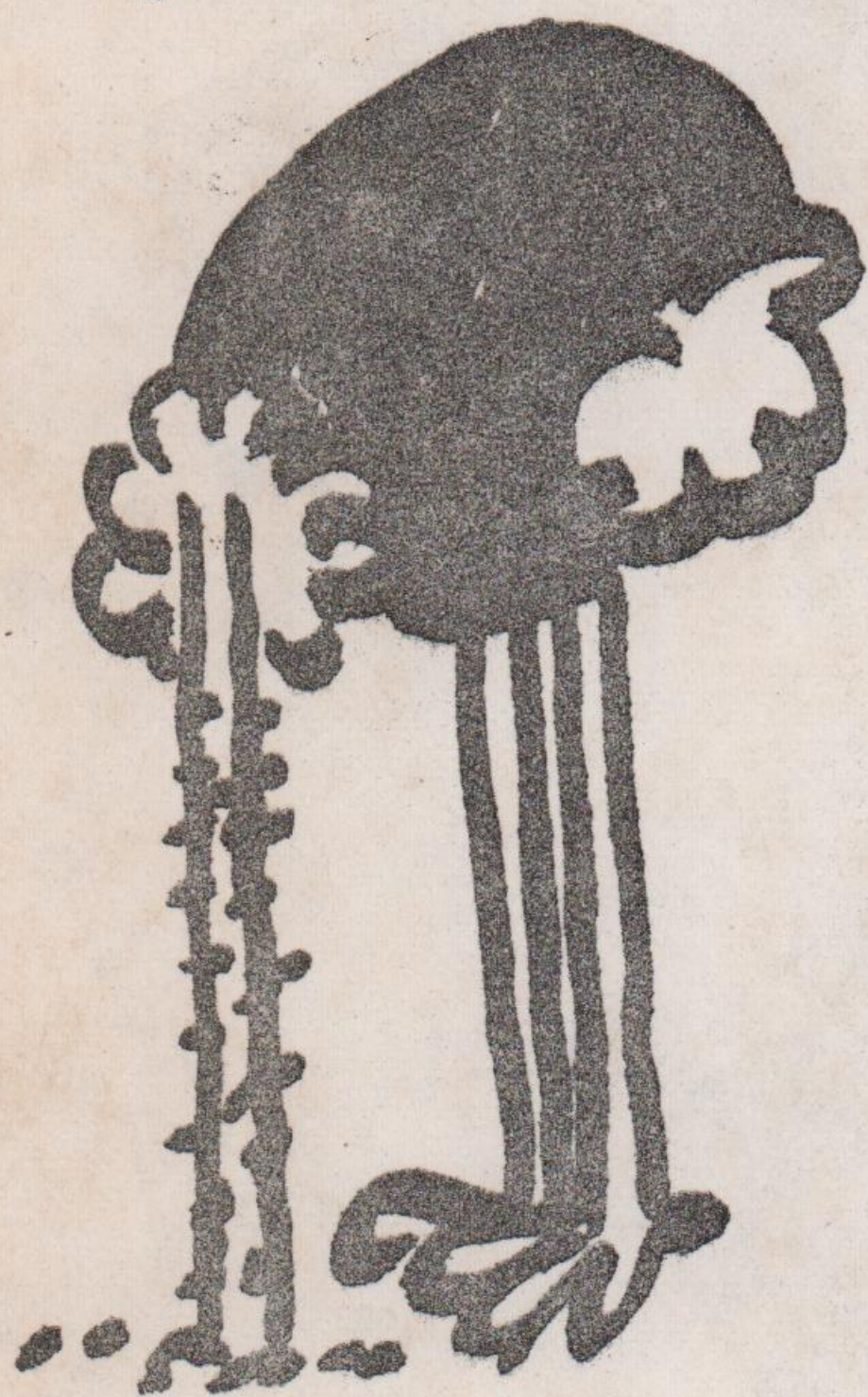


IF YOU DON'T.....



FREE

YOU?



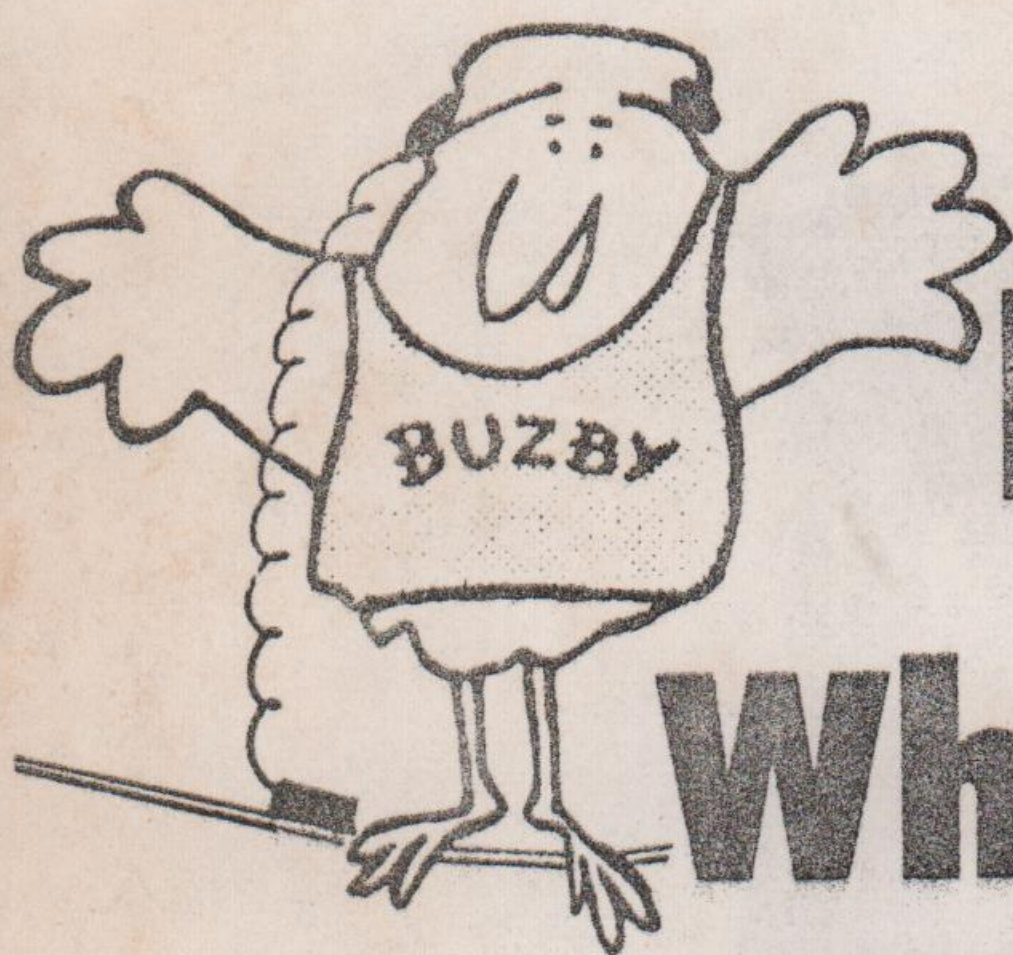
IF YOU DON'T HIT IT...
...IT WON'T FALL



c/o 15, SCOTHOLME AVENUE, HYSON GREEN, NOTTINGHAM
TEL 708302

WE TRY TO AGITATE, EDUCATE, & HELP ORGANIZE TOWARDS REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE AND TO THIS END WE WELCOME ALL ARTICLES, NOTICE OF MEETINGS, PICKETS ETC., LETTERS & INSULTS. THOUGH WE MAY NOT PRINT THEM, THEY'LL STAND A BETTER CHANCE IF TYPED (OR READABLY WRITTEN) ON A4 PAPER. GRAPHICS SPECIALLY WELCOMED. A COUPLE OF THINGS HAVE BEEN LEFT OUT OF THIS ISSUE. BECAUSE OF THE LONG GAP SINCE THE LAST ONE, THEY WERE CONSIDERED OUT OF DATE. PLEASE DON'T BE OFFENDED.

FOR "IF YOU DON'T . . ." TO CONTINUE WHAT IS REALLY NEEDED IS SOME MORE PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION TO TAKE OVER FROM US WHO ARE STAGNATING. IF YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO OFFER, OR WOULD LIKE TO LEARN, PLEASE CONTACT US.



Buzby says:

Who's tapping YOUR phone?



This Conference resolves:

1. To oppose the implementation of the 'Criminal Trespass Law' (Part 2 of the Criminal Law Act 1977); to demand its immediate repeal; and to call on all organisations of the broad working class movement to oppose this law and to commit themselves to mobilisation in support of those threatened by its provisions, and in support of those against whom there is any attempt to use the law.

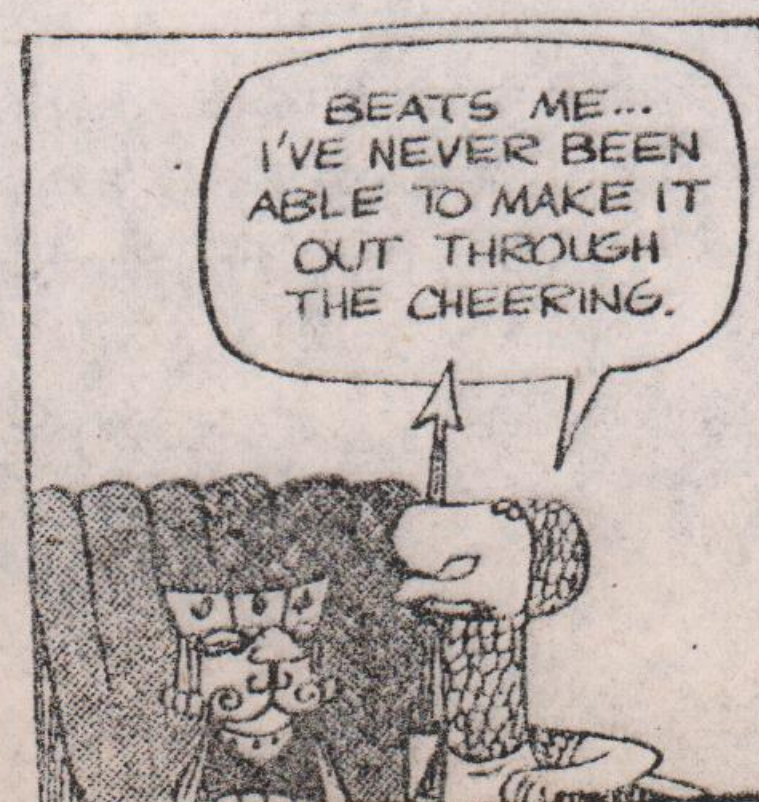
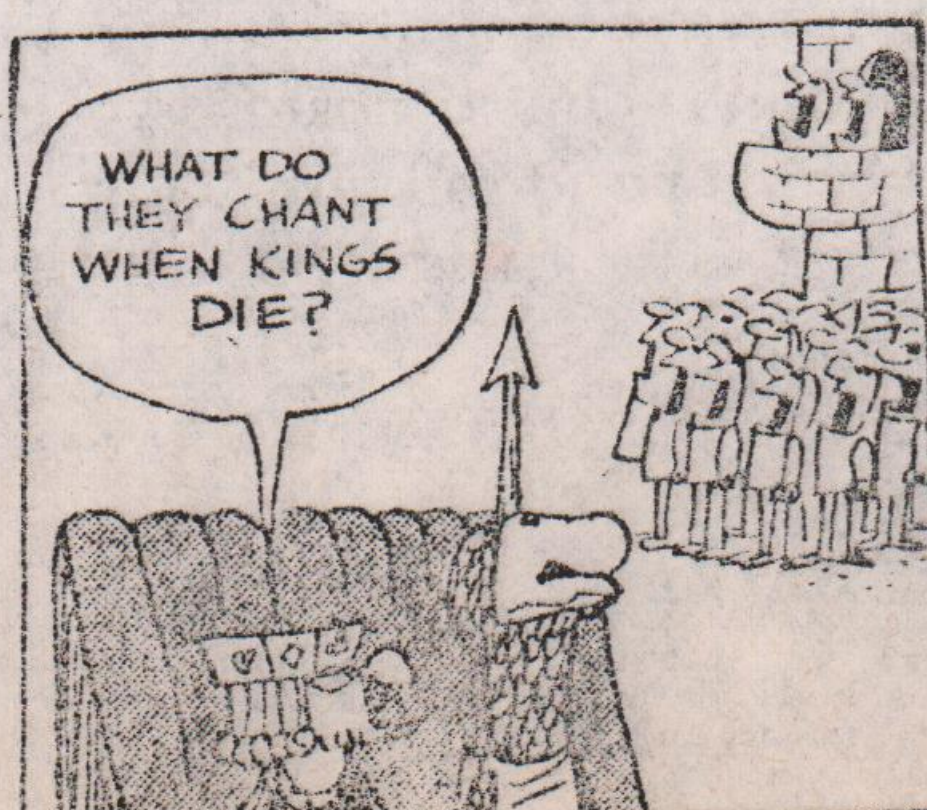
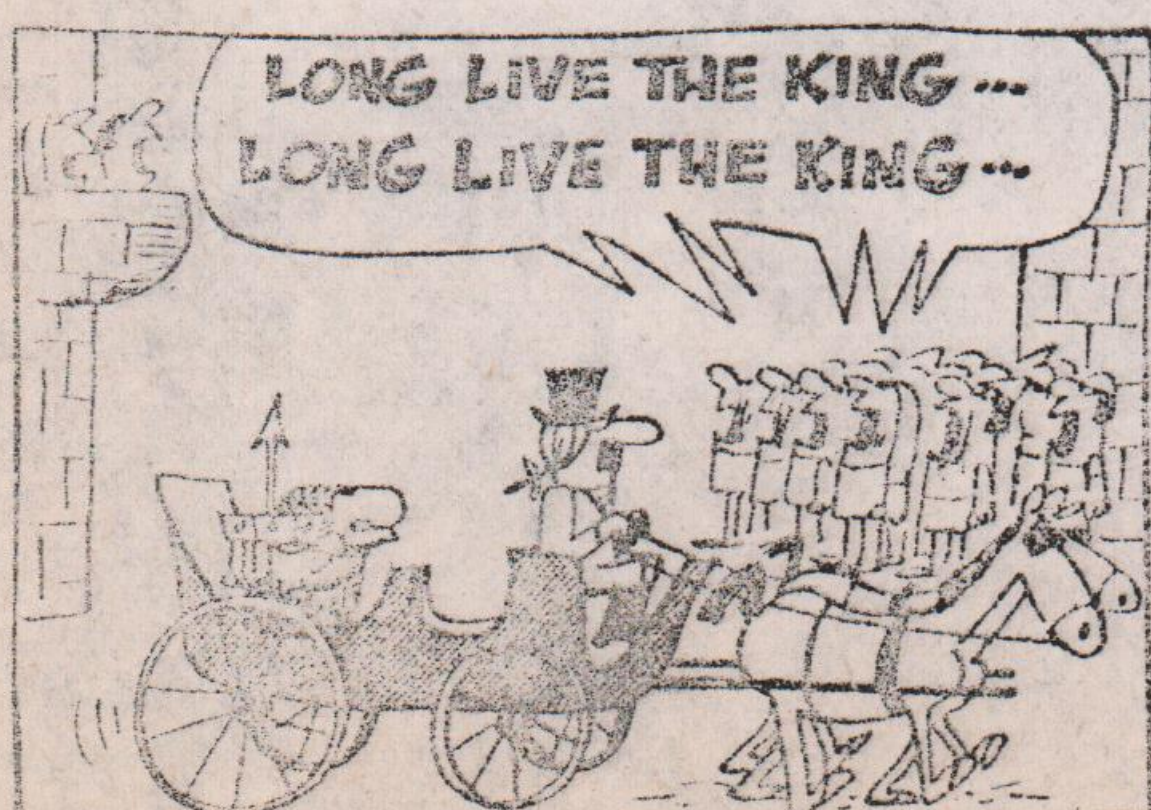
2. To work actively at local level to build and maintain positive links between those at work, in the community and at college, in order to ensure the concerted action of all working class organisations not only in response to the law but also to prevent its implementation, by giving practical support to occupations initiated by any section of the movement.

3a. This Conference calls on the TUC and the national executive of all trade unions and the Labour Party to campaign actively against the use of the law and for its immediate repeal, and to commit themselves to mobilisation in support of those threatened or attacked by its provisions and muster broad-based opposition to it.

3b. This conference calls on Trades Councils, as a focus of working class organisation at local level, to establish at short notice support for occupations of all kinds that occur; to mobilise in their defence where necessary and mobilise against any use of the 'Criminal Trespass Law'; and to ensure broad-based support for those in struggle; to encourage discussion in all local organisations to prepare for the need to mobilise; and to ensure that those using the tactic of occupation are advised of their legal position and if possible that they are put in touch with others who have had experience of using the tactic in the past.

4. To call on all public bodies - such as Councils, Area Health Authorities, Housing Associations, etc - and all trade union branches whose members are employed by them, to adopt a policy of refusal to implement any of the provisions of Part 2 of the Criminal Law Act 1977.

5. To call on all trade union, labour, community and student organisations, to give practical and financial support to the Campaign Against a Criminal Trespass Law (CACTL), in order that the work of the Campaign may continue; to build a source of information, legal advice and active support for those considering occupying; and to ensure, should the need arise in response to calls for support from an occupation or squat threatened or attacked under this law, that there is co-ordination at a national level.





CAMPAIGN AGAINST A

CRIMINAL TRESPASS LAW

The following resolution was passed by the national conference "Occupations and Criminal Trespass" on November 26th & 27th at the Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham, organised by the Campaign Against A Criminal Trespass Law (CACTL). Since the Criminal Trespass proposals became law there has been only one prosecution (for obstructing a Bailiff) and that has not yet reached court. The danger is that without the focus presented by its parliamentary passage the

Criminal Trespass Law will be allowed to fade into the background. Until, that is, it is needed by the state during the next wave of factory occupations when the union bureaucracy is no longer able (or willing) to hold its rank and file in check (probably coinciding with a Tory victory in the next election). CACTL is determined to keep up the pressure to keep the implications of this Act to the fore, to demand the repeal of the law and to fight it wherever and whenever it is implemented. For details of the actual terms of the Act contact "If you don't . . ." The text of the resolution is:

This Conference notes:

1. That over the last few years there has been an increase in the intervention of the criminal law, the police and the courts against the working class movement, through the raking-up of old laws, through judges' reinterpretations of existing law, and through the introduction of new laws; and that these developments have been backed up by the strengthening of the police and security forces in a general move towards a strong state.
2. That law is made, interpreted and enforced by the ruling class to back up its anti-working class policies and defend its property and profits; and that the law is used not only to attack the ability of the working class to organise, but also to create divisions within the class by criminalising certain sections or certain actions and by feeding and stirring up prejudices, in order to confuse the real nature and purpose of law and make it easier to label militant action in defence of working class interests as 'criminal'.
3. That occupations, which includes sit-ins, work-ins and squatting, have proved to be valuable and necessary tactics in the fight against unemployment, against public spending cuts, against wage controls and homelessness, in pressing for demands for badly needed public facilities, and in many other campaigns taken up by our movement.
4. That occupations of all kinds, as outlined above, have been successful where internal organisation has been strong and where active support has been forthcoming from workplaces and the community; and that in the face of the 'Criminal Trespass Law', this broad based support is even more crucial than ever before to the success of all kinds of occupations.

This Conference believes:

That the defeat of this law will have to be achieved by the united mobilisation of the broad working class movement to prevent its implementation.

CONT. →

GETTING A GOOD CLAIMANTS UNION GOING.....AND GROWING!

These points are to fill out the agenda for the public meeting.

WHAT'S A CLAIMANTS UNION ALL ABOUT?

CLAIMANTS UNIONS are groups of people on social security who have got together to help each other and fight collectively around the four demands of the.....

CLAIMANTS CHARTER

1. The right to an adequate income without means test for all people.
2. A socialist society in which all necessities are provided free and which is managed and controlled directly by the people.
3. No secrets and the right to full information.
4. No distinction between so-called 'deserving' and 'un-deserving'.

These nationally accepted principles should be seen as a start. Others which have been suggested are listed below.

WHY A CLAIMANTS UNION?

- * because you don't get anything unless you organise and fight for it and because there's millions of pensioners, unemployed, school-leavers, families, single people and single parents and more dependent on DHSS
- * because there's now the highest unemployment since the 1930s with cutbacks everyone poor is poorer with inflation prices move up, incomes don't work in the home, including housework, is harder

+ + + + +

HOW SHOULD A CLAIMANTS UNION WORK?

Tonight's meeting should start discussion of how to run a Claimants Union

BUILDING UP AN ACTIVE AND EFFECTIVE MOVEMENT.....THAT'S NOT ISOLATED

- * a mass movement with as much support from claimants as possible
- * That's capable of winning claims and wider issues
- * where people support each other in the DHSS office and on home visits
- * but also gain support from other working class people (trade Unionists etc)

HOW CAN THIS BE DONE?

CLAIMANTS UNION MEETINGS

Regular meetings where information is shared, forces are combined. No experts. Undo feelings of shame about claiming, try and break down isolation. Following meetings by going to the offices and supporting each other, taking whatever steps seem best. Have membership cards. All policy decided at these meetings, democratically. Have meetings in the day to make it easier for women with kids.

BRINGING CLAIMANTS TOGETHER

Starting off with a small group of activists, how can we get things going and grwing? Some suggestions.

- i Unemployed - leaflet labour exchanges, bring up issues like: 6 week suspension of benefit if you leave a job willingly
- ii Women (also single parents) - many women don't claim (why?), launch campaigns on Sex Snoopers and Head of Household rule.
- iii Pensioners - have been needed by two generations of kids or to risk your life in the war or down a pit, suddenly you're no longer needed, pushed out, forgotten, underpaid. Some pensioners have shown they are prepared to fight
- iv Immigrants - 'invited' to UK by Employers and Government to be cheap labour, when usefulness is over immigrants are used as scapegoats, called Scroungers. Too many white claimants say 'If only I had a black face I could get DHSS'

- v School leavers - with high unemployment the choice for them is even worse than usual, bad job or no job. Low income either way. You get demoralised at work and unemployed. Leaflet schools in May?
- vi All claimants - have problems in common. Should we be launching well-run campaigns over issues such as: DHSS Disc ; Refusing to pay grants and instead insisting on savings. Should we be organising pickets? Deciding where energies could best go would have to be discussed meeting by meeting. Should we regularly leaflet DHSS offices? Post Offices? Flyposting?

A WIDER MOVEMENT

In these difficult times, any group like claimants who don't find common cause with other working class people (like miners or housewives) are almost certain to be picked off and defeated. So, we'll need to get and give support. Who from? And over what issues? Some suggestions.

- i Workplace - Jointly keeping everyone's income up. No increase in workload like productivity deal, speed up, don't let dole queue force people into lousy jobs or break strikes. Contact Trades Unions and Trades Council. Get CU members invited to speak at their meetings, ask them to affiliate to CU. Sell Strikers Handbooks. Back up strikes.
- ii Communities Speak at tenants Women, Immigrants need to discuss and similar meetings joint action about

UNDERSTANDING THE SITUATION

- * Every month or two print a bulletin which includes
 - i DHSS rates, grants etc
 - ii announce CU meetings
 - iii Have well written articles and letters on major subjects like Who are the real scroungers Sex Snoopers
- * Have open discussion and education meetings on such as

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Scroungers | Welfare and Cuts |
| Unemployment and Work | Unemployed struggles 1930s |

DHSS STAFF

This is a special and very important problem. Do we distinguish between low-paid low-grade counter clerks and raters who don't do much better than claimants (and sometimes worse) and the ladder climbing people who have the power over claimants and lower staff? We need the first group on our side. Some ideas. Contact union (CPSA) because they've been fighting against speed ups. Don't call DHSS "the S.S." They are not Nazis. Over bigger arguments see the Supervisor or Manager. Don't pick counter-clerks up by the scruff of the neck.

ELECTIONS FOR RESPONSIBILITIES IN CLAIMANTS UNION

Suggestions: two treasurers, someone liaising with DHSS workers, Trades Unions? School leavers-

We need money - Disco? Jumble Sale, Donations, Sell books.
Write articles for Nottingham Voice etc

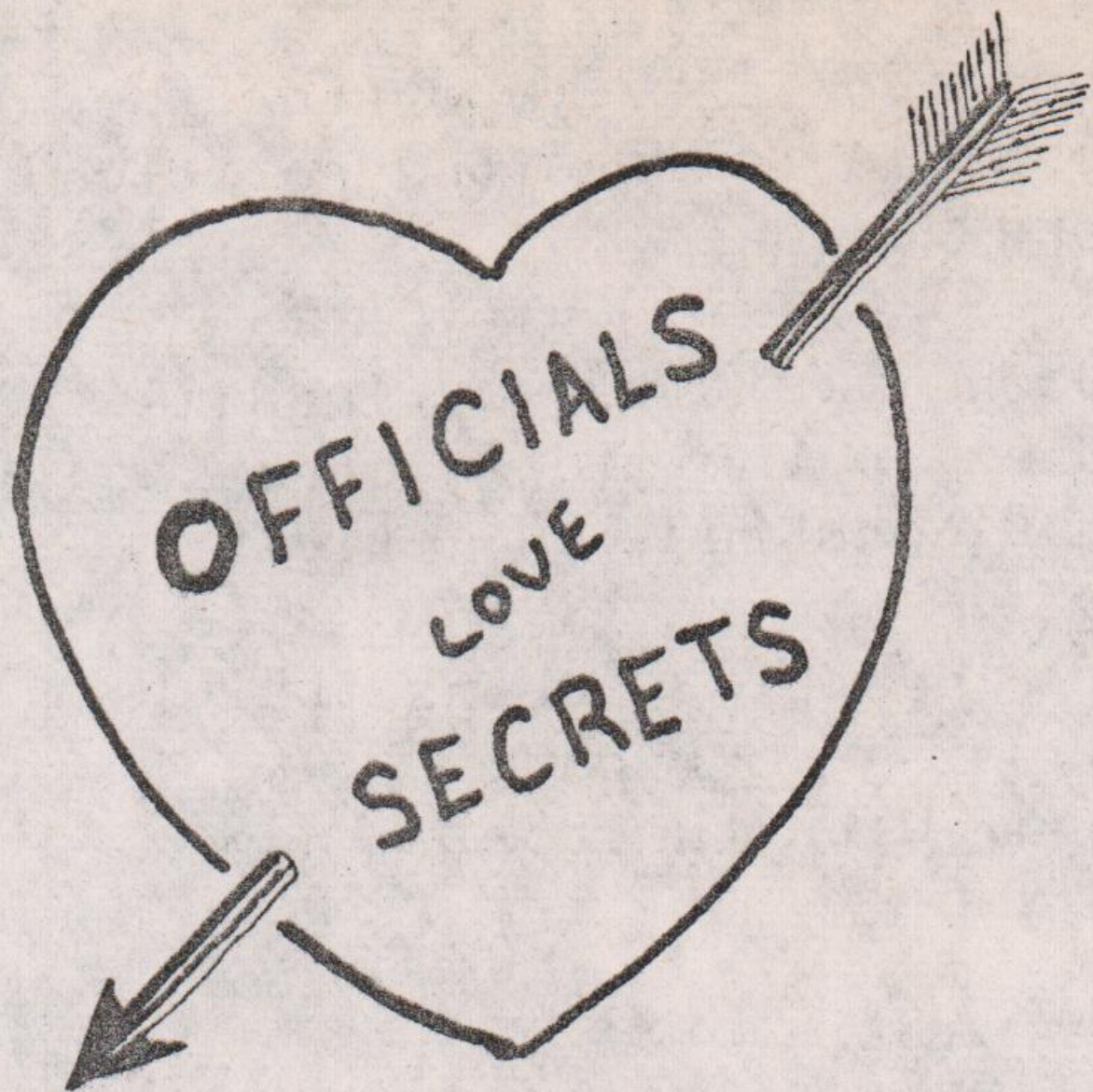
additional charter points minm wage £50 (inflation proof); 35 hours no loss of pay, no cuts - better services, freeze goods and rent, TU rights on dole

CLAIMANTS UNION PUBLIC MEETING

ST MARY'S HOUSE, RALEIGH ST, NOTTINGHAM

7.30 WEDNESDAY 15th MARCH 1978

ALL WELCOME



ABC DEFENCE CAMPAIGN

On Sunday 19th February some 300 people, including 5 from Nottingham, gathered in Tolmers Square near Euston. It was the beginning of a 1½ hour march organised by the Aubrey Berry and Campbell Defence Committee to highlight the first anniversary of the arrests of ABC under the Official Secrets Act. After short speeches by Jo Richardson MP and Paul Foot of the Socialist Workers Party, the marchers set off with a loudspeaker van ahead, a playbus for kids (and tired adults) behind, and a substantial police escort.

The route passed a number of interesting buildings, at some of which slices of a large "birthday cake" (made from plaster of paris and chicken wire) were handed in, causing some puzzlement to the police guarding the buildings. Some of the buildings were:

*EUSTON TOWER, which contains the Post Office Investigations Branch, which organises the interception of mail - MI5 officers are believed to be attached to them.

*140 GOWER STREET, innocuous (!) Government offices which conceal the newly discovered MI5/MI6 Joint Section.

*THE POST OFFICE TOWER, a vital link in a secret micro-wave communications network. We paid for it, but we're not supposed to know about it. Duncan Campbell is charged with having photographs of various post office towers around the country.

*MI5 HEADQUARTERS, 1 - 4 CURZON STREET. Over 5000 people are employed in this entirely covert organisation. It operates only Britain and collect information on "subversive" people and organisations. They were almost certainly responsible for the arrests of ABC, although, as always, Special Branch officers were called in at the last moment to perform the publicly visible tasks.

*MINISTRY OF DEFENCE. MI5 is a section of the MoD. They are desperate to see John Berry convicted, otherwise other ex-soldiers will be encouraged to blow the gaff on more sensitive and recent Army dirty tricks in Ireland, Aden and elsewhere. The ABC case is an attempt to prevent the disclosure of Army activities which are contrary to international law. No international tribunal would accept the Official Secrets Act as an excuse for a soldier failing to disclose such activities.

*NEW SCOTLAND YARD. Special Branch officers in London are supposed to be responsible to Commissioner of Police, David McNee.

*THE HOME OFFICE. Apart from unofficially running the prosecution against Aubrey, Berry and Campbell, Merlyn Rees was responsible for the deportation of Agee and Hosenball. It was as a result of illegal surveillance of the Agee/Hosenball Defence Committee that the three were arrested.

The march was good-humoured despite the cold weather and the chilling nature of the charges both for ABC and for all of us facing the threat of the censorship which a successful prosecution would effectively impose.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

The date of the ABC Old Bailey trial has now been fixed. The prosecution attempted to have the trial held in April, much earlier than had been expected, and admitted that there was government pressure behind this move. The reason for this is thought to be that it would be convenient for the government to have the trial completed before its long-awaited White Paper on the reform(?) of the Official Secrets Act is published. However, the defence was successful in objecting to this and the trial date has been fixed for September 5th. Between now and then lie six months of hard campaigning to ensure, despite the virtual silence of the media ("it is even rumoured that the Prime Minister has

been urging newspapers to play down the case" - Tribune, 25/11/77, reporting the Abc committal proceedings), that as many people as possible realise the political motivation behind the charges and make their objections heard.

The Nottingham support group picketed Merlyn Rees' recent visit to Nottinghamshire Police Force HQ at Sherwood Lodge (a large complex in the middle of a wood on the way to Mansfield, and the site of a good deal of construction activity).

The local group are also selling, through Mushroom, a range of stickers. ("This building is an Official Secret", "Buzby says: who's tapping your phone", etc.) and tickets for a Grand Draw to take place on April 2nd, with the following helpful prizes:

1st prize: Radio/Cassette recorder

2nd prize: Pair of L-Spy binoculars

3rd prize: Catch 'em at it Camera

4th Prize: 1 years subscription to "Time Out"

Tickets are 20p each, or 3 for 50p.

Mushroom also has campaign badges ("I am a Security Risk" etc.), leaflets and background information about the case. The shop makes no profit on campaign materials, all monies going directly to the campaign. In addition they are donating their share ($\frac{1}{3}$ of the price) from the sale of three relevant books to the defence group from now until the trial. The books in question are:

"Political Police in Britain" by Tony Bunyan

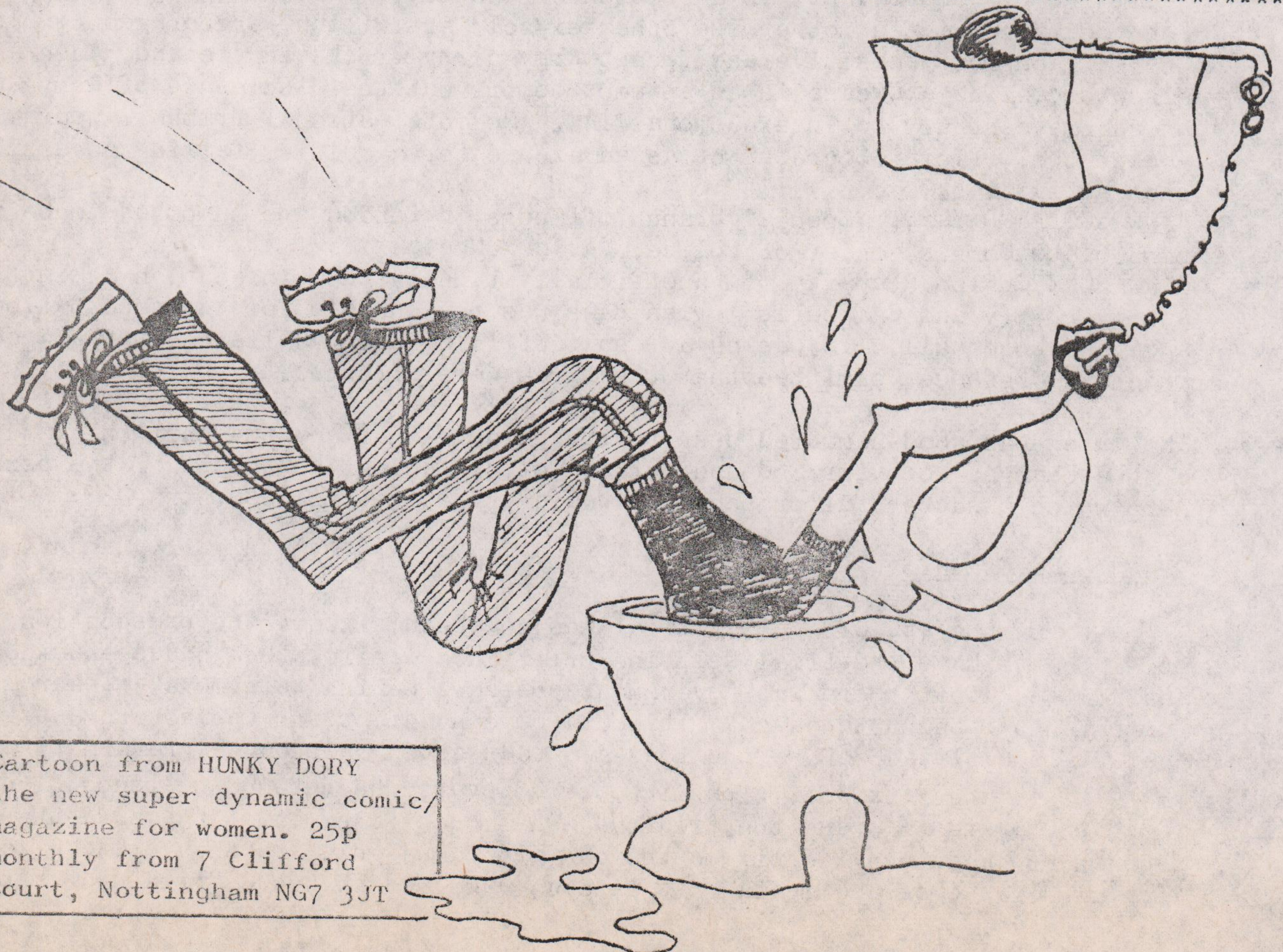
"CIA Diary" by Philip Agee

"The Technology of Political Control" by Karen Margolis and others.

You can contact the Nottingham support group through Mushroom and the national campaign at:

ABC Defence Committee, c/o Time Out, 374 Grays Inn Road, London WC1 -
tel. 01 - 278 2377.

Nottingham ABC Support Group, March 1978.



Cartoon from HUNKY DORY
the new super dynamic comic/
magazine for women. 25p
monthly from 7 Clifford
Court, Nottingham NG7 3JT

Autonomy and Social Struggle.

The group of socialists who have been meeting on Sundays are interested in 'building revolutionary organisation from the struggle that takes place across the world, in everyday life, 24 hours a day.' Below are extracts from an article by some members of Big Flame, published in 1975, entitled AUTONOMY AND THE SOCIAL STRUGGLE. Many of the authors left BF shortly after its publication.

In this article, we present an analysis of revolutionary politics outside the industrial factory. Because struggles outside the factory have previously been regarded as subsidiary, there is a whole history of working-class resistance to be understood and learnt from.

WELFARE STATE

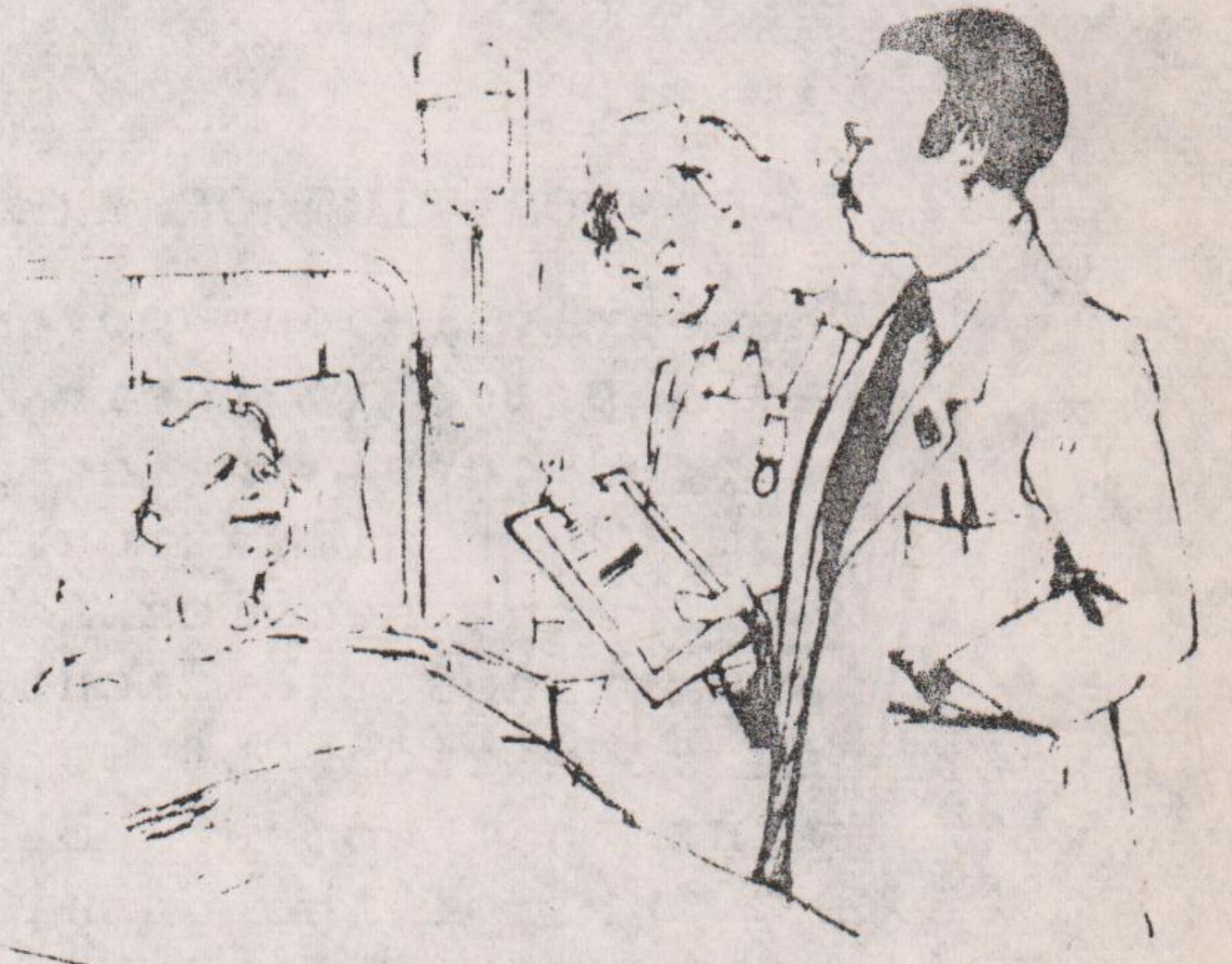
The restructuring of capital in Britain provided the economic basis for a new 'prosperity', allowed it to provide for some of the demands of the working class.

CHANGED USE OF THE WAGE

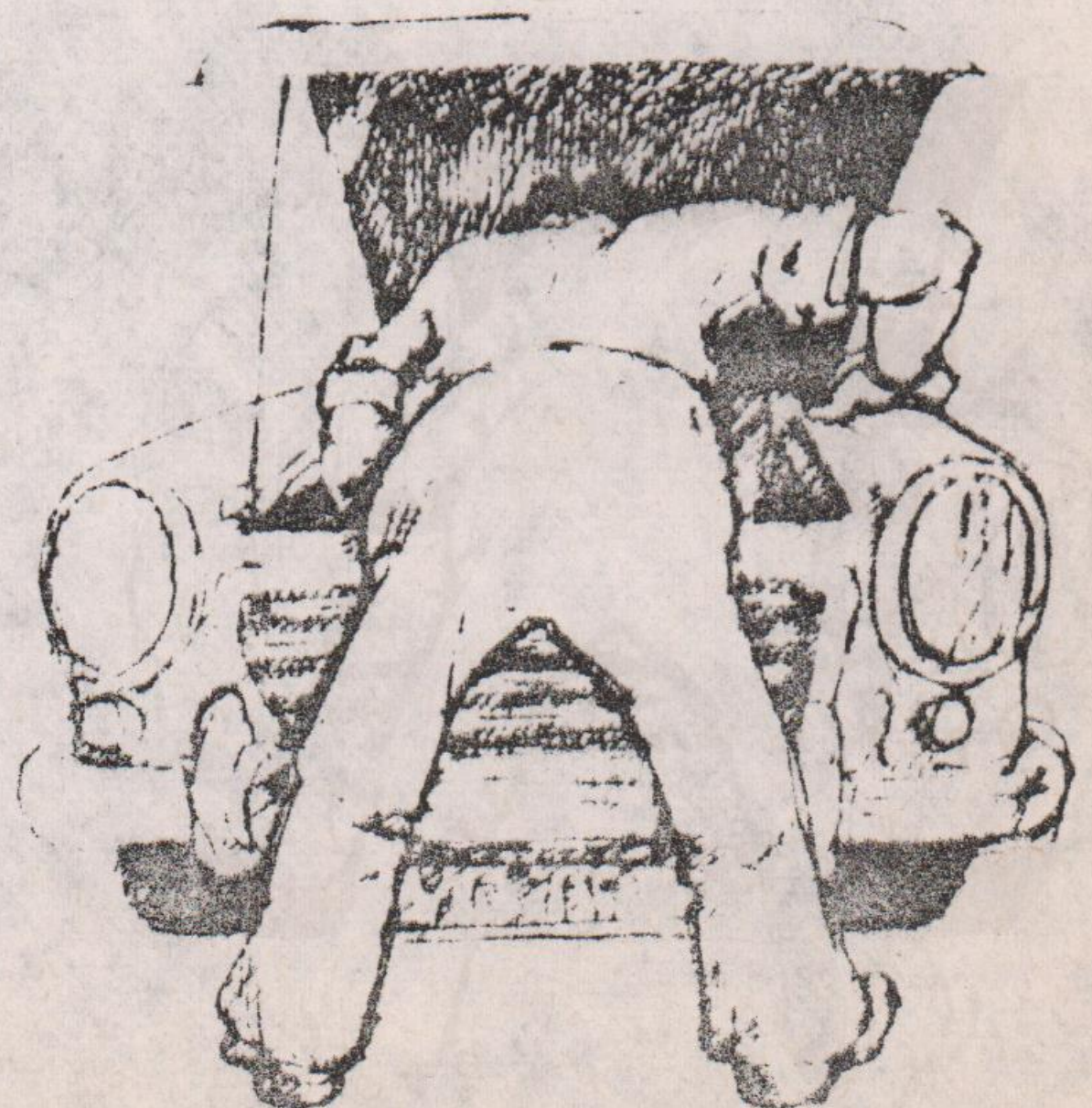
Before the war, every time capitalism hit a crisis point, the employers used to respond by cutting wages .. but this only made the crisis worse, as people couldn't afford the goods produced. In the post war period they were to use wage rise as a means of driving the system forward.



The Keynesian economics of the post war boom tried to integrate the working class within the system .. through the use of the wage as a motor for production, through the improvement of welfare benefits, through the use of promises of upward mobility via rising wages, mass education and the use of the immigrant workforce for lower paid jobs; through the consolidation of



the family as the unit for domestic bliss and sexual consumption; through the promise of freedom contained in the 'permissive society'; through the promise of better living conditions in the post war housing schemes and through the promise of more consumer goods as the domestic market for manufactured goods was developed and credit became readily available. The boom enabled the capitalists to offer more because they had more; it looked as though everyone could have their own home, their family, their car, and their television - 'you've never had it so good'.



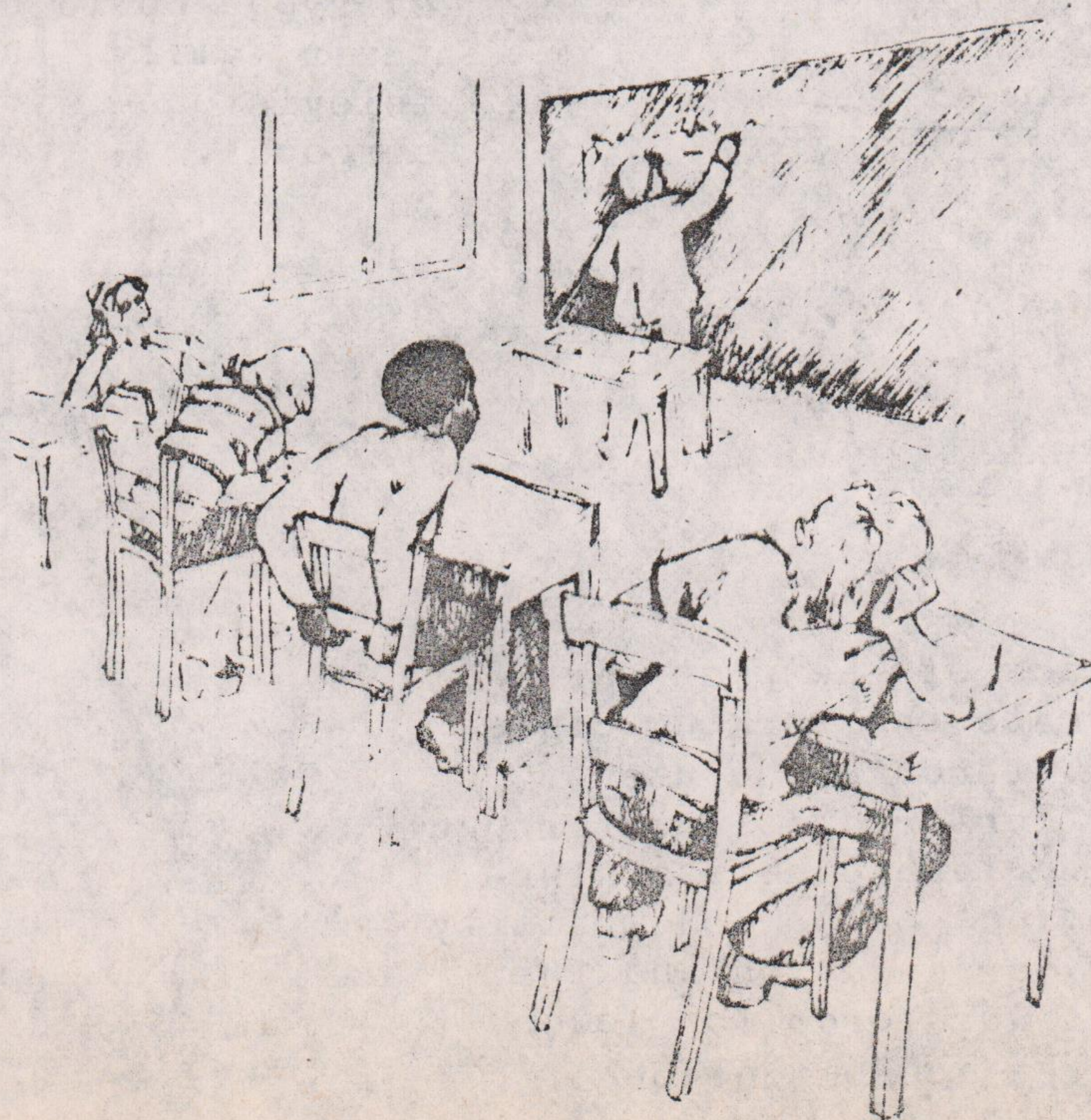


RE-COMPOSITION OF THE WORKING CLASS AND DE-SKILLING OF WORK

The early labour movements were led by skilled workers. They had a pride in their job, and a consciousness of themselves as producers; the demand for 'workers control' grew naturally from their situation. The ruling class had to gradually de-skill many sections of the work force, subordinating workers to machines they controlled, so they could dictate the pace and conditions of work. The nature of this work has also meant that women and immigrant workers have become an important part of the unskilled workforce, bringing in a different consciousness and new forms of struggle, eg black immigrant workers have little of the "fair day's work for a fair day's pay" hangup. Forced to be shit workers they reject the idea of job satisfaction. Women at work, because they have to do two jobs - one at home and one at work - can also bring in demands like socialised free childcare and see how one weeks wage rise is next weeks price rise.

AND IN SOCIAL LIFE

Education is rigidly structured...Hospitals are increasingly run on factory lines, it's cheaper that way; patients are treated like machines, babies are produced by induction to fit in with the day shift and the consultants rounds. The principles of universalism which Marx predicted in factory life were now being extended into every area of social life. None of these changes were met without protest.



As much as people were anxious to move out of their slums they resented the authority who uprooted them without consultation. Many refused to leave their old homes and had to be forcibly evicted.

CHANGES IN THE FAMILY

During this period the family changed in many ways. It has always been the place where women produce and service labour power. The needs of industry and keeping costs down has led to the breakdown of the old working class communities, putting people at the mercy of the planners who have created vast estates which through their very structure tend to isolate people and bind them tighter in the family.

The family is where the woman is made dependent on the husband. It is the centre where obedience, self control and the repression of sexual desire are perpetuated, where children are disciplined for the cruel world of work...

END OF THE ILLUSION

The post war boom and the promises of the welfare state were only a temporary truce. The struggles of the working class and peasants in Third World countries, together with the growing strength of the national bourgeoisies in the countries relative to US, Japan and the EEC began to threaten the supply of cheap foods and raw materials on which the boom depended. And the need to control our social lives was the result of working class strength pushing for a better life, continually threatening economic crisis.

While the promise of satisfaction in the family failed to materialise mass education which had held out the promise of upwards social mobility and better jobs to many working class and lower middle class kids; it also seemed to promise to middle class women the chance of equality with men. The frustration of these aspirations ... led to a growth in the militancy of students and school kids.

RESISTANCE IN THE SERVICE SECTOR

The jobs of nurses, teachers, social workers, nursery nurses tended to be seen as a vocation where you didn't mind being underpaid - but with cutbacks in spending, job re-grading, and the factory like nature of work resistance developed, action such as strikes by nurses, civil service, post office workers, teachers.

They now represent an important part of the recomposed working class and can be expected to play a significant part in future struggles.

AUTONOMY

We would say the Left has failed to grasp and learn from these changes and especially their consequences for political theory and practice.

The new form and content of struggles need to be governed by the concept of working class autonomy. Autonomous struggle happens when people fight back against the new ways that capital is developing.

Refusing to let their needs, demands and organisation be used by and drawn into the system, fighting for our needs on our terms - not capital's.

Refusals - the refusal to accept the role of housewife; the refusal to accept discipline at school; the rejection of being used as a sex object; the refusal to accept bad housing and run-down hospitals; the refusal to accept means-tests, or to pay rent by running up arrears; such refusals are not merely passive but are often the starting point from which ongoing autonomous organisation will be built.

There is a potential for collectivity in the structure of estates and cities and often the working class has acted collectively. For example, the response to dearer and worse housing and living conditions has been rent strikes, mass squats, road blocks to stop traffic where children need to play, and demos against poor transport facilities.

WOMEN IN THE FORE

In many of these struggles, women have come to the fore. Rising prices have been fought by campaigns in supermarket and by food co-ops. The rundown of welfare benefits has been fought by campaigns to prevent the closure of local hospitals, or against part-time schooling, for better childcare facilities, for unemployment benefit through claimants unions. The struggle around sexuality and personal relations has come out through strikes against night shift, against wife-battering and for abortion, the sexual rebellion of teenagers.

way capitalism seeks to control our conditioning and our consciousness is as crucial to its survival as any other form of control. This understanding has been reflected in struggles for different relationships, health treatment, womens control of their bodies.

In the industrial situation, the politics of autonomy means asserting our own needs against those of the bosses.

We don't need to become wage slaves, but under capitalism we have to get money to live. Our aim is to earn more and work less; it is an aim which directly opposes the needs and threatens the survival of capitalism.

POLITICS & ECONOMICS

It follows from our analysis that we reject the rigid distinction between 'politics' and 'economics'. Yet it is on this basis that most of the Left works. They see the day to day struggles in the factories and the community as sectional, defensive, inevitably reformist, economist etc. Politics for them is an outside process to do with parties, governments, demands directed to the State, injecting socialist ideas and so on.

The old categories are redundant once the state becomes collective capitalist, extending its tentacles into social life, attempting to draw in the class struggle and the wage as part of the way the system develops. THE DAY TO DAY STRUGGLE HAS BECOME POLITICAL IN ITSELF.

Revolutionaries must find ways of turning what is already political into a class wide revolutionary challenge to capital, moving constantly towards socialism.

AUTONOMY is the revolutionising of the daily struggle and the assertion of the total separation of working class interest from 'national' interest.

The difference between 'revolutionary' and 'reformist' often cannot be made at the level of demands. The fight for collective childcare on an estate or a health centre can be revolutionary or reformist. It depends on how it's fought for.

Organisational autonomy is as important as political. It comes from people controlling their own struggles, and fighting them on a mass level, rather than delegating responsibility to representatives to fight for them...

Life inside and outside the factory are not separate components. The

against the dole, is increasingly one that goes, and must go, beyond the gates involving people whose interests are naturally allied to theirs...

This is not to say that the immediate interests of all exploited classes are the same, or that they can be 'argued' into supporting each other. It was probably immediately necessary for the Cowley wives to organise against their husbands refusal to talk to them about the struggle. Only after this could unity take place against the companies failure to provide a regular income, whether their was work for the men or not.

WOMENS AUTONOMY

We have to recognise the ways the working class is divided against itself in a hierarchy of labour-power.

The womens movement has consolidated the individual actions of women into a combined attack...All working class women do the work of reproducing labour power - cooking, washing, mediating emotional tension and sexual and work's bad feelings

Big Flame understands that the struggle of women - for collective childcare, contraception and abortion, against rent and food increases, for healthier relationships, more wages - is not divisive or diffusive of working class struggle, but indeed necessary for the eventual unification of the class. The same is true of other movements, notably those of black people and gays.

REVOLUTION

A revolutionary struggle is not just one that takes on the boss on the shop floor, but any struggle which builds up the solidarity, strength and communist consciousness of the working class, while at the same time reducing the power and influence of the bosses.

We want to revolutionise our own lives, not as an answer in itself, but to help develop a sense of what we are fighting for. The struggle is long and we need to be reminded that this life can be beautiful. Unless our political involvement is enjoyable, unless being active effects how we live, it is not worth doing, for us or for the mass of the people. Our autonomous struggle is to affirm, not only in what we fight for but how we fight, the right of everyone to a communal social life, free from necessity, a life which is collective, free and creative, healthy and happy.

From BFJournal 1 25p

Illustrations from Falling Wall Press

A DISCUSSION: it is hoped that this article will form the basis for a

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MUSHROOM ?

10, HEATHCOTE STREET. Tel. 582506

Open 10.30 to 6.00, closed Thursdays and Sundays

We had a busy Christmas (thank you) and are now settling into another year of slightly less frenetic activity. Recent innovations:

A Learning Exchange. This is a notice board designed to put in contact people with skills they can teach and people who would like to learn. The emphasis is on sharing, not selling, skills. If there's something you want to learn or teach, come and use the learning exchange. Its free.

A monthly diary on the notice board. Please come in in plenty of time and enter your meetings and events on it. Separate detailed notices about events may still be put on the notice board.

And now, on to what's new in stock. . .

NEW BOOKS NEW BOOKS NEW BOOKS NEW BOOKS

| | | |
|---|--|-------|
| POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA | An Amnesty International Report. | £1 |
| THE STORY OF THE SCOTTISH DAILY NEWS | Ron McKay and Brian Barr. A remarkable insight into the life and death of a newspaper. | £1.60 |
| AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT 1977 | Prisoners and human rights country by country. | £2 |
| WORKOUT | Community Action for Kids. | £1.25 |
| WAR OR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST | Edited by Peggy Duff | £1.95 |
| CIVIL LIBERTY | New edition of the NCCL guide to your rights. | £1.75 |
| <u>Four books from the newly established Women's Press:</u> | | |
| AURORA LEIGH AND OTHER POEMS | Elizabeth Barrett Browning | £2.95 |
| LOLLY WILLOWES | Sylvia Townsend Warner | £1.50 |
| LIVES OF GIRLS AND WOMEN | Alice Munro | £1 |
| THE AWAKENING | Kate Chopin | £1 |
| 'HUMAN RIGHTS' AND AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY | Noam Chomsky | £1.25 |
| WAYS AND MEANS | A directory of Alternative Information produced by Student Community Action & NUS. Similar to Alternative England Wales but smaller, with less of the "hobbies" entries. | 80p |

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|---|---|-------|
| FORDS | New CIS antireport | 95p |
| HAZARDS OF NUCLEAR POWER | Two articles, one by Alan Roberts and one by Zhores Medvedev. | 95p |
| INFORMATION AT WORK | Michael Barratt Brown. Part of the Trade Union Industrial Studies series. | £1.25 |
| THE NEW WOMENS HEALTH HANDBOOK | Edited by Nancy Mackeith. New edition with more information. | £1.95 |
| WHAT IS SURREALISM? | <u>Two books on Surrealism:</u> | |
| ANDRE BRETON AND THE FIRST PRINCIPLES OF SURREALISM | by Andre Breton | £5 |
| | by Franklin Rosemount | £1.80 |
| DESTINY | Script of David Edgar's antifascist play, as seen on TV! | £1.20 |
| 1978 SQUATTERS HANDBOOK | All you need to know, with new up to date section on the law. | 20p |
| NUCLEAR POWER? NO THANKS! | Cambridge FOE pamphlet. | 25p |
| THE SOCIETY OF THE SPECTACLE | Guy Debord. New translation of the Situationist classic, published by Practical Paradise Publications | 75p |
| APATHY AND ITS CURE | Peter Freeman. A new pamphlet with new insights. | 30p |
| OF CANNONS AND CATERPILLARS | <u>Three new feminist childrens books from Writers and Readers Publishing:</u> | £2.50 |
| THE BREADTIME STORY | | £2.50 |
| THE FIVE WIVES OF SILVERBEARD | All large format and nicely illustrated in colour | £2.50 |
| WHAT'S AT STAKE? SOUTHERN AFRICA | A4 pamphlet by Southern Africa Solidarity Campaign. Useful as a tool. | 20p |
| HOW IT ALL BEGAN | <u>Coming Soon:</u> English translation of Wie Alles Anfang by B. Baumann. The story of his development into an urban guerilla. Banned in Germany. | |

Also in stock: and increasing range of badges - ABC, food, gay, antifascist South Africa, etc. And a new range of stickers produced by ABC Defence Campaign: "Buzby says Who's tapping your phone?" etc. Get sticking!

"PAROSI"

Parosi, which means neighbours, is the title of a BBC TV programme intended to encourage Asian women to have the confidence to learn English. In Nottingham there is a home tuition scheme to teach English to Asian women which has occasional introductory courses. If you're interested contact Jean Coates, Adult Literacy Scheme, 89a Forest Road West, Nottingham, telephone 40003. Feminists in London (probably elsewhere) have signed up to get to know Asian women. Ideally, English housewives should get paid to do this and with a bit of a push this might happen.

BUILDING MASS REVOLUTIONARY ORGANISATION FROM THE STRUGGLE THAT TAKES PLACE ACROSS THE WORLD IN EVERYDAY LIFE, 24 hours a day.

At a meeting on the 8th January two members of the revolutionary organisation Big Flame talked about their involvement in the daily struggle at the Fords plant at Halewood and, mainly with women, on a working class housing estate in Liverpool.

Since then a dozen socialists have been meeting as a loose group. We came together not so much out of agreement but disagreement with the existing left for many reasons:- authoritarian, ahistorical, male-dominated, party building, an over-emphasis on the struggle at work and a neglect of struggle in the community and in personal life, a wish to co-opt and distort feminism, failure to respond to the needs of its members. In particular many of us attending meetings so far have children which the largely young single left didn't seem to want to know about. Also, some of us have had periods where we've dropped out of politics because of disenchantment with existing groups.

On the positive side, those so far attending have been involved individually in activity including:- Womens Aid, Action against Rape, anti Racist/Fascist work, tenants struggle, miners union..... We are interested in building mass revolutionary organisation from the struggle that takes place across the world in everyday life, 24hours a day, and were interested in Big Flame's approach to politics though our knowledge of them was patchy.

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR.

Muddled to say the least - creating a revolutionary grouping from scratch when we aren't clear what the agreements and disagreements are is not a straightforward process - though many of us had worked together before, which helps. It was generally felt that some formal connection to Big Flame would help at this stage so most, but not all, of us have become Associate Members of Big Flame. In particular we felt we had much to learn from contact with their members in other cities in terms of experiences and theory. Big Flame is an important grouping that emerged from the New Left of the late 60s and early 70s which has attempted to develop a revolutionary politics from the new conditions that exist. These 'Sunday' meetings are not Big Flame Group meetings and our future relationship to them is very open. Nor does it mean future and current members of the group need join Big Flame. The priority for us is to see how we can contribute to the development of revolutionary struggle.

An important aspect of our meetings has been that the children of those attending have been looked after collectively in a rota during the meetings and beyond this we recognise the importance of sharing childcare for reasons which include so that those with kids can participate fully in the group.

But what role does the group have beyond sharing childcare? Several things are emerging.

- 1) Casual labour can be provided to help individuals in their own activity eg. helping to distribute leaflets
- 2) A common involvement in certain activity eg. anti-fascist and racist activity, helping to set up a claimants union
- 3) Linked to the above - we are investigating the idea of basing much of our activity in one area over a long period, rather than the usual left approach of centralised campaigns which tend not to go beyond the committed circle of activists.
- 4) A forum for discussion and mutual education - linked to Big Flame members from elsewhere coming to share their experiences.

It would be fair to say that at the moment we're underemphasising the workplace - this is something we have to sort out.

Internally there are problems - primarily the men tend to dominate the meetings, and linked to this is a tendency to get into abstract discussions (rubbish ones) about theoretical issues a format which

men are usually more at home in. We can't claim to have sorted this one out yet.

Finally, the last thing we want is to be seen as the Big Flame Group or even the 'People with Kids' group. We are aware that many other people in Nottingham have similar criticisms to us of the existing left and are looking for forms of political organisation which will respond to their needs and not just treat them as another recruit to sell papers or put across the party line. WE WANT OTHER SISTERS AND BROTHERS TO COME ALONG AND SHAPE THE DIRECTION OF THE GROUP.

Our meetings are open and the general meeting is usually on Sunday at 1.00. If you want any information either write to

30 Colville St, Nottingham

or phone 625337

43145

789826

C L A I M A N T S U N I O N P U B L I C M E E T I N G

CLAIMANTS UNIONS ARE GROUPS OF PEOPLE on social security who have got together to help each other and to fight collectively around the four demands known as the Claimants Charter.

THE CLAIMANTS CHARTER

1. The right to an adequate income without means test for all people.
2. A socialist society in which all necessities are provided free and which is managed and controlled directly by the people.
3. No secrets and the right to full information.
4. No distinction between so-called 'deserving' and 'un-deserving'.

WEDNESDAY 15th MARCH 1978

7.30pm St Mary's House, Raleigh St

ALL WELCOME

We hope to start a Claimants Union to organise collectively for all claimants, black or white, women or men, young or old and to gain support from the Trades Council, Trades Unions, black people's and womens organisations, tenants associations etc.

P U B L I C M E E T I N G

S A V E O U R B U S S E R V I C E

A letter is circulating to all organisations and members interested in saving our bus services preparing for a Public Meeting to SAVE OUR BUS SERVICE, from the Transport Union.

Any organisation willing to attend a Public Meeting is asked to send a letter to H.F. Ball, 67 Mona Rd., West Bridgford, Nottingham.

SIGNS OF CRIME

The following quotes are taken from the book "The signs of Crime - A field manual for police" by David Powis. Know how the police mind works!!!

WATCH FOR . . . The possession of "These are your rights" cards or pamphlets by loiterers generally. . . Obviously, they will be carried by persons who consider it at least possible that they will break the law and be interrogated by police. Thus they are carried by male homosexuals, by industrial and other agitators, by "Angry Brigade" inadequates (British urban guerillas) and similar amateur criminals, but rarely by shrewd and hardheaded professional thieves. The latter have no need for academic discussion of legal niceties; they know from bitter experience how to behave in custody. Anyway, possession of such written matter often means subsequent false complaint against you. Be circumspect with intellectual malcontents; they can be bitchy and small minded in these complaints.

Women shop thieves . . . "Either smartly dressed, even elegant in the conventional sense, or smart but trendy dressers - slacks and inside-out embroidered Afghanistan sheepskin coats, with perhaps a medallion on a chain. The latter type of shop thief, the trendy drop-outs are not easy to deal with as they have convinced themselves, in a Marxist sense, that ". . . all property is theft" and can morally justify to themselves the rightness of stealing from large stores, the owners of which, in their eyes, are the oppressors. However mistaken some may consider their views, there is no doubt that they are themselves convinced they do no wrong, perhaps even that they are doing right. In any event, I have noticed they nearly always complain about police treatment, however innocuous or even friendly it is, so be circumspect."



NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP: c/o MUSHROOM, HEATHCOTE STREET.

EAST NOTTINGHAM LABOUR PARTY AND RACIALISM.

INTRODUCTION

Now for a little light entertainment! The following article was sent to "If You Don't . . ." by an obviously distressed Labour Party member. Although we disagree with the analysis presented, the article appears here as a warning to all those who think the Labour Party is/could be an instrument for radical change. The touching faith of the author in the progressive nature of the Labour Party appears to be unshaken by the implementation of more and more racist immigration laws; by the government claim that the Tories could not restrict immigration any further because the Labour Party has already reduced it to a minimum; by the (no matter what the author says) wet rag of an anti-racist non-campaign and by the continuing support of South Africa and other openly racist regimes. S/he is so sure of her/his own views that the article is not signed, despite the zeal exercised in naming others! If anything can be done to combat racism in the Labour Party (or elsewhere) it must be done with full conviction. And that means making yourself and your views known.

The attitudes of Manvers Ward L.P. and the author of the following article are typical of the griping, empire-building, petty politicking and long winded trivia which characterises the Labour Party. It stinks!

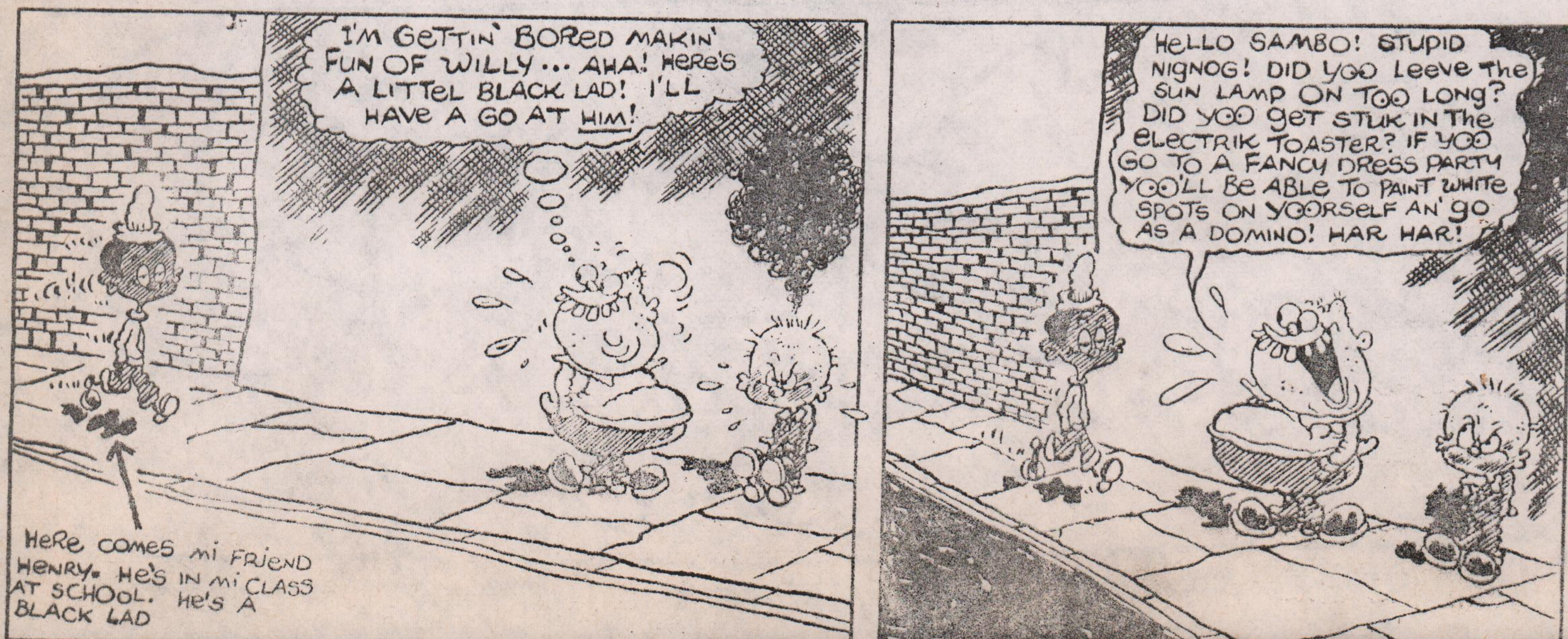
COLIN

Racialism lies deep in the British way of life. Our so called "great days" of the Empire have left the working class with a legacy of economic, moral and racial arrogance. And this arrogance has been heavily underlined by years of openly jingoistic teaching of Empire History to generations of schoolchildren.

But the Empire has now gone and the British people are slowly becoming aware that our so called superiority was not natural, but was based on economic exploitation and the denial of human dignity to millions of coloured people.

However the prejudices and the arrogance run deep. They are historic prejudices, and the slow awakening to reality has left large sections of the working class defensive and confused.

In such a situation it becomes necessary for those who claim to be politically aware, to be acutely conscious of the need to break down such prejudices and to be emphatic about the equality of blacks and whites, to condemn the encouragement of prejudices and to be critical of complacency. If they are



not, if they exercise complacency then they leave the field open for racial extremists to inflame the prejudices into a political stance which is dangerous to the concept of human dignity.

It is in this context that the vote taken by Manvers Ward of the East Nottingham Labour Party should be seen. The ward covers a totally working class area, which includes the most racially integrated school in the county. Yet this ward recently defeated a mild resolution which simply "deplored the remarks made by Judge McKinnon in the recent race relations prosecution". The defeat of the resolution portrays all the hallmarks of defensive historic prejudice and poor political awareness.

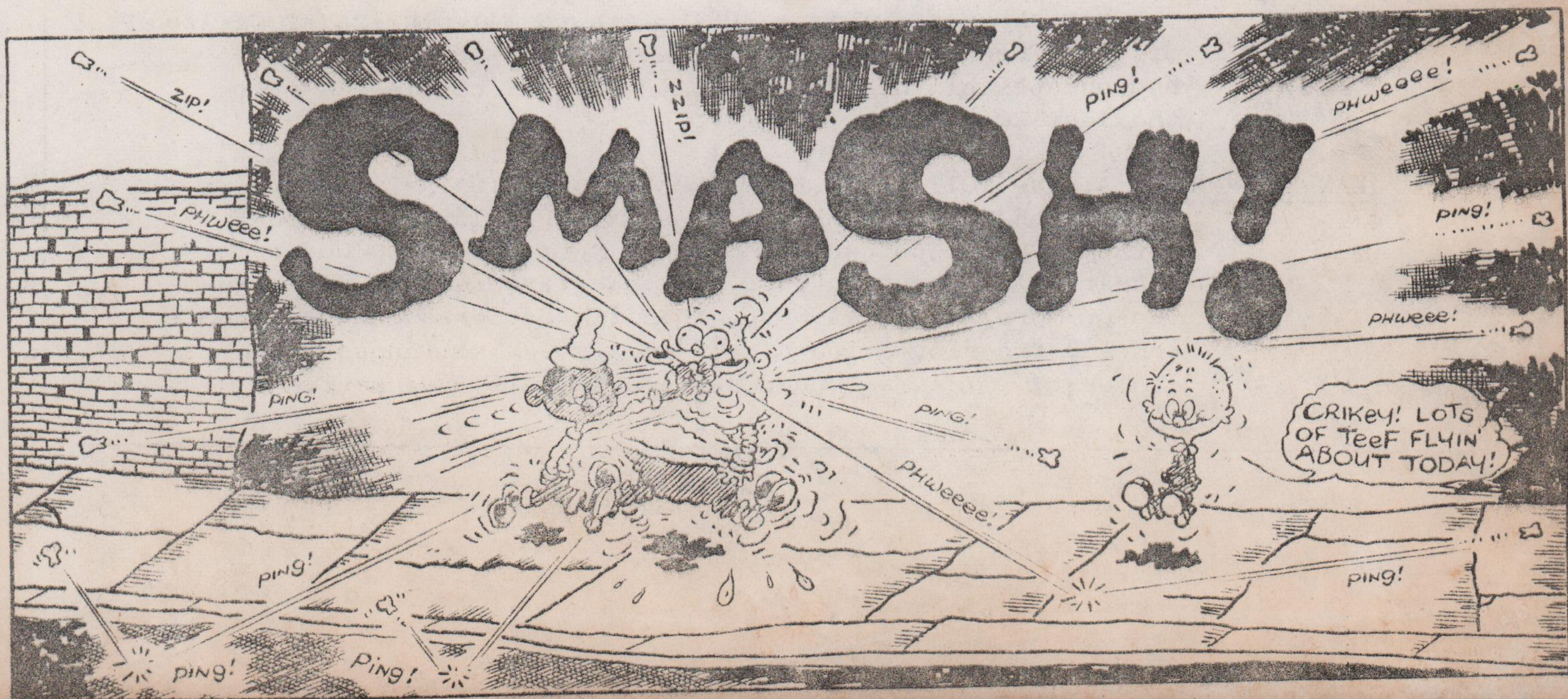
But this defeat should not be used as a stick with which to beat the Labour Party, because the party as a whole has taken an admirable position on racialism. Indeed it has quite rightly assumed the mantle of leadership in the fight against racialism. It's recent party political broadcast and subsequent hard-hitting anti-racist campaign make it abundantly clear that the Labour Party sees no room for offensive racist language and neither would it join with Judge McKinnon in wishing outright racists like Read "well" in the propagation of his views.

However this message clearly did not get through to Manvers Ward! So the responsibility for the disappointing Manvers vote must rest squarely on those members of the ward who voted to defeat a resolution which sought to criticise complacency and condemn encouragement to racialism. It is important that those responsible are held accountable for their activities. In this respect it is necessary to identify those who hold or seek to hold public office as councillors and to do all in our power to ensure that such complacency is condemned in councillors.

One councillor who voted against the resolution is Jenny Williamson. No doubt she was elected councillor with the help of many black voters - she must not be elected again. Another aspiring councillor currently seeking Labour Party nomination is George Edwards, selection panel please note!

Another area of concern over this issue is the deafening silence now coming from the East Nottingham CLP executive committee. One would have thought that the behaviour of Manvers would attract immediate condemnation, but the author of this article is willing to wager that "action" is more likely to be taken against publication of the article than racial prejudice in East Nottingham.

"A rank and file member of Notts. East L. P. "



CULTURE

CORNER

DAVID EDGAR author of the play DESTINY will be speaking on the 'Politics' of the National Front at the Socialist Challenge forum at the International Community Centre, 61b Mansfield Rd, Nottingham. Thursday 16th March at 7.30pm.

TREVOR GRIFFITHS author of the plays COMEDIANS and THE PARTY has written, with HOWARD BENTON AND GLEN CAMPBELL, a new play called DEEDS which is being performed in Repetory at the PLAYHOUSE as RICHARD EYRE'S farewell production from March 11 to March April 1st. (Check actual dates/times with the Playhouse) It is difficult to pin the Playhouse down on the content of DEEDS but it seems likely to be a play of considerable political interest. Described as a modern 'Candide' it is the story of a father who sets out to establish the cause of the unexplained cot death of his child. In his search he comes into conflict with authority in its various forms including at one stage a multi-national company which makes the dried milk which he suspects. No more details are available at the moment but the reputation of TREVOR GRIFFITHS alone should make DEEDS well worth seeing - the last scene is said to be very hard hitting.

JOHN BERGER Author of WAYS OF SEEING (TV Film and book), A SEVENTH MAN a moving exposure of the plight of Migrant Workers in Europe and A FORTUNATE MAN together with JEAN MOHR who illustrated these books with superb photographs will be giving an illustrated lecture at the Nottingham PLAYHOUSE entitled IMAGE AND TEXT (THEIR POLITICAL USE). The lecture will discuss the potentially expressive relationship between the photographic image and word. Other speakers have been invited to contribute to the discussion including Ken Coates and Trevor Griffiths. There will be an open discussion after the lecture and the TV film WAYS OF SEEING will be shown sometime in the morning. The lecture will be at 2pm on SUNDAY 9th APRIL at the PLAYHOUSE and will cost around £1. Check details at the Playhouse nearer the date.

An exhibition of photographs by JEAN MOHR will be on show at the MIDLAND GALLERY from APRIL 11th to MAY 6th (24/32 Carlton St, Nottingham). The exhibition is based on unpublished photographs of the 3rd world, taken on 4 continents over the last 20 years.

JEAN-LUC GODARD At the NOTTINGHAM FILM THEATRE on FRIDAY 17th MARCH at 7.30pm 'LE GAI SAVOIRE'. And on SATURDAY 18th and SUNDAY 19th MARCH at 5pm and 8pm 'NUMERO DEUX'. This is Godard's latest film. Focusing on a working class family, often in two or more images at once, the film explores the construction and transformation of visual and verbal language, initially at least, it seems to undertake a feminist argument.