

NCB out to smash union

BY BEN RUDDER

THE COAL BOARD last night confirmed it is fully behind the Thatcher government in attempting to smash the National Union of Mineworkers and refused further talks.

No further proof of the government's determination to physically destroy the NUM was needed, when after two days of negotiations involving the NUM, the TUC and ACAS, the Coal Board said:

'No resumed negotiations are contemplated following the visit today by ACAS chairman Mr Pat Lowry to the NCB headquarters. The review that took place of the NUM dispute showed no indication of any change in the union's position.'

Solid

But further calls for increased TUC support for the miners have been urged by NUM areas which continued their solid support for the strike yesterday.

The Durham area leadership have called for a union delegate conference to consider a fresh demand to the TUC for support, a move which backs a demand from the South Wales leadership for the

TUC to call a special emergency congress to decide on indefinite industrial action in support of the miners.

Meanwhile, miners' leaders in Lancashire doused Tory press hopes of a decision to call off their area strike.

Daily newspapers and the Press Association carried reports claiming that the area was about to reverse its decision to support the national strike because of moves at Park-side colliery.

But branch secretary Mick Noonan denied the reports, and after a two-hour meeting at Bolton, NUM area president Sid Vincent said:

'It is nonsense to say there have been moves for a return to work. It was decided we should carry on with the strike.'

The newly-retired NCB official Ned Smith revealed something of the divisions within the Coal Board when he told reporters yesterday that he opposed the NCB demand for a written undertaking to accept pit closures on economic grounds.

Smith added that he considered the miners' strike to be defeated but that 'compassion is a piece of sound management'.



THE MINERS and their president Arthur Scargill continue to defy attempts by the Tories and NCB to smash their union

Currencies savaged by U.S.

BY PAUL FELDMAN

THE DOLLAR ripped through the money markets of Europe yesterday as the United States continued to savage the mark, franc, lira and the pound.

Funds are flowing irresistibly into America — attracted not by the prospect of earnings from investment in US industry but by the soaring government debt.

The \$200 billion annual deficit means the Reagan government has to keep interest rates high to suck in foreign funds needed to finance it.

With financial institutions needing to buy dollars to get into the making-money-out-of-debt game, so the US currency has soared against its competitors.

This has helped push up interest rates to record levels in Europe and added to the turmoil in the world capitalist economy where since 1971 currencies have had no direct relationship to real value in the shape of gold.

Paper

While foreign funds are driven into a dollar worth only the value of the paper used to print it, US imperialism has run up an ever-increasing trade deficit with the rest of the world.

It soared to \$110 billion last year, almost double the trade deficit of 1983.

Only by becoming the biggest debtor in the world has American capitalism been able to maintain both the deficit and an appreciating currency.

The dollar smashed ahead against the West German mark again yesterday, reaching its highest level for 13 years.

The Bundesbank has spent about \$800 million in a futile attempt to restrain the dollar. It has also raised interest rates.

West Germany is facing record unemployment as the US offloads the burden of the world capitalist slump on Europe. There are also fears of a major banking crisis.

The French franc was also set at a record low against the dollar, while in Milan dealers watched the lira sink to all-time depths

DOLLAR TURMOIL IN EURO MARKET



LEIGH-PEMBERTON ... Warned City

in trading described as one-way traffic.

The US administration has dumped a verbal agreement reached in Washington two weeks ago to restrain the dollar by Federal bank intervention.

Yesterday Paul Volcker, Federal Reserve Board chairman, called the recent rise of the dollar 'unfortunate', but offered Europe no consolation.

He said official intervention in a bid to set currency values in world markets was unlikely to be successful if it ran counter to fundamental market forces.

'I don't think you can expect too much from intervention,' he told a Congressional committee.

Rates

In London, the pound slid to \$1.1115, down 0.3 cents and close to record lows experienced before interest rates were hoisted to 14 per cent last week.

Reports of a cut in oil prices by Mexico also hit the pound, together with figures showing a further sharp rise in bank lending.

January figures showed an increase in money supply which put the annual rate at the top of the government's target range.

It put an end to rumours

about a cut in interest rates sought by the Tories in advance of the March budget.

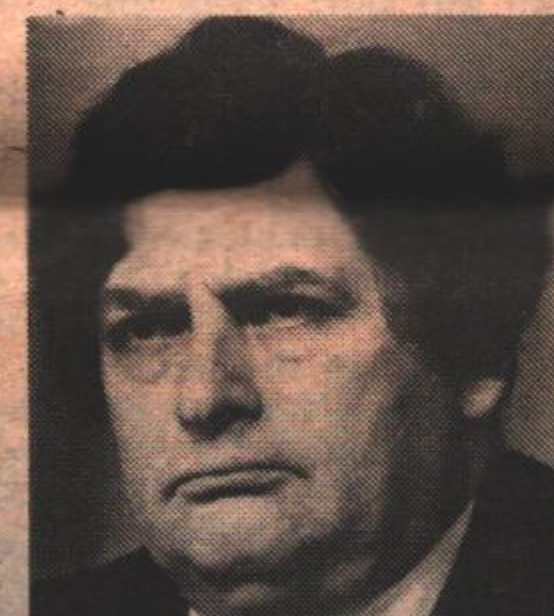
And this means that a further rise in mortgage lending rates is on the cards.

Chancellor Lawson has already indicated that planned tax cuts may have to be scrapped.

The main factor in the money supply jump was the high growth of bank lending, about £2 billion.

Fears about bank liquidity have prompted Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, to warn the City about the position.

He told a banquet on Monday: 'Margins have narrowed as banks and other financial intermediaries compete for international business, and much ingenuity is lavished on devising new instruments, many of them off-balance sheet, to tempt



LAWSON ... Tax cuts go

both borrowers and investors.'

Leigh-Pemberton added: 'In addition, banks may be paying insufficient regard to the need for adequate capital to support this activity.'

What he was saying was that a collapse of inflationary values on which the banks are founded would leave the institutions with insufficient capital to stay afloat.

'Zionist brutality' charges grow

PALESTINIAN refugees and Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami yesterday joined in accusing the Israeli occupation armies in the West Bank and south Lebanon of brutality and provoking bloodshed.

The West Bank Palestinian refugees, who accused the military of brutal and arbitrary policing methods, were supported by Israeli lawyer and pro-Palestine Liberation Organisation activist Felicia Langer.

At Ein el-Helweh camp, home to more than 30,000 Palestinians in Sidon, refugees said they were on guard against Israeli attempts to stir up sectarian violence.

Karami, meanwhile, renewed accusations that the Israeli government was

stirring up mutual fears of bloodshed and trying to arm pro-Zionist gunmen in south Lebanon.

Residents of Dehaishe refugee camp, near Bethlehem, said at a news conference that Israeli soldiers broke into their homes last Friday and beat them up during a search for suspected stone-throwers.

Dehaishe refugee Ali Mohammed Farraj, 50, told how how Israeli soldiers had beaten him up and dragged him through the rain for hours because his son was not home when

they came for him.

Farraj showed a medical certificate stating his breast bone had been broken.

Thuraya Farraj, 40, said security forces broke most of the furniture in her house when they could not find her brother.

The head of the League for Human Rights in Israel, Joseph Algazy, who represented pro-Palestinian Israeli groups, said: 'We want to warn public opinion of the imminent danger that blood will be spilled in Dehaishe.'

Langer said Dehaishe was a true ghetto, with all its exits sealed and Israeli troops patrolling daily.

She said: 'This is happening at the end of the 20th century in land administered by Israel and I don't see how we can be silent. We are sending out an SoS.'

● In Tel Aviv, the bereaved father of an Israeli soldier killed in the occupied West Bank stopped former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon from speaking at his son's funeral yesterday.

MEDICAL RECORDS 'TAMPERED WITH'

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

— says A-test witness

A FORMER seaman who became ill after witnessing a British nuclear test off Australia claimed yesterday that his medical records had been tampered with.

Henry Carter was one of the last men to leave the frigate 'HMS Plym' before she was blown out of the water in the test off Monte Bello island in October 1952.

Drugs

Carter, 62, told the Australian Royal Commission inquiry in London that he had been on drugs for 15 years and had been denied access to his medical file.

He said the file was 'seven eighths to an inch thick', but when he was eventually allowed to see

it, 'it had been stripped'. He told the inquiry: 'There was hardly a quarter of an inch of paper. I said to the doctor: "It is ridiculous, there is nothing left".'

Carter, of Hertford, said doctors at two hospitals which had been treating him told him the file was private and classified.

Since the nuclear test, he had suffered from a rash, cataracts in both eyes and asthma.

'No doctor will tell me what is wrong with me, but I live on a daily intake of drugs,' he said.

Carter said he and his colleagues had been misled about the distance they had been taken from the ship before it exploded.

He was in a small power boat which travelled on a zigzag course before

stopping behind a ledge about 20 feet high.

'I was told we'd travelled about six miles, but I think we were sheltering behind the ledge about two miles from "Plym".'

'The signal came over the radio to prepare for countdown and a heavy black canvas tarpaulin was pulled over the boat so we were now in darkness.'

Towels

'We all then draped jungle-green towels over our heads and I pressed the palms of my hands into my sockets. I was dressed in shorts and a pair of shoes.'

'At zero there was blinding electric blue light of an intensity I had

not seen before or since. I pressed my hands harder to my eyes, then realised I could see the bones of my hands. It seemed that this light was passing through the tarpaulin and towel for about 10 or 12 seconds.'

'My body seemed first to be compressed and then billowing like a balloon.'

Carter said the tarpaulin was removed after the all-clear and he could see a cloud rising at speed.

The next day he felt ill with what seemed to be a chest cold and was given cough mixture at the sick bay. The problem recurred on the way home.

When he returned home, Carter said, he was unable to pick up his five-month-old son. 'I don't know why it was several

weeks before I could take him,' he said.

His son died of cancer when he was 24, but Carter stressed that he had been conceived and born before the nuclear test.

His daughter — born later — suffered eczema as a baby over 90 per cent of her body.

Explosion

Carter's task on the day of the explosion was to take scientists off the 'Plym' before the explosion and to return them to the ship if the first bomb failed to function.

THE inquiry also heard how scientists may have seriously miscalculated the accumulation of fission products in the drinking water used by inhabitants of the remote Australian bush.



After the Abbeystead explosion in Lancashire last May which killed 16 people

Water blast report slammed

A LEADING official of the National Union of Public Employees has condemned the way an inquiry was conducted into an explosion at a water plant which killed 16 people.

An article in the 'NUPE Journal' about the May 1984 Abbeystead Disaster condemns the government's refusal to hold a public inquiry into the explosion at the North West Water Authority plant.

John Dempsey, who wrote the article, said yesterday that the questions posed in the article should be put to the Health and Safety Executive at a press conference this Thursday to launch the official report.

He said: 'North West Water Authority employees were hoping the Health and Safety Executive report would pinpoint the following crucial issues:

- What lessons are there for existing and future designs of water plants;
- What steps can be taken

to protect both public and employees from similar hazards;

• Have all similar plants been identified;

• Where are the lost Abbeystead plans?

'It would seem from "leaked" extracts of the report that the Health and Safety Executive have left Water Authority employees in the dark as to a) how the disaster occurred and b) how future explosions can be prevented.'

'We believe that the need for a public inquiry is now even more vital — otherwise the employees and public will never know how the Health and Safety Executive arrived at its conclusion.'

DAVID BASNETT, 61, general secretary of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers' and Allied Trades Union, has told his executive he is to retire later this year. He said he would make a formal statement about his decision today.

£8,000

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TORY EXPLANATIONS 'NOT TRUTHFUL' — court hears

THE TORY government's explanations to parliament about the sinking of the 'General Belgrano' were not truthful, civil servant Clive Ponting told the Old Bailey secrets trial yesterday.

He said the decision to sink the Argentine cruiser was right, so the government should have given the correct explanation of events to MPs.

Ponting confirmed he was at a meeting where questions were raised on whether to reveal that the 'Belgrano' reversed course 11 hours before she was sunk.

'The reservation expressed at the meeting was not one of security, but the political problems in changing the story,' he said.

Ponting said: 'I accept I breached the trust the department had in me. I accept I breached civil service regulations, but there

were wider questions as well.'

He agreed he did not have the authority to send the documents to Labour MP Tam Dalyell, and Roy Amlott, prosecuting, said the only person who could give Ponting such authority was Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine whose duty was to deal with correspondence from the Labour MP and respond to the select committee.

Duty

This was so, Ponting agreed. 'As long as he did so in the terms of the constitution and did so truthfully, and in answers to questions he had a moral duty to carry out.'

Asked why he sent the documents, Ponting replied: 'Because it was in the wider interest of parliament to be told how they

had been misled and how the government was proposing to mislead them.'

He said that during investigations into the leaked documents Detective Chief Inspector Thomas Hughes, of the Ministry of Defence police, told him the department did not come out well in the documents.

'I was told that they — those in charge of the department — had concluded this was not a matter for the Official Secrets Act.'

'If I was prepared to resign it would be an end of the matter and a suitable conclusion to the investigation.'

He said he returned to his office on August 14 and was told 'ministers were jumping up and down' and the matter was to be referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The case continues today

Thatcher still demands NUM surrender

BY JOHN SPENCER

IT BECAME clear last night that the Thatcher government is still insisting on a written surrender document from the National Union of Mineworkers in advance of any talks on the pit strike.

Government sources said the NUM would have to confirm in writing that it was prepared to hold discussions on the closure of so-called uneconomic pits as the first item in any talks.

The NCB were right to make the fundamental issue of the strike — the closure of pits on economic grounds — as item one.

'If the NUM would agree to the wording negotiations could be started.'

● The Speaker, Bernard Weatherill, was involved in a clash with Labour MP Tony Benn yesterday after Benn accused the government of infringing parliamentary privilege by denying civil servants the right to lobby their MPs.

Leave

The government has refused to allow civil servants to take annual leave to protest to parliament against the closure of Skillcentres with the loss of 1,000 jobs.

Benn pointed out that the Commons had decided in 1940 that any attempt to prevent citizens communicating with their MPs with a view to action was a breach of privilege.

The civil service unions have announced that the demonstration, scheduled for next Tuesday, will go ahead despite the government's refusal.

Scabs seek mass picket injunction

THE SCAB organisation known as the National Working Miners Committee has been funded to the tune of £500,000 to bring legal action against the National Union of Mineworkers, the High Court was told yesterday.

The allegations were made in a sworn statement to the court by Michael Seifert, senior partner in a London law firm acting for the NUM. He was opposing the demand of 19 Yorkshire scabs for an injunction banning mass picketing.

Seifert also accused one of the scabs bringing the injunction proceedings of having himself taken part in picketing. He said that Gary Kornacki, of Doe

Quarry Lane, Dinnington, had 'engaged in exactly the sort of picketing to which he purports to object'.

Not only that, but he had claimed picketing expenses totalling £80 from the NUM, Seifert said.

Yesterday's court hearing arose following a request by the NUM for an adjournment of the case to prepare a reply to allegations of violence against scabs contained in 22 newspaper cuttings.

Mr Justice Scott ruled that the newspaper cuttings were inadmissible as evidence, and that there were no grounds for an adjournment. The full hearing is due to begin on Tuesday.

Detective to retire 'on health grounds'

A SENIOR detective who was convicted of kerb-crawling is to be retired on health grounds without facing a disciplinary hearing.

Chief Inspector Robert Warner, head of Lincolnshire's Fraud and Drugs Squad, will leave the force on ill-health pension at the end of March.

He appeared before Nottingham Magistrates in December, 1983 and although he denied the accusation he was bound over in the sum of £100 to be of good behaviour for a year.

No action was contemplated under police disciplinary procedures in respect of the court appearance.

TORIES VOTE TO KEEP CROTHALL'S

OVER 100 striking domestics from Barking Hospital, east London, and their supporters yesterday lobbied the Redbridge District Health Authority meeting.

The meeting discussed a report on the position at the hospital where women have been out on strike since last March in opposition to the use of private contractors Crothall's, a subsidiary of the multinational Pritchard's.

The District Health Authority's working party report claimed that in the past month overall standards of cleaning at the hospital had improved.

'However,' it admitted, 'standards have still not been consistent enough and can fail rapidly. Although not to the same extent as in December, the same detailed failings have occurred and there is still concern about flexibility, continuity, supervision and training.'

Previous problems identified had been 'dusting, floor finishes and sanitary fittings and also some of the cleaning equipment itself and the equipment stores'.

But despite the working party's own criticisms, the following recommendations were put:

- To continue employing Crothall's until the annual review date of the contract — April 1, 1985;
- During this period close monitoring should continue and discussions should take place with

BY PENNY BLOOR

Crothall's over the areas of continued concern;

● The decision as to whether or not to extend the contract for a further four-year period should be made at the authority meeting on March 26.

Leader of the Labour group on Redbridge council, John Hogben, moved a motion calling for an immediate end to the Crothall's contract and the introduction of an in-house plan employing as many of the previous domestic workers as possible.

Amended

Hogben, however, could not get a seconder. Eventually another member of the authority seconded an amended version of the motion, containing the proviso that the contract should go out to open tender, with in-house being one of



Striking domestics from Barking hospital lobbying the Redbridge District Health Authority meeting yesterday

the options allowed to compete.

This motion, however, was defeated by six votes to two.

Tory councillor Joyce Clarke claimed that although cleaning at Barking was not all satisfactory, 'one wonders whether if we had gone round on the previous contract we would have found faults?'

The fact that the hospital had been found dirty on occasions could be due to the fact that it was monitored more frequently.

Angry strikers in the audience shouted 'rub-bish!'

Clarke then attacked the strikers, claiming that their pickets were intimidating the scabs which have been em-

ployed by Crothall's.

Sue Smith, the strikers' NUPE shop steward, said afterwards: 'I am very disappointed by the decision.'

'I'm extremely surprised that considering the hospital hasn't been cleaned for ten months they felt they had to give them another month to change the situation.'

'I am totally surprised

that they are prepared to put patients at risk.'

Iris Elliott and Rita Plume said: 'We've been out 11 months now and we'll see it right through to the end — even if it's bitter.'

'They won't get rid of us. We have worked there for years and we are determined to see it through.'

Cambridge court move fails

LABOUR councillor Janet Jones failed yesterday in a High Court move to compel Cambridge Health Authority to seek new tenders for the cleaning contract at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Cleaners there are on strike against the bringing in of private contractors OCS.

Mr Justice Hodgson said her case should never have been brought. He rejected her claim that the authority had acted unlawfully and ignored its own standing orders when it appointed OCS Hospital Services as cleaning contractors for the hospital.

Behind the case, said the judge, was the political dispute over the government's privatisation policy.

But at Addenbrooke's the cleaning had been carried out for some time by independent contractors, he said.

The judge said the authority had in no way acted unreasonably in the way it reached its decision.

The court had been misled last November when Mrs Jones, a member of the health authority, was given leave to bring her case, he said.

She had alleged that no guarantees had been given by or on behalf of the contractors, that they would carry out the contract. But, said the judge, she knew that the parent company of OCS had given a written guarantee.

Mrs Jones was ordered to pay the costs of the case.

Fewer beds for more aged

THE health service will not be able to cope with the increasing number of old people over the next ten years, Michael Meacher, Shadow Health Secretary warned yesterday.

He said although there would be more than a million extra people over the age of 75 within the next decade there would be even fewer geriatric beds than there were in 1976.

He said this would lead to growing numbers of elderly people being farmed out to an under-resourced and unprepared community.



RIDLEY

Public cash used to push Tory Bill

LABOUR MPs are up in arms because a Tory Minister has spent public money for a party-political campaign in support of the Transport Bill, now on its way through parliament.

Transport Secretary Nicholas Ridley has admitted that £350 from his department's funds was spent on a letter sent to Tory MPs by his parliamentary secretary, David Mitchell.

The letter was mailed to Tories in the Commons, but

by mistake a copy was also addressed to Ron Davies, Labour MP for Caerphilly.

It offered aid with the preparation of speeches, press handouts or features for local papers in support of the Bill.

The letter also said: 'No doubt when your local press carry reports of any speech which you have made there will be opposing articles, or Letters to the Editor, some of which you will want to reply to.'

'If you need further information for that purpose, please let me know by writing to me at the Depart-

ment of Transport.

'I will try to reply personally more quickly than I would normally be able to so that you can answer what has been written while it is still in readers' memories.'

When Davies originally asked Mitchell for an explanation, the Tory junior minister denied that he had written the letter in his official capacity.

Cost

But since then Ridley has admitted in a parliamentary answer that the cost to public funds was £350. Davies now wants to know:

- How many other departments are doing the same thing, i.e. offering private briefings to government MPs and a private service.
- What the total cost is.
- What is the authorisation for the expenditure.

The Caerphilly MP points out that if misuse of funds had happened in the civil service or local government or any other sector of public or private employment there would be immediate dismissal and subsequent legal proceedings.

He plans to ask the Prime Minister for a public statement on the use of public money for political slush funds.

No time off to fight for jobs

THE Manpower Services Commission was attacked yesterday for refusing to allow its employees time off to lobby MPs over the threatened closure of 29 skill centres.

The decision by the Commission to close the centres is now being considered by

Employment Secretary Tom King, who is expected to make his decision shortly.

The workers have organised a rally for next Tuesday, but they have all been refused permission to take leave time to come and lobby MPs.

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FORDS ATUA

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Scots teachers lobby MPs

SCOTTISH teachers came to London yesterday to lobby MPs during their third week of selective strike action over pay.

Included in the delegation of about 120 teachers were Education Institute of Scotland president Kenneth McLachlan, vice-president Lilian Macdonald, ex-president Arthur Lennox, general secretary John Pollock and Wolseley Brown, con-

venor of the EIS salaries committee.

There were also members of two other teachers' unions in Scotland, the SSTA and the NAS/UWT.

The Scottish teachers are demanding an independent salaries review, increased staffing and resources and no deterioration in existing conditions of service.

So far they have been told that any pay increase would be connected to

conditions of service and would link teachers' performance to the amount they earn — which the EIS union has thrown out.

Strikes have been held in selected schools in the constituencies of a number of Scottish Tory MPs and there has been selective strike action in other schools on a rotating basis.

Tomorrow there will be meetings of the EIS salaries committee, the Teachers' Panel and the

full SJNC in Edinburgh.

On Friday the EIS national council meets to discuss further escalation of its industrial action if the employers do not move.

Pollock has indicated that failure by the government this week to offer genuine negotiation could result in a hardening in the dispute with serious consequences for the future of Scottish education.

World News Line

Briefly . . .

Soviet official disappears

MANILA — A Soviet official who arrived in the Philippine capital two weeks ago to take part in an exhibition of chemical products has disappeared and is believed to have defected, according to government officials. Vladimir Ivanov, part of a six-man delegation, had contacted the United States embassy, they said.

Hawke appeals to EEC

BRUSSELS — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke has asked the Common Market to promise not to try to capture his country's share of the Asian export market with cheap sales from its massive surplus food stocks. The EEC and Australian producers have been locked in a long battle over EEC bans on the import of Australian agricultural produce.

Nuclear plant for Bavaria

HANOVER, West Germany — The nuclear fuel reprocessing company DWK will build a plant near the Bavarian hamlet of Waskersdorf. The village of Dragahn, Lower Saxony, was dropped from earlier proposals after fierce opposition from the residents but DWK spokesmen did not say why they had chosen Waskersdorf, where opposition is equally bitter.

Greek police launch hunt

ATHENS — Greek airport, harbour and border police have been placed on the lookout for a young man alleged to have planted a bomb in a bar where an explosion injured 80 people in the capital at the weekend. Thirteen US servicemen have been airlifted to a US military hospital in West Germany and at least five are in serious condition in Greece.

Stooge backs Uncle Sam

WASHINGTON — Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the pro-Pretoria Zulu leader, has met President Reagan and strongly supported US policy not to impose economic sanctions in retaliation against the racist segregation policies of apartheid. Buthelezi said he backed Reagan's 'constructive engagement' with South Africa.

UN call to monitor torture

GENEVA — The United Nations Human Rights Commission has been urged by its outgoing chairman to set up a system to monitor the use of torture against prisoners. Peter Kooijmans of the Netherlands told the opening meeting of the commission's 1985 session on Monday that torture remained a daily occurrence despite the fact that the UN adopted a convention in December to ban it.

Closures fuel rise in jobless

THE United States Labour Department reported an increase of 80,000 in the number of first claims for unemployment compensation in the week ending January 12.

Workers receiving state or federal unemployment benefits, not including the total number unemployed, rose 126,000 in the week ending January 5, and in the week before that the figure jumped by 450,000. The total in this category was close to that of a year ago: 4.2 million.

Recent shutdowns and layoffs show that the growing economic slump is not confined only to steel and other sections of basic industry. In addition to industrial cutbacks, the record freeze in Florida last month cost the jobs of one-third of the state's 300,000 farm workers.



5,000 lined up for 150 jobs in Chicago last month

REAGAN OUT TO SMASH UNIONS

MOVES to destroy the United Steelworkers (USWA) and 12 other unions representing striking copper miners at Phelps Dodge, Arizona, are a brutal challenge to the entire labour movement.

After counting the votes in last month's rigged ballot in which scabs voted by 1,906 to 87 to end 80 years of trade union representation, the National Labour Relations Board is only awaiting the filing and routine dismissal of the unions' objections before issuing its decertification order, legally banning the unions.

The NLRB intervention is the culmination of a savage 19-month campaign, spearheaded by Arizona's Democratic Governor Bruce Babbitt, to break the Phelps Dodge strike.

In August 1983, Babbitt ordered more than 1,000 state police and national guardsmen to occupy the mining towns of Clifton and Morenci.

Steel losses

BETHLEHEM Steel Corporation has reported a fourth-quarter net loss more than double its losses a year ago.

The corporation is slashing quarterly dividend payments to 10 cents a share, from 15 cents.

Bethlehem, the country's second-largest steelmaker, posted a deficit of \$64.5 million, compared with a loss of \$27.4 million for the corresponding period in 1983.

Even the right of workers to maintain picket lines has been abolished by the NLRB. In the eyes of the capitalist state, USWA Local 616 and its brother unions have been wiped off the face of the earth.

Despite this ruling, the striking miners are determined to continue their struggle.

Only eight workers have placed their names on a so-called preferential hiring list that would make them eligible for rehiring by the company as non-union labourers.

The attitude of the striking miners is that to place one's name on such a list would be tantamount to scabbing.

Assault

The open unionbusting at Phelps Dodge brings the assault on trade unions by the capitalist state to its highest point.

It was launched by the White House with the smashing of the PATCO strike and the mass sacking of 12,000 air traffic controllers in August 1981, eight months after Reagan was inaugurated for his first term in office.

It has proceeded through the biggest campaign of wage-cutting since the Great Depression, and one unionbusting attack after another on separate groups of workers at Greyhound, Continental Airlines, Louisiana-Pacific, Danly Machine and AP Parts.

A new stage in the unionbusting assault has emerged with the installation of the second Reagan administration.

The NLRB decision on

FROM MARTY MORAN IN DETROIT

the Phelps Dodge strikers takes place in the context of stepped-up state violence against workers in struggle.

● In Clairton, Pennsylvania, sheriff's deputies smashed their way into a church occupied by a group of union officials and unemployed workers and arrested them.

Fifteen Mon Valley demonstrators have been sentenced to prison terms of up to six months for protesting against plant closures and unionbusting.

● In Toledo, Ohio, the courts have stepped in to limit picketing in the AP Parts strike to two at each gate, while at the same time whitewashing a company guard charged with shooting a striker in the back.

● In Chicago, the president of the USWA local on strike at Danly was sentenced to a jail term for

violating an anti-union injunction.

The labour movement is being thrust into a political battle with the Reagan government and the capitalist state.

The leaders of the USWA and the rest of the American Federation of Labour-Confederation of Industrial Organisations (AFL-CIO) can no longer pretend that what happened to the air traffic controllers was an isolated occurrence.

Refusal

The implications of the PATCO strike and the refusal of the AFL-CIO bureaucracy to lift a finger to defend PATCO are reverberating throughout the labour movement.

The repressive powers of the state are being employed against all those who challenge the government's policies; from the arrest of farmers protesting against cuts in

subsidies, to the legal persecution of religious activists offering sanctuary to Salvadorean refugees.

These measures belie the claims of the administration — unanimously echoed by the capitalist press — that Reagan is enormously popular and presiding over the economic revival of American capitalism.

The reality is the direct opposite: American capitalism is plunging into the biggest financial catastrophe in history.

Reagan's 'economic recovery' is based upon unprecedented federal borrowing, with the federal budget deficit mounting to over \$75 billion in the last three months of 1984.

The policies of high interest rates and massive borrowing that sustained a limited recovery through the 1984 elections have driven the world capitalist system to the brink of collapse.

Civil rights leaders fight slanders

CIVIL rights leaders have condemned President Reagan for repeating racist allegations that blacks voted 9-1 against him in the November election because they were 'stirred up' by black civil rights organisations.

The allegation that black voters suffered from 'a lack of understanding' because civil rights leaders were keeping them 'stirred up' exposes a reactionary government operation to crack down on the black civil rights movement.

Reverend Joseph Lowrey, head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said he and other civil rights leaders had demanded a meeting with Reagan.

Reagan, who made the outrageous remarks after his November re-election, repeated his slander in an interview with the Mutual Broadcast System on

January 26.

He said 'leaders of black organisations' refused to admit the 'gains' achieved under his government 'because it might reveal then that there's no longer a need for their jobs'.

'And so, they keep . . . the people stirred up as if the cause still exists.'

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World News Line

Karami
appeals
for aid

BEIRUT — The government yesterday appealed to Saudi Arabia for help as the Lebanese pound regained ground after plunging to a record low of 15.10 to the dollar in trading on Monday.

It was trading at between 13.50 and 14.50 as Prime Minister Rashid Karami and President Amin Gemayel met businessman Rafiq Hariri and despatched him to Riyadh with a special message to King Fahd.

Karami said the message 'included a request and contained some proposals regarding hoped-for economic aid'.

Beirut newspapers speculated that Gemayel had asked for a \$500-million loan. The press said also Education Minister Selim Hoss had been asked to draft an overall policy for economic stabilisation.

Crisis

Hoss, who sparked a Cabinet crisis more than a week ago by resigning and later withdrawing his resignation after the Syrian government began secret diplomatic conciliation, is an economist by profession and is reputed to command the respect of the Lebanese business establishment.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the wresting of command in West Beirut from the Lebanese army by the combined militia forces of the Shi'ite Amal and the Druze on February 6 last year.

In occupied south Lebanon, two Israeli soldiers were wounded in a bomb attack near the Palestinian refugee camps of Bourj Ash-Shemali, east of Tyre.

Bolivian
workers
win rise

LA PAZ — Thousands of Bolivian trade unionists called off a 17-day strike that culminated in a general strike on Monday after the Supreme Court told employers to pay a 200 per cent wage increase.

Factory workers' leader Felipe Tapia said his union had called off the strike after receiving a telex from the court in Sucre, the juridical capital 255 miles south-east of La Paz.

President Hernan Siles Zuazo provoked a general strike on Monday by reneging on a November pledge to approve wage rises to compensate for harsh price increases.

Labour Federation (COB) secretary-general Walter Delgadillo said taxi, bus and truck owners, who took their vehicles off the roads at the weekend, would continue their action until the government introduced substantial fare increases.

Trip

Private bankers, bitterly opposed to wage increases, have locked out employees since January 22 and are demanding government guarantees against executives being taken hostage by the enraged staff.

ISRAEL: PRICES UP
TO PAY FOR GUNS

Namibia Support Committee activists picketed the South African embassy, London, in protest against the trial of liberation fighters Sam Mundjindji, 24, and Veiko Nghitewa, 28, in occupied Namibia yesterday.

TEL AVIV — Israelis paid up to 20 per cent more for their groceries yesterday under a new wages and prices pact among the government, the state-sponsored Histadrut trade union organisation and employers.

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

It was part of measures by the Shimon Peres multi-party coalition aimed at satisfying the US government that it is undertaking enough economic austerity measures to qualify for more financial and military aid.

President Reagan, who approved a \$1.8-billion non-repayable military grant when Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin visited Washington last week, stipulated that further aid depended on the government's willingness to impose International Monetary Fund-inspired cuts, particularly on wages.

The wages and prices pact took effect yesterday and will last for eight months.

Other drastic measures have been agreed and the public told they are necessary to reduce inflation, running at an annual rate of 450 per cent.

The economic austerities, designed also to stem a serious depletion of foreign currency reserves, will impose a virtual ban on thousands of Israelis travelling abroad or buying imported commodities.

Israelis paid between 4 per cent and 20 per cent more for 200 products whose prices had purportedly been frozen for three months, while post-al charges doubled and

electricity prices soared 25 per cent.

Decrees agreed at an emergency Cabinet meeting on Monday night doubled the \$100-tax Israelis pay to leave the country and imposed a 15 per cent tax on air tickets and 20 per cent on already costly luxury imports such as cars and cosmetics.

Reserves

Israel's foreign currency reserves fell last month by 11 per cent to \$2.31 billion dollars — about \$700 million below the accepted danger level.

Importers, travel agents, economists, in-

dustrialists and community organisations bitterly criticised the measures yesterday.

Kobi Karney, deputy chairman of the Israeli Travel Agents Association, asked: 'What do they want to do; close all of us up in one pressure cooker?'

The bourgeois economist Dov Genechovsky, who supports monetarist measures with some protection for the middle class and small traders, wrote in the daily 'Yedioth Ahronoth': 'The trips abroad and imports didn't create the problem of empty coffers. It was the government's inability to reduce its spending that did it.'

Mid-East
diplomacy
in Algiers

PARIS — Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yassir Arafat and Syrian Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam flew unannounced to Algeria on Monday, according to the Algerian News Agency APS.

The agency, monitored in Paris, said Khaddam arrived first and later met Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi. It



ARAFAT

did not announce details of the talks.

Arafat, who met Saudi Arabia's King Fahd in Riyadh on Sunday, arrived later with two PLO aides whom APS did not name.

Lima gives Pope
a dark motorcade

LIMA — The Peruvian armed guerrilla liberation movement Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) defied 15,000 security men and Pope Paul's call to lay down arms and blew up power pylons, blacking out Lima as he rode through the city on Monday.

A hammer and sickle emblem glowed on a hillside above the city in defiant rejection of the prelate's reactionary message of subservience to the atrocities of many Latin American states.

cast that the guerrilla group was on its way to extinction.

It followed a call he made to lay down arms while on a tour of the Andean heartland, the Sendero Luminoso's stronghold in its four-and-a-half-year war against the government.

With the full mobilisation of state protection, surrounded by sandbagged machine gun nests of crack troops in the Andean city of Ayacucho, he had said:

'I ask you in the name of God, change your ways. Convert yourselves to the cause of reconciliation and peace. You still have time.'

Lima's Vatican embassy was in total darkness as he walked into the palatial building to spend the night after a drive from the airport.

He later appeared at

the balcony and bantered with Roman Catholic enthusiasts, without referring to the blackout.

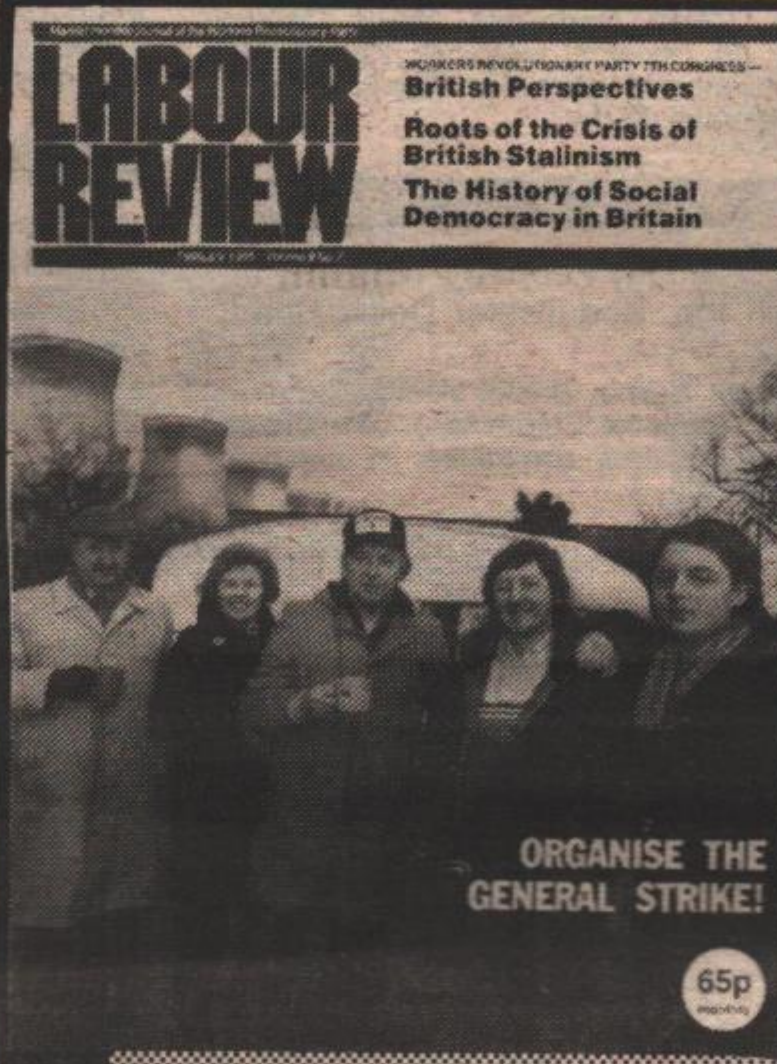
A police station was attacked in a north-eastern suburb of Lima, according to police who did not give details.

A TV station said power pylons were blown up in Jicamarca, 18 miles east of Lima. Four of Lima's five TV stations and most radio stations went off the air.

Visit

Power was restored in 80 per cent of the city in less than three hours, according to an electricity company spokesman.

The Pope, who leaves for Trinidad and Tobago today was on the third leg of a 12-day Latin American visit that has included Venezuela and Ecuador.



FEBRUARY ISSUE

Inside this month

- **British Perspectives**
— Resolution of the 7th Congress of the WRP
- **The roots of the crisis of British Stalinism**
— by Bill Hunter
- **The history of social democracy in Britain**
— by Geoff Pilling
- **The split in the UAW**
— Statement by the Workers League (USA)

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High rise tenants warned

BOTTLE GAS 'TIME BOMB'

THOUSANDS of tenants in high-rise flats are sitting on a 'time bomb', says a report out yesterday.

It says that an accident with bottled gas could lead to an explosion that would bring a block down like a pack of cards.

The report published in the housing magazine 'Roof', states that there is universal agreement that the use of bottled gas in high flats is dangerous, but despite this it is being used more and more by

THE BODY of AIDS victim Gregory Richards, the 38-year-old prison chaplain who died last Thursday, was cremated in a hurriedly arranged secret ceremony on Monday night at Chelmsford crematorium. Staff agreed after a council safety inspector was called in to assure them there would be no risk of infection.

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

tenants who can't afford the alternatives.

Robert Cowan the report's author, recalled the Ronan Point disaster in 1968 in which an explosion of piped gas led to the partial collapse of a 23 storey block in East London causing the deaths of three people.

Hazards

This revealed the hazards of using gas in buildings constructed of pre-cast load-bearing concrete panels, where an explosion that blows out the wall of one flat can lead to the progressive collapse of large parts of the whole building.

As a result of the Ronan Point disaster, gas supplies were permanently removed from many similar buildings and some strengthening work was carried out.

But recent surveys have shown that this work was inadequate to remove the risk of progressive collapse after a gas explosion.

The GLC alone built 1,800 flats of load-bearing panel construction in the 1960s.

This winter more and more people than ever are heating their homes by liquid propane gas (LPG). They use it because they cannot afford anything else, or because their gas or electricity supply has been cut off.

LPG is more hazardous than piped gas, as being heavier than air it is slower to disperse after leaking and tends to collect in pools.

The report states: 'In 1983, LPG caused 687 fires in dwellings, with 188 casualties and five deaths.'

Luck

It adds: 'The fact that bottled gas has not yet caused a major disaster in a block of flats is only a matter of luck.'

Housing Minister, Ian Gow said in a Commons statement that as long ago as 1978 the main suppliers had advised their

agents not to sell LPG to people living in blocks of flats of more than four storeys.

But he said: 'The department has evidence that despite these warnings the use of bottled gas heaters is increasing.'

Defects

Sam Webb is an architect who has campaigned to expose the defects of system-built council blocks, which he describes as one of the great failures of British housing over the last 25 years.

He says that tenants' campaigns to have defects remedied, useable heating systems installed and for the worst blocks to be demolished are making painfully slow progress.

The report's conclusion is: 'Until these campaigns see positive results, exhortations to heed the dangers of bottled gas will continue to have only a marginal effect. The alternative is to wait for the complacency to be shattered by a new Ronan Point.'



RONAN POINT

Training on the never never

TORY proposals for loans for adult training will harm disadvantaged groups, the Greater London Council warned yesterday.

In response to a Department of Employment discussion document, the Greater London Training Board says:

● Low-paid workers and the unemployed would be unlikely to take up the scheme because of the heavy debt burden they would face;

● Banks would be effectively judging training proposals on financial grounds alone, ignoring the other reasons why people wish to train;

● People with disabilities or responsible for dependents would be discouraged by large loan repayments needed to cover extended maintenance payments.

Garth Daniel, chairman of the GLTB, said: 'I deplore this idea of training on the never never. Industry needs skilled workers and industry should pay for them.'

'These proposals throw the financial cost on to the individual with no guarantees that their investment will pay off.'

WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Unite struggle of council workers with miners!
- TUC must call General Strike now!

Plus film: 'The Organisation of the General Strike'

SCOTLAND

SPRINGBURN: Thursday February 14, 7.30p.m. Hawthorn Street Primary School, Hawthorn Street.
Speakers: Alex McLarty (WRP Central Committee); Gary Dempsey (Springburn YS); George McKinnay (Springburn WRP)

GLASGOW EAST END: Wednesday February 20, 7.30p.m. YS Youth Training Centre, Tobago Street, Off London Road.
Speakers: Marie Devlin (YS Regional Committee); Simon Pirani (WRP Central Committee); John Barrie (NUR, in personal capacity)

NORTH WEST

MANCHESTER: Wednesday February 13, 7.30p.m. Basement Theatre, Town Hall Extension, Albert Square.
Speakers: John Oldham (YS National Committee); Mike Banda (WRP general secretary); In personal capacity: Peter Jepson (Tameside councillor); Speaker from Walkden NCB workshops; Steve Howells (NUM Agcroft strike co-ordinator)

STOCKPORT: Wednesday February 20, 7.30p.m. Trades Union Club, High Street.
Speakers: John Oldham (YS National Committee); Stuart Carter (WRP Central Committee)

LEYLAND: Thursday February 21, 7.30p.m. Civic Hall, Towngate.
Speakers: John Worthington (Leyland YS); Tony Banda (WRP Central Committee); In personal capacity: Allen Jones (Point of Ayr NUM); Steve Brindley (BAC, AUEW senior steward)

STAFFS

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME: Tuesday February 19, 7.30p.m. Chesterton Library and Community Centre, London Road.
Speakers: Robin Bickerstaffe (Stoke YS); P. Reid (Stoke WRP); In personal capacity: John Holdcroft (Senior EETPU shop steward); Danny Anderson (Wolstanton NUM)

EASTERN

PETERBOROUGH: Thursday February 21, 7.30p.m. AUEW Hall, Lincoln Road.
Speakers: Sammy Tams (YS Regional Committee); Pat Brooks (Peterborough WRP)

PETERBOROUGH: Monday March 25, 7.30p.m. Tyesdale Community Centre, Tyesdale, South Bretton.
Speakers: Tony Hyland (YS National Committee); Pat Brooks (Peterborough WRP)

YORKSHIRE

YORK: Thursday February 21, 7.30p.m. York Community Centre, Room 5, Priory Street.
Speakers: Cliff Slaughter (WRP Central Committee); Kevin Warren (Kippax Young Socialists)

WEST MIDLANDS

NUNEATON: Wednesday February 13, 7.30p.m. Central Library, Church Street.
Speakers: Clive Andrews (YS National Committee); Corin Redgrave (WRP Central Committee); In personal capacity: Ken Tyrell (AUEW Convenor Massey Ferguson); Speaker from Warwickshire NUM

WESTERN

BRISTOL: Tuesday February 12, 7.30p.m. The Plough Inn, Bedminster Down Road, Bedminster.
Speakers: Mick Byrne (Bristol WRP); Caroline Kearney (YS Regional Committee); Jim Cheek (T&GWU bus regional committee, in personal capacity)

SWINDON: Thursday February 21, 7.30p.m. The Ship, Westcott Place.
Speakers: Bruce Chapman (YS Regional Committee); Dave Good (WRP Central Committee)

SOUTH WALES

ABERTILLERY: Thursday February 7, 7.30p.m. Abertillery Miners Institute.
Speakers: Ann Pickard (YS Regional Committee); Travis Gould (WRP Central Committee); Maddison Kelsie (Compens. Secretary Rose Heyworth NUM)

ABERDARE: Wednesday February 20, 7.30p.m. Boot Hotel.
Speakers: Ann Pickard (Aberdare YS); Travis Gould (WRP Central Committee)

FERNDALE: Tuesday February 26, 7.30p.m. Ferndale Workmen's Club.
Speakers: Travis Gould (WRP Central Committee); Ann Pickard (YS Regional Committee); Harry Coombes (NUM Maerdy Lodge, in personal capacity)

SUSSEX

CRAWLEY: Wednesday February 27, 7.30p.m. Ifield Community Centre, Ifield Drive.
Speakers: Graham Fenwick (YS National Committee); Joe Kearney (Crawley WRP)

ESSEX

GRAYS: Wednesday February 20, 7.30p.m. Thameside 2, Central Complex, Orsett Road.
Speakers: Julie Hyland (YS National Secretary); Keith Scotcher (WRP London District Committee)

MIDDLESEX

ISLEWORTH: Tuesday February 19, 7.30p.m. Town Hall, South Street.
Speakers: Steve Mott (YS Regional Committee); Richard Price (WRP Central Committee); Lynne Roberts (West Middlesex hospital NUPE, in personal capacity)

SURREY

CROYDON: Monday February 25, 7.30p.m. Norbury Public Library, London Road (entrance Beatrice Avenue)
Speakers: Graham Fenwick (YS National Committee); Peter Gibson (WRP Central Committee)

LONDON

CATFORD: Wednesday February 13, 7.30p.m. Lewisham Theatre, Committee Room A.
Speakers: Eric Morgan (Woolwich YS); Jean Kerrigan (WRP London District Committee)

HORNSEY: Wednesday February 27, 7.30p.m. Hornsey Library, Haringey Park.
Speakers: Elizabeth Ali (YS Regional Committee); Richard Goldstein (WRP London District Committee)

HARLESDEN: Wednesday February 27, 7.30p.m. Harlesden Library, Craven Park.
Speakers: Matt Hanlon (YS National Committee); Dany Sylveire (Harlesden WRP)

LEWISHAM: Thursday February 28, 7.30p.m. Deptford Town Hall, New Cross.
Speakers: Eric Morgan (YS Regional Committee); Jean Kerrigan (WRP London District Committee)

ACTON: Thursday February 28, 7.30p.m. Council Chamber, Acton Town Hall, Winchester Street entrance.
Speakers: Matt Hanlon (YS National Committee); Richard Price (WRP Central Committee)

BRIXTON: Tuesday March 5, 7.30p.m. Room 7, Brixton Town Hall, Acre Lane.
Speakers: Gary Hughes (Brixton YS); Paul Feldman (WRP Central Committee); Sylvester Smart (Lambeth AUEW convenor, in personal capacity); Speaker from South Wales NUM

Ambulance services cut to fit Tory budget

THE LONDON Ambulance Service will this year fall a long way short of its obligations to Londoners.

That is the conclusion of a Greater London Council report reacting to the ambulance service's plans for the next two years.

The GLC criticises the South West Thames Regional Health Authority for its failure to take any account of increases in the need for ambulances.

The plans are based solely on cutting the services to fit the budget, not on London's need for

say GLC

ambulances, the GLC says.

All the cuts will come from withdrawing non-emergency services, with lowest priority being given to outpatients, even if they are rated medically unfit to travel.

The planners intend to withdraw ambulances from taking patients to psychiatric day hospitals, and are considering cutting the payments currently made to staff under national agree-

ments for subsistence, overtime and travel expenses.

Barrie Stead, chairman of the GLC health panel, said: 'This is what happens when important services are taken out of local government control, as the ambulance service was in 1974.'

He added: 'If the government abolish the GLC we will see the same thing happen for all other services run by the GLC.'

The London Ambulance Service was operated by the GLC until April 1974 when it was taken over by the NHS.

Boy George wins showbiz award

BOY GEORGE was named recording artist of the year yesterday when the Variety Club of Great Britain presented its showbusiness awards.

Paul Eddington was named top stage actor for his performance in the Chichester Festival production of 'Forty Years On'.

Maureen Lipman was named stage actress of the year and the film performance awards went to Anthony Hopkins for his performance in 'The Bounty' and Helen Mirren for her part in 'Cal'.

George Cole and Dennis Waterman were named joint ITV personalities of the year for their roles as Arthur and Terry in 'Minder'.

David Jason won the



PAUL EDDINGTON

BBC TV personality award for his performance in 'Only Fools and Horses'.

Comedian Jimmy Jewell received a special award for his services to showbusiness and Anthony Sher was named as the most promising artist for his performance in 'Richard III'.

Briefly . . .

THE INQUEST on five women and three men killed in a gas blast at a block of luxury flats in Putney, south west London, last month was adjourned yesterday. Coroner Dr Paul Knapman told the hearing at Battersea that health and safety officials were preparing a report.

CONCORDE hopes to set a new civil aviation record next week when it makes a charter flight from London to Sydney, Australia. The 10,600-mile journey from Heathrow will be covered in about 17 hours — 6½ hours less than the fastest subsonic flight.

SURCHARGES of around £20 could be added to a typical summer holiday to Spain costing around £300, the Lunn Poly travel agency chain predicted yesterday.

BUILDING Society mortgage rates in the Irish Republic are set to rise by 2 per cent next month. The Irish Building Societies Association claims that a ½ per cent increase has been forced on them by Finance Minister Alan Dukes' decision to put up tax on their interest.

THE MINERS' STRUGGLE



Brookhouse miners fight for jobs and communities

SINGLE days of action are no use — only an indefinite General Strike can secure victory for the miners, says Albert Marson a picket at Brookhouse colliery in South Yorkshire.

'It's the only way forward for us now if we are going to save our jobs and our communities'.

Shaun Andrews said the closure of Brookhouse pit would be a shattering blow to the surrounding communities of Beighton and Swallownest.

'Shut this place down and they might just as well block the roads off because there'll be nothing left. It would be a no-man's land,' he said.

Calling for other unions to take action, he added: 'If we go down then Thatcher will go for the railways and then all the other big industries.'

Ray Taylor said he was 'never politically-minded before the strike'. But 11 months of bitter struggle have clearly changed his outlook.

'The government we've got is the nearest thing to dictatorship we've seen in this country — and Thatcher screams about democracy!'

'Mining communities have been turned into a police state and the police themselves have been

turned into vigilantes.'

Faced with that the pickets at Brookhouse are understandably bitter at the failure of the TUC leadership to carry out the decisions of last September's congress.

Andrews said: 'If the TUC had given us more real support, put some force behind it, and not given us just verbal backing then I think we'd have won this by now.'

'It's very late in the day — maybe it's too late — but other unions have got to recognise what's in front.'

Cowardly right-wing TUC leaders are one thing, but NUM president Arthur Scargill is quite different, the Brookhouse strikers were agreed.

'If we didn't believe that Scargill wasn't right — and he's been right all along — then we wouldn't be stood here day in and day out,' said Marson.

'We'll stay solid because we support him and we believe that we're right to fight for this cause. We're fighting for everybody's job.'



Central group among the pickets at Brookhouse colliery this week. Left to right: Ray Taylor, Albert Manson and Shaun Andrews

Dinnington NUM branch backs Scargill's stand

THE COAL Board's refusal to talk without preconditions is a direct intervention by the Thatcher government, Dinnington, South Yorkshire, miners say.

Their branch of the National Union of Mineworkers passed a resolution on Monday which 'unreservedly endorses the courageous and principled stand of miners' leader Arthur Scargill when he rejected the NCB Tory government ultimatum that the NUM surrender in advance its total opposition to pit closures on economic grounds.'

The deliberate disruption of the talks is inseparable from Thatcher's policy to smash the

NUM and starve the miners back to work, says the resolution, adding:

'This branch demands that the TUC and Labour Party disaffiliate all sections of NUM presently scabbing in the strike.'

Difficult

'Without the scabs the Tory government would be in an extremely difficult position. There is no place for anyone in the trade unions who refuse to defend basic democratic rights unconditionally.'

'This branch also endorses the action taken by the south-east regional TUC and the regional TUC on Humberside on Monday February 11 in their day of action in solidarity with the miners.'

The NUM must not be left to fight alone, the motion adds. The lessons of the last 11 months prove that the future of the miners and their communities is linked to the struggle of the whole working class.

'This branch therefore calls for a broadening of the class struggle against the Thatcher government through the uniting of the miners' strike with all workers in the trade union and labour movement and also preparing to fight Tory rate-capping.'

'This branch also calls on all trade unions involved in local government to transform the March 6 Day of Action called by the TUC into an indefinite strike in unity with the miners.'

Foulstone in court

KEN FOULSTONE, whose court action against the NUM led to a £200,000 fine, faced magistrates at Doncaster yesterday charged with three burglaries.

The case against Foulstone, 45, of Markham Clinton Pumping Station, Milton, Tuxford, Nottinghamshire, was adjourned on application by Harry Ireland, prosecuting, until February 19.

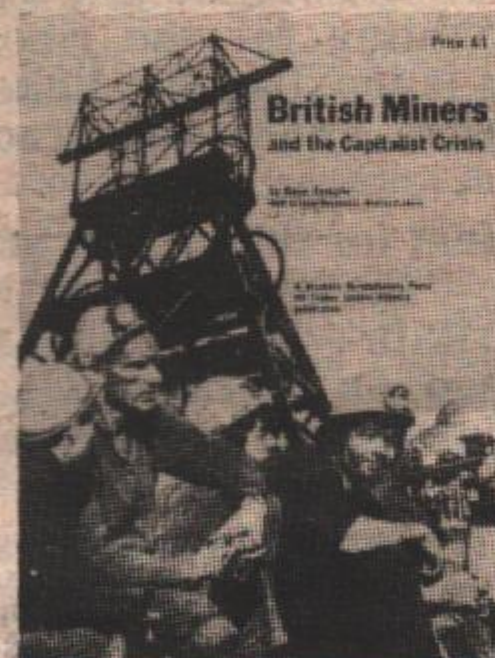
Foulstone, who is breaking the miners' strike at Manton colliery, near Worsop, Notting-

hamshire, was granted unconditional bail.

He is accused of burglary at a house in Bawtry Road, Bessacar, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, involving property worth £1,613; burglary at Cantley Hall, near Doncaster, involving property worth £1,760 and burglary at Serlby Hall, near Bawtry, South Yorkshire, involving property worth £1,650 belonging to the Dowager Viscountess Galway.

All the offences are alleged to have taken place between October and December 1977.

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This **WEDNESDAY**
February 6, 1985
morning ...

Scargill spells it out for the TUC

SPEAKING on the 'Panorama' television programme on Monday night, NUM president Arthur Scargill issued a correct warning and a challenge to the leaders of other unions affiliated to the TUC. He said his union was being battered by a 'galaxy of the state machine, the CBI, the Institute of Directors' and the media whilst 'the big battalions of the trade union movement stand on the sidelines'.

He added: 'It is time they came to the assistance of the NUM and took some industrial action to support this union and save jobs and pits. If not, it's their turn next to face the kind of butchery that's being threatened against my industry and was in fact put into practice against British Steel.'

'We're not negotiating with the National Coal Board, we're negotiating with the government of this country who are determined not just to smash the miners' union, but to smash effective trade unionism.'

Answering the interviewer's charge that other trade union leaders believed Scargill to be a bad negotiator, he replied: 'If those trade union leaders that you quote are being quoted accurately, it is at their cost. Because what is happening to my union today will happen to them tomorrow.'

In fact, this tomorrow has already arrived.

● **ONLY** A few hours before Scargill spoke, Environment Secretary Patrick Jenkin declared war on the rate-capped local authorities. Tens of thousands of local government jobs are immediately under threat, along with the welfare services built up by the trade union movement over more than a century.

● **THE TRANSPORT** and General Workers' Union has been politically victimised at Austin Rover, Cowley, through the sacking of a shop steward on a frame-up charge. The union, along with the other eight unions organised in Austin Rover, is being sued for damages over the November pay strike.

● **VICTIMISATION** of rail union members supporting the miners is being intensified, and British Rail have announced that at least 600 jobs will be axed from freight services. The first redundancies, at Flixborough, have already been enacted.

● **THIRTY-SEVEN** members of the GMBATU general workers' union have been jailed and sacked for their fight to defend jobs at Cammell Laird shipyard on Merseyside.

● **THE NATIONAL** Graphical Association still faces damages claims of over £2 million for the one-day strike action during their fight for the closed shop at the Stockport Messenger in Warrington.

● **THE MINERS**, with over 600 thrown into jail, and over 9,000 arrested are fighting for the whole working class. Their future is inextricably linked to the future of every other union and trade unionist.

Let there be no mistake, a defeat for the miners and the destruction of the NUM — the backbone of the trade union movement in Britain — would unleash a huge wave of destruction on working class communities, living standards and democratic rights.

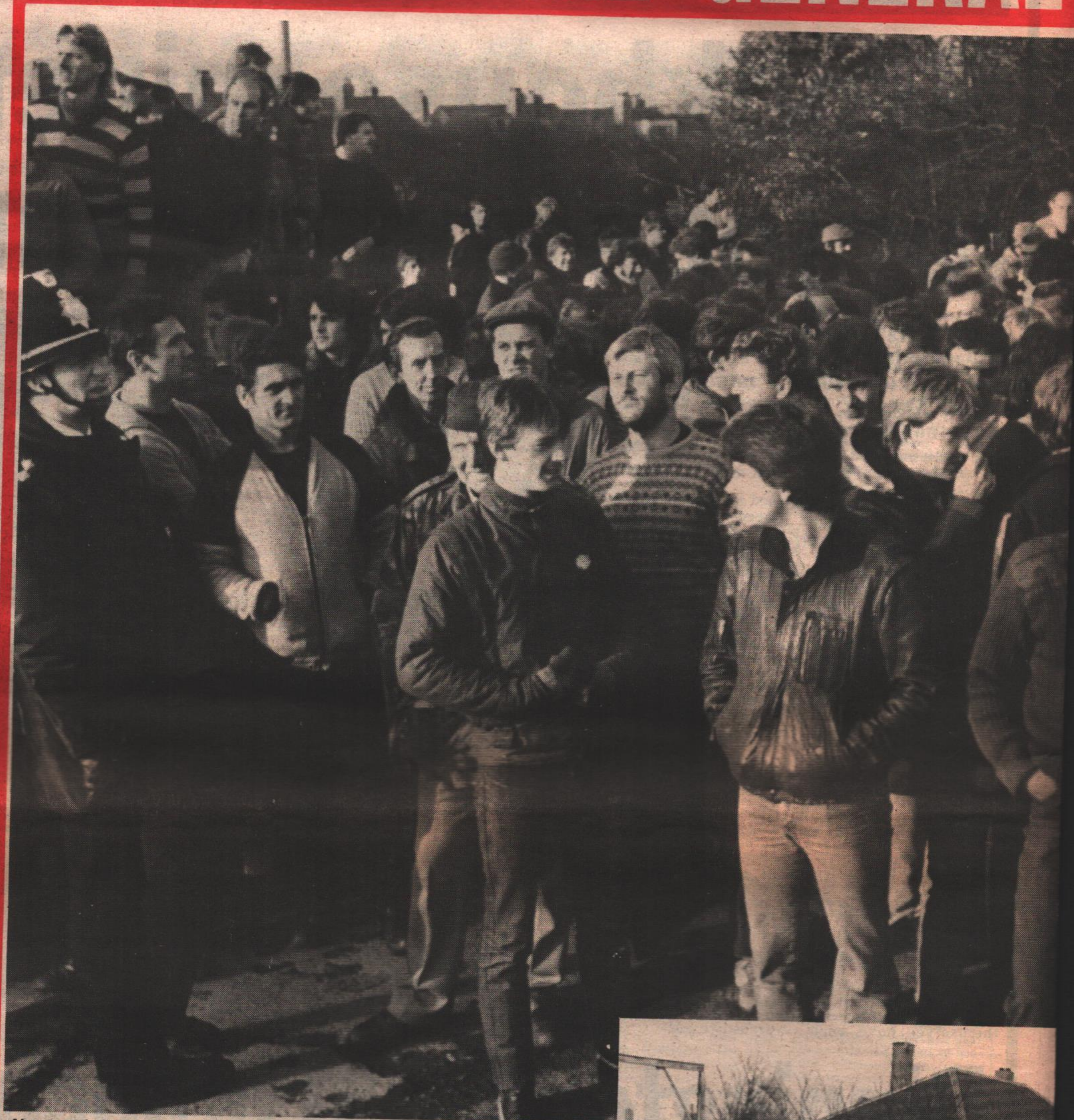
The world economic and political crisis is so intense that each day that passes sends shivers through the financial markets and the international banks. The smallest movement in the price of a single country's oil value sets sterling sliding. The only way to avert the catastrophe immediately facing the whole working class is through the General Strike to bring down the Thatcher Bonapartist regime.

We endorse fully the demand from the South Wales NUM and the Durham Mechanics for the TUC to call immediate and indefinite industrial action in support of the miners. The time has now come for the NUM and every one of the unions which support the miners to demand that the TUC call the General Strike as the only defence for trade unionism.

The future of trade unionism is at stake. All those union leaders who are standing aside to permit the destruction of the NUM must be faced with the demand for action. If they cannot meet the necessity of indefinite General Strike to defend all trade unions, then they must be removed from office by their members.

This is the time to act and the conditions for victory are good. Force the TUC to call the General Strike now.

ORGANISE THE GENERAL



Above and right: Some of the 1,000 Frickley miners who massed for picket duty

1,000 pickets at Frickley

YORKSHIRE miners answered Arthur Scargill's call for intensified picketing when about 1,000 strikers descended on Frickley colliery in West Yorkshire at lunch-time yesterday.

It was the third mass picket staged in the last week and nailed the Tory lie that the determination of the strikers is waning. Initially the pickets headed for South Kirkby colliery, about one mile away from Frickley.

But the police, realising that they would be overwhelmed by the large

BY SIMON VEVERS

number of pickets, decided to smuggle the scabs out early.

It must have been the shortest 'shift' for the strike-breakers in a long time. They went in at 7 a.m. and left barely four hours later!

But the pickets were not going to be put off by the police tactics. Most of them moved on to Frickley and soon sealed off both entrances.

The vast majority of the pickets were massed at one end where the scabs are usually taken out. However on this

occasion the bus, carrying just four scabs, was escorted out of the other end.

Early yesterday about 150 pickets gathered outside South Kirkby pit. Police charged into them violently forcing them back on to the pavement.

At the nearby Kinsley Drift mine 100 pickets scattered themselves along the approach road to the pit. There is not a crack in the ranks of the 500 men at the mine, with just one scab going in each day.

The Kinsley strikers have accused the police of provocatively wrecking their picket-line fire.



STRIKE TO BACK THE MINERS



'We're seeing Ridley plan put into action'

THE plan to smash trade unionism drawn up in 1978 by Tory minister Nicholas Ridley is being implemented during the miners' strike, South Kirkby NUM delegate George Buckley said yesterday.

'It was all laid down what they would do to unions in the Ridley Report. What we've seen over the last 11 months is that plan being put into action,' he told News Line.

'Privatisation and mass unemployment are central policies of this government and Thatcher knows that she must remove all obstacles to them being carried out.

'The government has been pulling the strings throughout the strike; now it's come out openly. Its objectives are political rather than industrial. They want to see the trade union movement destroyed.'

Hammered

Buckley envisages a rapid 'knock-on effect' if the miners are defeated. 'If we go down then I can see other trade unions getting hammered,' he said.

'The policy and philosophy of this government has been to fragment the trade union movement because they know that a united trade union movement is a strong trade union movement which they cannot easily defeat.'

Buckley condemned those right-wing union leaders who are queuing up to take cash for ballots from the Tory government while watching the miners facing the entire force of the state.

'It's been a sad aspect of this strike that the trade union movement as a whole has been unable — or unwilling — to deliver the goods. So far it has failed to support a union opposing Tory policies.

'Surely the functions of the TUC are to support an individual union with the collective strength of the



The picket line at South Kirkby and Ferry Moor Riddings mines yesterday: NUM delegate George Buckley is third from the left in the front

whole movement and not allow it to be isolated.

'If we were to have had a General Strike, it should have been a lot earlier.'

The pickets, predominantly young strikers, who turn out in force at South Kirkby each morning treat the NCB's daily back to work figures with total disdain.

Figures

'As Arthur Scargill has said, the board just mixes their figures to suit their propaganda and try and lure more men back, but it's not working,' said Buckley.

Anger over the stream of lies from the Tories and the NCB was inflamed last week by the

ultimatum to the NUM insisting that it agree in advance to discuss closures on economic grounds.

Fully backing the NUM executive's firm stand on the issue, Buckley said: 'No trade union could go along with the conditions they were demanding.'

'Effectively they were asking us to capitulate before even going into negotiations. Under no circumstances is this union going to do that.'

'I don't think the miners will be defeated, in fact I think that we've gained an important moral victory already.'

'For the last 11 months we've remained solid in support of the strike to defend our pits and our communities. No one can take that away from us.'

Narrow vote for deputies

PIT deputies union, NACODS, have accepted a 5.2 per cent pay offer from the Coal Board.

President Ken Sampey said they had voted 7,013 for and 5,495 against. The union's total membership is 15,500.

This deal is the same as an offer which was accepted by the colliery managers before Christmas, and is backdated to November 1984.

Deputies carried out a ballot last month and the result was not announced officially until yesterday,

so that branches could be informed.

The pay agreement followed the NACODS leadership's decision to call off a strike over pit closures last autumn despite an overwhelming ballot majority in favour of the strike.

The union has since claimed that the Coal Board's demand that the NUM give a written undertaking to accept pit closures on economic grounds violates their November deal.

NCB set to axe Seafield

BY CHRIS CORRIGAN

COAL board bosses, desperate to crack the strike in Fife, claimed last night it will take a 'miracle' to save a main coal face at Seafield colliery.

Less than 48 hours after declaring the connected Frances colliery to have been lost through fire, the NCB said similar conditions had put one of Seafield's three faces 'in the balance'.

Five hundred jobs are lost at Frances, and if the Seafield face is written

off, this will cost another 300 jobs.

But Albert Wheeler, NCB Scottish area director, went on to say that loss of the Seafield face could place the entire mining complex — employing 2,300 in total — at risk.

'It is not an economic proposition with the loss of two faces,' Wheeler stated.

Asked by a reporter what would happen to

striking miners who worked either at Frances or on the affected face at Seafield, Wheeler replied: 'We will be looking at 800 men who have not got a job.'

To the anger of striking miners, the board blames strikers, saying they were slow to respond to a request that the best way to tackle the blaze was to begin cutting coal again. Local NUM officials refute this and have pro-

duced the board's written request — received only last Thursday.

The union say it would take three weeks to begin cutting coal again and that, anyway, this would by no means have stopped the fire.

Furthermore, the pit had become a highly dangerous place, with intense heat and high carbon monoxide levels. The fire was always liable to run out of control.

'If they want to start

cutting again in these conditions I can suggest three men to operate the shearing equipment — MacGregor, Eaton and Wheeler,' commented one striker.

NUM Scottish area leaders, based in Edinburgh, have no policies to meet the board's closure onslaught in Fife. Demands must be raised that they immediately call on other unions to come out on strike with the miners.





ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIAN

TODAY we conclude reports of the discussion at the 2,000 strong All Trades Unions Alliance conference at the Sheffield City Halls last Sunday

Workers demand General Strike action



A section of the audience at the ATUA conference in Sheffield last Sunday

DAVE SMITH, Dinnington NUM president, spoke of a court case that had continued into this week in which 10 miners were in the dock on charges arising out of the Orgreave mass picket.

The miners' strike is still on, despite all the rubbish in the press. But, Smith warned, unless the miners were joined in action by the working class as a whole 'we will have fascism.'

As Thatcher's government moved further to the right, the Labour Party leaders were moving to the right with them, he pointed out.

Peter Hansom, a UCATT building workers' union official from the North East, gave the conference the facts about the collapse of the construction industry, the housing shortage and chronic unemployment amongst building workers.

There would never be any solution to these problems without mobilising the entire working class in action he stated. 'The only way we will get hous-

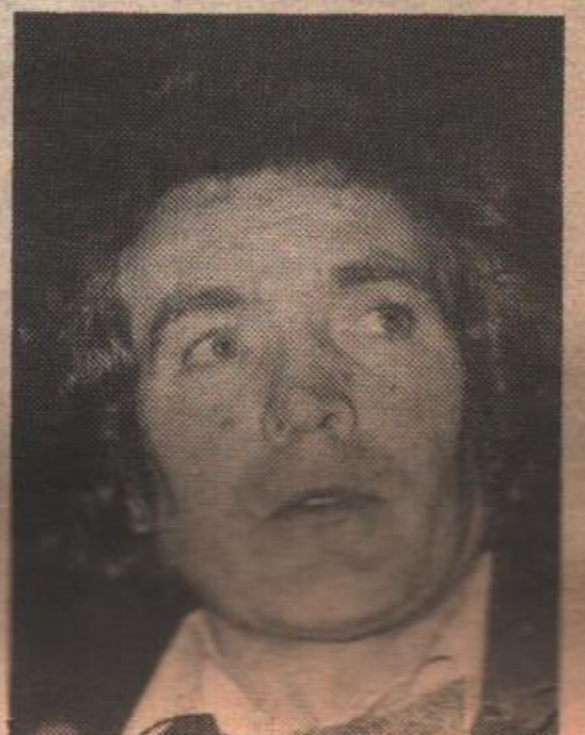
ing and all the other problems solved is through a General Strike, and the miners' strike is the key to that.

'We must get to work in our union branches and campaign in the communities. The only way forward is through a General Strike.'

Geoff Poulter, Bolsover NUM, said the sequestration of NUM funds had been an attack that leaders of other unions should have responded to. The TUC officials should have long ago brought out the rest of the movement in action with the miners.'



DAVE SMITH



GEOFF POULTER

Supporters

But people were blind if they thought the fight was over yet. 'Get your supporters on the picket lines, at day or night,' he urged.

Support for the miners' strike had come from Birkenhead, Poulter stated. 'We support the Cammell Laird shipyard workers there fighting for jobs. They must get their jobs back just the same as all the miners must.'

Indefinite strike from March 6



SYLVESTER SMART

SYLVESTER SMART, an AUEW shop steward in Lambeth Council's direct works, urged the conference to take up the fight for the General Strike.

'If the miners are pushed back all our futures will be destroyed,' he warned.

This fight must be taken up against those in the TUC and trade union movement at all levels. It was the trade union and Labour leaders who were putting pressure on the working class and not the government, he said.

'If you had looked at the situation in the last week you would have thought we had been defeated.'

This was the belief the media were trying to create.

'But the government is not strong,' he added. The desperate attempts to convince people of its strength were further evidence of its weakness.

'It is clear that after 11 months in which the government has refused to negotiate with the miners, all those who claim local authority workers can do a deal are lying.

'Neil Kinnock said to Labour councillors what he said to the miners: "You must not break the law". Mr Kinnock is out of touch. He has no idea what is taking place in the

workers' movement.

'We must applaud the stand taken by the Labour councillors on ratecapping.

'The fight against ratecapping is totally inseparable from the miners. We believe it would be lethal to try to separate the issues.'

Smart said that his section of the AUEW had passed a resolution calling for support for March 6 and to make that the beginning of an indefinite strike action.

This call was being made in other branches in Lambeth and was being

discussed by branches in other boroughs. 'Take up this call,' he urged.

Smart said no one should have illusions in the Tory government.

'In 1981 there were riots in Brixton. In the last months the government has introduced "Swamp 81" again, but this was a preparation for use against the council workers and others fighting the government,' he warned.

'I urge you. Take up the fight for the General Strike. Let's come out on March 6 and never go back until it's sorted out.'

Councils in same struggle

RATE-CAPPED councils were in the same struggle as the miners, Lambeth councillor Bill Bowring told the conference. They had no choice, but to fight.

In Lambeth, under the Tory rate-capping legislation 2,000 workers would lose their jobs and services would be slashed 'wholesale', he warned.

But rate-capped councils were making a united stand. He said the position was clear: 'that we do not cut and do not make a rate on March 7.

The council leaders are demanding that the rate-capping legislation is re-



BILL BOWRING

pealed, financial penalties abolished and the money 'stolen' paid back.

'That is the meaning of the unity of the struggle of the rate-capped councils with the miners. We are in the same struggle.

'It is the most powerful combination,' he added. But no one could win that battle without other sections of workers behind them, he warned.

'That is why the fight against rate-capping is the fight for the General Strike as well.'

Message from Newcastle councillors

TWO NEWCASTLE city councillors sent the following message to the conference:

WE ARE unable to be present at the conference in Sheffield today but would like to offer this message of support and solidarity.

The Thatcher government's attacks on the miners and local councils are part of the Tories' attempts to destroy working-class liberties and jobs — but these dictatorial policies also present the labour movement with an opportunity.

Given a clear determination to defend working-class interests, the labour movement can become the rock on which the Tory ship of state is wrecked!

It is a time for socialist leadership in industrial and community struggles. In the present crisis there can be no common ground between the ruling class and the working class.

The movement must therefore fight all cuts, job losses, wage reductions, and rent and rate increases, in the uncompromising manner shown during the miners' strike and the recent occupation of Cammell Laids.

Down with Thatcher!

Victory to the miners! Long live socialism!

In unity,
Councillor Kath Maines
and Councillor Nigel Todd

West Yorkshire county councillor Alan Speaks said the most conspicuous measure of the economic, political and social crisis was unemployment and the sharpest form of the fight back was the miners' strike.

But the scale of the crisis, the most profound this century, was also shown in other aspects, such as the abolition of the Greater London Council and the metropolitan county councils.

The government was hiving off the four principal services — fire, police, public transport and highways maintenance — to joint boards.

'What they are really saying is that the majority of services we are providing via elections and the ballot box will be taken to these boards and the only thing that will be different is elected representatives will no longer be there.'

Speaks warned: 'The way this whole government is going is in fact to make Britain an even more authoritarian state than it was before.'

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CE NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Des Warren case to go to court

Text of a statement submitted by Mike Farley and Peter Spalding, secretary of Croydon Trades Council, joint secretaries of the Des Warren Appeal Fund.

ON March 11 this year, the case of Des Warren versus the Home Office will come before the High Court. The hearing and judgement are expected to last at least four days.

Des Warren has suffered permanent injury to his health, and he is suing the Home Office on charges that his illness is a direct result of drugs administered to him when he was in jail for three years, starting in 1973.

Why was Des Warren in jail?

As a member of UCATT, he was the building worker in charge of pickets in Shrewsbury during the 1972 national building workers' strike. Together with 23 other building workers, he was charged with 'conspiracy to intimidate', 'causing an affray', and 'unlawful assembly'.

This 1973 case was a forerunner to the actions of the state today against the National Graphical Association, the unions at GCHQ and the National Union of Mineworkers.

Calls

On February 26, 1973, Mr T. Hannam, chief security officer of the building giant Robert McAlpine & Sons, wrote to Sir Robert Mark—then chief police commissioner at Scotland Yard—and urged him to heed to the calls of the Home Secretary, Robert Carr, the Attorney General and other Tory ministers for police action.

He wrote: 'The view was universally held that, whilst the law governing pickets and their activities was sufficient, the root cause of the incidents and their continuance was the lack of enforcement of the law by the police.'

How often have the miners heard these words in 1984!

Des Warren points out

in his book 'The Key to My Cell' that it was then obvious 'that the conspiracy to organise an attack on strikers' rights was under way'.

A huge attack was mounted. In November 1972, a team of full-time investigators took up residence in the Grand Hotel, Prestatyn, and during the next ten weeks they grilled more than 800 witnesses. But they could not find any basis for charges. Nevertheless the Attorney General replied with a political decision to bring in charges of conspiracy.

When the case was heard, the court was surrounded by a three-deep ring of police, and was accompanied by a well-organised witch-hunt from the capitalist press, Tory MPs and right-wing Labour leaders accusing the pickets of being 'thugs' and 'criminally violent men'.

But what was the crime of the pickets?

In August 1971, US President Nixon had announced the end of the dollar's convertibility into gold, ending the 1944 Bretton Woods agreement between the world's capitalist governments. The boom was over and the count-down to slump had begun.

The building trade was especially hard hit: unemployment and lump labour were growing. The building workers' union UCATT was forced to call a national strike as building workers fought to defend their wages and the basic right to work.

This was the so-called crime of the builders' pickets, as it is now the 'crime' of the miners.

The trial ended with six of the pickets being sent to jail and Des Warren staying in jail the longest—three years.

During this time, he never ceased to campaign on the principles at stake and there were many actions of support by the working class—in fact every major conference of trade unions, including

the Trade Union Congress itself and the Labour Party Conference, went on record demanding his release.

But the right wing leaders of the TUC were exposed for their complete hostility to the struggle of the working class.

When a Labour government was elected in 1974, appeals were made to the new Home Secretary, Roy Jenkins, for the release of the class-war prisoners. But they fell on deaf ears. In fact the Labour government was calling for changes in the law to restrict picketing.

Des Warren was moved 15 times between ten different prisons; he spent eight months in solitary confinement, and was reported on 36 occasions for breaches of discipline.

When his wife went into hospital, he petitioned Home Secretary Roy Jenkins for permission to make a telephone call to her—even this was refused.

Record

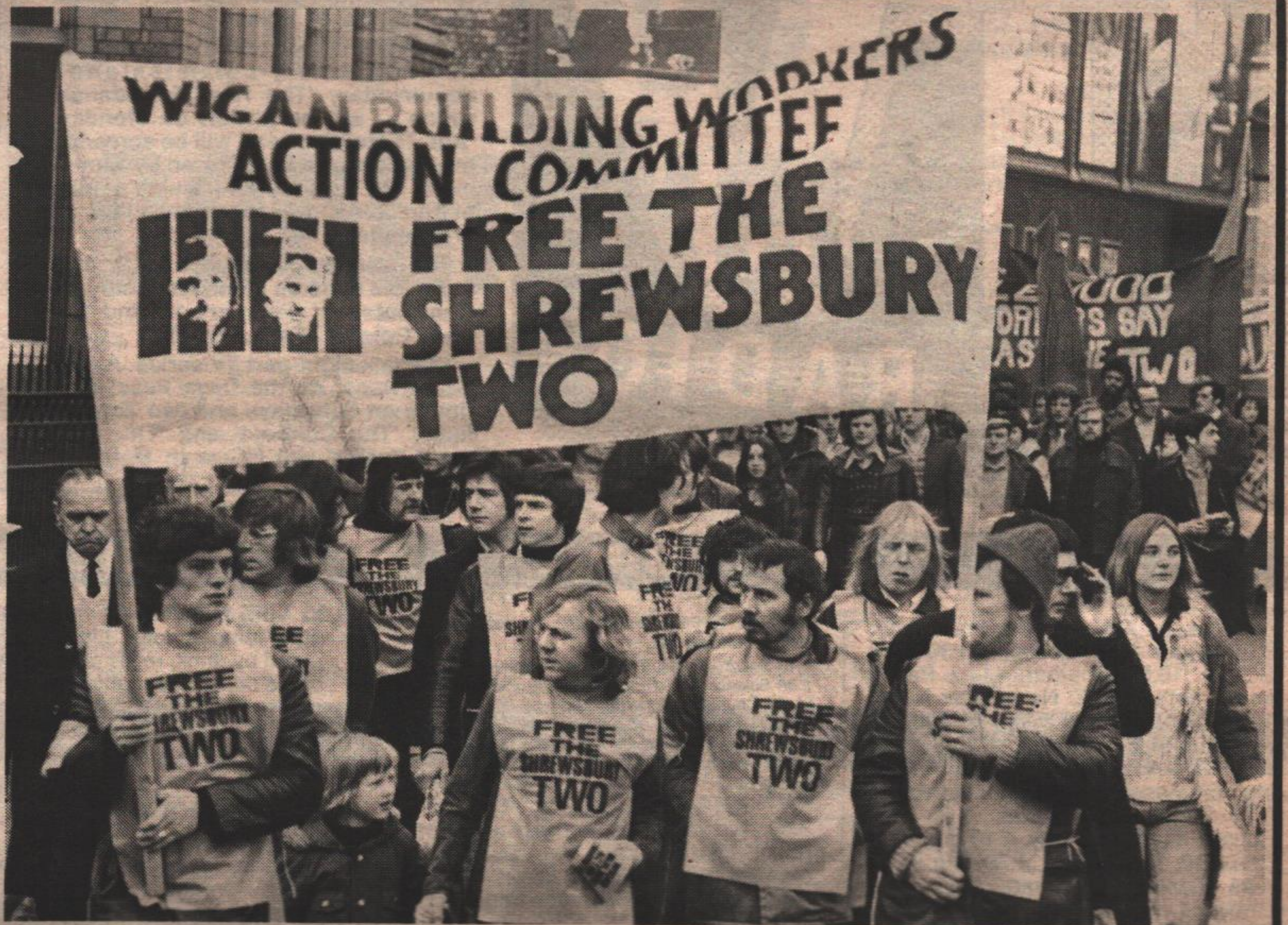
Commenting on this record, Reg Prentice, the Labour MP who later went over to the Tories, said that those who supported Des Warren were trying to 'raise law breakers to the status of working-class heroes'.

In his book Des comments: 'I was never a working-class hero, but unlike Prentice, I was no traitor.'

In 1978, Des Warren started his legal battle with the Home Office. But seven long years later there were still attempts to stop this coming to court.

On Thursday last week there was a request for him to have a Home Office medical the very next day. His solicitor informed the Home Office of the state of his health, and the difficulty he would have travelling from his home in Chester at such short notice.

The prompt answer was that if he did not keep the



The march organised by the Wigan Building Workers Action Committee to campaign for the release of the Shrewsbury Two in 1975

appointment then the Home Office would request a deferment of the case, and it probably would not be heard for another year. Needless to say, in spite of his illness, Des travelled straight to London.

At the end of 1983, the Croydon and Wigan trades councils jointly launched the Des Warren Appeal Fund to meet the cost of the legal action.

Within weeks, donations were pouring in from all parts of the country, and by the beginning of the miners' strike—when the appeal was suspended—over £8,000 had been collected. This proved that the working class wanted Des Warren to go on with the legal battle.

When the case comes to court in March, a further £5,000 will be needed for the costs.

We know that the whole movement is collecting funds for the miners' fight. We are therefore asking at this Conference of the All Trades Unions Alliance for a vote to support Des Warren's legal action, and we are asking you to fight to raise the funds to cover the costs when the Des Warren Appeal Fund launches a fresh appeal in the coming weeks.

TUC should have called General Strike

MARK JONES, father of David Gareth Jones, one of the five miners who have died fighting for the defence of jobs and trade unions, told the conference if a General Strike had been called 'this strike would have finished long ago'.

'When I was a kid and went to the cinema it was always a Western and the white man used to go to the Indians' land and smash their communities.'

Picket

'One day Geronimo had this idea, "We will have a mass picket"—that was Little Big Horn.'

'But afterwards they split and got divided. That's what will happen to the trade unions if they do not unite and fight,' Jones warned.



MARK JONES

'We are in a war—a war on the trade unions.' The TUC and Labour leaders should be standing firm instead of running, he added.

'When you talk about a

General Strike they say "Oh, we can't". They should have called a General Strike. Even if it was 80 per cent of the trade unionists who came out this strike would have finished long ago.

'As far as the unions are concerned the rank and file does not want to wait but to come out.'

Violence

Jones said the Tories and the media were always accusing the miners of violence, but it was they who were violent when they handed out sentences of five years and three years to Kent miners Terry French and Chris Tazey.

'They got one year for the offence and the rest for being striking miners.'

Youth in forefront of fight



CLAIRE DIXON

CLAIRE Dixon, from the Young Socialists National Committee, said that the youth in the Young Socialists were not just 100 per cent behind the miners and fighting alongside the miners, but were now in the forefront of the fight.

This system has condemned youth not just to cheap labour schemes but the Tories were now proposing to condemn all youth under 25 to no supplementary benefit whatsoever.

'Youth need the right to live and to a future, nothing less,' she said.

'The aim of the YTS schemes is not to give youth a proper training

but to use them as a scab labour force against the unions. We must have no truck with these schemes.'

She warned that the TUC supported the MSC and the YTS schemes and had long ago abandoned the youth.

'We must not let them get away with it. We are saying the Young Socialists are going to fight the schemes all the way. That is why the YS have taken a lead in fighting for jobs.'

'We have set up seven Youth Training centres with the support of the trade unions.'

'We are calling on all

trade unionists here to end relations with the MSC,' she urged. That meant the organisation of the General Strike.

'YS youth are prepared to fight for the future. And there is no more inspiring example than young Davy Jones, 24 years of age, who had his life taken away for fighting for his future.'

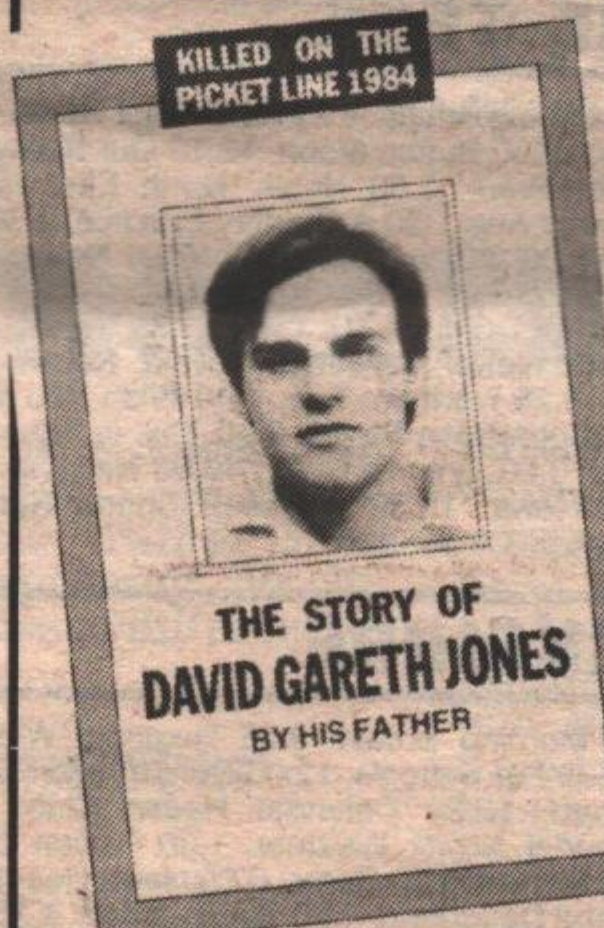
Dixon said the unity of the youth with the trade unions must be built through the organisation of the General Strike and concluded by urging all youth to join the YS and attend the annual conference on March 16 and 17.

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Poland season on Channel 4

ANDRZEJ WAJDA'S award-winning film 'Man of Marble' on Channel 4 at 9p.m. tonight heralds a short season of 'Pictures of Poland'.

The centrepiece of the season is the new specially-commissioned documentary 'The Road to Gdansk' which will be shown on Monday. 'And There Was Jazz' will be screened the same day to be followed by 'Monument' on Tuesday and Wajda's 'Man of Iron', his sequel to tonight's film, on Wednesday.

The season concludes with two more late films on Mondays 'Shipyard Confrontation' (February 18) and 'Far from Poland' (February 25).

Wajda's eight-part TV series 'As the Years Pass, As the Days Pass' continues on Saturdays and two Zanussi films, 'The Contract' and 'The Constant Factor' will follow in March.



Krystyna Janda and Jerzy Radziwilowicz in 'Man of Marble' on 4 at 9

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM. 6.30 Breakfast Time. 9.00 Pages from Ceefax. 10.30 Play School. 10.50 Gharbar. 11.15 Pages from Ceefax. 12.30 News After Noon. 12.55 Weather. 12.57 The Scottish News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. 1.45 King Rollo. 1.50 Bric-a-Brac. 2.00 Racing from Ascot (2.00, 2.30, 3.05 races). 3.25 Pages from Ceefax. 3.50 Play School: It's Wednesday. 4.10 The Puppy's New Adventures. 4.30 The BFG. 4.45 Captain Caveman. 4.55 John Craven's Newsround. 5.05 Eureka! 5.30 The Railway Carriage Game. 5.58 Weatherman.

6.00 THE SIX O'CLOCK NEWS

6.30 REPORTING SCOTLAND

6.55 STAR TREK *Amok Time* Captain Kirk finds that the role of best man is not without danger

7.45 THE GOLDEN OLDIE PICTURE SHOW Dave Lee Travis introduces another selection of famous old hit records with films specially commissioned to accompany them

8.10 DALLAS *Odd Man Out*

9.00 THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS Weatherman

9.25 REAL LIVES *Hatfield Main* Members of the mining community of the Doncaster village of Hatfield in Yorkshire talk about their experiences of the strike. Hatfield Main has been one of the strongholds of the pit strike and in this documentary they are given the chance to speak about how their lives have changed since the strike began 11 months ago. Recommended viewing. Produced by Chris Curling

10.10 SPORTSNIGHT Harry Carpenter introduces coverage of the European Figure Skating Championships in Gothenburg; the Ladies' Giant Slalom event in the World Skiing Championships and the World Indoor Bowls Championship

10.55 THE EYES OF CHARLES SAND (1972 TV film) A businessman's gift of second sight involves him in a bizarre murder mystery. With Peter Haskell, Barbara Rush, Bradford Dillman and Joan Bennett

12.10 Weatherman; Scottish News Summary and Weather; Closedown

BBC2

6.55-7.20 OPEN UNIVERSITY: Technology. 9.00 Pages from Ceefax.

9.10 DAYTIME ON TWO: 9.10 Technical Studies. 9.38 Science Workshop. 10.00 You and Me. 10.15 Maths Counts. 10.38 Maths Topic. 11.00 Words and Pictures. 11.17 The Music Arcade. 11.39 General Studies. 12.05 Russian Language and People. 12.30 Mathematical Thinking. 12.55 Switch On to English. 1.21 Encounter. 1.38 Let's See. 2.00 Watch: Egypt. 2.18 Update USA. 2.40 Zig Zag.

3.00 World Bowls and Racing from Ascot: Live coverage from Coatbridge of the World Indoor Bowls Championship plus the 3.40 race from Ascot.

5.25 NEWS SUMMARY with subtitles; Weather

5.30 WILLO THE WISP

5.35 FAST FORWARD

6.00 THE WEDNESDAY WESTERN *Great Day in the Morning* (1956) Robert Stack stars in this drama about a man's relationship with the orphan boy whose father he killed. With Virginia Mayo and Ruth Roman

7.30 OPEN SPACE *Class Encounters of the Secondary Kind* Michael Mansfield QC argues on behalf of teachers, parents and pupils who believe the role of education should be to meet the needs of people not of industry

8.10 TIMEWATCH *The Age of Charles II* The 25-year reign of Charles the II, who died 300 years ago

9.00 BLOTT ON THE LANDSCAPE New black comedy series by Tom Sharpe about Sir Giles Worfordshire's campaign to get a motorway built through his wife's ancestral home. Dramatised by Malcolm Bradbury, with George Cole, Geraldine James and David Suchet

9.50 CABARET Patrick Barlow introduces Bertice Reading, Robyn Archer, the impressionist Rory Bremner and The Goldring Twins

10.35 NEWSNIGHT

11.20 WORLD BOWLS Highlights from the second day's play at Coatbridge

12.15 Closedown

CHANNEL 4

2.30 LIFE BEGINS AT 8.30 (1942) A once-famous actor, his career dissipated by drink, relies on the devotion of his crippled daughter until a suitor enters her life. With Monty Woolley, Ida Lupino, Cornel Wilde and Sara Allgood

4.00 A PLUS 4

4.30 COUNTDOWN

5.00 ALICE *If the Shoe Fits* Alice auditions for the part of Cinderella in a local amateur production

5.30 THE MARY TYLER MOORE SHOW *The Square Shaped Room* When Lou needs assistance redecorating his home Mary suggests Rhoda might make the ideal help-mate

6.00 DANGER MAN *The Sanctuary* 6.30 THE LIVING BODY *Shares in the Future* Tonight's programme looks at the body changes that take place during puberty

7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS

7.50 COMMENT by Conagh McDonald, Shadow Treasury spokeswoman; followed by Weather

8.00 THE DRAGON HAS TWO TONGUES — A HISTORY OF THE WELSH *Under the Heel* Welsh history from 1282 to 1450

8.30 DIVERSE REPORTS *Britain's Dirty Work* Tim Pat Coogan asks how long will the Irish Republic be prepared to do Britain's dirty work in the north of Ireland

9.00 MAN OF MARBLE (1976) In Andrzej Wajda's drama — the first of a pair of films re-assessing recent Polish history — a young energetic film-maker tries to find out what happened to Mateusz Birkut, one of the heroes of socialist labour in the 1950s whose image was promoted in propaganda films of the time but then fell into disgrace. With Krystyna Janda and Jerzy Radziwilowicz. Recommended

11.55 COURT REPORT *Regina v Ponting* Report on the day's proceedings in the trial of civil servant Clive Ponting

12.25 Closedown

STV

6.15 Good Morning Britain. For Schools. 12.00 Button Moon. 12.10 Our Backyard. 12.30 Mr & Mrs. 1.00 News At One. 1.20 Scottish News. 1.30 Job Spot. 1.35 Wednesday Feature: Gorgo. 3.00 Gems. 3.30 Report Back. 4.00 Children's TV: Button Moon. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Do It. 4.45 The Book Tower. 5.15 Skating.

5.45 NEWS FROM ITN

6.00 SCOTTISH NEWS AND SCOTLAND TODAY

6.35 CROSSROADS

7.00 WISH YOU WERE HERE... ? You're past it at 30, according to some Mediterranean package holidays. A look at an 18-to-30 club holiday on Ibiza. Also: Hungary and Morecambe

7.30 CORONATION STREET

8.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE

8.30 MOVING Ronald Pickup and Penelope Keith in fifth episode of this series adapted from a successful West End stage comedy production

9.00 LYTTON'S DIARY *The Silly Season* A fading film star publishes her autobiography. But gossip columnist Neville Lytton is more interested in the memoirs of a starlet...

10.00 NEWS AT TEN followed by Scottish News Headlines

10.30 MIDWEEK SPORT Skating — and action from the English Milk Cup

12.00 LATE CALL

12.05 Closedown

GRAMPIAN

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.25 First Thing. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 Button Moon. 12.10 Our Backyard. 12.30 Mr & Mrs. 1.00 News From ITN. 1.20 North News. 1.30 Country Practice. 2.30 On The Market. 3.00 Gems. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 Button Moon. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Do It. 4.45 The Book Tower. 5.15 Skating.

5.45 NEWS FROM ITN

6.00 NORTH TONIGHT

6.35 CROSSROADS Peter McGuire gets sympathy and money from Sid Hooper

7.00 WISH YOU WERE HERE... ? Pros and cons of holidays in Hungary, Ibiza, and Morecambe

7.30 CORONATION STREET

8.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE

8.30 MOVING Sarah Gladwyn (Penelope Keith) says she's still on valium

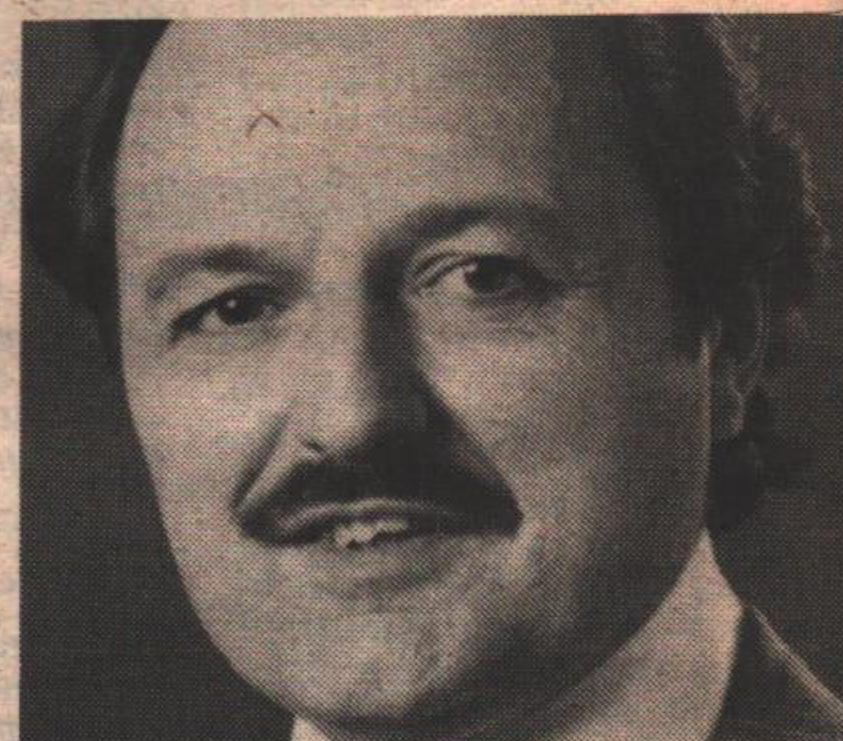
9.00 LYTTON'S DIARY *The Silly Season* Margaret Shelley has just published the story of her life as a film star. Lytton, however, believes a better tale is to be found concerning a young starlet, Solveig Lindstrom. But someone is trying to stop her revealing her past

10.00 NEWS AT TEN followed by Reflections

10.30 MIDWEEK SPORT Football and skating

12.00 NORTH HEADLINES

12.05 Closedown



'Lytton's Diary' with Peter Bowles is on ITV at 9

ROUND THE REGIONS

ULSTER

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.25 The Day Ahead. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 Button Moon. 12.10 Our Backyard. 12.30 Portraits of Power. 1.00 News; Lunchtime. 1.30 A Country Practice. 2.30 On The Market. 3.00 Gems. 3.30 Paint Along with Nancy. 3.58 Ulster News. 4.00 Button Moon. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Do It. 4.45 The Book Tower. 5.15 Skating. 5.45 News. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Wish You Were Here? 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 This is Your Life. 8.30 Moving. 9.00 Lytton's Diary. 10.00 News at Ten; Ulster News; Weather. 10.30 Midweek Sports Special. 12.00 News at Bedtime; Closedown.

BORDER

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 Button Moon. 12.10 Our Backyard. 12.30 It's A Vet's Life. 1.00 News; Border News. 1.30 A Country Practice. 2.30 On The Market. 3.00 Gems. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 4.00 Button Moon. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Do It. 4.45 The Book Tower. 5.15 Skating. 5.45 News. 6.00 Lookaround Wednesday. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Wish You Were Here? 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 This is Your Life. 8.30 Moving. 9.00 Lytton's Diary. 10.00 News at Ten; Border Weather. 10.30 Midweek Sports Special. 12.00 Border News Summary; Closedown.

TYNE TEES

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.25 North East News. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 Button Moon. 12.10 Our Backyard. 12.30 Moviemakers. 1.00 News; North East News; Where the Jobs Are. 1.30 A Country Practice. 2.30 On The Market. 3.00 Gems. 3.25 North East News. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 Button Moon. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Do It. 4.45 The Book Tower. 5.15 Skating. 5.45 News. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00 Wish You Were Here? 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 This is Your Life. 8.30 Moving. 9.00 Lytton's Diary. 10.00 News at Ten; North East News. 10.32 Midweek Sports Special. 12.00 Epilogue; Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.25 Regional Weather Forecast. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 Button Moon. 12.10 Our Backyard. 12.30 Calendar Health Club. 1.00 News; Calendar News; Weather. 1.30 Falcon Crest. 2.30 On The Market. 3.00 Gems. 3.25 News Headlines. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 Button Moon. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Do It. 4.45 The Book Tower. 5.15 Skating. 5.45 News. 6.00 Calendar; Weather. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Wish You Were Here? 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 This is Your Life. 8.30 Moving. 9.00 Lytton's Diary. 10.00 News at Ten. 10.30 Midweek Sports Special. 12.00 Portrait of a Legend. 12.30 Closedown.

1 News on the half hour from 6.30a.m. until 9.30p.m. and at 12 midnight. 6.00 Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 12.00 Gary Davies (12.30 Newsbeat). 2.30 Gary Bird. 5.00 Bruno Brookes (5.30 Newsbeat). 7.30 Janice Long. 10.00-12.00 John Peel (S).

2 News on the hour (except 9p.m.). Headlines 5.30a.m., 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30. 4.00 Colin Berry (S). 6.00 Ray Moore (S). 8.05 Ken Bruce (S). 10.30 Jimmy Young (S). 1.05 Sports Desk; David Jacobs (S). 2.00 Gloria Hunniford (S) (2.02, 3.02 Sports Desk). 3.30 Music All the Way (S). 4.00 David Hamilton (S) (4.02, 5.05 Sports Desk). 6.00 John Dunn (S) (6.02 Sports Desk; 6.45 Sport and Classified Results). 8.00 String Sound. 8.30 Male Voice of the Year Competition (S). 9.15 Listen to the Band (S). 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 Cantabile. 10.15 The Life of Jim. 10.30 Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory. 11.00 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight. 1.00 Charles Nove (S) presents Nightride. 3.00 Black Magic (S). 3.30-4.00 Virginia Wade Has... A Word with Williams (S).

3 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Your Midweek Choice (S) Barber, Haydn, Frescobaldi arr. Segovia, Ibert (8.00 News). Strauss, Mozart. 9.00 News. 9.05 This Week's Composer (S) Berg. 10.00 Baroque Concertos (S) Vivaldi, Handel, Bach. 10.40 Poulenc, Wolf and Ravel (S) Song recital. 11.20 British Music (S) Bax, Roger Smalley and George Lloyd (9th Symphony). 12.15 Concert Hall (S) Music for flute and keyboard by Bach, Martinu and Casella. 1.00

News. 1.05 Stan Tracey (S) Excerpts from 'South-East Assignment'. 1.30 Matinee Musicale (S) Nicolai, Schumann, Elgar, Michael Berkeley, Wolf-Ferrari, Puccini. 2.30 New London Consort (S) Pez, Bach, Pepusch. 3.10 Maryinu and Prokofiev (S). 4.00 Choral Evensong (S). 4.55 News. 5.00 Mainly for Pleasure (S). 6.30 Debut (S) Piano music by Bach, Soler transcr. Rubio, Chopin. 7.00 Rameau's Nephew. 7.45 New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra (S) Beethoven, Takemitsu (8.25-8.45 Six Continents) Tchaikovsky. 9.40 One Man and His Universe. 10.10 Songs of Old Age and Youth (S) Raymond Warren and Peter Warlock. 11.00 Endellion String Quartet (S) Borodin, Bartok. 11.57-12.00 News.

4 5.55 Shipping Forecast. 6.00 News Briefing; Weather. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Prayer for the Day. 6.30 Today (6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary; 6.55, 7.55 Weather; 7.00, 8.00 Today's News; 7.25, 8.25 Sport; 7.45 Thought for the Day; 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament). 8.57 Weather; Travel. 9.00 News. 9.05 Midweek; Libby Purves (S). 10.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time. 10.30 Morning Story: The General's Weakness. 10.45 Daily Service (S). 11.00 News; Travel; Unhappy Disturber of Our Peace. 11.48 Music Shop. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.27 The Great Impersonation (S). 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One: News. 1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 News; Woman's Hour. 3.00 News; The Afternoon Play (S) Last Lesson. 3.47 Time for Verse (S). 4.00 News; File on 4. 4.40 Story Time: From Russia with Love. 5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Finan-

cial Report. 6.30 Just A Minute-(S). 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Checkpoint. 7.45 Rebels. 8.15 Two Years of My Life. 8.45 Analysis. 9.30 More Wrestling than Dancing. 9.45 Kaleidoscope. 10.15 A Book at Bedtime: Second from Last in the Sack-Race. 10.29 Weather. 10.30 The World Tonight (11.00 News Headlines). 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 12.00-12.15 News; Weather. 12.33 Shipping Forecast.

VHF: 5.55-6.00 Weather; Travel. 11.00-12.00, 1.55-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4. 12.30-1.10 Schools Night-Time Broadcasting.

RADIO SCOTLAND:

6.00 As Radio 4. 6.10 Scottish Farming News; Weather. 6.30 Good Morning Scotland (6.45, 7.28, 7.45, 8.28 Travel; 6.55, 7.55 Weather; 7.00, 8.00 News; 7.20, 8.20 Sport; 7.40 Thought for the Day). 8.45 Jimmy Mack (S) (8.50 Travel; Weather; Travel). 11.03 MacGregor's Gathering. 12.00 News; Travel. 12.05 Make Minor Music (S). 12.30 Lunchtime Report; News. 12.56 Programme News; Fishmarket Report; Weather. 1.00 As Radio 4. 1.40 Options. 2.00 News. 2.03 Taking Issue with Colin Bell (S). 3.00 News. 3.03 The Art Sutter Show (S) (4.00 News). 5.00 Good Evening Scotland. 6.00 News. 6.10 Piping (S). 6.35 Just For Fun (S). 7.00 News. 7.02 Scottish Farming News. 7.20 The Calthra Connection. 8.00 The Radio Scotland Big Band (S). 9.00 Portrait of Gilbert Buchan (S). 9.25 Musical Youth (S). 9.55 Prayer Desk. 9.58 Weather. 10.00 News. 10.10 Tom Ferrie (S) (11.00 News). 12.00-Close As Radio 4.

Sports Line

READY FOR THE CHOP!

CLUBS among the Football League's elite are ready to part company with their managers.

For some of them the agony of waiting for the call from the boardroom will soon end, others will have a short reprieve until the end of the season.

League club chairmen decided two seasons ago that they would not poach other clubs' managers during the competitive period of the year. The close season, however, makes every manager 'fair game'.

Most clubs have stuck to that promise, so chairmen and their boards are reluctant to boot out their resident bosses. Some, however, will not survive in the First Division until May.

Their remarkable run in the Milk Cup has kept Sunderland's amiable manager, Len Ashurst, in his job over the past couple of months.

Last November he was approached by club chairman Tom Cowie and told that unless the team's form took an upward turn then his job would be in jeopardy.

Then followed a Milk Cup run that has taken the club past Tottenham and Watford — both astonishing away victories — into a semi-final clash with either Chelsea or Sheffield Wednesday.

Position

Sunderland's League position, however — they are currently 17th — still worries those men who inhabit the boardroom.

Ashurst believes he can pull things around — but failure in the two-legged semi-final of the Milk Cup could pre-empt another chat with Tom Cowie and the north-east club could be looking for their 12th post-war manager.

When Richie Barker was sacked at Stoke the directors at the Victoria Ground decided to give his assistant Bill Asprey his chance.

The Potteries club are steadily making progress towards the Second Division — and Asprey has almost had enough.

Stoke are currently ten points adrift at the bottom of the table. Asprey has had a break from the game on doctor's orders. His next forced exile from the ground could come courtesy of the directors.

Financially the club are experiencing the kind of problems that could leave them facing extinction by the end of the season.

Only the arrival of a new manager — almost immediately — might keep the fans interested in the club. They will need someone who will instill confidence in this fading giant, somebody capable of rebuilding the club — from the Second Division — next season.

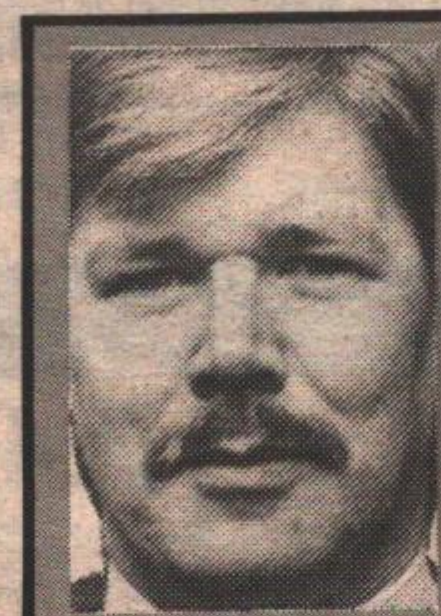
Two 'managers' who KNOW they will not survive the end of the season are Queen's Park Rangers' Frank Sibley (currently 14th) and Coventry's Don Mackay (19th).

Sibley, like Mackay, is the caretaker at Loftus Road. Recent results — exit from the Milk Cup at home to Ipswich and last Saturday's 4-0 drubbing from Southampton — will leave chairman Jim Gregory with no option but to appoint a new supremo as soon as possible.

Mackay is happy to see the season out with Coventry. Relegation — a real possibility — would mean the end of his sojourn at Highfield Road, if he has not left before then.

Internal problems with the playing staff have not helped Sibley's cause, although he has always made it clear that he is much happier coaching than managing.

Bobby Ferguson has struggled down at Portman Road ever since he took over the reins from England manager Bobby Robson.



WITH JUST 14 weeks of the soccer season remaining, many Football League managers are beginning to dread that fateful telephone call from their chairmen for a little chat about their futures. The pressure is the same on all of them — but for those in the First Division, failure means relegations and the possibility of not getting a job in the top flight again.

Terry Neill (Arsenal), Ron Wylie (West Brom), Alan Durban (Sunderland), Bobby Gould (Coventry) and Richie Barker (Stoke) have all been sacked in the past 14 months and are still unemployed. This morning, Sports Line's MATTHEW NUGENT takes a look at the situation in the First Division and weighs up the survival chances of eight managers who might find themselves joining the dole queues very shortly.

helped Sibley's cause, although he has always made it clear that he is much happier coaching than managing.

Bobby Ferguson has struggled down at Portman Road ever since he took over the reins from England manager Bobby Robson.

Debts

Ipswich have never recovered from the loss of their former boss and mounting debts caused by the installation of a new multi-million pound stand have meant that Ferguson has seen the nucleus of a Championship-chasing team leave the East Anglia club.

In the past two seasons he has lost John Wark (Liverpool), Paul Mariner (Arsenal) and Alan Brazil (Tot-

tenham and then Manchester United).

The problems, however, started even before that when their two Dutch masters, Frans Thijssen and Arnold Muhren, parted company with the club.

Like his Sunderland counterpart, Ferguson's possible departure from the club has been put on ice because of a good run in the Milk Cup where Ipswich now play neighbours Norwich in the two-legged semi-final.

However, it's doubtful if the board of directors could survive another nail-biting relegation day fight at the end of this season. Ferguson beware.

Three of the Football League's aristocrats are ready to clear the decks and appoint new managers, although these appoint-

ments may come during the summer.

Arsenal, Manchester United and Aston Villa may just part company with Don Howe, Ron Atkinson and Graham Turner respectively by next June.

Problems

Howe has had problems with his playing staff, the fans and now an influential group of club shareholders. They want him removed — and they successfully lobbied the club in November 1983 which led to the sacking of Terry Neill.

Part of Howe's problem has been the patchy form of soccer pin-up Charlie Nicholas. But there have also been recent problems with Brian Talbot and Tony Woodcock.

Elimination from the FA



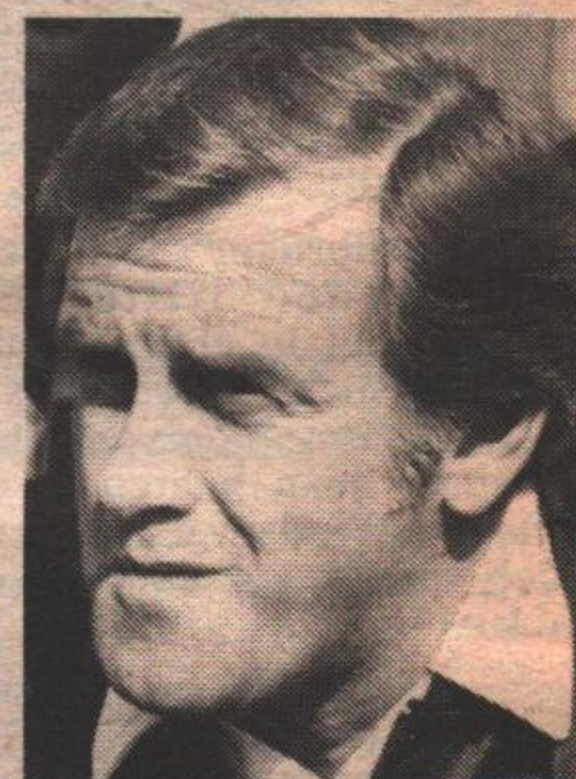
RON ATKINSON



DON HOWE



BOBBY FERGUSON



BILL ASPREY

Cup at the hands of Third Division York City a fortnight ago hasn't helped either. Like Sibley, Howe is a fine coach. Management is an area where he falls down.

Anything less than success in the FA Cup or the League Championship AND the UEFA Cup could mean the end of Ron Atkinson's reign at Old Trafford. Atkinson has spent millions over the past four years and Britain's biggest club has only won the FA Cup in that time.

There is also a large number of players at the club who do not see eye to eye with their flamboyant manager.

United desperately seek success in the major competitions, particularly the League and the European Champions' Cup. Atkinson has failed to live up to expectations. Recent fluctuations in the League title race could spell the end of his career at Old Trafford. Graham Turner has had

a tough seven-month apprenticeship at Villa Park.

The club were already going downhill before he arrived following the shameful dismissal of Tony Barton and he has failed to stop the slide.

Turner, too, has had problems with his playing staff, and a run of injuries to key players — Gary Shaw, Gordon Cowans and Allan Evans — has not helped his cause either.

Success

Like Arsenal and United, the Villa fans — and the directors — demand success. Turner may not be the man to deliver the goods.

So, there could very well be a big shake-up in the First Division management in the next four to five months — and plenty of lucrative jobs available to the right man.

But who would be a Football League manager anyway?

Cricket from New Zealand and Australia

Miandad holds the key

PAKISTAN captain Javed Miandad could hold the key to the third one-day cricket international against New Zealand today if he can reproduce the form he has regularly displayed on Lancaster Park.

Six years ago Miandad scored 81 and 160 not out against New Zealand in a Test match and last month he scored a century off only 115 balls in Pakistan's opening tour match against Canterbury.

Pakistan trail 2-0 in the

four-match series and Miandad will have to be at his best if they hope to fight back against the confident New Zealanders.

A big crowd is expected for the match and many of them will be hoping to see Lance Cairns bat for the first time in the series.

Cairns, whose big hitting has been a feature of New

Zealand's one-day internationals in recent seasons, was in prime form in the nets on Monday, regularly hammering the ball more than 100 metres.

● SRI LANKA'S star batsman, Roy Dias, is flying home from Australia to attend his mother's funeral today, cricket board officials have said.

They said Dias was expected to rejoin the Sri Lankan team in time for the seven-nation world cricket tournament in Melbourne.

FIFA happy with Mexico

THE INTERNATIONAL football federation (FIFA) said yesterday that they were very satisfied with host country Mexico's preparations for the 1986 World Cup finals. An inspection team, led by FIFA World Cup organising committee chairman Herman Neuberger of West Germany and FIFA general secretary Joseph Blatter of Switzerland, has been touring Mexico for more than a week.

A FIFA news release said that everything was proceeding smoothly and there would be no further inspection visits until December, when the World Cup draw will be made. FIFA added that Federation president Joao Havelange of Brazil will attend a friendly between Switzerland and Bulgaria in Queretaro, the only new stadium among the 12 World Cup venues, tonight.

Lloyd scores



CLIVE LLOYD . . . Sydney jinx doesn't worry him

RACING RESULTS

CARLISLE

1.15 (2m): KENO HILL R Rowe (11-4 fav)1; Splendid Again (5-1)2; Brilliant Fellow (13-2)3; Moon Melody (12-1)4. 17 ran. 6, 20. (A Davison) T: £3.40; £1.40, £1.40, £4. CSF: £19.36. NR: Norton Cavalier.
1.45 (3m): RUN'N FLY M Dwyer (5-1)1; Holborn Head (8-1)2; Chetel (7-1)3; Succeeded (4-1 fav)4. 10 ran. 2, 4. (A MacTaggart) T: £9.30; £3.90, £1.40, £2.50. CSF: £40.01.
2.15 (2m): MAGGIES GIRL C Grant (5-1)1; Swap Shop (5-2)2; Amadis (9-4 fav)3; Chipchase (6-1)4. 14 ran. sh hd. 10. (Denys Smith) T: £4.60; £1.80, £1.10, £1.60. CSF: £19.93. NR: Pitcruiue.
2.45 (3m): JOE'S FANCY G W Gray (10-1)1; Pen Royal (5-1)2; Victory Morn (25-1)3; Heartbreak Hotel (8-1)4. 13 ran. 3, 10. (P Liddle) T: £14.10; £4.30, £1.10, £5.50. CSF: £59.09.

3.15 (2m 4f): THE DIVIDER T G Dun (5-4 fav)1; Kilroy Manor (12-1)2; Prince Bai (9-1)3; Manna Reef (15-2)4. 15 ran. 3, 10. (Mrs T Calder) T: £3.40; £1.40, £1.40, £4. CSF: £19.36. NR: Norton Cavalier.
3.45 (2m): TROILENA J D Doyle (9-2)1; Polly's Pal (5-2)2; Reay's Song (10-1)3; Old Head (20-1)4. 7 ran. 4, 2. (R Fisher) T: £3.90; £3.20, £1.50. CSF: £15.98.

WARWICK

1.30 (2m): MI DAD M Pitman (5-2)1; Down Flight (15-8 fav)2; Al-Abjar (11-1)3; Pearl Run (25-1)4. 22 ran. 5, 1/2. (Mrs J Pitman) T: £3.90; £1.60, £1.60, £2.10. CSF: £7.40. NR: Dromodan, Eighth Wonder & Levant Way.
2.00 (2m 4f): RIVER WARRIOR G Davies (16-1)1; Mount Harvard (6-4 fav)2; Royal Potion (14-1)3; Nickel Moppett (7-2)4. 9 ran. 5, 1. (G Bradley) T: £12.20; £3.60, £1.10, £2.50. CSF: £39.60.

2.30 (2m): OAKLEY HOUSE S Shilston (5-4 on fav)1; Silver Keys (10-1)2; Cottage Run (16-1)3; Kouroos (7-1)4. 16 ran. hd. 15. (F Walwyn) T: £1.80; £1.30, £3.70, £3.00. CSF: £10.57. NR: August Folly & Meadow Maid.

3.00 (3m 4f): MID DAY GUN A Webber (9-2)1; Last Suspect (4-1)2; Winning Brief (12-1)3; Fav Corbiere (13-8 fav)4. 9 ran. 1 1/2, 6. (J Webber) T: £6.50; £1.60, £1.10, £6.20. CSF: £20.20. NR: Bay Forest.

3.30 (2m 4f): HOT FEVER Mrs T Holland-Martin; Rugby (8-1)2; Siobhan's Joy (11-1)3; Valarion (40-1)4. 16 ran. 8, 4. (T Holland-Martin) T: £1.70; £1.10, £1.50, £3.30. CSF: £7.11.

4.00 (2m): WINART S Earle (11-4 fav)1; Corn Street (5-1)2; High Old Time (5-1)3; Cons Pal (50-1)4. 14 ran. 8, 2 1/2. (R J Hodges) T: £4.50; £1.30, £2.70, £3.00. CSF: £16.62. NR: Comedy Fair & Charlotte's Dunce.

Sports Line



DAVID SPEEDIE

CHELSEA PENALISED AGAIN

CHELSEA yesterday faced up to a mounting penalty-taking crisis before the Milk Cup fifth round second replay against Sheffield Wednesday.

Third Division Millwall are celebrating a fifth round FA Cup clash against Leicester thanks to the generosity of spot kick clowns Chelsea, who went down 3-2 in Monday night's replay at Stamford Bridge.

Dave Speedie's 87th minute miss was the 11th by Chelsea players in the last 17 attempts, a statistic that leaves coach John Hollins with a huge psychological problem before tonight's Wednesday encounter.

'It's something we will have to work hard on, but I don't know who to try next,' said a frustrated Hollins.

Sessions

'Players are okay in our penalty practice sessions, but when it comes to the real thing they just can't score. I think I'll have to try the goalkeeper!'

Hollins tried to conceal his concern behind other lighthearted comments — 'they must have moved the goal this time' — but had to

admit: 'I'm not happy. This was the first time a penalty miss has cost us something.'

Hollins, who hopes to have top scorer Kerry Dixon back after injury, paid tribute to Millwall manager George Graham. 'He did his homework. It was a good battling performance by them.'

Graham described it as the best night of his managerial career, but conceded: 'We didn't play that well in the first half. Chelsea didn't let us settle and are very competitive. I expect Leicester to be the same and it will be a hard game.'

Two goal Steve Lovell put Millwall ahead after 17 minutes, Chelsea came roaring back after the interval through Nigel Spackman (54 mins) and Paul Canoville, after 58.

Penalties

Millwall equalised through John Fashanu three minutes later and then Lovell showed Chelsea the way to take penalties when he sent keeper Eddie Niedzwiecki the wrong way after 71 minutes.

That was Lovell's 22nd goal of the season and Hollins inquired with a smile: 'Can we borrow him?'



JOHN HOLLINS . . . Search is on for a penalty taker

FA and Milk Cup review

Lyall chases Neeskens



RAY STEWART . . . Successful from the penalty spot

WEST HAM will look to the FA Cup to lift their League form and pull them clear of relegation.

And manager John Lyall has not given up hope of recruiting Dutch World Cup star Johann Neeskens to their cause.

'I will call Neeskens at the weekend if he has not already joined somebody else. I can only hope we will be able to persuade him,' said Lyall, after Monday night's FA Cup fourth round win over Norwich.

Lyall added: 'We talked on the phone yesterday after a friend in Holland tipped us off he might be available after returning from America. Neeskens said he would consider our interest.'

On Monday's erratic showing West Ham could

use the class and steadying influence of a midfielder who once aided and abetted Johann Cruyff in some of Holland's finest performances.

Style

The Hammers' classic style was only briefly in evidence against Norwich. Their fifth round place at Wimbledon was reward for a battling and determined effort after Louis Donowa had given Norwich a 26th minute lead.

Geoff Pike, only 75 per cent fit with a back injury, typified their spirit as he worked tirelessly in midfield before moving up to equalise on the hour. Two minutes later Ray Stewart hit the winner with his fourth penalty success in four attempts this season.

ffs at hoodoo

CLIVE LLOYD'S West Indian cricketers face today's opening one-day match in the World Series Cup play-off against Australia unconcerned about defeats in two previous tour games at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG).

Game

But Australian captain Allan Border considers playing West Indies at the SCG in the first game of the best-of-three final with its extra edge and competitive atmosphere, could tilt the balance in the host country's favour.

Lloyd said his team had stopped worrying about being beaten at the SCG where they went down by 71 runs against New South Wales and by an innings and 55 runs in the fifth and final Test against Australia.

The 40-year-old West In-

dian captain, whose team won all ten of their qualifying Cup matches in the triangular tournament, said: 'We have done well in all areas of the game, but have had to fight against being complacent.'

Yet Lloyd felt Australia would be a tougher proposition in the play-off. 'The Australians will put on a better show now they have qualified. One-day games are different and we have only to play badly in one of the departments and it's a different tune,' he said.

Match

When the West Indies lost the state match and the final Test, leg spinner Bob Holland played a major part in their downfall on wearing pitches. But he is not in Australia's one-day squad, and groundsman Peter Leroy described the pitch as 'a sporting one with plenty of runs'.

Leroy added: 'It's a 280-380 runs an innings wicket.' Border responded to that

forecast by saying: 'We will have done our job badly if they (West Indies) set 280 as a target.'

Both teams are almost certain to be at full strength, with Australian fast bowler Craig McDermott passing a fitness test after his throat infection.

Fitness

West Indies' only doubt concerned wicketkeeper-batsman Jeff Dujon's fitness after influenza, but Lloyd predicted: 'He will be able to play tomorrow.'

Australia (from 12) — Steve Smith, Kepler Wessels, Graeme Wood, Allan Border, Wayne Phillips, Dean Jones, Simon O'Donnell, Geoff Lawson, Rodney Hogg, Terry Alderman, Rod McCurdy, Craig McDermott.

West Indies (from 12) — Gordon Greenidge, Desmond Haynes, Larry Gomes, Vivian Richards, Clive Lloyd, Gus Logie, Richie Richardson, Jeff Dujon, Malcolm Marshall, Michael Holding, Joel Garner, Winston Davis.

Telford's Cup bonanza

EVERTON manager Howard Kendall will not be guilty of over-confidence when his runaway First Division leaders meet non-League Telford in the fifth round of the FA Cup at Goodison Park on Saturday week.

Kendall watched Telford crush Fourth Division Darlington 3-0 in a fourth round replay and said of the Gola League part-timers: 'This team would not be out of place in the Third Division.'

Skill

'I was impressed by both their work rate and their skill. When we play them at Goodison we shall give them all the respect that we would give Liverpool or Arsenal.'

Telford are through to the

last 16 for the first time in their history but are not strangers to the FA Cup.

Since 1982 they have played 15 ties against League clubs and have won eight and drawn five of them.

Their victims have been Wigan, Stockport, Northampton, Rochdale, Lincoln, Preston, Bradford and now Darlington but they have never met a First Division club before.

Everton will provide a new experience and Telford manager Stan Storton says: 'I just hope we shall not be humiliated or embarrassed when we play the finest team in the land.'

On their form against Darlington Storton should have no anxiety. His team have the enthusiasm to impress even the Everton supporters.

● TELFORD United are

set for a £50,000 cash bonanza from their fifth round trip to Everton.

The Cup holders expect at least 35,000 fans to watch the Gola League club. That would mean receipts of at least £100,000 — and Telford are entitled to half after expenses.

'Normally receipts are split three ways,' confirmed an FA spokesman. 'Clubs keep a third each with the rest going into the Cup pool.'

Pool

He added: 'This does not happen in the case of non-League teams as they do not qualify for a share of the pool at the end of the season. Instead they keep 50 per cent of the receipts from each match they play.'

The tie at Everton is a



HOWARD KENDALL

real bonus for Telford. They stand to do extremely well out of it.'

Telford, in fact, will do better out of the game financially than home side Everton. The Merseysiders will collect their usual 33½ per cent with 16½ per cent put into the pool.

England win Test series OVER THE BOUNDARY

THE MOST painful memories of David Gower's career were washed away in a sea of champagne in Kanpur last night.

As he led England's celebrations to mark the 2-1 series victory over India, Gower's personal troubles were assigned to the history books. Since he took over the England captaincy from Bob Willis on a full-time basis at the beginning of last summer, Gower has endured more criticism than most.

His form with the bat deserted him, the West Indies produced their whitewash, Sri Lanka played like upstarts at Lord's and the first Test of the winter ended in disaster at Bombay.

Last night, however, he went down as the first-ever touring captain to lead his side to victory in India after losing the first Test.

He has also become the first England captain to clinch an overseas series for six years since the Mike Brearley 5-1 triumph in Australia in 1978-1979.

And it was his personal batting performance in England's two innings in the final Test that clinched the draw and left England with the Anthony D'Mello trophy first instituted for India v England Tests in 1972.

The champagne slipped down easily as Gower tried to find a cliché to sum up his feelings. 'I'm over the boundary,' he finally managed.

Pleasure

'It's a distinct pleasure to be somewhere near the other end of the scale after last summer and really to have proved one or two things against our detractors.'

Gower was quick to acknowledge the batting achievements of his vice captain Mike Gatting and openers Graeme Fowler and Tim Robinson who have come of Test age over the past three months.

But then remembering all the members of his 15-strong squad, whose team spirit has been beyond reproach, he added: 'They have all worked hard at their own games and worked hard for the team as well.'

'Hard work and determination have been the keys to our success.'

For Gower and Gatting, yesterday also meant something more. Three years and one day ago Keith Fletcher's team trudged away from the Green Park stadium after losing England's last series here 1-0 defeated in the opener at Bombay and thereafter outwitted in five draws.

BY A CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

The current captain and his deputy are the only two remaining members of that party and Gower said: 'It must be doubly pleasing for all those players that endured the tour three years ago when we lost after five very turgid drawn Test matches.'

Cards

Yesterday's draw in Kanpur had been very much on the cards since Monday when Gower, refinding his touch, and Phil Edmonds steered England past the follow on.

Yesterday they took their seventh wicket partnership to exactly 100 before the England first innings was wrapped up at 417 by Kapil Dev's first three wicket burst of the winter.

India gamely tried to retrieve the series as Krishna Srikanth (41 not out) and Mohammed Azharuddin (54 not out) blasted India to 97 for one declared off only 13 overs in their second innings.

That presented England with a target of 234 to win the match and a minimum of 43 overs to negotiate safely to achieve a draw.

Gower, opening in place of flu victim Fowler, was not tempted to attack the target at the risk of losing the match.

Instead, after Tim Robinson had retired on 16 with dust lodged behind his contact lenses, Gower was quite happy to bat for two and a half hours without fireworks as England reached 91 without loss when the match ended half way through the final hours.

Form

Gower finished on 32 not out confirming his return to form after his 78 in England's first innings.

Despite a late slog, Gatting could muster only 41 not out, leaving him just 20 runs short of beating Ken Barrington's all-time record aggregate of 594 runs in a series against India.

SCORECARD

ENGLAND 1st innings cont:
Gower lbw b Shastri 78
Edmonds lbw b Kapil Dev 49
Foster c Kirmani b Kapil Dev 8
Cowans b Kapil Dev 9
Pocock n.o. 4
EXTRAS 27

TOTAL (all out) 417
FALL: 7-386, 8-402, 9-404

INDIA 2nd innings
Shastri run out 2
Srikanth n.o. 41
Azharuddin n.o. 54
EXTRAS 0

TOTAL (1 dec) 97

FALL: 1-2
BOWLING: Cowans 7-0-51-0;
Cowdrey 5-0-39-0; Gatting 1-0-7-0

ENGLAND 2nd innings
Gower n.o. 32
Robinson rtd hurt 16
Gatting n.o. 41
EXTRAS 2

TOTAL (no wkt) 91

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 5-0-19-0;
Shastri 7-2-12-0; Sharma 11-4-17-0; Sivaramakrishnan 10-2-22-0; Srikanth 2-0-11-0; Azharuddin 1-0-0-0



DAVID GOWER . . . A proud captain yesterday

Compton lashes Botham

FORMER England batsman Denis Compton believes England won the Test series against India because Ian Botham was not in the side!

Compton, speaking on the BBC Radio 2 programme 'A Word With Williams' to be broadcast this Sunday, says: 'I would imagine David Gower has been a very popular captain. They have played as a team. It does help to be a team rather than a bunch of individuals.'

And then Compton adds: 'I think we have got a team because that very great cricketer, Ian Botham, is not playing for

England. It does appear to me that he has probably had a disrupting influence upon the team.'

'A wonderful player himself, as we all know, but I would not have thought a team man and suddenly without Mr Botham, they have not had that sort of disrupting influence and they have all gathered together and said we have got to do something extra.'

'He might not think too kindly of me, but the one thing that has come out of it as far as I am concerned is that they have obviously been a very happy side.'

BALE BOOTED OUT

STUART BALE, Britain's sixth-ranked player, was thrown out of the Lawn Tennis Association's (LTA) satellite tournament at Telford yesterday after swearing at umpire Georgina Clark.

Bale's tantrum leaves anything that John McEnroe has ever done in the shade.

The 21-year-old Middlesex left hander who is currently the shining light in the life of Britain's former female No.1, Sue Barker, was trailing 4-3 in the first set of his second round match against Jason Goodall of Yorkshire when he disputed a line call.

Bale then threw his racket across the court and swore at the umpire, who had little option but to disqualify him.

Fine

The player, who is likely to face a \$250 fine from the tournament referee and a heavier one from the LTA, is no stranger to controversy.

In June last year he was disqualified from a tournament in Manchester for unruly behaviour and last August he walked out of his qualifying match during the US Open in New York,



STUART BALE . . . Another on-court tantrum

saying he 'didn't feel like playing any more'.

He was disciplined by British team manager Paul Hutchins then, and lost his chance of a place in the Davis Cup squad.

Jim fixes it

JIMMY WHITE had to carry out an emergency repair job on a damaged cue at the half-way stage of his quarter-final at the Tolly Cobold English Professional snooker championships in Ipswich yesterday.

White spotted a broken ferrule seconds after his match against Blackburn's Steve Longworth began. Longworth, in his first year as a professional, raced into a 4-0 lead.

White had no option but to play through to the interval and then cut off the ferrule, taking about an inch off the top of the cue in the process, and managed to replace it in time for the resumption.

The emergency repair proved highly effective and the 22-year-old Londoner rolled off the next three frames to end the first session of the best of 17 frames only one behind at 3-4.

The match will be concluded this evening.

Tony Meo, another London seed in the tournament, found himself 3-4 down



JIMMY WHITE . . . Cue trouble at Ipswich

against Grimsby's Dean Reynolds after the first session.

Meo and Reynolds took more than three-and-a-half hours to complete the seven frames. With both players well below their best, the match was riddled with mistakes and some slow, unconvincing play inevitably followed.

The highest break of a dour first session was a meagre 48 by Reynolds in the fifth frame.

Argentine SA tour

AN ARGENTINE Rugby Union team is planning a six-match tour of South Africa — despite their government's policy of discouraging sporting links with the racist state.

Noticias Argentinas, a private news agency, said 25 members of the 'Banco Nacion' rugby squad will leave Buenos Aires on February 26, playing as 'Los Toros'.

Last year the Argentine government banned a South African boxing referee from officiating at a title fight and it also expelled three visiting South African rugby teams from taking part in matches.

But two Argentine teams, one of which included most of the national squad, toured South Africa late last year despite protests in Argentina.