussions leading to the establishment of such centres, pending a review. Council further notes the General Council's concern to ensure that any such centres are fully accountable to affiliated Unions and the T.U.C.; and its comment that, "If they are not, there is a danger that alternative structures would begin to appear and be used to drive a wedge between Unions and their members". This Council recognizes that existing centres, including 118 Workshop in Nottingham, and planned future centres are constitutionally established to provide for just this very accountability of which the General Council speaks through both their management structures and their methods of work; and further, that far from leading to alternative structures, their very reason for existence is to strengthen the movement and by virtue of the services they provide, make it more effective in its promotion of the interests of working people. Council further recognizes the valuable role of such centres and their contribution to the movement, past, present, and in the future. Council therefore resolves to convey this sentiment to the General Council of the T.U.C. and to urge the expedition of the review, so that the planned centres can be set up as quickly as possible to make available to the movement the resources it so desperately needs to fight back against the onslaught presently being visited upon it, and the valuable role of existing centres recognized.

- ASTMS: TRENT BRANCH (FEB. '82).

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS.

Council notes with alarm that several towns have had a complete ban on marches placed upon them by the Home Secretary for the single purpose of stopping a number of fascist organizations holding their marches. We call upon this Council to make the strongest representation to the Home Secretary to use the relevant laws in the Public Order Act and the Race Relations Act to singularly ban those marches inciting race hatred. By so doing, we in the Trade Union Movement can be assured that our basic fundamental democratic rights, that of free assembly and marching, will not be impaired when the justifiable need arises to keep the fascists off the streets.

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (APRIL '81).

Council believes that the basic causes of the recent disturbances in Nottingham and many other inner city areas lie in the discontent caused by the dramatic rise of unemployment, the decay of inner city areas, and the continuing incidence of racism in our community. We reject the calls for a "law and order" solution, and believe that only a policy to restore employment, give positive aid to inner city areas and a determined fight against racism will be any real solution. Further, that this Council initiates a sustained and vigorous campaign to expose the fallacy of police repression as a solution to the social and economic problems which gave rise to the riots in Hyson Green; and that this Council campaigns for policies which will attack the root causes of social discontent, namely:- unemployment, lack of community facilities and police harassment. And that an ad hoc committee be set up immediately to activate the campaign, seeking to draw in all organizations and sections of society opposed to Government policies presently being adopted in response to social discontent, and committed to socially useful alternatives.

- NUT (JULY '81).

DISCRIMINATION.

This 5/92 Branch of the TGWU, being a multi-national membership, strongly oppose the Nationality Bill now being presented to Parliament as this will damage both race and industrial relations.

- TGWU: 5/92 BRANCH (MARCH '81).

Council recognizes that acts of racial violence have increased dramatically in the last year. Many coloured Trade Unionists and their families are being harrassed by racialists of various kinds. We therefore urge all trade unionists and their unions to affiliate to Nottingham's Anti-Nazi League.

- AUEW: NOTTM NO 1 BRANCH (MARCH '81).

We feel that Council should campaign with us to have two lifts installed on platform at Nottingham Midland Station. These lifts would cater for the Disabled, the Blind and the elderly who, for obvious reasons, would find lifts more suitable.

- NUR: 1142 BRANCH (NOV. '81).

NUCLEAR WASTE.

Council calls upon Trades Councils to fully support those Councils, Councillors and M.P.'s who are opposing the dumping of nuclear waste in areas which they represent.

- SLADE: EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH (MARCH '81).

IRELAND.

Council, recognizing the need for working class unity in Northern Ireland, and in the light of the decision by Derry and other Trades Councils to field candidates in this years local elections, calls upon the T.U.C. to support and work for building by the Northern Ireland Labour Movement of a Trade Union based Labour Party in Northern Ireland. To this end we call upon the T.U.C. to press the Northern Ireland Committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions to convene a conference of Trade Unions, Trades Councils and independent Labour Groups in Northern Ireland, in order to establish such a party.

- ASTMS: NOTTM UNIVERSITY BRANCH (JULY '81).

We recognize:- i) that the policies of successive British Governments have failed to find a political solution to the constitutional crisis of N. Ireland, except military repression; ii) that peace can only come from through freedom and justice, and therefore the Irish people should be able to decide their own future, free from British interference; iii) the need for working class unity in N. Ireland. But this unity has been damaged by the British policy of guaranteeing the continuation of the anti-democratic and sectarian statelet of the six counties by military means. This is because it effectively props up the reactionary loyalist sectarianism; iv) therefore the T.U.C. should immediately and unconditionally support the call for British troop withdrawal from N. Ireland.

- TGWU: 5/402 BRANCH (SEPT. '81).

In view of the fact that plastic bullets used by the British Army and the Royal Ulster Constabulary - allegedly for riot control - have caused the death of several innocent civilians, including children, and serious injury, usually gross brain damage, to many more - this Council resolves to call upon the Home Secretary to put an immediate stop to these brutal weapons in N. Ireland and also ban their proposed usage in Britain.

- ASTMS: TRENT BRANCH (DEC. '81).

Council notes its adopted policy in favour of immediate and unconditional British Troop withdrawal from N. Ireland, and in favour of the Irish people being able to decide their own future, free from British interference. Council further notes that nothing has been done to date to give active expression to this policy; and that the mere passing of motions, in and of itself on whatever issue, is of very little value indeed, and that adopted policies should be actively campaigned for, both generally and on this particular policy decision. Council therefore resolves to pursue its adopted policy on the political relationship between Ireland and Britain by:- i) sending delegates to the Labour Movement Conference on Ireland, organized by the Labour Committee on Ireland and the Committee for Withdrawal from Ireland, which has as its theme: 'Ireland: Time for Tory Policies To Go'; ii) organizing an educational event along the lines of a day school, which would be open to all Trade Unionists in Nottingham & District, in early spring to encourage as much open debate on this question in the local Labour Movement as possible.

- ASTMS: TRENT BRANCH (FEB. '82).

RESOLUTION TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF TRADES COUNCILS, 1982.

This Council is totally opposed to the Tory anti-Trade Union legislation and proposals. We call on the T.U.C. to mount a campaign which shall include industrial action throughout the Trade Union movement. Militant support must be given by the T.U.C. and its affiliates to Unions or individual members of a Union, which fall foul of the Government in their fight against the legislation/laws.

- SECRETARY (FEB. '82), Forwarded to Nottinghamshire County Association of Trades Councils.

Health & Safety Focus

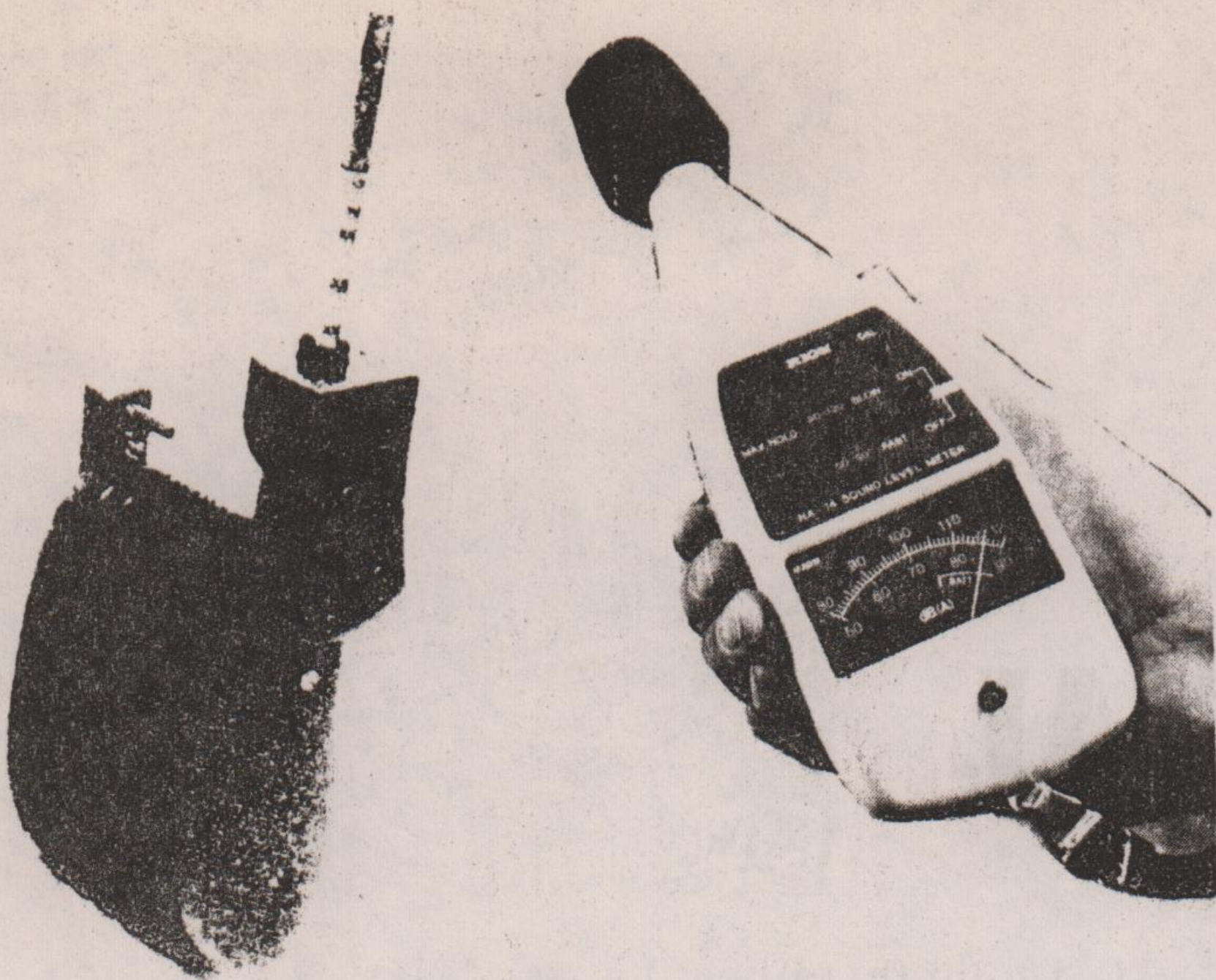
When the Greater Nottingham Action on Safety and Health (G.N.A.S.H.) group was set up in Nottingham by local trade unionists in 1979, it set out to make technical monitoring equipment available to local safety reps, and to set up a Hazards Information Service with a library of technical and legal material on Health & Safety at Work, as well as holding a series of discussion meetings.

The equipment and library were housed at 118, Mansfield Road and, as a result of declining participation in GNASH activities, 118 Workshop has continued to make these services available to local safety reps and anyone else interested in using these resources.

SO WHAT IS THERE?

Technical Monitoring Equipment.

SOUND LEVEL METER - To help to combat the most widespread and most underestimated cause of industrial incapacity - that of noise - we have a Sound Level Meter which is very easy to use, and has a measuring range of from 50 - 120dB(A) - A weighted decibels. It can be set to 'Fast' read out for normal usage, 'Slow' read out for situations where the noise level changes only slowly with time, and has a 'Maximum level hold' facility to monitor a maximum level of sound which lasts only for a short period of time.



DRAEGER MULTI-GAS DETECTOR - for the detection of toxic gases in industry. This consists of a simply designed bellows hand pump coupled to a glass tube containing a chemical reagent of which there is a choice of more than 100 different tubes for the most different gases and vapours. You first need to know what toxic gases you are attempting to monitor before the appropriate tube can be selected and attached to the pump, and its concentration measured.

With both these instruments, full instruction and advice is given to anyone who wants to use them.

Library.

In building up a reference library, we have got together as far as possible all the publications referred to in the TUC 10-day Health & Safety Courses, some of which are expensive to buy or difficult to obtain, so that local safety reps have a back-up resource when they get to put into practice in the workplace what they have learnt from their course.

Among the many items for your reference:-

- The Encyclopaedia of Occupational Health & Safety, published by the International Labour Organization - designed for all who are concerned with the protection of workers health, with articles classified in alphabetical order with a comprehensive index and cross references covering every potential safety hazard from Abbatoirs to Zoonoses

- Dangerous Properties of Industrial Materials by Irving Sax - a single source of concise hazard analysis of about 1500 common industrial and laboratory materials

- Health & Safety in Factories by Redgrave. This explains the actual practical implications of the provisions of the Health & Safety at Work Act by describing actual examples, case histories, court proceedings, industrial tribunals and judges rulings, etc. It also

offers clarification of such vague statements as 'so far as is reasonably practicable' and terms such as what constitutes 'a competent person' which are littered throughout the Act

- The Hazards of Work - How to Fight Them by Pat Kinnersly - physical and chemical hazards, industrial diseases, legal advice if an accident occurs, safety law, claiming benefits, directory of toxic substances and action to take in case of contact with them

- Work is Dangerous to Your Health - A Handbook of Health Hazards in the Workplace and What You Can Do About Them by Jeanne Stellman and Sue Daum

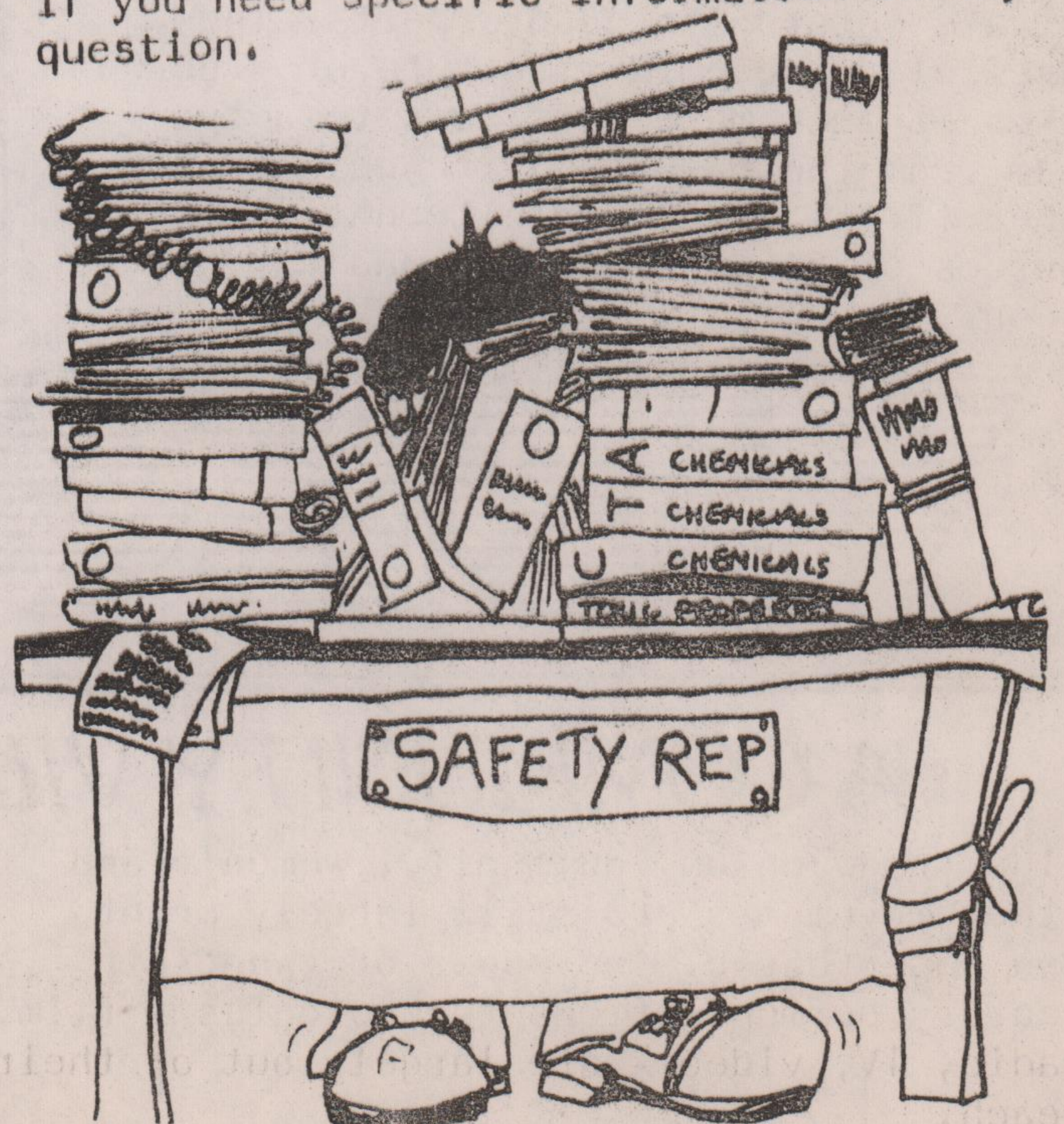
- Womens Work, Womens Health - Myths and Realities by Jeanne Stellman - the special points of physical and psychological strains in the environment in which women have to work

- Working For Your Life - A Womans Guide to Job Health Hazards by Hicko and Brunt

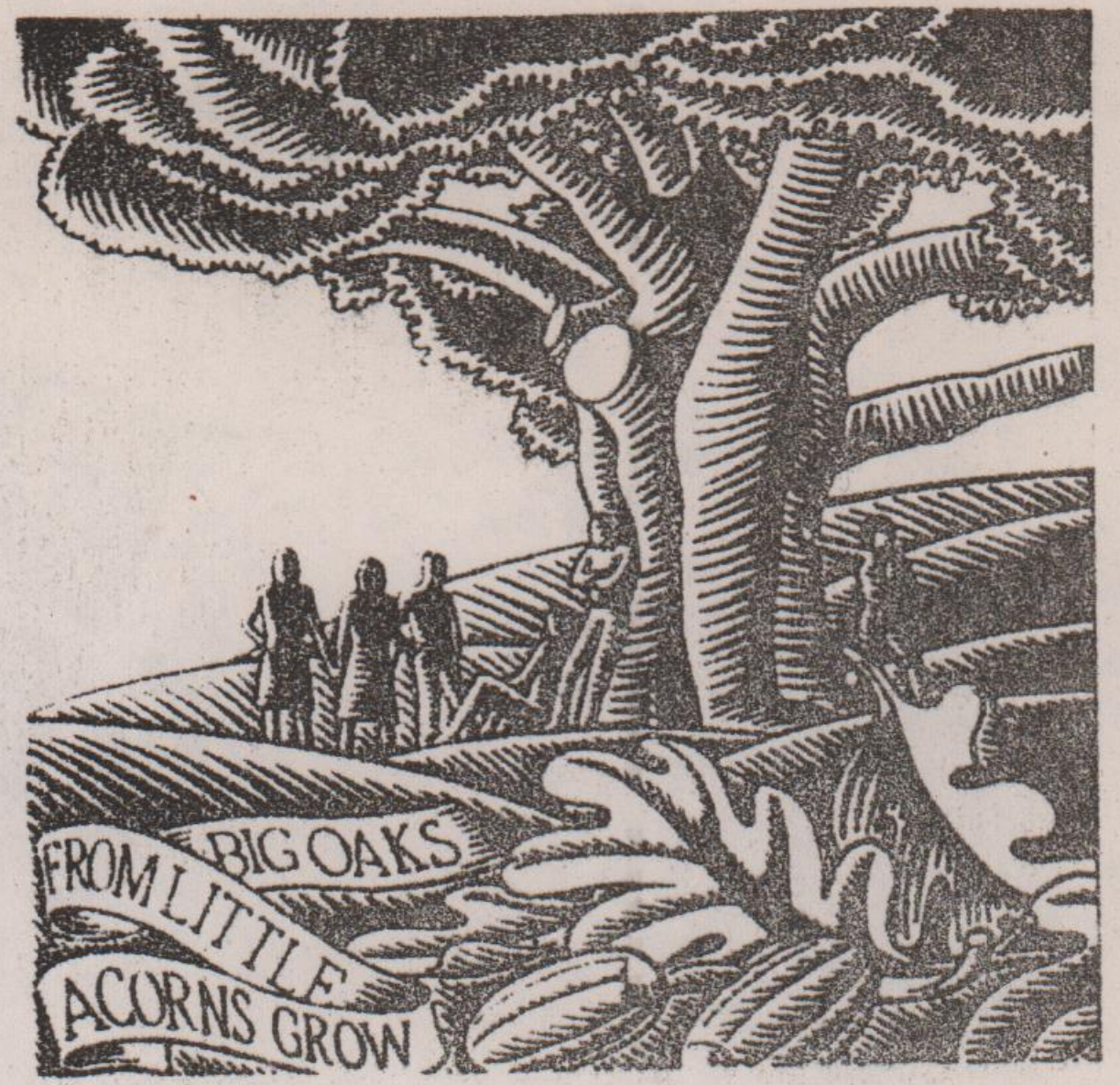
- Social Audit Pollution Handbook - How To Assess Environmental and Workplace Pollution by Frankel - information about toxic hazards occurring inside factories, in the outside air, in rivers and in drinking water

HAZARDS BULLETINS & HAZARDS GROUP PUBLICATIONS - Hazards Bulletin is the only safety periodical, produced for safety reps and trade unionists in the workplace and also covering health and safety issues as they affect local working communities, which is independent of the protective equipment manufacturers. Hazards Bulletin is available for sale or reference at 118.

The above represents a small fraction of the available material. Feel free to pop into 118, Mansfield Road to browse through the material, or to phone 582369 if you need specific information on any question.



INCREASING THE CO-OPERATIVE POTENTIAL



One of the most surprising facts to note in an economy in which firms are closing at an alarming rate is the rapid growth in the number of small co-operatives. Why is this? Partly it is due to private firms converting into co-operatives to save themselves from closure. Partly it is to do with the attraction of being able to control one's working life by equally sharing in benefits of running a co-operative enterprise. And partly it is the case that more and more of those unemployed are finding that the only alternative to the dole queue is to pool their skills and resources and form a co-operative.

Whatever the reason may be for forming a small co-operative, in most cases this represents a desirable and useful alternative to the usual situation of an employer controlling and exploiting the working lives of his own employees; whilst at the same time small co-operatives provide a valuable means of combatting the present level of high unemployment.

CO-OPERATIVES IN NOTTINGHAM.

Most of the co-operatives in the Nottingham area are concerned to maintain the co-op alternative, but unfortunately they are more vulnerable than their private enterprise counterparts. The particular economic structure of a co-op makes it much more difficult to get a loan from the bank than it would be for other firms. And other alternative sources of finance are few and far between.

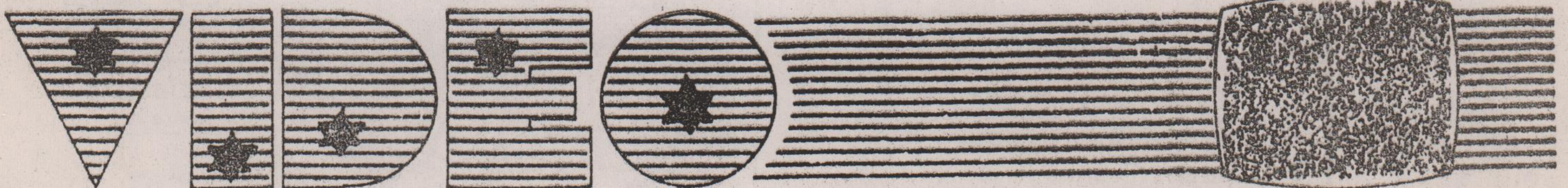
It is heartening to see that there are small co-ops in Nottingham, but these too are coming under increasing pressure from the general recession. Most definitely co-ops need to fully exploit more sources of finance, but more immediately they need to fully exploit the possibilities which are presently open to them.

It is to this end that 118 Workshop decided to compile an index for small co-operatives.. The index covers the possible sources of finance for small co-ops plus a list of individuals and institutions who would be willing to give help and advice on co-ops and business matters.

Finally it will contain a list of books and pamphlets which would be of interest to all forms of co-operatives. In short, not only will the index serve as a reference for existing small co-ops, it will also be useful to those starting up their own co-op, saving them the inconvenience and unnecessary dangers of 'learning from experience'.

Difficulties apart, the future holds more promise for some of those wishing to form their own small co-op. The County Council are presently considering the formation of a local 'Co-operative Development Agency' which will provide an important additional source of finance. And, in its own way, the index itself may make its contribution to the cause of small co-operatives in Nottingham.

Vaughn Colley.



A COMMUNITY VIDEO EXPERIMENT

The trade union, community, women's and other movements are still largely print and paper based. The power of twentieth century communications technologies - film, radio, TV, video - are largely out of their reach.

There are a few toe holds to be sure - where smaller resources and less time is required - but by and large activists do not, because they cannot - think further than the offset or duplicator.

HOW TO DEAL WITH THIS.

On the one level, big institutional changes in the structure and constitutions of broadcasting corporations are necessary to facilitate an input of programmes produced from - and directly expressing the views of - movements and groups.

At the moment it seems as if the Fourth Channel may give some limited scope for this. But will the Channel, due to start in the autumn of this year, slide towards programmes to please the advertisers? - an interested group and ideological viewpoint that has not had a problem of access!

If, optimistically, the Fourth Channel provides an outlet, will 'progressive movements' at the base of society, come up with the things to show? From what I learned at a recent Independent Film - Makers Association meeting, it looks as if programmes from the trade union movement for the Fourth Channel are thin on the ground.

But then would you expect any different? To decide you want to make a programme when you have a starting point of no knowledge of how to do so, no money and little time, is rash to say the least.

MAKING RESOURCES AVAILABLE.

At 118 Workshop we have begun to think about these problems. From the point of view of a resource centre that advises groups in doing other projects - e.g. writing, layout and production of community papers - our experience is that you need people paid to give support, advice and knowledge in the whole process of producing, say, the community paper, and doing things that members of groups are familiar with. Then you need accessible equipment, money and plenty of time.

In making a TV programme, or a film, the problems for groups with no experience

look the same - except that they are several times more difficult whether in terms of expertise required, time or money.

And trying to put in an application to the Fourth Channel and then seeing it through is very difficult without knowledge, equipment and time.

You get back to the need for workers, attached to resource centres or film workshops having a living relationship to grass roots organizations or activity, and adequately equipped technically to work through their organizations in assisting and encouraging groups in the use of film/video for non-broadcast and broadcast use. This would lead to the spread of experience and self-confidence necessary to start getting things coming up from the base of the labour and community movements.

WHAT WE'RE DOING IN NOTTINGHAM.

We are thinking in terms of organizing video facilities in concert with other groups in Nottingham which are resource centres in some sense. This would entail providing equipment which is appropriate to the needs of groups; building up a video tape library resource, and lists of where other equipment and information are available; providing courses of instruction and/or assistance in the use of video material and projects; and developing video in a variety of ways appropriate to groups' needs.

Initially, use of this facility by groups would be for non-broadcast use - but hopefully, such a resource could get groups thinking more ambitiously of producing material for broadcast.

If you are interested in more information about this initiative, please contact the Workshop at 118, Mansfield Road.

Brian Davey.

NEW TECHNOLOGY DOWN THE LINE

-B.R.'s JOB SHUNT

The flexi-rostering dispute has focussed much attention on the railways. Recently 118 Workshop has been researching changes on the railways particularly associated with New Technology. This article looks at this research and places it in context.

'DIVIDING OF THE WAYS'.

About a year ago British Rail (BR) put

out a document on rail policy claiming it had reached a 'dividing of the ways' - a decision would have to be made whether BR would re-equip and modernize, or go for a gradual rundown in the rail system. The age of rolling stock, equipment, track, etc. made such a decision necessary almost immediately. Either course would have profound effects for railway workers since changed work practices and job loss would be associated with both.

Predictably the Tory Government have not favoured blanket approval to a large investment plan of electrification and modernization. They want to give approval for schemes on a piecemeal basis where profitability can be proved, and with proof for each scheme that the trade unions have been made to accept changes that increase productivity. This is the context in which microelectronic applications are likely to be introduced - not so much in a grand reorganization but in a piecemeal patching up of a running down system - with new technology as a way of controlling and cutting labour costs.

THE POINTS OF IMPACT.

The scope for introducing microelectronics into the railways is enormous though one cannot say as yet which applications will be followed up. Already there is computerization, the use of fibre optics and radio remote control in signalling, reducing the number of signal workers and changing markedly their work environment. Track maintenance already uses computerized equipment. Rail workshops are getting in computerized equipment like Computer Numerical Controlled Machine Tools and overall planning and control of work by computer - robots for paintwork, automatic equipment for tracing faults, etc.

There are moves to automatic and remote control of engines and trains - starting with shunting and freight trains - in particular, merry-go-round coal trains to power stations. In the stations, automatic information, ticket issue and collection, and parcel collection and delivery are all possible. Microelectronics is already being used in the T.O.P.S. (Total Operations Processing System) which carries information on every freight wagon and its movement - enabling the arrangement of wagons, information on where goods are, the working out of timetables and staff rosters. This in no sense exhausts the list.

WHAT KIND OF FUTURE?

BR would like to present all this as part of an exciting electric and electronic future but for rail workers it has many implications. One would be the loss of jobs. The BR Corporate Plan for 1981-85 envisaged a job loss of 29,000. Not all of this would have been through new technology but new technology related job loss would be an important component. Then again, the flexibility required in rostering is part of a more general flexibility.

One BR publication claims for example that with microelectronics used in the signalling system: "Huge areas would come under the control of one man, who would be

able to monitor at the touch of a button movements taking place perhaps hundreds of miles away from him". This clearly means not only a lot of redundancy for other signal workers but a lot of responsibility for a lot of people's safety - and raises the issue of whether this work would be stressed not unlike, perhaps, the work of air traffic controllers.

NEW TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENTS.

In looking to responses, a number of NUR branches have put forward a resolution on New Technology agreements to the next NUR Annual Conference, calling for the process of introduction of new technology to be subject to negotiation. While principles for new technology agreements can be laid down, it's usually not a good idea to make timeless general agreements for all parts of an industry like the railways. Numbers of more specific agreements about particular workers and processes need to be made. Proposals are also being made for more educational work in the union on new technology, and bargaining over it.

RAIL ELECTRONICS

What it means for Railway Workers.



A Pamphlet
by

118 WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 1981.

WORKERS AND USERS ALTERNATIVES.

118 Workshop's pamphlet on Rail Electronics speculates on whether it would be possible to develop a Workers and Users Alternative Plan for the railways, where workers begin to put forward for negotiation new ideas of their own based on close study of management plans, their own work environment and social needs. It may be, perhaps, that the health and safety and stress aspects of new work methods are a better starting point for trade

union action involving the membership than the number of jobs. This would require systematic work, looking at the content of people's jobs and how it affects their lives.

Undoubtedly the coming months and years are going to keep attention focussed on the railways and it will be difficult not to respond simply in an ad hoc fashion to events as they arise. Hopefully more detailed research and educational work on new technology and related topics will provide a longer term view around which future strategy might be worked out.

Brian Davey.

Community Technology

The advent of the micro-chip new technology is having and will continue to have far-reaching implications. While there are totally justifiable widespread fears about the consequences for employment, at the same time there have opened up boundless opportunities for it to be put to socially useful purposes with benefit to vast numbers of working people - if it is controlled in such a way as to bring about this benefit, and not merely used in the pursuit of private profit.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WITH N.T.!

An experiment taking place in Cardiff has attracted considerable attention, not least that of community activists in Nottingham. Three Citizens Advice Bureaus in that city are using an American mini-computer (cost £2,500) which can examine 40 different types of benefit payment, to provide a simple explanation of the benefit entitlements of claimants. After interview, the claimant leaves the bureau with a computerised print-out of her/his entitlements which can be presented to the local social security office. It is thought a national scheme could cost the DHSS tens of millions of pounds in benefits which have hitherto been unclaimed.

This initiative, and the general debate taking place, has prompted people around 118 Workshop and the Inner City Executive to consider how New Technology (NT) could be exploited by the voluntary sector; by community groups; and by trade unions - how they could control it to ensure that NT is applied in socially useful, rather than socially destructive, ways.

PIE IN THE SKY?

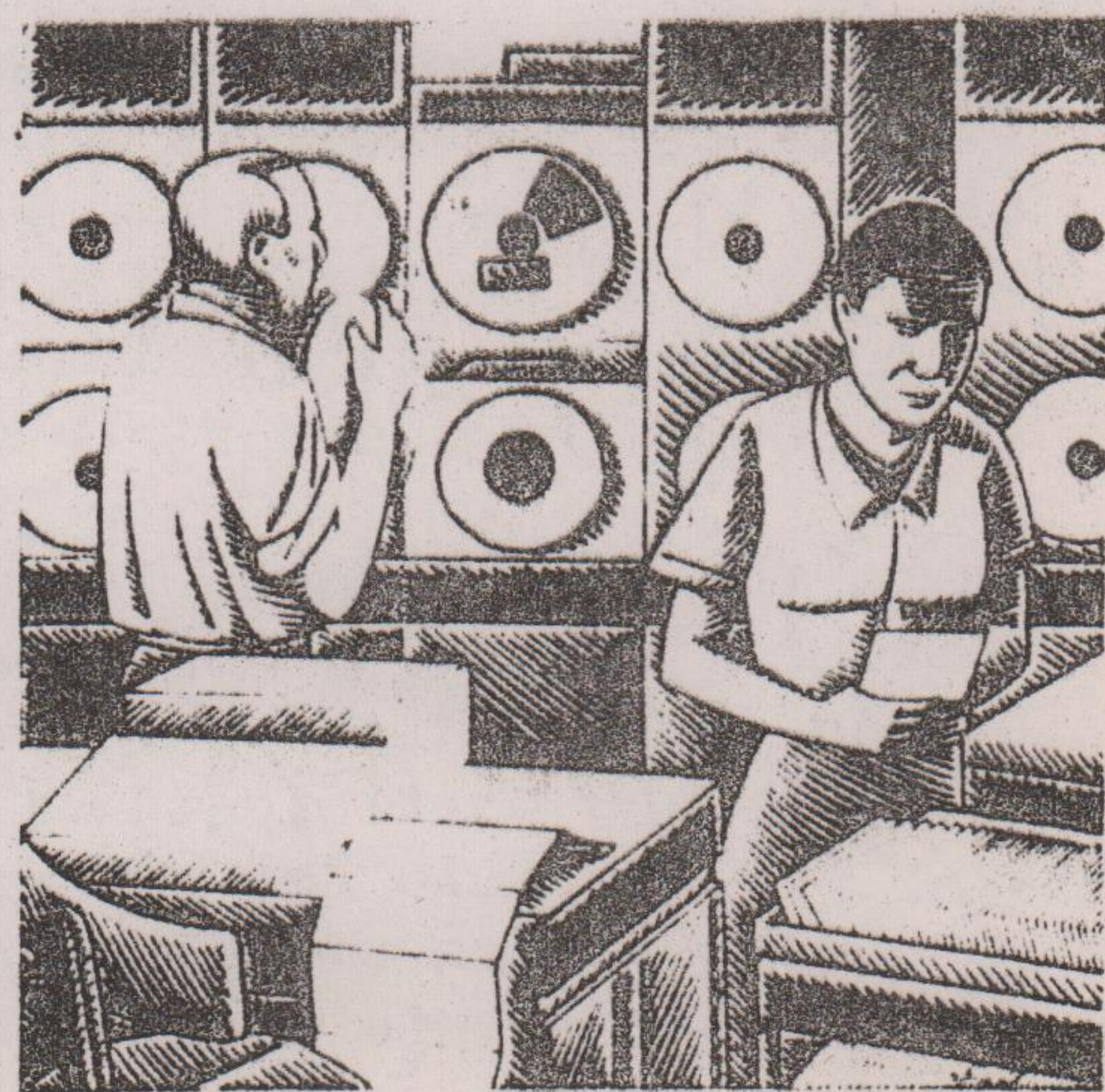
That such thinking is not at all pie in the sky is due to 4 important characteristics of the new micro computers - they are fast; they are extremely cheap - a system capable of handling the wages and accounts for an organization employing 30 people would cost less than £200; they are highly portable - the system referred to above would fit in a shoebox and use a domestic TV and cassette player; and they are very flexible, and more complex systems can be built up from the basic computer.

POSSIBILITIES PROJECTED:

What is being considered is a project which would explore with voluntary and community groups and trade unions, the USES of computer technology RELEVANT TO THOSE GROUPS.

There are various possible uses:-

- the availability of a word processor could free staff to do other work (NOT to be made redundant - if the project serviced a group with paid staff whose jobs would be affected, it could be ensured that the equipment was only made available subject to the adoption of a New Technology Agreement on working conditions, etc.)
- as an aid to advisors in Welfare Rights Work - this could be extended, and the areas of legislation covered increased e.g. housing and immigration computer programmes
- mailing list production, subscription renewal reminders, etc.
- survey and questionnaire analysis
- accounting, book-keeping, wages
- information retrieval
- indexing of community libraries e.g. 118 Workshop's
- holding grant and charitable trust information.



And in the trade union field, computers could help unionists assess the implications of the introduction of NT in their

workplace, and could help them develop bargaining positions around New Technology Agreements.

In a sense, a resource such as this is no different from the resources such as a photocopier, duplicator, library, etc. that centres like 118 Workshop already offer (except that micro computers are more portable than 118, Mansfield Road!).

EDUCATION IN N.T. —————

In addition to providing a practical resource to groups, such a project could organize a series of educational courses aimed at those groups which normally would not have access to NT, in particular the disabled, ethnic groups, women and other groups. Courses could include the implications of NT for trade unionists; practical, socially useful applications of NT and Alternative Technology; future development of technology and its effects and social implications; Basic Programming; teaching of keyboard literacy; and others.

Educational work such as this would also give back up to centres like 118 Workshop in its promotion of initiatives like the Lucas shop stewards alternative plan - and would link in to investigating the possibility of local, small scale applications of New and Alternative Technology to socially useful projects, as the use and awareness of the capabilities of computers spreads in local communities and workplaces.

An example of the kind of thing possible is a pump designed by the Lucas shop stewards with the Centre for Alternative Industrial and Technological Systems to

remove condensation from the air - this would be of obvious benefit to residents of condensation prone local authority housing, and would go a long way towards helping tenants groups meet their objectives of better, healthier housing.

BRINGING TOGETHER NEEDS AND SKILLS. —————

The close links such a project could build through offering a resource facility to community groups and to trade unions will assist the work of developing socially useful products, as it would provide a channel for bringing together the community groups with specific needs (e.g. the condensation pump) with the people who have the skills to develop the products to meet these needs.

In other parts of the country, the work of the Nottingdale Technology Centre in London has led to the establishment of a small independent co-operative employing ex-YOP workers from the centre to produce electronic aids for the disabled. A different example would be the far-reaching proposals of the Lucas Shop Stewards Combine Committee which, if implemented, would both save existing jobs and create new ones.

The potential benefits of a New Technology Project in Nottingham are considerable both in terms of production of socially useful goods; and in actual employment created.

If you are interested in further information about these discussions, please contact 118 Workshop.

THE RIOTS INQUIRY 118 WORKSHOP'S ROLE

The outbreak of civil disturbances across the country last summer produced predictable calls for increased police equipment and technology, increased police powers, increased police - in short, a clamour for a "law and order solution", if solution is in any sense the appropriate word.

In response to the disturbances locally and the subsequent reaction, the Trades Council invited 11 separate local organizations to sponsor and participate with it in an inquiry process into the background causes of the disturbances. The object was to discover and investigate these with a view to putting forward appropriate policy proposals, which would have the support of the organizations involved in the inquiry process, and which would subsequently be campaigned for.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE WERE:-

1. To investigate the social consequences of unemployment, housing conditions, and the level and nature of the provision of community facilities, to determine whether they contributed in any way to the events.
2. To investigate the relations between police and young people, in particular young black people, and to investigate the activity, attitudes and organization of the police force.
3. To investigate the social position and views of young people; and to investigate the ways in which they relate to the wider society and their reaction to the riots.
4. To investigate racism in our society and the activities of ultra-right and fascist groups.

5. To investigate the aftermath of the disturbances, and to inquire what changes have occurred since and what their effect has been; and to investigate how the disturbances and subsequent developments have been portrayed by the media.

6. To make recommendations for action to deal with the causes of the disturbances and to put forward positive action which can be undertaken by the trade union, community, black peoples and progressive movements.

It was decided to fulfil these Terms by means of a questionnaire survey in local areas affected by the disturbances; inviting local organizations to submit evidence; public sessions; informal interviews with young people; and literary research.

In practice, the burden of the inquiry process has fallen on 118 Workshop, which was in any case providing administrative and research support, due to both a lack of financial resources and of active support from the sponsoring organizations.

In the event, what has been achieved so far is a random questionnaire sample of Hyson Green residents; and literary research by various people which has led to a series of papers on particular aspects of the disturbances.

It is hoped that the information gathered to date will be pulled together in the near future to be distributed to the sponsoring organizations, to provoke further discussion and action as to how the issues should be taken up.

I.B.J.

118 WORKSHOP LIBRARY

At all levels union members are in need of information more than ever before. However, public libraries have not shown themselves able to meet union information needs in the same way that the major public libraries have been built up with commercial users in mind.

Although many unions have a research department, lack of staff means that the spread of information doesn't reach key officials and rank and file members. And in Britain there is more reliance on unpaid representatives, such as shop stewards, and less dependence on paid officials than in any other European country.

This has caused many people, including in the library profession, to ask whether Library Services to Trade Unionists have been ignored or forgotten.

Of course, community groups have less resources than trade unionists to call on.

The aim of the Library is to build up an information bank which would not be available elsewhere for reference purposes. For instance, there is a range of material available from pressure groups and information services like the Low Pay Unit, Counter Information Services, Social Audit, Labour Research Department, and the WEA Service Centre for Social Studies, which we are bringing together.

We are also bringing together the publications of other research and resource centres which have come into being as part of the demand for information. Also all the stuff we review in this Bulletin becomes part of the Reference Library.

We are especially concentrating on stocking relevant pamphlets as many libraries are still unwilling to stock material in pamphlet form. These are often more use than full scale works and often too, they are all that a labour movement organisation can afford to produce.

EMPLOYMENT: legislation; wages and conditions; trends; unemployment.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

ENVIRONMENT

INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

LOCAL ECONOMY

PUBLIC SERVICES AND EXPENDITURE: cuts in public expenditure and the social wage; provision for Education, Elderly, Health, Transport, Under Fives etc.

HOUSING

RIGHTS

WOMEN

RACE

Traditionally, the labour movement has recognised the importance of education and access to information. Many union banners carry the slogan "Knowledge is power" and certainly it suits employers for union members to be left in the dark.

Hopefully, the 118 Library will become an important tool of the labour movement in Nottingham.

For further information on opening times, content etc. please drop in or phone Nottm 582369

I.B.J.

118 REFERENCE LIBRARY

This yawning gap has been recognised by 118 Management Committee and a REFERENCE LIBRARY is now being built up in the Centre.

CATEGORIES STOCKED

The Library is being organised under a number of categories of information on the following subjects:

SUBSCRIBE TO NOTTINGHAM BULLETIN

12 MONTHS (6 ISSUES) £2

NAME

ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION

Cheques, P.O.'s and Money Orders should be made payable to the Nottingham Bulletin Co-ordinating Committee. Complete and return to Nottingham Bulletin, 118, Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

SOCIALIST HEALTH ASSOC.

- E. MIDLANDS BRANCH FORMED

The formation of an East Midlands Branch of the Socialist Health Association was long overdue. It will provide an opportunity for people in our part of the Midlands to play an active role rather than be merely attached to the West Midlands organization, with all the problems of geography and lack of regional identity, as was the position hitherto.

AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Amongst the aims of the Association (known previously as the Socialist Medical Association) are included:-

"To work for a fully socialised, free, and comprehensive National Health Service, both preventive and curative, of the highest possible standard for the community.

"To secure for the people the highest possible standard of health; to enlist the support of the Labour, Socialist, Trade Union and Co-operative Movements in attaining this object.

"To disseminate the principles of socialism within the medical and allied services.

"To assist in the return of socialist members of such services to Parliament and to Local Government Authorities.

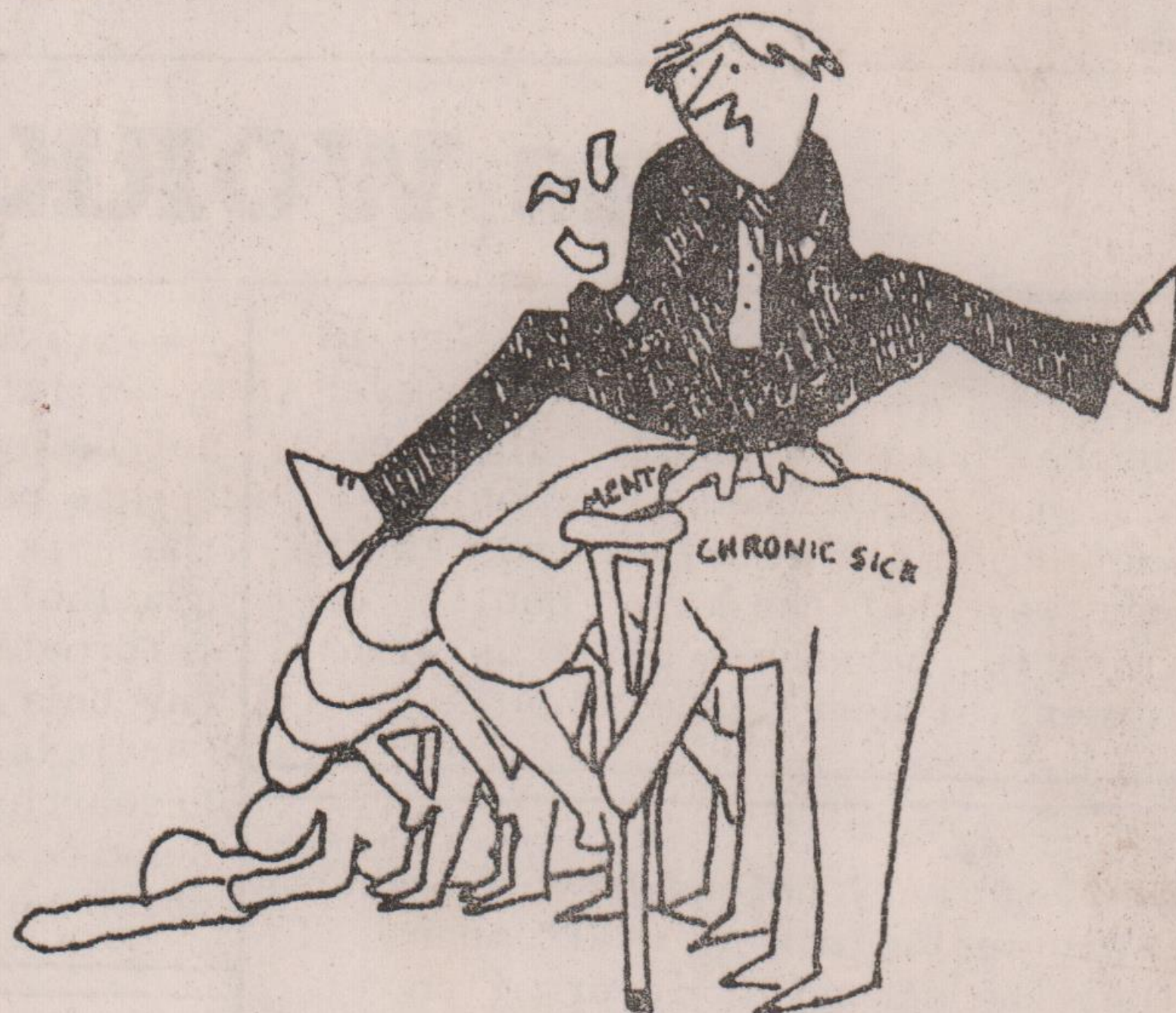
If there still exists any doubt as to the ideals of the Socialist Health Assn., included in its Constitution is Clause 4 of the Labour Party.

AFFILIATIONS.

The East Midlands Branch already has some 50 individuals and organizations affiliated, and at recent meetings, both the Regional T.U.C. and Regional Labour Party agreed to affiliate, and to recommend to their respective constituencies that affiliation be sought.

CAMPAIGNING.

There has never been a greater need than at present for a strong and campaigning body to be established, promoting the need for a democratic and free National Health Service. The Government is considering charging hospital patients for food and lodgings, encouraging people to opt out of paying the N.H.S. part of taxes, and attempting to force employers to provide private health insurance. The affect will be to create a two-tiered level of service, with inferior care for those who cannot pay extra.



We witness the development of private hospitals throughout our region, and in Leicestershire the proposed sale of a hospital with strong evidence pointing to the possibility of its purchase by a consortium to convert into a private hospital.

Those who are concerned at the proposals of the present Government should not only support the aims of the Socialist Health Association, but affiliate and actively participate in its business.

Details can be obtained from:-

N.R. Wright, Divisional Officer, National Union of Public Employees, 6, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. (TEL: 603522).





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