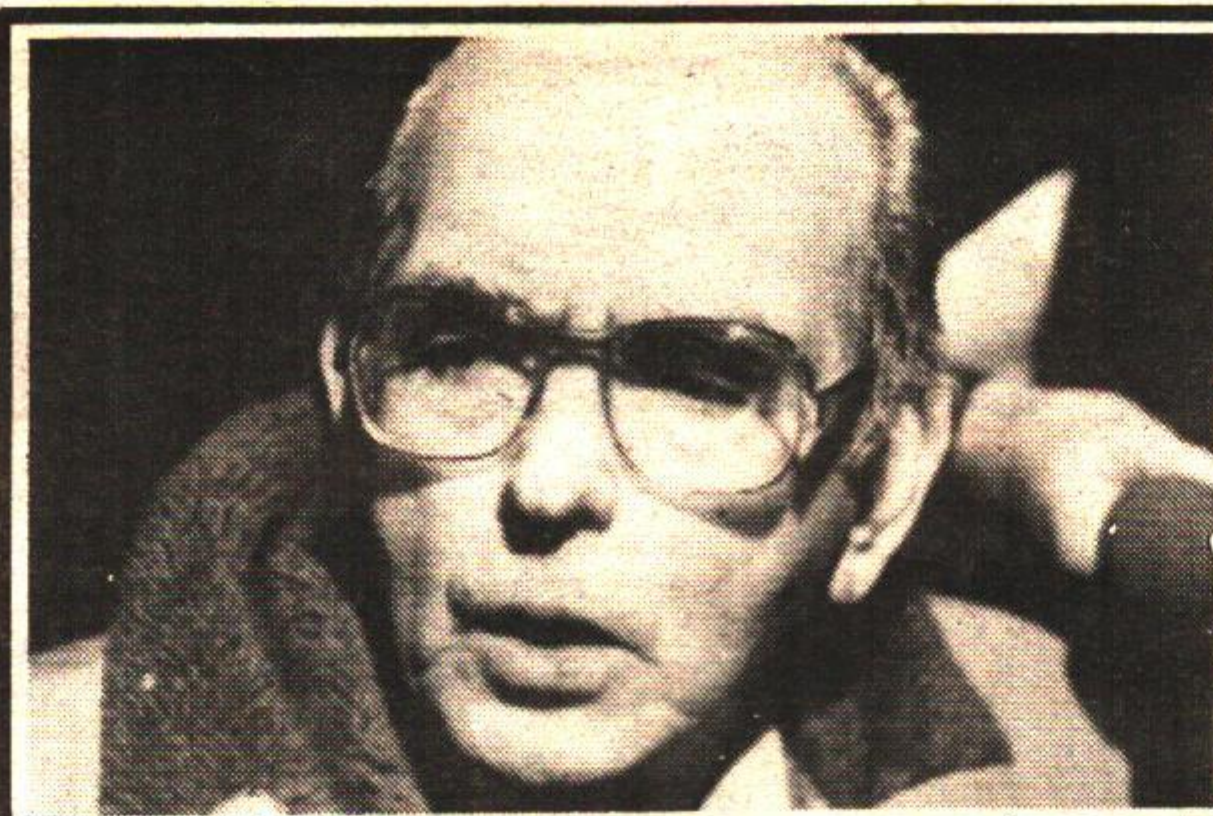




EMLYN WILLIAMS speaking at a press conference in Porthcawl yesterday after the area delegate conference

Welsh miners want national conference

FROM SIMON VEVERS

SOUTH WALES miners yesterday pledged to stand firm behind the national leadership of the NUM and called for a national delegate conference to discuss the next steps in the fight for jobs.

This was the overwhelming decision of nearly 600 lodge officials from throughout the coalfield who met in conference at Porthcawl.

They resolved that there would be no return to work until all miners sacked during the strike are re-instated — including four lodge officials from St John's colliery, Maesteg, who were dismissed this week.

Area NUM president Emlyn Williams called on all trade unionists to take industrial action alongside the NUM.

He bitterly attacked the lack of support from the TUC. 'I think the Trades Unions Congress must search its conscience. At the moment it hasn't got one,' Williams said.

'If the miners are destroyed, all trade unionists are destroyed. The sooner they realise that they are trying to destroy the whole trade union movement the better for us all.'

'I'm very critical of the TUC and I've got a right to be. The miners have shown an example by carrying out TUC policy.'

'Scargill was acclaimed in Brighton and yet we've had no positive assistance except from three unions. Indeed the financial support that we've been having is now down to a trickle.'

'Can't they see that by destroying us, they are destroying themselves?'

While the South Wales area took steps to strengthen the strike, leaders of the NACODS pit deputies' union were in London, crawling to

● CONTINUED ON CENTRE PAGES

WORLD DOLLAR CRISIS FEAR

BY PAUL FELDMAN

FEARS about a collapse of the dollar were clearly evident yesterday as futile efforts were made by capitalist rivals to hold down the rampant American currency.

New York currency dealers said an 'imminent correction' — another name for a sharp fall — in the dollar was on the cards in the absence of moves by the US government.

An American forecaster said: 'Anybody who tries to predict the dollar now should put both arms and legs in a straitjacket.' That the rise of the dollar will be followed by a reverse process was the centre of a warning in yesterday's 'Financial Times', with its main editorial declaring:

Dangers

'As the dollar rises ever higher, the dangers are growing for the stability of the world economy. And although the storm has not yet broken, new clouds are appearing on the horizon almost by the day.'

It said the fall in the dollar would be 'greater the longer it is delayed'.

The downward plunge of the dollar would destroy the nominal paper value of foreign investment and holdings in the American economy, and wreck the international credit and banking system.

Capitalist competitors would find their exports priced out of the market, leaving the way clear for America to impose the world slump on Europe and Japan.

Because the huge mountains of paper dollars are not tied to gold as a measure of real value, the collapse of a currency worth only the value of the paper it is printed on, is inevitable.

This is why even a rumour can undermine 'confidence' in the US currency and set off a chain reaction of selling which would be unstoppable.

Reports that the US Treasury had authorised action to force the dollar down started a downward movement early yesterday in the Far East.

But once it became clear that President Reagan's policies were unchanged, the buying restarted, brushing aside selling by the Japanese central bank.

Early falls against European currencies and the

Japanese yen were soon overtaken by fresh demand for the dollar driven by a desperate effort to buy into America's rapidly growing debt.

Printing

The United States is simply printing more of the same currency to repay overseas creditors.

Reagan spoke publicly in support of an appreciating dollar, saying:

'The main problem is not

the strength of the American dollar, it is the weakness of foreign currencies because our recovery has progressed beyond theirs.'

But the dollar is being sought because of the high interest yields offered to those who buy bonds to finance the federal and trade deficits, which between them are running at over \$300 billion a year.

The 'Financial Times' noted: 'There has been increasing awareness recently that the US will soon

become the world's biggest international debtor, owing foreign creditors more than Brazil and Mexico put together.'

Capacity

It added: 'The world's finite capacity to absorb dollar assets tells us only that the dollar will fall eventually and that the fall will be greater the longer it is delayed.'

'It offers no conclusive guidance about whether

this fall will occur tomorrow or late in the next decade.'

The soaring dollar has sent many US industrial concerns to the wall, because American goods cannot compete on the world markets.

This is leading to mounting pressure for trade barriers and all-out trade war.

'The clamour for protectionist measures, to bring back home the jobs created by US policies, may rise to

be doing much nationally, so we decided to take action to show how we feel.'

The protest in Princes Street followed a march around the city centre. As a large contingent of students sat down in the road, blocking traffic, other students shouted anti-Tory government slogans from the pavement.

Cuts demo blocks Prince's St



Hundreds of students blocked Princes Street — Edinburgh's famous thoroughfare — yesterday (above) until police moved in to push and drag them to the side of the road.

'We're very angry indeed about the government's attacks on grants,' said Napier College student Gavin Carter. 'The National Union of Students' doesn't seem to

HESELTINE PELTED IN GLASGOW

DEFENCE Secretary Michael Heseltine just avoided a barrage of flour bombs, eggs and stink-bombs when he arrived at Strathclyde University, Glasgow, last night.

About 200 protestors blocked corridors leading to the debating chamber in the university's student union block chanting 'Keep him out. Keep him out'.

As he was ushered away past 250 other students waiting outside, he said: 'It is a fundamental denial of freedom of speech — typical of what Kinnock's Britain would be like.'

Bruce Wilson, 23, president of the University's Student Association said it was Heseltine who was against free speech.

'He sent an ultimatum that he would meet six people from the Association and he would address a larger forum — as long as there was no demonstration.'

'Where if the freedom of speech in that? He wanted the demonstration dismantled before he would address us.'

Highs

The dollar also galloped to new highs against most European currencies and the Australian dollar.

TORIES TO CUT BENEFITS

SOCIAL Services secretary Norman Fowler warned that far-reaching changes in the social security system wanted by the government would mean cuts in benefits.

Fowler said a 'fundamental reshaping' of the

system was needed and this could not be achieved 'painlessly'.

Major review reports on social security are due this spring and Fowler said in Westminster yesterday that changes were overdue.

He said that they would not be possible if the existing structure was regarded as 'sacrosanct'.

Fowler added: 'People tend to want to have their cake and eat it. They want simplicity, but they would still like every individual benefit or entitlement to continue. That is impossible.'

Fowler said that he had no desire to preserve his budget for the sake of it. 'I would like to do nothing

better than see the money used elsewhere to its best and most constructive effect.'

His example that money would be better spent on 'training youngsters' than in paying them benefit led to new fears that ministers plan to stop benefit from those who refuse places on YTS cheap labour schemes.

Fowler also suggested that those in need should be redefined to get away from the present definition based on 'supplementary benefit plus 40 per cent'.

He believed this not only ignored the 'steady increase' in the benefit — but also meant that if it were raised, more people would automatically be defined as being in need.



FOWLER

'No' to strike ballot TEACHERS

A TEACHERS' union said yesterday it would not hold secret ballots of members called out to strike over pay.

The 127,000-strong National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers claimed that its action was not illegal under the government's 1984 Trade Union Act and that it was only carrying out its normal practice.

Deputy general secretary Nigel De Gruchy warned that any authority which tried to take the union to court could find itself 'top candidate' for selective action.

De Gruchy was speaking 24 hours before the NAS/ UWT announces details of its first selective strike action in the current dispute. The union has already announced a half-day strike of all its members on February 26.

Tradition

De Gruchy said: 'It has never been our tradition to hold secret ballots: we gauge the membership view through the normally established machinery of listening to members' views and the reports we get back from officials and the executive.'

'By not holding a ballot we are not acting illegally nor in defiance of the law. The law says that if you do not hold a ballot you can lose immunity from prosecution for damages and the risk of an injunction.'

'We do not see any reason why we should give up our existing procedures because of an Act of parliament by a government which is anti-trade union.'

He went on: 'If we are challenged, we will meet that challenge and defend ourselves in the court. If an injunction is successful and we are required to do something, we will not dispute that decision.'

Court

But he added: 'I would not like to be in the shoes of the first authority which seeks to duff us up in court. They will make themselves top candidates for selective strike action.'

'If they want a ballot they will get one, but they could well find themselves with a strike on their doorstep as well.'

The union's position comes against the background that a number of local education authorities are already looking at the legal implications of strike action by teachers.

● A circular has gone out to the 104 education authorities from the secretariat of the management side setting out the implications of the government's 1984 Trade Union Act.

NEARLY 100 guillemots, victims of oil slicks off the coast of Kent and Sussex, are being cleaned by staff at the RSPCA wildlife field unit at Little Creech near Taunton, Somerset.

PLO-Jordan accord aimed at peace deal

A PALESTINE Liberation Organisation official said in Amman, Jordan, yesterday that a new PLO-Jordan accord on a joint approach to a Middle Eastern peace rested on acceptance of United Nations resolutions on the issue and the 1982 Fez plan.

The official, who asked not to be named, said an agreement between PLO chairman Yassir Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan encompassed resolutions of the Palestine National Council meeting in Amman last November.

At that summit, the PLO's parliament-in-exile reaffirmed the goal of confederal ties between Jordan and an independent Palestine.

In Cairo, Aqef al-Fayez, Speaker of Jordan's parliament, was quoted by Egypt's Middle East News Agency, as confirming that the new agreement called for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands and acceptance of UN resolutions.

While King Hussein of Jordan has insisted that the PLO accept UN Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967, which calls for Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory, the PLO has always rejected it because it ignores Palestinian demands for self-determination and an independent state.

It was not clear last night what Arafat and Hussein had agreed on this resolution. Arafat who announced the agreement last Monday did not release details.

In Amman, Culture Minister and acting Information Minister Taher Hikmat told visiting Amer-

ican congressmen that the PLO-Jordanian accord could give the United States a historic opportunity to achieve a settlement.

Hikmat told the congressmen it provided the US with the chance to 'intervene with all its weight to achieve a just settlement', according to the official Jordanian news agency Petra.

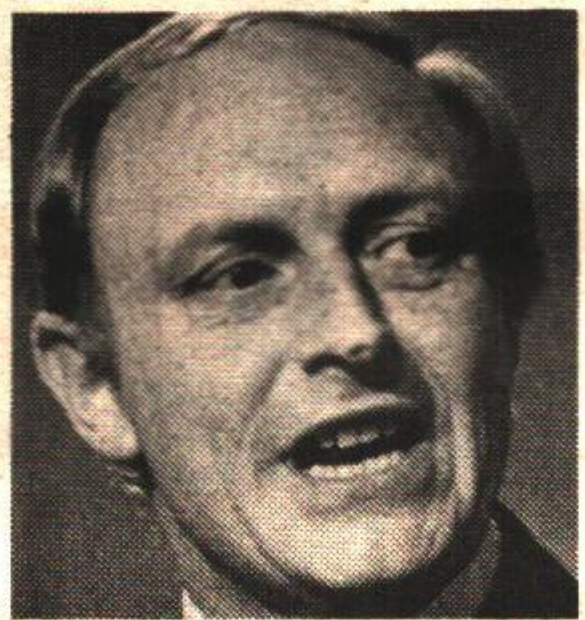
The Kuwaiti newspaper 'Al-Anbaa' yesterday published eight points purported to be the cornerstone of the agreement. Among them were:

● An international conference attended by all parties to the Arab-Israeli dispute, including the PLO, would discuss all aspects of the problem;

● Acceptance of all Arab summit resolutions, including one in Rabat in 1974 recognising the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole political representative and the Fez Plan of 1982;

● The right of self-determination for the Palestinian people;

● IN TUNIS last night, the PLO news agency Wafa reported that Soviet ambassador Vsevolod Kizichenko had handed Arafat a letter from the Kremlin leadership concerning Moscow's efforts to strengthen the Palestinian struggle and Palestinian relations with some Arab countries.



KINNOCK

DEFENCE Secretary Michael Heseltine said that he too, like Prime Minister Thatcher and Attorney-General Michael Havers, was on holiday when the decision was taken to prosecute Clive Ponting.

He said he had not considered resigning, nor should his armed forces minister, John Stanley, who was accused by Ponting of planning to lie to the Commons.

Heseltine is due to open a debate in parliament on Monday about the 'Belgrano' sinking. This has further infuriated opposition MPs who want Thatcher

I was on holiday too: Heseltine

BY JOHN SPENCER, Our Parliamentary Correspondent

herself to account to the House for his actions.

But Heseltine said: 'Neither the Prime Minister or I have anything else to answer for. We were in no way entitled to be consulted by the Attorney-General.'

All four party leaders in the Commons spent much of yesterday in furious correspondence over the Ponting affair.

Kinnock was expecting to take delivery of a third letter from the Prime Minister, who has already twice demanded that he must take her word for it that she was not involved in the de-

cision to prosecute.

After her second letter Kinnock replied that his words would stand unless and until he received a full and adequate explanation.

He was strongly backed by a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party yesterday morning, Tam Dalyell endorsing his stand, and Dennis Skinner urging him not to back down.

Kinnock told the meeting that the government was digging even deeper holes for itself. He said that the Tories would try to cover next Monday's debate with the white ensign but the



THATCHER

press would not buy it.

He said if one truth was pursued all the other truths would fall into place and the easiest truth to pursue was the government's attitude to the Commons.

The clouds of indignation engendered by the Prime Minister were obscuring the real issues but the debate on Monday would be not be about the sinking of the 'Belgrano' but about the sinking of the government.

● National newspapers which used the word 'liar' in connection with Tuesday's Commons exchanges have been reported to the Commons committee on privileges. They could be censured for breach of privilege.

Dresden: The warning

DRESDEN, East Germany — Prime Minister Erich Honecker said the tragedy of the historic city's destruction in an RAF night air raid 40 years ago yesterday should warn the world of the dangers of the third world war.

He was addressing more than 150,000 people in front of Dresden's newly-restored Semper Opera House on the anniversary of the attack.

The East German Communist Party chief spoke under threats from western imperialist governments that their ambassadors might boycott the evening's grand opening of the Semper Opera if he repeated recent official press condemnations of the raid as a senseless terror attack.

Honecker said: 'Forty years ago everything of German and world cultural value concentrated here in such an impressive and uni-

que way was reduced to rubble and ashes in a matter of hours.'

'The commemoration of this even today marks a warning and a commitment not to allow a third world war.'

Factory workers gathered in bright sunshine with banners reading 'Inferno Dresden — never again' and 'Dresden — a warning and memorial'.

Opposite Honecker loomed the blackened shell

of the Royal Palace which, like the Semper Opera, was gutted in the firestorm.

Ceremonies began yesterday when Honecker laid wreaths at a mass grave commemorating 10,000 of those killed.

A memorial obelisk to Dresden, bedecked with snow, stood alongside monuments remembering Nazi atrocities bearing the names Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen and Auschwitz.

Military moves at youth jails

MILITARY-STYLE parades and inspections will be extended to detention centres for young offenders from March 6, Home Secretary Leon Brittan said yesterday.

The decision followed an evaluation of the so-called short, sharp shock experiment at two centres in 1980.

Key features of the 1980 experiment will form the basis of a harsh new regime at all 18 detention centres for the 14 to 20 age group throughout England and Wales.

Brittan said in a written reply to the Commons: 'The importance of the impact on young offenders on the first few days of a detention centre sentence has been confirmed.'

The first fortnight of a young offender's sentence would be 'brisk and structured', he said.

'Greater emphasis will be placed on parades and inspections. Personal effort will be required. Privileges and association with other inmates will be minimal.'

School-age inmates would receive an average one hour's 'physical education' each weekday.

'The aim of the changes is to enhance the role of detention centres in providing a well-defined, purposive and balanced regime to which the courts can turn with confidence in dealing with young offenders for whom there is no alternative to a short period in custody.'

Guinness cuts Mersey jobs

THE GUINNESS group has 'rationalised' 300 Merseyside jobs. It is closing its two bottling plants in Norfolk Street and Speke, Liverpool, transferring production to its Runcorn plant where a further 77 jobs will be displaced. All kegging work will be moved to the London plant.

By March it is planned to install computerised production in Runcorn with an investment of £4.5 million. It is claimed that this could create 100 jobs.

● 1,200 jobs out of a total of 2,750 are to go over the next five years at Heinz's giant plant in Wigan. This will be achieved by a £60 million investment in new technology. More flexibility has been requested in talks with the unions.

● AN historical industrial landmark in Liverpool's history, Tate and Lyle sugar refinery, which employed thousands of workers in the Scotland Road area, was yesterday razed to the ground by high explosives.

A 40-YEAR OLD woman bus passenger was killed yesterday when a double-decker and a lorry collided at a crossroads in Walthamstow, East London.

A WOMAN who died in an accident involving an unmarked police car on Tuesday when two cars crashed head on at a bend on the A343 near Newbury just across the Hampshire border was named yesterday as Wendy Grant, 31.

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PLEASE JOIN us in an all-out campaign to collect in our Fund. There is no time to lose. We need action now. Our total stands at £572.27, which, frankly, is too low. Raise every amount you can and help us to, at least, catch up to the halfway mark.

This is a decisive time to turn out with our paper. Thatcher faces a political crisis from the Ponting decision on the one hand, and the continued collapse of the pound on the other. Use the News Line to carry forward the struggle for the General Strike to be called now and this government to be brought down.

So don't relax. Raise extra amounts to boost our February total. Post these to:

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Newsdesk 01 720 6784 (five lines)

Angry tenants demand promised improvements

Rate-cap orders laid

HUNDREDS of angry council tenants yesterday lobbied parliament against Tory moves to abolish the Greater London Council.

The tenants all live in homes formerly owned by the GLC which have been handed over to their local boroughs.

In March 1981 Michael Heseltine, then Environment Minister, imposed a requirement on the GLC to improve housing estates about to be transferred to local boroughs.

He embodied this promise in a parliamentary order and as a result a ten-year renovation plan costing £1,000 million was agreed.

The GLC, London boroughs and former GLC tenants all had believed that the ten-year plan was a guarantee. But since the order was issued the amount of money available each year has become less and less and if the GLC is abolished it will dry up completely.

GLC housing chairman Tony McBrearty said: 'This ten-year plan is the biggest housing programme in Britain. The GLC's positive effort to attack these housing problems is threatened.'

'At a value of over £90 million this year alone, the GLC's renovation plan provides better homes and more jobs.'

'The bulk of the homes are in inner London, where new investment is vital. But the government is proposing to repeal the statutory basis of the

BY PENNY BLOOR

GLC Renovation Programme without any attempt at an adequate justification under the Abolition Bill.'

Hazel Smith, leader of Lambeth Council's housing, said that although the GLC had tried to bring its former properties up to standard each year it was hampered by the government restrictions on their Money Bill.

'It does show the blatant disregard the government has for the promises it made to tenants or boroughs in the past.'

Insult

She said the moves were an absolute insult to ex-GLC tenants in London. The only way rate-capped councils would be able to carry out the necessary renovation, if at all, would be by forcing up rents.

Hannah Baneth, chairwoman of the London Tenants' Organisation which organised yesterday's lobby, said: 'We want ex-GLC and current GLC stock renovated by 1992 and we do not care how they do it or where the money comes from.'

'We are consumers but



Council tenants from different London boroughs after their joint lobby of parliament yesterday

we get no redress. If the roof falls in we don't get our money back.'

Solomon Benani, secretary of Rockingham tenants' association in Southwark, said that there were major problems on the estate with roofs leaking.

'The whole estate is one big puddle ankle deep when it rains because the

sewers aren't working. Also there is vandalism and windows are boarded up instead of repaired.'

'We haven't got condensation, we have got rising damp. It means in some cases families of eight living in two rooms.'

Rita Sergeant said the Tabard tenants' association was taking legal action against Southwark

Council about four uninhabitable flats.

In seven blocks of flats rising damp was so bad that children were still sleeping in cots because there was no room to put them in beds, and beams had gone rotten in many roofs.

'We ex-GLC tenants are treated as second-class citizens,' she said.

Jonathan Geest, from East Dulwich tenants' association, said: 'Our estate needs £20 million for the time being just to carry out window repairs and drainage.'

'If the GLC goes now, I wonder what will happen to this estate? We do not intend to sit and let the government go on as they are doing now.'

Limit

The district auditor told the government that Hackney's original limit meant it would be unable to meet the deficit being run up on this year's budget.

Labour councils have said they will refuse to implement the cuts imposed under the Rates Act, and will jointly not make a rate when they meet on March 7.

Jenkin described the final orders as 'fair and reasonable'. Councils have already shown they involve mass sackings and cuts in services.

When the rate limits are approved by parliament they have the force of law and cannot be breached.

A statement from the Local Government Campaign Unit, which represents hit-list councils, said:

'In one or two cases he has conceded that the scale of the cuts he was demanding would have been devastating in places like Hackney and Leicester. However, these concessions do not go far enough.'

Shift-work condemned

WHITE-COLLAR workers should resist the introduction of shift-work and demand a 25 per cent shift premium, shorter working hours and longer holidays if it is introduced, a union said yesterday.

TASS, representing over 170,000 white-collar workers in engineering said in a policy statement that besides playing havoc with family and social life, shift work made employees ill by upsetting the rhythm of the human body's internal clock.

'Many people can have disturbing medical reac-

tions, exacerbated by the common problem of sleep deprivation and additional stress,' says the statement, published as a booklet called 'Shift Work and the White-Collar Worker'.

TASS assistant secretary John Tuchfeld said: 'If shift work cannot be avoided, its worst pitfalls must be avoided.'

'This booklet sets out guidance for negotiators on the least unsatisfactory shift work alternatives, including the shorter working week, increased holidays and a 25 per cent shift premium.'

NUPE submit pay claim

NUPE submitted a 'substantial' pay claim yesterday for hospital ancillary workers, many of whom are living below the poverty line.

Bob Jones, their chief negotiator, told management at a joint meeting in London that they expected 'a very serious and not flippant response' to the claim.

Cleaners, cooks, catering assistants and porters are among those on between £68.98 and £92.20.

The claim seeks flat-rate rises as a major step towards two-thirds of national average earnings, or £104 a week.

Jones, NUPE national secretary said that an unemployed couple with two children could expect £73.73 a week net income from benefits and other allowances.

Jones said in recent years health service workers pay has fallen well behind local government manual workers, who have rejected a 4.75 per cent offer.

'We would not consider a reply of 3 per cent,' said Jones referring to the Tories stated limit for public sector workers.

Teachers to strike in 'hostile' areas

THREE-DAY strikes by teachers over pay will be held in areas which threatened action against those withdrawing good-will last week.

The names of the authorities to be affected by the action are likely to be announced early next week.

They are likely to include Bucks, East Sussex, Kent, Cambridge, Herts and Oxford.

National Union of Teachers general secretary Fred Jarvis said it

was unlikely that last term's policy of targeting Tory MP's constituencies would be repeated.

He said: 'I think we will be concentrating on the areas which have expressed hostility to us recently in pay docking and threats of retaliation.'

Action

Ballots are being held to decide on the strikes in the schools singled out. The action is due to start

on February 25, the day many schools return from half-term break.

The second-largest union, the 127,000-member National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers is to stage a nation-wide half-day strike on the following day.

The teachers are seeking a 12 per cent pay increase but have only been offered 4 per cent. Talks broke down again on Monday when the employers refused to budge.

Jobs axe over shipyards

ALMOST 1,900 jobs are likely to be axed at five British Shipbuilders yards over the next few months because of a continuing slump in orders.

BS chairman Graham Day, gave the gloomy news to the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions' shipbuilding negotiating committee at Newcastle Upon Tyne yesterday.

The biggest cut, disclosed last month, will be at Austin and Pickersgill in Sunderland, where 694 men are expected to lose

their jobs.

Vosper Thornycroft, of Southampton, is set to axe 538 jobs, 54 immediately and the rest during the second half of March.

Order

Cammell Laird, of Merseyside, last month won a £150-million order from the Ministry of Defence for a Type 22 frigate but plans soon to sack 420 men.

Appledore, of Devon, is

likely to lose 135 jobs, 35 immediately and the rest in the spring, unless new work can be found.

The fifth yard facing a cutback is Brooke Marine, of Lowestoft, where 81 sackings are in the pipeline.

The moment of truth has arrived at Cammell Laird — 'HMS Edinburgh', the £60 million Type-22 frigate is due to undergo sea trials within the next 48 hours.

In its wake it will leave an empty shipyard and

mass layoffs conservatively estimated at 500.

At least 100 jobs were axed at the yard last week. Many subcontracting employees have been discontinued.

Jail

Billy Albertina, leader of the 37 Cammell Laird shipbuilders who went to jail in the fight for jobs said: 'We've been proved right but there is not much satisfaction in that.'

Parliamentary staff want better deal

A CAMPAIGN for a better deal for 'grossly underpaid' MPs' secretaries and research assistants, was launched yesterday.

The Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff claimed in a statement 'the salaries of MPs' secretaries and researchers are generally well below the levels enjoyed by those in similar employment'.

It maintained that the

present allowance of £12,437 to MPs is inadequate to cover pay, national insurance contributions and office expenses.

Sheila Packard, chairman of APEX's parliamentary group, said: 'It is as much in the MPs' interests to have an adequate level of staffing and to be able to offer them a good wage as it is in the employees' interest. We already know that many MPs agree with us on this.'

Briefly ...

Spanish doctors on strike

MADRID — Spain's public health service doctors began a three-day strike yesterday but the authorities ordered many of them to stay at work to handle emergencies. The Medical Unions' Confederation, representing the 60,000 doctors on the public payroll, called the strike to protest against reforms planned by the government.

Miners sue Botha regime

JOHANNESBURG — A black South African miners' union said yesterday that 164 of its members were suing the government for damages over alleged assaults by police during the first legal strike by black miners last September. National Union of Mineworkers general secretary Cyril Ramaphosa said documents had been served on Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange claiming damages of 5,000 to 30,000 rand (\$2,500 to \$15,000).

Blanco's partial rollback

SANTO DOMINGO — President Salvador Jorge Blanco announced a partial rollback in price rises for some basic foods on Tuesday night in an effort to prevent further unrest in the Dominican Republic. Two weeks of scattered protests against the imposition last month of austerity measures demanded by the International Monetary Fund culminated in a crippling General Strike on Monday and left four people dead.

China-Soviet rail link-up

PEKING — China and the Soviet Union plan a big increase in rail freight exchange this year, reflecting growing trade between the two workers' states. The New China News Agency said a 43 per cent rise in rail freight between the two nations in 1985 was predicted following the signing in Peking yesterday of a new four-way rail agreement which also took in Mongolia and North Korea.

Bolivian unionists march

LA PAZ — Bolivia's powerful trade unions called nationwide protest marches from yesterday against huge government-decreed price rises, but said they would not stage a general strike. A spokesman for the Bolivian Labour Federation (COB) said last night after a meeting of union leaders that they had rejected a general strike against President Hernan Siles Zuazo's government.

Kaunda fears revolution

CAIRO — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda yesterday called for the release of black African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela, saying his continued imprisonment would spark a revolution in Africa. Mandela, who was jailed for life in 1964, earlier this week turned down President Pieter Botha's offer of conditional freedom.

World News Line

MANILA BAY HOTEL AN INFERNO

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

MANILA — Fire engulfed a five-star hotel overlooking Manila Bay early yesterday, killing at least 22 people and injuring dozens. Scores more were missing.

Police chief Alfredo Garcia said 17 bodies had been recovered from the Regent of Manila and five more were still in heat-seared rooms.

Other firemen said the death toll could go up to 50 after all the hotel's 425 rooms were opened. They were unable to enter some rooms on the upper floors because of the intense heat.

Arson squad investigators said the fire probably started on two widely separate floors soon after midnight and quickly spread.

Scores of guests scrambled to safety, many barefoot and clad only in their nightclothes or dressing gowns.

A strong sea breeze fuelled the flames and acrid smoke hampered the firefighters, Garcia said.

Eighteen hours later, thick smoke still enveloped the nine-storey building and flames could

be seen leaping from windows as fresh fires erupted in different rooms.

A hotel official said it had been 60 per cent occupied at the time it burst into flames.

Police were unable to give the nationalities of the victims but an American embassy official said he believed several Americans were among the dead.

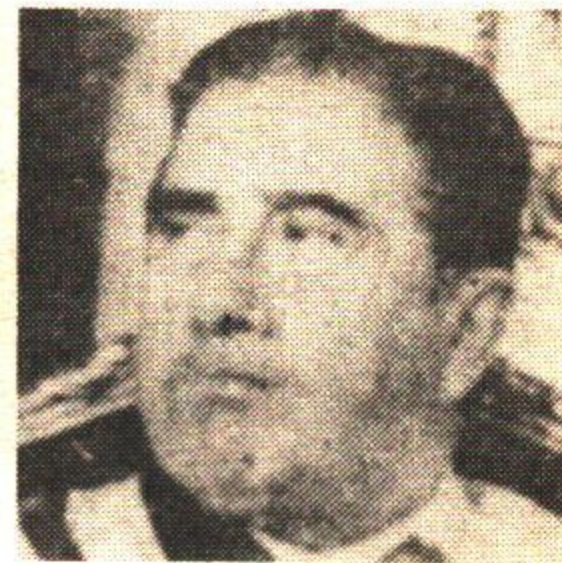
Many of the guests were Japanese on a tour of the Philippines. Other foreign guests included British citizens.

Fire officials identified one of the dead as Louis Carroll Rowny, 62, believed to have been working at a US naval base at Subic Bay, north of Manila.

Most of the injured suffered from smoke inhalation, cuts and shock. One was reported to be seriously hurt but staff at a hospital next door to the hotel said only three people needed more than emergency treatment.

The fire at the luxury Regent of Manila was the sixth hotel blaze in the Philippines since last October and the fifth in the capital.

About 40 people were killed in the previous fires.



PINOCHET

Pinochet hardens repressive course

SANTIAGO — Chilean military dictator Augusto Pinochet has replaced his Finance and Interior Ministers and appointed a businessman to the key interior post.

The replacement of veteran right-wing politician Sergio Jarpa by businessman Ricardo Garcia hands the Ministry to a more pliant anti-communist to do Pinochet's bidding.

Finance Minister Luis Escobar, brought into the Cabinet last year to bolster attempts at so-called liberalisation, was replaced by former Planning Minister Hernan Buchi.

Buchi is a 'hardline' advocate of International Monetary Fund recipes of economic austerities and a devotee of bourgeois economist Milton Friedman's former Chicago monetarist clique.

Jarpa resigned as Interior Minister on November 5, the day before Pinochet imposed a state of siege, saying he could no longer implement the liberalisation policy he began in August 1983. He was reappointed the next day.

Process

Pinochet, who has regularly reshuffled his Cabinet in a process designed to assert himself as strong man, gave Jarpa only a minor role on his reinstatement and personally supervised the bloody imposition of a state of siege.

Men in favour with Pinochet's junta are believed to be Justice Minister Hugo Rosende and government secretary General Francisco Cuadra, appointed last November.

Under the state of siege, renewed last week, opposition magazines have been closed, all media censored, hundreds of people sent into internal exile and political activity abruptly curbed.

Military rule ends in Uruguay

MONTEVIDEO — Thousands of cheering Uruguayans took to the streets overnight to celebrate the end of 11 years of military rule, ignoring a warning by the armed forces that they might step in again.

Demonstrators banged pots and pans and set off fireworks at a rally in central Montevideo after the Council of State, the military government's legislative body, accepted the resignations of President Gregorio Alvarez and his ministers.

There was no immediate reaction to the statement by army chief General Hugo Medina that the military would seize power again, as it did in 1973, if the country slipped into chaos.

The Council of State named Supreme Court head Rafael Adiego as interim president until President-elect Julio Sanguinetti, who won elec-

tions last November 25, takes office on March 1. Parliament is due to convene on Friday.

The military government's formal resignation was tendered amid strict security, with a cordon of riot police and mounted troops thrown around parliament and the presidential palace.

Coup

Minutes after the ceremony, General Medina told a news conference the military was not thinking about a new coup and did not wish to stage one.

'But if we are forced and the same causes arise as in 1973, we will not hesitate to do so,' he said.

On that occasion, the armed forces shattered Uruguay's democratic

traditions when they stepped in after crushing the leftist Tupamaro guerrillas, saying the country was in economic and political chaos.

Medina criticised demands by Sanguinetti's opponents for a broad amnesty for Uruguay's estimated 300 remaining political prisoners and for an investigation into human rights violations by the military.

'If there is going to be an amnesty and prisoners with nine or ten deaths on their hands are going to be set free, I cannot see why members of the armed forces who committed excesses should be tried,' he said.

Deep fears run in the armed forces high command of the likely prospect of investigations into charges by human rights groups that prisoners were tortured and that a score disappeared.

Tanaka thwarts challenge

TOKYO — Japan's 'shadow shogun' Kakuei Tanaka and his followers yesterday healed a serious rift within his faction of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

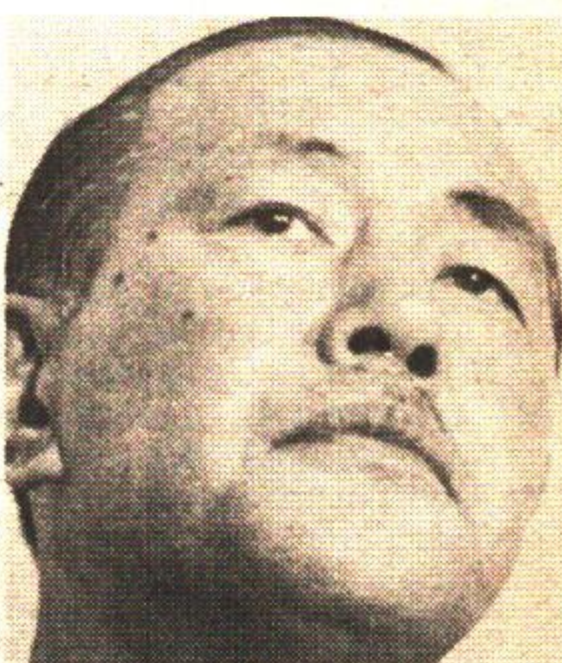
The former Prime Minister's grip on his 119 parliamentary supporters was threatened last week when Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita, a member of the power-broking group, proposed forming a study group of 40 within the faction.

Takeshita was apparently making a move to form a rival group — an event that could seriously undermine Tanaka's powers as the kingmaker behind Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's government.

To defuse the threat to his influence, Tanaka agreed to the setting up of the study group provided it did not become a focus of power. But the heal in the rift with Takeshita might be only temporary.

Takeshita is said to be frustrated at Tanaka's refusal to name a candidate to stand in the event of a party presidential election, which decides the party's choice for Prime Minister — a post Tanaka cannot occupy because officially he has quit the party.

Tanaka was convicted in October 1983 of taking a \$2 million bribe from the US Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. His appeal is pending.



KAKUEI TANAKA

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World News Line

VIETNAM TROOPS STEP UP ATTACK ON KHMER ROUGE

THOUSANDS of Vietnamese troops backed by tanks and armoured personnel carriers advanced amid heavy fighting yesterday towards bases held by the UN-recognised Khmer Rouge in a mountainous area north-east of the Thai town of Aranyaprathet.

The northward advance against the mountain bases of the Khmer Rouge, a part of the tripartite KPNLF counter-revolutionary alliance,

began on Tuesday night.

It was accompanied by heavy Vietnamese artillery barrages, believed to have routed a number of small camps supported by US intelligence and the Thai military.

The new offensive came a week after the Khmer Rouge claimed it had blunted a two-pronged Vietnamese thrust against its Hill 329 headquarters at Phnom Malai.

Military officers in Bangkok, the Thai capital, estimate that about 18,000 Vietnamese troops are trying to flush out about 10,000 Khmer

Rouge guerrillas from the mountainous 155-square-mile area in the north of the Kampuchean hinterland.

The Thai officers claim Khmer Rouge guerrillas ambushed a Vietnamese column on Tuesday night about two-and-a-half miles from the Thai border and below Hill 329 but did not release details.

From their military outposts near Aranyaprathet, Thai military and US intelligence agents have witnessed their allies taking the severest

battering of the six-year counter-insurgency against the Hanoi-backed Heng Samrin government of Kampuchea.

Red Cross officers at the border said about 45 Khmer Rouge 'civilians' had been killed and 130 wounded in the Vietnamese artillery barrage.

It was becoming apparent yesterday that the Vietnamese Kampuchean forces had broken through parts of the Angkabal mountain area, about 25 miles south

of Aranyaprathet.

Reports from the Thai side made ludicrously exaggerated claims that more than 30,000 Kampuchean civilians had fled to Thailand and that about 5,000 of them were Kampuchean peasants.

Fierce Vietnamese assaults since Christmas have, in fact, disrupted the mercenary forces holding thousands of illiterate peasants hostage at the camps.

KPNLF guerrilla units hold thousands captive, often under intimidation, to use as propaganda in the capitalist press and television. They are used

also as unpaid labour to move military equipment and as a human buffer against Vietnamese military assaults.

Hasty tours were organised last week by the Thai army for the Peking-backed Prince Norodom Sihanouk who met his counter-revolutionary colleagues of the Khmer Rouge near Aranyaprathet.

Khmer Rouge guerrilla leader Khieu Samphan and his lieutenant, the renegade Ieng Sary, were joined by Sonn Sann, the counter-revolutionary chief directly backed by Washington.

Iran oil to help Ortega

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

MEXICO CITY — Iran has agreed to supply oil to Nicaragua and deliveries are expected to begin later this year, according to Middle Eastern diplomatic sources.

They said agreement in principle was reached in talks last month between Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi.

Mousavi's two-day visit to Nicaragua sparked a barrage of hysterical accusations by President Reagan of a 'new danger' in Central America because of Iranian support for the ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

According to the diplomats, Iranian experts are due in Managua shortly to discuss the volume of deliveries and form of payment.

Details

'Iran has taken a political decision and now the details will be worked out at expert level,' a senior official said.

One idea under consideration for payment is an exchange of Nicaraguan sugar for the oil but the sources emphasised no decision on details had been taken so far.

The sources dismissed US reports that the Iranians had offered to sell Nicaragua weapons for its 64,000 strong army.

The Middle Eastern sources said Iranian crude shipments to Nicaragua would be negligible in terms of Iran's production of more than a million barrels a day. Nicaragua's total daily requirement is less than 15,000 barrels.

But Iranian oil would lessen the Sandinists' dependence on Mexico and the Soviet Union, the only countries supplying crude to Nicaragua.

Chernenko talks sweet reason

OSLO — The Soviet government yesterday offered to withdraw some nuclear weapons from the Nordic region of its territory without demanding a similar commitment from NATO.

The offer was confirmed by Norwegian Deputy Defence Minister Oddmund Hammerstad, who said the government had received a letter from President Konstantin Chernenko.

It is the latest move in the Kremlin Stalinist bureaucracy's secret diplomacy in the run-up to the Geneva talks between Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and US Secretary of State George Shultz.

Summing up Moscow's offer with predictable impudence, Hammerstad said on television last Tuesday night: 'We have heard similar noises from President Chernenko before, but said in this connection, it is interesting.'

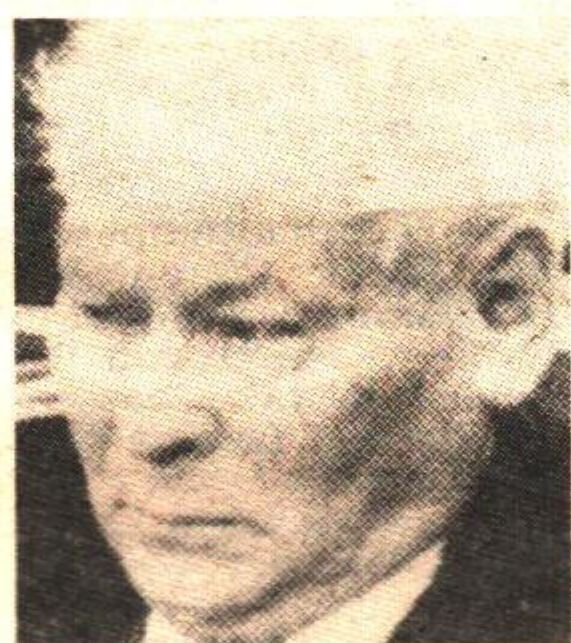
The Kremlin's offer reiterates a similar gesture by the late President Yuri Andropov, who proposed a Nordic nuclear-free zone in 1983.

The message on Chernenko's first anniversary yesterday as party chief — he succeeded Andropov as President in April — is Moscow's first written offer to reduce its nuclear weapons unilaterally.

NATO chiefs have consistently made propaganda accusations that the Soviet Union is the only country in the Nordic region to have nuclear weapons on its soil.

The Swedish and Finnish governments have pledged not to have the weapons, and NATO members Denmark and Norway have refused to site nuclear missiles on their territory.

Both Denmark and Norway have made approval for NATO nuclear missiles conditional on the declaration of war



CHERNENKO

between the imperialist bloc and the Soviet Union.

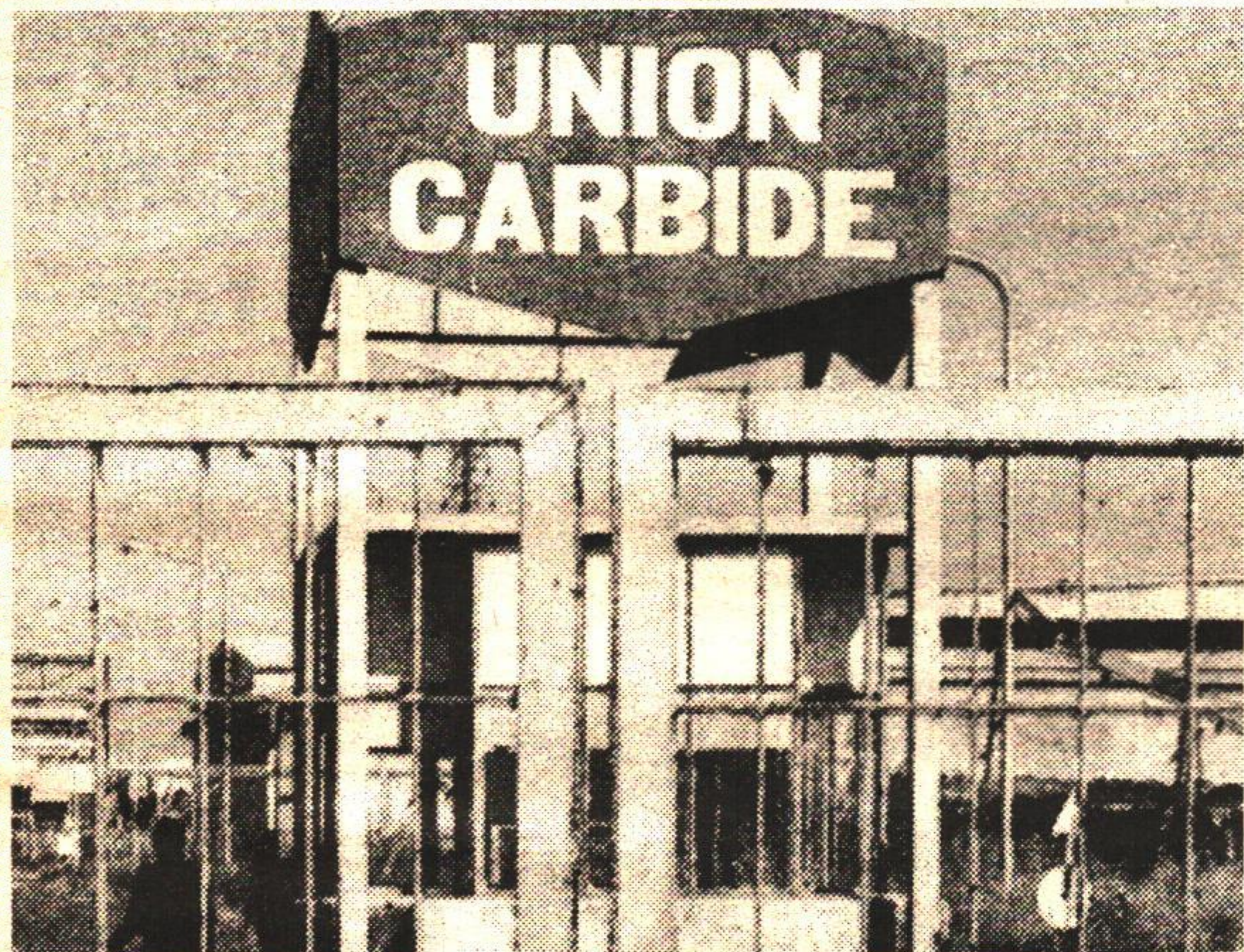
Chernenko wrote that Moscow was also 'willing to consider the question of substantial measures in the part of our territory that borders the zone, something that will contribute to strengthening its nuclear-free status'.

Such a Soviet move would not be conditional on a similar NATO response, he wrote, 'but the meaning of establishing such a zone would obviously be bigger if the superpowers in NATO took such obligations upon themselves'.

'The New York Times' on Tuesday reported remarks by President Reagan saying he intended to press ahead with his anti-Soviet 'Star Wars' space militarisation research project.

Reagan told the paper the war programme would go ahead no matter what the result of the second Geneva talks.

Reagan said in a 'Times' interview his Space Based Defence (SBD) plan was not be a 'bargaining chip'.



Union Carbide plant in Bhopal

Bhopal's British award

BHOPAL — The British Safety Council (BSC) has awarded an industrial safety prize to the poison gas factory that last December presented the world with the worst industrial catastrophe in history.

BSC secretary Derek Agnew is expected to visit India later this month to present a sword in honour

for best safety measures at the plant, according to Indian officials.

Agnew is expected also to visit the plant in Bhopal, where about 6,000 people were killed on December 3, according to unofficial estimates. The American chemical giant Union Carbide owns the plant.

Lebanese troops take Awali river

AWALI RIVER — Lebanese troops yesterday took control of the first crossing over the Israeli front line in south Lebanon to be abandoned by the stooge 'South Lebanon Army'.

Lebanese troops moved up to the Alman Bridge over the Awali River as columns of trucks, tanks and armoured personnel carriers arrived from Beirut to reinforce units poised to enter the nearby city of Sidon when the Israelis leave within four days.

The Awali River has formed Israel's front line in south Lebanon since September 1983, when they pulled back from West Beirut and the surrounding Kharroub mountains.

Soldiers of the Lebanese army's 12th Brigade were seen taking over the Alman Bridge yesterday after Israeli-sponsored SLA militiamen destroyed sandbagged checkpoints and followed in the tracks of the backers.

Crowds of civilians gathered at the bridge

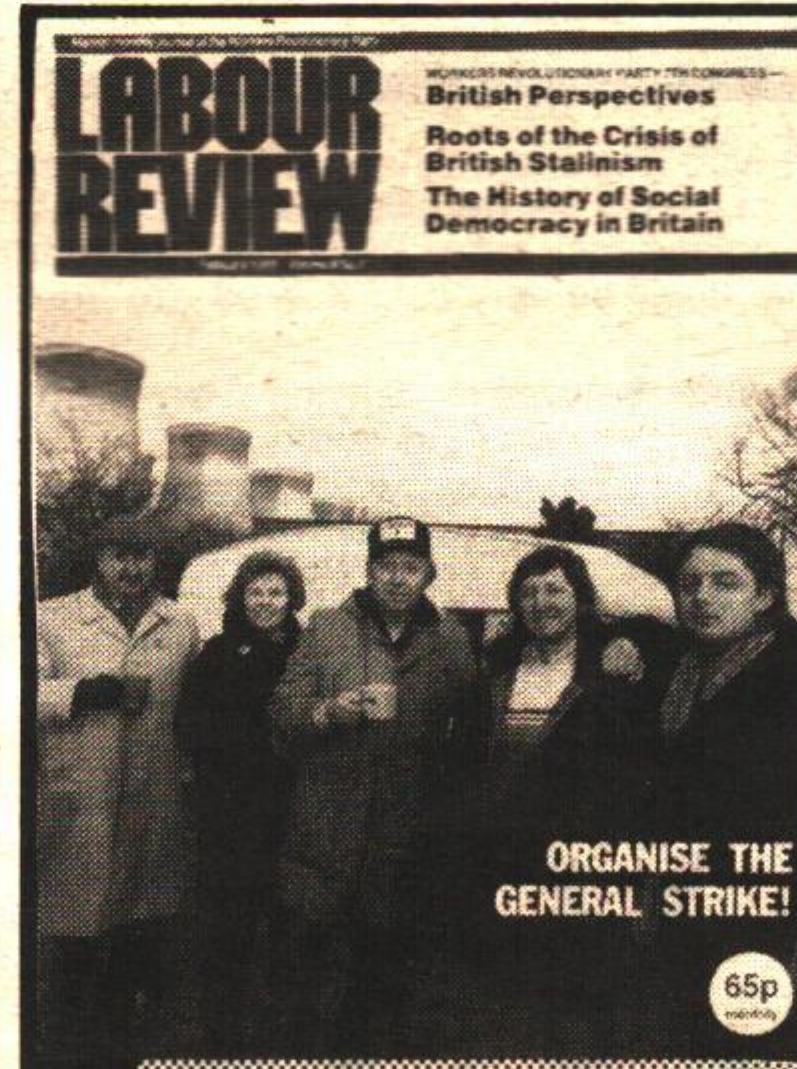
were not immediately allowed to cross into the south or the north.

The SLA is reported to have withdrawn from Sidon on Tuesday. The Israelis are scheduled to leave on Monday, the deadline for the completion of the first phase of their three-part so-called unilateral withdrawal.

Scandal in Canada

OTTAWA — Canadian Defence Minister Robert Coates has submitted his resignation to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney following published allegations that he visited a West German nightclub that features nude dancers and prostitutes last November.

Coates told the House of Commons on Tuesday he was not guilty to allegations that Canadian security was breached, and said he had begun legal action against the Ottawa 'Citizen' newspaper.



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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Surplus food scandal

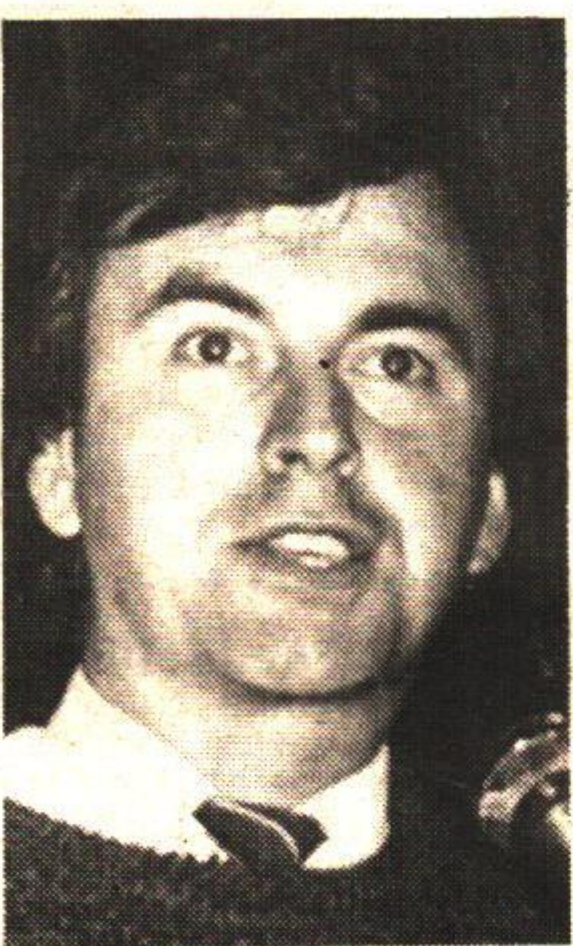
THE cost of tackling Britain's mountains and lakes of surplus food has risen by more than 1,500 per cent in the last ten years, the Ministry of Agriculture confirmed yesterday.

In 1975 taxpayers had to pay out only £83.6 million to cope with unwanted food but the bill this year will top £1,306 million and could be even higher.

In the same time total public spending on agriculture has risen from £306 million to an estimated £1,779 million in 1985.

The £1,306 million will be spent buying, storing and disposing of surplus food. Much of it will then be exported outside the EEC with the aid of massive subsidies, again paid for by Europe's taxpayers.

UNFAIR TAX BURDEN FALLS ON LONDONERS



JOHN McDONNELL

LONDON households pay 30 per cent more in rates and taxes of all kinds than the average for the rest of the country.

Those in the capital pay £3.7 billion more in taxes than London gets spent on it from the national budget.

Meanwhile, rates have risen sharply in the past six years mainly because of substantial cuts in grant to local authorities, not because of big in-

BY OUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

creases in town hall spending.

These are among the main findings of a massive report — 'The London Equation' — commissioned by the GLC and carried out by management consultants Coopers and Lybrand.

It finds that Londoners contribute 17 per cent of the national tax bill and receive only 13 per cent of government spending from the national budget.

The report refutes the government charge that high rate bills are the pro-

duct of extra spending.

Rates bills in inner London have risen by 221 per cent in the last six years, compared to only 146 per cent in the rest of England and Wales.

The report says: 'The rapid increase in Londoners' rate bills derives largely from reductions in the proportion of central government support rather than from increases in local government spending in London.'

'A 15 per cent reduction in local government expenditure in London

would now be required to return to 1978/79 levels of rates in real terms.'

John McDonnell, deputy leader of the GLC and finance committee chairman, commented:

'The report highlights the grossly unfair burden of taxation and rates which falls on London.'

'Londoners are faced with a financial yoke at a time when the capital is in a recession and people's ability to pay is declining.'

McDonnell said the GLC would set up its own commission to investigate the financing of public services in London.

Joker Rabbi in cabaret

THE JOKES of wisecracking rabbi Cliff Cohen were not the reason he lost his appeal against his sacking from a north London synagogue, it has been disclosed.

The Industrial Tribunal panel, which dismissed the case last month, said yesterday that the rabbi's jokes 'meant no offence and very little offence was taken'.

Publishing detailed reasons for its decision, the Tribunal said the 36-year-old rabbi was 'somewhat immature', selfish, and occasionally unavailable to carry out his duties.

Cohen who is now doing cabaret at a north London theatre, was dismissed from Southgate Progressive Synagogue last year.

He appealed, claiming he had been unfairly sacked from his £12,000-a-year post.

Concorde captain's speedy retirement

CONCORDE Captain Hector McMullen is going out with a bang overnight — on a supersonic retirement flight to break the London-Australia world speed record.

He is making his last flight for British Airways and will spearhead an attempt to cover the 10,000 miles from Heathrow to Sydney in just 17 hours, arriving at 5.30 from this morning (our time).

McMullen, 54, will be at the controls for the first leg of the record attempt, from London to Bahrain.

Recorded

He will stay on as a crew member for the rest of the trip and if the attempt is successful, it will be recorded in his name.

He said: 'I can think of no more exciting way to bow out of active airline flying than to be associated with a Concorde record attempt. It is a splendid finale to a very satisfactory career.'

'I used to fly to Sydney on Comets — it used to take several days then

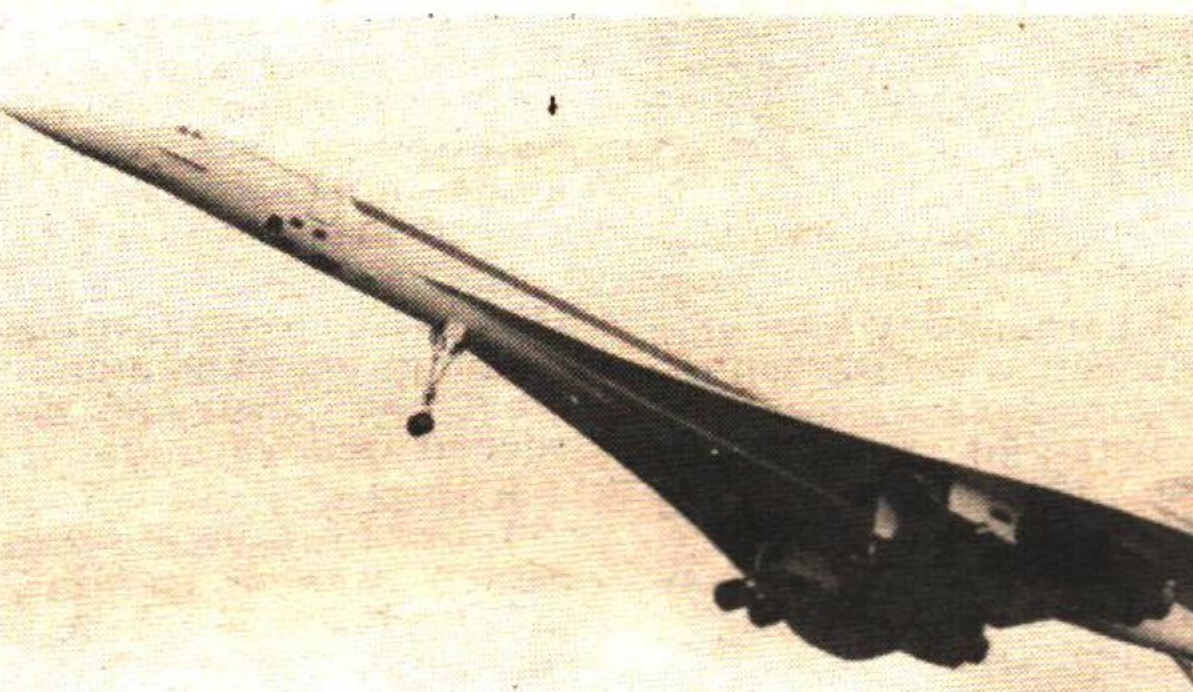
with stops. It certainly wasn't something I ever thought I would be doing there and back in two and a half days.'

If the trip is successful, there will be three records claimed — one going, one coming back and one for the overall journey time.

The flight will be supersonic at 60,000 ft at a speed equivalent to about 1,350 mph.

A 17-hour flight would be 6½ hours under the fastest subsonic flight time and 33 hours less than the existing official record for civil aircraft, set up in 1969.

The record attempt will also mark Concorde's first commercial flight to Sydney, chartered by Cunard to take passengers to and from a QE2 world cruise.



Concorde

WEATHER

SCOTLAND and north-east England will have snow showers, Wales and remaining parts will be dry with some sunshine although south-west England may have a little rain, sleet or snow from time to time. It will be very cold with severe frost overnight.

Outlook for Friday and Saturday: Staying very cold. Perhaps snow at times in the east and south.



ALL STRAPPED UP . . . The statue of Eros on its way to a clean-up in Scotland

Eros back on display

THE STATUE of Eros, the God of love, which has been missing from Piccadilly Circus since August, is going on display at a new site for a year.

Leader of the Greater London Council, Ken Livingstone, will unveil the renovated Eros at the Royal Festival Hall on the South Bank.

Eros will be on display to the public at the hall until a £10 million reconstruction of Piccadilly Circus is finished. The statue will then go on a new piazza at Piccadilly, a few yards from its former position.

The 400lb, 8ft high alu-

minium statue had stood in Piccadilly for 91 years, before its removal last August to the metal workshops of Henshaw and Sons in Edinburgh for a £1 million face-lift.

The ravages of time, weather and new year revellers had taken their toll on Eros. Repair work in Scotland has included straightening and strengthening the statue.

Livingstone said yesterday: 'Londoners will be pleasantly surprised to see just how good Eros looks at his best. I am delighted he is back in the capital where he belongs.'

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THE MINERS' STRUGGLE

4-PAGE PULL-OUT

Boot-licking at Bilston

A SACKED miner who went back to work at Bilston Glen colliery is being employed on a day-to-day basis. One wrong move — or even a word — and he's out.

Information about the 'work-house' conditions under which the scab is on the pay-roll at Bilston has reached the local NUM strike centre.

'This person, who was dismissed from his job by the NCB during the strike, went back and made a personal appeal to the NCB Scottish management,' a Dalkeith NUM official told News Line.

'He is only being employed on a day-to-day basis. It is disgusting for someone to be employed under such conditions. But what can he do? He has turned his back on his union.'

Meanwhile, great bitterness continues in the Scottish coalfield against the role of the NACODS pit overmen's union.

'They have played a role every bit as bad as the scabs,' commented a New Cumnock NUM strike centre official. 'The NACODS members at Killoch colliery are particularly in this category. They are being used to supervise the scabs.'

Meeting

'We have tried to get a meeting with the NACODS officials from Killoch. But it is hopeless.'

● ROAD haulage shop stewards in the Transport and General Workers Union have received reports that Yuill & Dodds — the haulage firm that carries the scab coal from Hunterston dock to Ravenscraig steelworks — is to have its contract with British Steel extended.

According to the reports, whenever the miners' strike ends, Yuill & Dodds will be transporting raw materials and finished products between Ravenscraig and steel plants in England.



Arrests start at the NUM demonstration outside coal board offices in Edinburgh yesterday

SNATCH SQUADS GRAB 15

EDINBURGH — Fifteen striking miners were arrested yesterday when police snatch squads went into operation against a 750-strong mass picket outside coal board offices here.

Pickets who witnessed the arrests said it was clear the police squads had targeted certain

strikers for arrest before moving in.

Jackie Aitchison, NUM branch secretary at Bilston Glen colliery, was among the first to be pulled out from the demonstration.

Pickets who had travelled from Ayrshire were angry that as one of their mates was dragged towards police vans, he was being kicked.

About 750 pickets turned up at the NCB Scottish area headquarters at Green Park. But from the moment of their arrival, all the pickets were hemmed in, across the road, by police lines.

Back

'They were pushing us back and pushing us back,' said Jim McCal-

lum, Bogside NUM delegate.

'There was no violence at all from the strikers. But anyone who did not immediately go back was arrested without warning. The police were determined that nobody would get near the coal board offices. They refused to allow us to demonstrate on the side of the road where the offices are situated and instead,

hemmed us in on the other side.'

Joe McLuskey, from Seafeld pit, Fife, also told News Line: 'Where we were the hit squads came in from the back, and just started lifting people.'

Squads

'We were all standing there peacefully when the hit squads dived in. They came charging in, and began pulling people out. I saw five being arrested like that.'

Polmaise pickets nearby gave the same account of the events. Later, however, a statement was issued by Lothian and Borders Constabulary claiming that pickets had 'charged' the police lines.

The police statement said the 15 arrested were

being charged with breach of the peace, obstruction, and 'attempted rescue of prisoners.'

After the arrests, a police message was heard that more police were on their way to the scene. The demonstrators then broke away and march down the Gilmerston road, determine they were not going to remain in a trap.

Delegations of pickets had come from all over the Scottish coalfield to take part in the demonstration.

The protest had been organised following the coal board decisions to close Frances colliery and part of Seafeld colliery. The aim of yesterday's demonstration had been to demand a public inquiry into the running of the coal board in Scotland.

This call for a public inquiry is the diversion formulated by the Communist Party-dominated leadership of the NUM Scottish area.

Demand

George Bolton, NUM Scottish vice-president, who is also chairman of the Communist Party in Britain is the front-man for this demand. Bolton is fully aware that he might, as well whistle down a pit-shaft.

Only class action can prevent the sabotage of pits that the coal board is intensifying in the coalfield. The Scottish NUM must join the campaign for the organisation of the General Strike, coupled to a policy of trade union movement support for the occupation of pit-heads.



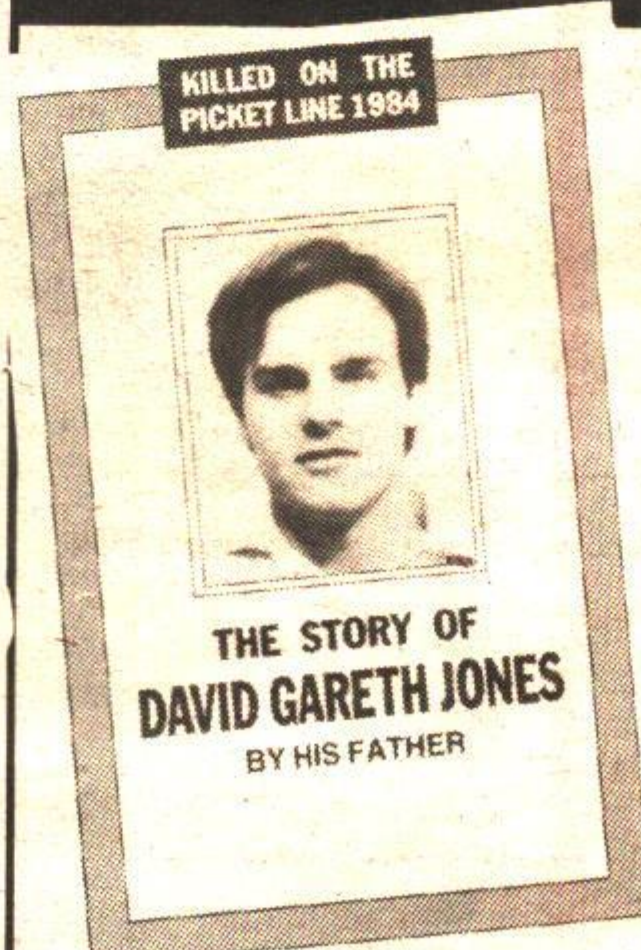
Defiantly, striking miners march along the Gilmerton road after yesterday's demonstration in Edinburgh.

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This **THURSDAY**
February 14, 1985
morning...

Bonapartism seeks its military base

STATE POWER is at the heart of the parliamentary crisis sparked off by the acquittal at the Old Bailey of civil servant Clive Ponting. The trial judge, Justice McCowan, said the interests of the state were identical with the policies of the government of the day.

He was ruling on the fact that the Official Secrets Act outlaws the disclosure of government information except 'in the interests of the state'. Had the jury accepted this position they would have been virtually bound to find Ponting guilty.

Despite the jury's verdict, the ruling was backed to the hilt by the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, who expects very shortly to be promoted to Lord Chancellor. Havers told the Commons: 'The learned judge was right in the direction of law that he gave.'

The Tory 'Standard' last night said the ruling 'appears to dissolve at a stroke the whole system of checks and balances which, in the absence of a written Constitution or a Bill of Rights, is supposed to restrain an over-mighty government, not least one with a 140-plus majority'.

The McCowan-Havers formula is a blatant justification for legal dictatorship. It means that the entire civil service, the police force, the army and the legal system have only one function — to carry into practice the edicts of the Prime Minister.

That this is already the guiding principle of Thatcher's regime is clear from the very revelations for which Ponting was put on trial. They underline the Bonapartism of Thatcher's government, showing that Thatcher and senior ministers were involved in an extra-parliamentary conspiracy going beyond the authority given to them by parliament.

The immediate object of this conspiracy was to conceal the truth from parliament about the sinking of the 'Belgrano'. But the same Bonapartist approach was involved in the arbitrary abolition of trade unionism at GCHQ, and above all in the government attempts to destroy the National Union of Mineworkers.

The deployment of a national police force, the denial of social security benefits, the backstage manipulation of the NCB, the secret contacts with the scabs — in all these actions the state machine was used to implement Thatcher's edicts behind the back of parliament.

The parliamentary crisis sparked off by Ponting's acquittal is a new and even more virulent stage in the development of Thatcherite Bonapartism. This is an unstable regime in transition between bourgeois parliamentary rule and fascism.

The mailed fist can plainly be seen inside the threadbare parliamentary glove. Thatcher is compelled to speak about it. Indeed she can scarcely open her mouth without doing so. She poses the question of state power very directly and in its most brutal form.

During question time in the Commons on Tuesday she repeatedly referred to the paramount importance of the armed forces for her regime. The issue was mentioned in four separate answers during a period of less than 15 minutes.

At the height of her blazing argument with Labour leader Neil Kinnock over his refusal to accept that she was not involved in the decision to prosecute Ponting, she said:

'The "Belgrano" was sunk for the protection of our armed forces, our naval forces, the "Hermes" and the "Invincible". May I make it clear to everyone that, so long as this government are in power, the protection of our armed forces will be paramount, whatever the opposition say.'

This is the practical significance of the 'Belgrano' affair, the Ponting trial, the McCowan-Havers ruling and the rupture of the parliamentary conventions brought about by Ponting's acquittal. Thatcher's regime ultimately rests on the armed forces, to which parliament is entirely subservient.

The regime's dependence on the newly emerged national police force is already obvious. It is already in transition towards military dictatorship. The combined police-army operation at Molesworth air base earlier this month was only a foretaste.

TUC MUST CALL G

Yorks men ready to defy court

YORKSHIRE miners are likely to defy the High Court ruling banning more than six pickets again this morning, despite a Yorkshire NUM area decision to comply with the judgment.

Local strike leaders who would not give their names for legal reasons confirmed that they would be unable to stop miners from picketing at their own collieries, even if they wanted to.

Yesterday's decision will mean that area funds will not be paid out for mass picketing anywhere in the county, while at the 11 named collieries, no more than six pickets will be allowed at the pit gates.

The executive decision to comply and appeal against the decision in court also means that the union will not pay fines on behalf of miners arrested

BY BEN RUDDER

and convicted of offences on the picket line.

But there are certain to be repercussions from yesterday's executive decision. Most miners now regard the High Court with total contempt and will go out of their way to defy a decision which threatens an historic right.

Decision

Yorkshire NUM president Jack Taylor told News Line that the executive decision was unanimous. 'We agreed unanimously to continue the dispute and in order to do that we are going to try and comply with the orders.'

'They considered that was the best method for us to continue the dispute. We are going to have discussions with other areas and the national union be-

cause the judge has gone even further than parliament.'

'But the one thing that no one has been able to get past is the commitment of our members, and I think that will come through. We shall continue, and what anybody does to us we will keep up our struggle for jobs.'

Yesterday morning, every single one of the named 11 pits had more than six pickets.

The highest turn-out was at Frickley and Yorkshire Main, where several hundred striking miners manned the pit entrances as they have done since scabs first went into work in Yorkshire.

There were at least 100 striking miners at Rossington, and over 70 at Dinnington and Maltby.

The area executive are attempting to protect about £4.5 million remaining in funds.



St John's strikers fight



FIFTY miners from St Johns colliery, Maesteg, lobbied yesterday's South Wales NUM area conference to insist that there be no return to work until four sacked officials from the pit are reinstated.

Young striker Paul Williams said: 'They've been sacked for fighting for the right to work and nothing else. But we won't go back until they are reinstated.'

Williams, angered by the lack of support from the TUC leadership, is nevertheless confident that NUM area and national leaders will not sell-out the strike.

'We are solid down here. The ones who've gone back have been bought. Once we're all back then I think the scabs will be finished,' he said.

'The leader of the TUC has condemned the violence on both sides as he calls it. But what right has he because he has not even been on a picket line?

'What right has he got to condemn our actions on picket lines? We are

South Wales striking miners lobby their NUM delegate conference in Porthcawl yesterday

GENERAL STRIKE NOW!



The first scab lorry passes pickets at Silverwood colliery yesterday morning

Out in force

PICKETS were out in force yesterday at Yorkshire Main colliery (left) in defiance of the High Court ruling outlawing mass picketing.

And at Allerton Bywater, another of 11 Yorkshire collieries subject to the ruling, 150 striking miners manned the picket line. As one striker said: 'The local branch decides on the number of pickets or demonstrators, not the High Court.'

Of the 1,200 men employed at the pit the NCB only claim 125 scabs are crossing the picket line there.

Anger over movement of coal

ANGRY pickets turned out in force yesterday when scab lorry drivers moved coal from two South Yorkshire pit stockpiles yesterday.

At Silverwood colliery, a total of 24 lorry-loads were moved during the day under police protection, while at nearby Thurcroft, several hundred pickets protested as 15 lorries were driven out of the colliery.

The decision to shift coal from the heartland of the Yorkshire coalfield has stirred widespread rage, but has also heartened miners.

'The amount they have taken this morning is next to nothing, but they are carrying it all the way to Nottinghamshire where there is supposed to be plenty of coal.'

'The truth is that they must be desperate for coal down there. So much for all the claims made by Energy Secretary Walker,' said Silverwood colliery NUM president Granville Richardson.

Miners have been told on good authority that the Ministry of Transport have waived all overloading restrictions on the trucks carrying coal in the convoy to Cottam power station on the Trent. The government have also approved a relatively massive payment of £10 a tonne to transport the coal.

And pickets point out that the usable stocks at Silverwood are very small — further evidence that the recent cold spell has caused a desperate fuel shortage at power stations.

There is only 8,000 tonnes of washed coking coal at the pit. The rest is an unwashed mixture of

three parts to two dirt to coal.

The Coal Board have claimed that a total of 90,000 tonnes of fuel is held at the two pits. But the vast majority of these stocks are unwashed.

There are too few scabs at either pit to wash large amounts of coal, suggesting that troops may be brought in to wash coal in a major escalation of state strike breaking operations.

Aerial photographs of the Cottam station seen on last night's television showed very low levels of coal.

Boilers

There are unconfirmed reports that boilers in the Ferrybridge power station have been blown out because of overburning of oil and dirty coal.

The government have been forced to underwrite these costs because insurance companies have refused to pay out claims for power stations operating under conditions where damage is virtually inevitable.

Severe problems have also been caused at power stations where the maximum safe ratio between oil and coal has been exceeded several times over.

nt for sacked officials

BY SIMON VEVERS

fighting for jobs, for communities.

'The TUC are not supporting us as we'd like them to. They are turning a blind eye to what is happening, and the same goes for the Labour Party.'

Peter Treharne said: 'We are here today to fight to get the jobs back not just of our four lodge officials, but all those who have been dismissed during the dispute.'

'There'll be no sell-out of the South Wales miners according to Emlyn Williams our president.'

Treharne said there was deep hostility towards NACODS and the bogus agreement reached between the pit deputies and the Coal Board.

'Like the TUC, NACODS just don't seem to have the guts to come out and support us. This strike could have been over long ago if they had backed us.'

But Treharne stressed that there was no turning back after nearly a year on strike. 'I've got a wife and a child coming along and a mortgage and as far as I'm concerned there'll be no sell-out.'

'I want a job to go back to and I think I speak for everyone here in saying that we are determined to win this fight.'

A strong delegation from the Tower Lodge also lobbied the conference to demand that there be no compromise in the fight for jobs.

● THE NCB was accused last night of deliberately trying to stampede miners back to work after declaring that two faces had been lost because of

flooding at the Oakdale pit complex in Gwent.

Lodge chairman Dan Canniff said that branch officials had carried out an underground examination a few days ago and was adamant that any deterioration was 'as a result of management's decision'.

He was referring to the bussing of just three scabs into the pit earlier this week which led to the NUM withdrawing all safety cover in protest.



PETER TREHARNE



PAUL WILLIAMS

Welsh miners want national conference

● FROM PAGE 1

Energy Secretary Peter Walker.

The NACODS and the TUC right wing want to try to coerce the NUM leaders into accepting a formula for pit closures along the lines agreed by the deputies last October.

Williams said there was no question of the area NUM acting unilaterally and ordering a return to work without an agreement.

'The South Wales miners will never opt out of

the national union. We accepted the decision of the national executive and the national conference.

'We would be the last — and I repeat the last area — to opt out of an agreement that we've made,' he added, pointing out that not one of the 30 speakers at the conference had suggested such a move.

He revealed that the conference had decided to obey the High Court injunction outlawing mass pickets outside five collieries, but said that it

would be very difficult to implement the ruling.

This decision was taken after the area NUM's solicitor had advised the conference.

Williams said the delegates wanted a national conference 'to discuss the whole situation in the British coalfield.'

'We are not making any demands in advance. We just want a thorough discussion of all aspects of the dispute. We believe that we have a right to demand such a conference as an area that is solidly on strike.'

He paid tribute to the resolute stand of the Welsh miners, 98 per cent of whom are still solidly on strike.

He told them: 'Thanks for the loyalty, dedication and the sacrifices you have made on behalf of my executive council.'

Williams, accompanied by area general secretary George Rees and vice-president Terry Thomas, later held a meeting with miners from St John's to assure them that there would be no return to work until their sacked lodge officials are reinstated.

Workers Revolutionary Party
College of Marxist Education



White Meadows, Parwich, Derbyshire

WINTER SYLLABUS 1984-1985

WEEKLY FROM NOVEMBER 4, 1984

**The reformist and Stalinist bureaucracies
and the struggle for revolutionary
leadership in the working class**

1. The economic and political crisis of world capitalism

The world capitalist crisis as the driving force of the world socialist revolution; the objective laws of capitalist decline and socialist revolution; the revolutionary nature of the political situation in Britain; the transformation of the capitalist state under the Tory Bonapartist dictatorship; the miners' strike and the struggle for power.

Reading: Lenin 'The State', 'State and Revolution', 'What is to be Done?'; 'State Within the State', a News Line investigation; Political letters of the WRP Political Committee 1-6; British Perspectives and International Perspectives, documents of the Seventh Congress of the WRP

2. The reformist Labour and trade union bureaucracies: 'The backbone of British imperialism' (Trotsky)

The history and significance of trade unionism in Britain: the trade union and labour bureaucracies as opportunist products and agencies of imperialism: the corporatist nature of the trade union bureaucracy; the distinction between bourgeois democratic rights and the democratic rights of the working class; the independence of the trade unions from the capitalist state as a revolutionary question; the reformist bureaucracies and the miners' strike.

Reading: Engels 'The British Labour Movement'; Lenin 'Imperialism, the Highest State of Capitalism'; Lenin 'The Proletarian Revolution and the Renegade Kautsky'; Trotsky 'Writings on Britain' Volume 2, 'Marxism and the Trade Unions'; Mike Banda 'Open Letter to Trade Unionists'. Political letters of the WRP Political Committee.

3. Stalinism: the most counter-revolutionary force in the world working class

The significance of the Russian Revolution October 1917; the isolation and economic backwardness of Russia as the objective source of the Stalinist bureaucratic degeneration of the Soviet state; the Stalinist bureaucracy not a new ruling class; unconditional defence of the nationalised property relations of the USSR; significance of Trotsky's struggle against Stalinism; the national reformist nature of 'socialism in one country'; the lessons of the Stalinist betrayals of the 1930s; Third Periodism and Popular Frontism; the counter-revolutionary role of Stalinism today; the crisis within British Stalinism.

Reading: Trotsky 'Revolution Betrayed', 'The Class Nature of the Soviet State', 'Germany 1931-1932', 'Whither France?'; Alex Mitchell 'Behind the Crisis in British Stalinism'; Robert Shaw 'Fighter for Trotskyism' by Mickie Shaw.

4. Revolution versus Reform: The Building of the Workers Revolutionary Party and the Young Socialists

The crisis and bankruptcy of reformism and Stalinism and their common opportunist source; the building of the revolutionary leadership of the working class; the Workers Revolutionary Party and the Young Socialists. The struggle to oppose and defeat the counter-revolutionary bureaucracies and their revisionist defenders; the role of Labour governments; the tactic of the United Front; the organisation of the General Strike as the struggle for power; the smashing of the bourgeois state and the dictatorship of the proletariat; the fight for Community Councils (Soviets) and for a workers' revolutionary government.

Reading: Lenin 'Left Wing Communism, An Infantile Disorder'; Trotsky 'Transitional Programme'; Programme for a Workers Revolutionary Government; Letter of the WRP Political Committee No. 7.

Lecturer: P. Jones (WRP Central Committee)

£45.50 per week

For details write to: WRP/College of Marxist Education, 21b Old Town, Clapham, SW4 0JT. Or fill in form below:

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THE MINERS' STRUGGLE

Wheldale men quit club on principle

WHELDALE miners have moved their branch rooms from the Townville Miners' Club following a refusal to remove a scab from the management committee.

Dennis Townend, secretary of the Wheldale NUM branch, said: 'One of the three representatives of the NUM on the Townville miners' welfare committee decided to go into work.'

'A general meeting of the Wheldale NUM branch stated that he should be removed from his position on the management committee.'

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

'We instructed all NUM management committee members to vote in favour of this man being suspended or expelled from the club.'

'In fact the committee refused to remove this man by a vote of 13 to 2.'

'We reported this to our general meeting and they agreed unanimously to a total withdrawal.'

Rooms

'We then decided to move to alternative branch rooms at the Wheldale Coronation Club.'

'We will continue throughout the dispute to have all our meetings there.'

Other Wheldale men spoke of their determination to fight the strike through to the end.

Alan Lowe said: 'I agree with the News Line headline on Saturday, Beware of NACODS deception. I just hope NACODS don't intervene and lead us back to work.'

'We've stood firm for 11 months without them. Last October I might have been naive, but I thought they were going to back us. With a majority of 82 per cent I thought it was a foregone conclusion, but their leadership sold out.'

'A lot of our lads are not as naive as I was.'

'NACODS have never supported us before. They are just sitting on the fence waiting. We've got some good deputies in our area, but it's the leadership that is at fault.'

Face

Gordon Addy said: 'This government is showing its true face now — it's the face of Thatcherism. They are determined to beat the unions as a whole, and the general working man.'

'What I can't understand, is why the trade union movement as such hasn't fallen in behind the miners in their struggle for jobs and their communities.'

'Thatcher is not as strong as she appears. There is a split in the ruling class. There will be a day of reckoning.'

'This is not a Conservative government,' said Geoff Carr. 'It is a

Thatcherite government. She dictates her policies and the old style Conservatives sit back and let her do it. This is the last throw of the capitalist class.'

'When we win this strike capitalism will go out of the window. And we are going to win it — with or without NACODS. Our last meeting at Wheldale was 100 per cent to carry on until its victory.'

'The TUC want disbanding because they don't know who they represent. Scargill is the only leader today who will stand up for the working class.'



Wheldale miners outside the Townville Miners' club, Dennis Townend is on the far right

Cleared miner back on the picket line

ROY WRIGHT, president of Fryston NUM branch, Yorkshire, returned to the picket line this week after charges that he led a baseball bat attack on a scab were dropped last Friday.

He had been exiled to Southport in Lancashire for seven weeks before

the case was heard and had previously been held on remand in Armley jail, Leeds.

Twenty-six other miners who were arrested with him are still facing charges. Two of them, Nigel Hodgson and Gary Milword, are remanded

in Armley prison.

Wright said that while he was in jail he received tremendous support from the other prisoners.

'They are bang behind us. They used to shout over to us in the exercise yard, "Stick at 'em lads, don't give in," and they

were right.

'That's what we have to do. We have to stick it out until we get what we want. That includes every man who has been sacked getting his job back, including deputies, because deputies have been sacked.'

'The Coal Board have sacked some men and set them back on again if they are willing to cross the picket line and scab.'

'We can't leave the lads who have been through all this on the dole.'

On Monday, workers from Drax power station construction site joined the picket line at Kellingley colliery as part of the Day of Action.

Stoppage

Building union (UCATT) steward James Holbrough told News Line: 'Eighty per cent of our members have supported the day's stoppage. We are totally behind the miners in their struggle.'

'We have to back them. Our jobs are going as well as jobs in the pits. There is no money being invested in construction.'

'This government can juggle figures about to suit themselves. They are getting richer and we are getting poorer.'



Roy Wright (right) president of Fryston NUM branch, Yorkshire, and Terry Hughes Fryston Branch committee member



Black caucus supporters buttonhole Liverpool councillor Paul Lafferty outside the education committee meeting

Cash 'intimidation' over Bond affair

LIVERPOOL council is using financial powers to try and force acceptance by the black community of a controversial appointment as race relations adviser.

Black groups say they have no intention, however, of being pushed into approving Sampson Bond in the post and NALGO's boycott of the 'Militant'-sponsored appointment will continue.

The latest clash has come over the funding problems of the Merseyside Community Relations Council (MCRC).

This is a local umbrella organisation which assists and co-ordinates Liverpool's various ethnic groups.

Personnel

The MCRC employs nine full-time personnel, five of whom are financed by the Commission for Racial Equality and the rest by the local council. One of the council-funded posts, that of organisational administrator, has fallen vacant after ten years.

But Liverpool council has asserted that a decision of filling the vacancy will be deferred pending discussion with the council's adviser — the same Sampson Bond!

Alex Bennett, senior community relations

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

officer and Black Caucus representative, retorted: 'We will not succumb to this kind of outright intimidation.'

Apart from the vacant post, there is the review in April of the council's contribution — 45 per cent, or £40,000 — to the MCRC's running costs.

A senior councillor has said that the council had 'no intention of stopping any grants at the moment', adding ominously: 'Unless we feel there is a positive reason.'

'But if people won't talk to the principal race relations officer (Bond) that is their problem. He is in the post and that is that.'

The affair went public again this week at a stormy meeting of the council's education committee.

It resembled a siege, with ethnic minority representatives and NALGO education employees lobbying the committee, which broke up within 45 minutes.

Clare Dove, on behalf of Black Caucus, told News Line: 'We were there to lobby in protest at Sam Bond's appointment. The main item on the agenda was to have been Sam Bond's address to the committee on youth and community issues.'

Referring to recent allegations of violence by black groups, she said:

'We condemn violence and cannot be held responsible for the reactions of members of the black community.'

'The Black Caucus members themselves have been subject to violence on at least two occasions and the last as recently as Friday.'

'This week we met John Hamilton, leader of the council, and he stated that he was quite prepared to sit down and negotiate the issues.'

'But the statements of Councillor Pauline Dunlop show that the "Militant" tendency had no real knowledge of what was going on and that they were not interested in negotiations with Black Caucus on account of the allegations of violence.'

Incidents

The allegations led to incidents on Friday when a window in Bond's office was smashed after a black student, accompanied by a representative of Liverpool's Black Caucus, attempted to see Bond.

The student and his friend claim that it was Bond's assistant who was responsible for smashing the window in trying to keep them out of the office.

Subsequently police were called in to protect not only Bond but Hamilton and deputy leader Derek Hatton.

Anger over sackings

ONE hundred council workers lobbied Rochester upon Medway council on Monday night as the Labour Group attempted to reverse the decision to sack 60 building maintenance workers.

During the debate on the resolution which was lost by 23-21 votes, Labour leader Gordon Priestman pointed out that private contractors could not cope if the plans to sack 60 of the 64 workers went ahead.

The decision, he said, was purely political.

'Between January 5 and 28 there were 1300 plumbing emergencies, nine of our plumbers worked 410 hours overtime and the council couldn't get private contractors.'

'Late last year the finance committee thanked the DLO workers who made

a 23 per cent profit. Now they are showing their thanks by sacking them.'

Ridiculing the Tory offer of financial assistance to the workers to set up their own businesses he pointed out that according to the 'Financial Times', 30 per cent of small businesses went broke in their first year and the highest rate of bankruptcy was in building.

Reports

He accused Tories of already having prepared job cutting reports on refuse collection, vehicle maintenance and other sections.

After the meeting Jack Norris, AUEW district officer, told News Line:

'This employer is asking for trouble and it ought to get it. I believe the strength of feeling is such that we will force the council to consult us.'

Mick Austin, T&GWU, commented: 'This result is predictable. We'll fight them all the way now.'

Steve Crawford, T&GWU, said: 'I feel confident the unions will fight to defend our jobs. Arguing with the Tories is useless. It's a brick wall.'

Councillor Priestman told News Line that he saw a strong connection between the attack on local democracy and the actions of the Tories locally.

'The unions must now act together. Every job is now under threat. The Tories' stated prime objective is to privatise everything.'

Music Hall star dies

VETERAN music hall star Leslie Sarony, whose career spanned more than 75 years, died yesterday in a London hospital. He was 87.

The comedian, singer, songwriter, dancer and actor died of cancer after being admitted last month to St George's hospital, Tooting.

He was Britain's oldest working actor who topped the bill at every major theatre in the country dur-

ing his career. For many years in the 1940s, Sarony was the dynamic half of the two Leslies with Leslie Holmes.

The end of this partnership signalled a new career for him as a character actor in everything from Shakespeare to Samuel Beckett.

Perhaps the most enduring legacy will be the 400 published songs he wrote, two of which sold more than a million copies.

Booklet on Aids

THE chances of contracting Aids through a blood transfusion in Britain, as had happened in Australia, was 'very, very remote', a leading haemophilia expert said yesterday.

Dr Peter Jones, director of the NHS Haemophilia Centre in Newcastle was speaking at the launch of a booklet he has written giving new guidelines on controlling the disease.

He said the booklet, aimed at the general pub-

lic, was intended to contain the 'hysteria' surrounding the virus, which has claimed the lives of 53 men in Britain.

Britain's 5,000 haemophiliacs are especially at risk from Aids because they need regular special transfusions to combat the lack of a clotting agent.

He said two haemophiliacs had died from Aids and a third was known to have the disease following such transfusions.

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 McKinlay (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

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 Brindle (BAC AUEW senior steward)

SALFORD: Thursday February 28, 7.30p.m. Broadwalk Library, Salford Precinct.
Speakers: John Oldham (YS National Committee); Stuart Carter (WRP Central Committee)

LIVERPOOL: Thursday February 28, 7.30p.m. Liverpool Poly Students Union, Haigh Hall (main hall); Maryland Street.
Speakers: Richard Knott (YS Regional Committee); Tony Banda (WRP Central Committee); Billy Trainor (WRP Liverpool District Committee and AUEW (CEU) in personal capacity)

CREWE: Monday March 4, 8p.m. Room 06, Oakley Centre, Victoria Centre.
Speakers: Dave Curzon (Crewe YS); Frank Singer (WRP Central Committee)

HATTERSLEY: Monday March 4, 7.30p.m. Hattersley Community Centre, Hattersley Road East.
Speakers: John Oldham (YS National Committee); Stuart Carter (WRP Central Committee); Speaker from Bold NUM

LONGSIGHT: Monday March 11, 7.30p.m. Longsight Library, Stockport Road, M13.
Speakers: John Oldham (YS National Committee); Ray Waring (WRP Central Committee)

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)

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)

SHEFFIELD: Thursday February 28, 7.30p.m. Sheffield Trades & Labour Club, Duke Street.
Speakers: Katie Rhodes (YS Regional Committee); Cliff Slaughter (WRP Central Committee)

BRADFORD: Thursday February 28, 7.30p.m. Star Hotel, Westgate.
Speakers: David Gurney (Bradford YS); Colleen Smith (WRP Central Committee); Michael Barrat (Emley Moor NUM, in personal capacity)

HULL: Tuesday March 5, 7.30p.m. Trades and Labour Club, Beverley Road.
Speakers: Katie Rhodes (YS Regional Committee); Dave Hyland (WRP Central Committee); Cllr Beattie Ware (Hull City Council, in personal capacity)

HUDDERSFIELD: Thursday March 7, 7.30p.m. Fartown International Club, Halifax Old Road.
Speakers: Chris Marsden (YS National Committee); Cliff Slaughter (WRP Central Committee); In personal capacity: Alan Scott (NUPE shop steward); Paul Adams (Emley Moor NUM)

WEST MIDLANDS

BIRMINGHAM: Wednesday February 20, 7.30p.m. Weld Community Project, Wilson Road, Lozells.
Speakers: Clive Andrews (YS National Committee); Corin Redgrave (WRP Central Committee); Speaker from West Midlands NUM

SMETHWICK: Thursday February 28, 7.30p.m. Redfort Social Club, Smethwick High Street.
Speakers: Clive Andrews (YS National Committee); Corin Redgrave (WRP Central Committee); Speaker from Staffs NUM

EAST MIDLANDS

MANSFIELD: Thursday March 7, 7.30p.m. Masons Arms, Leeming Street.
Speakers: Chris Lynas (YS Regional Committee); Peter Jones (WRP Central Committee); Annette Holroyd (Blidworth WRP)

LEICESTER: Monday March 11, 7.30p.m. Secular Hall, Humberstone Gate.
Speakers: Gary Greenwood (Leicester YS); Peter Jones (WRP Central Committee); Annette Holroyd (Blidworth WRP)

CHESTERFIELD: Thursday March 21, 7.30p.m. Room 3/4, Market Hall.
Speakers: Chris Lynas (YS Regional Committee); Ann Nettleship (Alfreton WRP); Peter Jones (WRP Central Committee)

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)

WESTERN

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

SOUTH WALES

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

FERNDALE: Wednesday February 27, 7.30p.m. Ferndale Workingmens 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)

HOUNSLOW: Wednesday March 13, 7.30p.m. Montague Hall.
Speakers: Wayne Matthews (YS Regional Committee); Claire Dixon (YS National Committee); Richard Lugg (Southall WRP and T&GWU shop steward BAA Heathrow, in personal capacity)

HARROW: Monday February 25, 7.30p.m. Co-op Hall, Masons Avenue, Wealdstone.
Speakers: Matt Hanlon (YS National Committee); Richard Price (WRP Central Committee); John Barker (Students union president Harrow Tech, 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)

HERTS

WATFORD: Tuesday March 12, 7.30p.m. Trade Union Hall, Woodford Road.
Speakers: Collin Jeffery (YS Regional Committee); Paul Stickley (Watford WRP); John Gallacher (SCPS in personal capacity)

LONDON

CANNING TOWN: Monday February 25, 7.30p.m. Rosetta School, Sophia Road, Custom House, E16.
Speakers: Julie Hyland (YS National Secretary); Andy Blunden (Canning Town WRP)

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, NW10.
Speakers: Matt Hanlon (YS National Committee); Dany Sylveire (Harlesden WRP)

CRICKLEWOOD: Wednesday February 27, 7.30p.m. Anson Hall, Anson Road.
Speakers: Dolly Short (YS Editor); Richard Price (WRP Central Committee)

NORTH KENSINGTON: Thursday February 28, 7.30p.m. Westway Luncheon Club, nr Ladbroke Grove tube.
Speakers: Claire Dixon (YS National Committee); Barran Hume (North Kensington WRP)

MORDEN: Thursday February 28, 8p.m. South Wimbledon Community Centre, Haydens Road.
Speakers: Pat Farrell (YS Regional Committee); Tony Bell (WRP London District Committee)

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

LAVENDER HILL: Thursday March 7, 8p.m. Garfield Community Centre, Garfield Road, SW11.
Speakers: Frances Goldstein (YS Regional Committee); Simon Vevers (WRP Central Committee)

STOKE NEWINGTON: Thursday March 7, 7.30p.m. Stoke Newington Library, Church Street, N16.
Speakers: Marianne Kane (YS Regional Committee); Bill Rogers (WRP London District Committee)

EAST HAM: Thursday March 7, 7.30p.m. Lister Rooms, East Ham Town Hall, High Road, E6.
Speakers: Julie Hyland (YS National Secretary); Richard Goldstein (WRP London District Committee); Theresa Shaughan (Labour Cllr, in personal capacity)

HAMMERSMITH: Wednesday March 13, 7.30p.m. Mathews Hall, Margravine Road.
Speakers: Claire Dixon (YS National Committee); Richard Price (WRP Central Committee)

CLAPHAM: Wednesday March 13, 8p.m. Coronation Hall, Springfield Estate, Union Road, SW8.
Speakers: Mohammed Jallow (Clapham YS); Judith White (WRP London District Committee)

HOLLOWAY: Thursday March 14, 7.30p.m. Caxton House, 129 St John's Way, Holloway, N19.
Speakers: Elizabeth Ali (YS Regional Committee); Ian Harrison (WRP London District Committee)

TODAY'S TV AND RADIO



Humphrey Bogart, Audrey Hepburn and William Holden star in 'Sabrina' on 4 at 4.55pm



'The Mistress' with Felicity Kendal is on BBC2 at 9

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM. 6.30 Breakfast Time. 9.00 Pages from Ceefax. 10.30 Play School. 10.50 Pages from Ceefax. 12.30 News Afternoon. 12.55 Weather. 12.57 Regional News (London and SE: Financial Report, News Headlines). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. 1.50 Bagpuss. 2.05 The Afternoon Show. 2.45 Pages from Ceefax. 3.48 Regional News (except London). 3.50 Play School: It's Thursday. 4.10 The Family-Ness. 4.15 Cycle Star of Peeling Tower. 4.30 Dogtanian and the Three Muskehounds. 4.55 John Craven's Newsround. 5.00 Blue Peter. 5.30 Dr Kildare. 5.58 Weatherman.

6.00 THE SIX O'CLOCK NEWS

6.30 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINE

6.55 TOMORROW'S WORLD New developments in science and technology; including items on kissing and cotton pests

7.20 ODD ONE OUT Paul Daniels challenges contestants

7.50 TOP OF THE POPS With Simon Bates and Janice Long

8.30 A QUESTION OF SPORT David Coleman tests the sporting memories of two teams of sporting celebrities led by Bill Beaumont and Emlyn Hughes

9.00 THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS Weatherman

9.25 CHARTERS AND CALDICOTT Last episode of Keith Waterhouse's comedy thriller in which Robin Bailey and Michael Aldridge play the retired Foreign Office men and gentlemen sleuths

10.15 QUESTION TIME Sixty minutes of debate with Sir Robin Day

11.15 ROCKSCHOOL The first of eight programmes for budding young musicians looks at the equipment that will give you the best sound to suit your style

11.40 Weatherman; Closedown

BBC WALES: 5.30 Interval. 5.35-5.58 Wales Today. 6.30-6.55 Dr Kildare. 8.30-9.00 Week In Week Out.

BBC2

6.55-7.20 OPEN UNIVERSITY: Measuring the Earth and the Moon. 9.00 Pages from Ceefax. 9.20 DAYTIME ON TWO: 9.20 Encounter: Germany. 9.38 Encounter: France. 9.55 Encounter: Spain. 10.12 Science Workshop. 10.34 Scene. 11.05 Near and Far. 11.30 Home Ground. 11.55 Better Badminton. 12.20 Visions of Change. 12.45 Out of the Undertow. 1.20 Encounter: Italy. 1.38 Around Scotland. 2.00 You And Me. 2.15 Music Time. 2.40 Communicate! 3.00 Pages from Ceefax.

5.25 NEWS SUMMARY: Weather

5.30 PRIDE OF PLACE The Age of Elegance The Marquis of Angelsey celebrates the beauty and history of the country house

6.00 MONKEY *Catfish, Saint and Shape-Changer* Japanese TV series

6.40 CARTOON TWO *The Cow That* ...

6.50 THE ENTERTAINERS Gene Kelly in *It's Always Fair Weather* (1955) with Dan Dailey and Cyd Charisse in this MGM musical about three wartime chums meeting after ten years

8.30 OUT OF COURT Sue Cook and David Jessel report on the law

9.00 THE MISTRESS Felicity Kendal is the mistress in Carla Lane's comedy series, with Jane Asher and Jack Galloway as the married couple who make up the triangle

9.30 FORTY MINUTES *Love Story* These two stories of love, between Chris and Heidi, Mark and Christine, are Forty Minutes' tribute to the lovers' patron, St Valentine

10.10 THE ROCKFORD FILES James Garner stars as Jim Rockford in *Dirty Money, Black Light*

11.00 NEWSNIGHT

11.45 OPEN UNIVERSITY: 11.45 Weekend Outlook. 11.50 Making the Connections. 12.15 Gravity and the Stars.

CHANNEL 4

2.25 THE BRITISH AT WAR Continuing the season of World War II documentary and propaganda films

THEY CAME TO A CITY (1944) A sociological fantasy following the mixed fortunes of a group of very different characters who find themselves at the gates of a Utopian city

DIM LITTLE ISLAND (1949) An elegiac anthology of past, present and future thoughts by Humphrey Jennings, seen through the eyes of Ralph Vaughan Williams, James Fisher, Osbert Lancaster and John Ormston

FAMILY PORTRAIT Humphrey Jennings' last film

4.25 COUNTDOWN

4.55 SABRINA (1944) Romantic comedy with Audrey Hepburn as a chauffeur's daughter and Humphrey Bogart and William Holden as the two wealthy sons of an upper crust family who pursue her

7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS Presented by Peter Sissons

7.50 COMMENT by Dr Norman Myers, a conservation scientist; followed by Weather

8.00 DISCOVERY Miranda Robertson and David Bellamy look at the hare's social habits

8.30 TREASURE HUNT

9.30 THE PRICE In the final episode of this thriller Geoffrey Carr uses his computer to track down the kidnappers. But they still control his wife and daughters

10.30 BILLIARDS: THE BLUE ARROW MASTERS Match 5: Rex Williams v Eddie Charlton

11.15 ASSAULTED NUTS A fast-paced melange of comedy, satire and pastiches from Tim Brooke-Taylor, Daniel Peacock and Cleo Rocos

11.45 HALL OF MIRRORS

12.10 Close

THAMES

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.25 Thames News Headlines; followed by School Programmes. 12.00 The Little Green Man. 12.10 Mooncat & Co. 12.30 The Sullivan. 1.00 News at One. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Falcon Crest. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems. 3.25 Thames News Headlines. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.15 Blockbusters. 5.45 News.

6.00 THAMES NEWS With Andrew Gardner and Tina Jenkins

6.30 THAMES SPORT Steve Rider with the best of the sporting action, behind-the-scenes stories and news from around the capital

7.00 KNIGHT RIDER *Knight by a Nose* More action and adventure with the modern-day knight errant and KITT, his computerised supercar

8.00 DUTY FREE

8.30 MINDER *National Pelmet* The last thing Terry expects when he goes to the seaside for a day with Arthur is to mind a race horse!

9.30 TV EYE

10.00 NEWS AT TEN followed by *Thames News Headlines*

10.30 KOJAK Telly Savalas in *The Corrupter* Kojak investigates the mugging and murder of the owner of a jewellery company

11.30 LOOKS FAMILIAR Host Denis Norden invites American actors Farley Granger and Stubby Kaye to look back to stars and films of the 1930s and 1940s

12.15 Night Thoughts and Closedown

GRANADA

6.25 Good Morning Britain. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 The Little Green Man. 12.10 Mooncat and Co. 12.30 The Sullivan. 1.00 News at One. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 Mr & Mrs. 2.00 The Adventurer. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems. 3.25 Granada Reports News. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.15 The Beverly Hillbillies. 5.45 News.

6.00 THIS IS YOUR RIGHT With Michael Winstanley

6.05 CROSSROADS

6.30 GRANADA REPORTS

7.05 EMMERDALE FARM

7.35 MURDER, MYSTERY, SUSPENSE *Lt Schuster's Wife* With Lee Grant and Jack Warden. Ellie Schuster, a policeman's widow, sets out to clear the name of her late husband, who died suspected of corruption

9.00 DUTY FREE *Forty Love* Amy gets proof of her husband's affair with Linda, but when she acts on it, disaster follows

9.30 TV EYE *Vigilante* A look at the case of Bernhard Goetz, the New Yorker 'vigilante' who shot four black youths when they approached him on the subway. TV Eye interviews two of the youths that were shot

10.00 NEWS AT TEN

10.30 FALCON CREST *Judge and Jury*

11.30 FIGHT NIGHT Gary Newbon introduces boxing from Birmingham. Coventry welterweight Martin McGouth takes on London's Gary Knight in the main clash

12.35 Closedown

S4C

1.00 Countdown. 1.30 Alice. 2.00 Beth, Sut, Pam, Pryd A Ble? 2.20 Ffalabalam. 2.35-2.55 Hwnt Ac Yma. 3.25 The Making of Britain. 3.55 In Search of Wild Asparagus. 4.20 A Plus 4. 4.50 Ffalabalam. 5.00 Scwbi-Dw. 5.25 Hanner Dwsin. 5.35 The Mary Tyler Moore Show. 6.00 Brookside. 6.30 Peppino. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Tro I'r Eidal. 8.05 Coleg. 8.35 Drannoeth Y Ffair; News Headlines. 9.05 The Bird Business. 10.05 Film: *Man of Iron*. 12.55 Close.

RADIO

1 News on the half-hour from 6.30a.m. until 9.30p.m. and at 12 midnight.

6.00 Adrian John. 7.00 Noel Edmonds. 9.00 Simon Bates. 12.00 Gary Davies (12.30 Newsbeat). 2.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Bruno Brookes (5.30 Newsbeat). 7.30 Janice Long. 10.00-12.00 Into the Music (S).

2 News on the hour. 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 Wally Whyton (S). 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Impressionists. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. 11.00 Brian Matthews presents Round Midnight. 1.00 Charles Nove (S) presents Nightride. 3.00-4.00 Kenny Davern (S).

3 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Morning Concert (S) Schubert, Arriaga, Falla (8.00-8.05 News). Tubin, Ravel, Scriabin, Saint-Saens. 9.00 News. 9.05 This Week's Composer (S) Brahms. 10.00 Bliss (S). 10.30 Songs for St Valentine's Day (S).

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 Checkpoint. 9.30 The Living World. 10.00 News; Medicine Now. 10.30 Morning Story: *A Play for Joanne*. 10.45 An Act of Worship (S). 11.00 News; Travel; Analysis. 11.48 Curious Corners. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.27 Just a Minute (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) *Now That the Buffalo's Gone*. 4.00 News; Enquire Within. 4.10 Bookshelf. 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; Financial Report. 6.30 My Word! (S). 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Any Answers? 7.40 International Assignment. 8.10 Plato to NATO. 8.40 Profile. 9.00 Does He Take Sugar? 9.30 Ian Skidmore. 9.45 Kaleidoscope. 10.15 A Book at Bedtime: *The Doves of Venus*. 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. 9.05-10.45, 11.00-12.00, 1.55-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4. 11.30-12.10 Open University. 12.30-1.10 Schools Night-Time Broadcasting.

ROUND THE REGIONS

TYNE TEES

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.25 North East News. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 The Little Green Man. 12.10 Mooncat and Co. 12.30 The Sullivan. 1.00 News; North East News; Lookaround. 1.30 The Champions. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems. 3.25 North East News. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.15 Keep It In The Family. 5.45 News. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35 Film: *Lieutenant Schuster's Wife*. 9.00 Duty Free. 9.30 TV Eye. 10.00 News at Ten; North East News. 10.32 The Works. 11.10 The Yellow Rose. 12.10 Epilogue; Closedown.

CENTRAL

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 The Little Green Man. 12.10 Mooncat and Co. 12.25 European Folk Tales. 12.40 Contact. 1.00 News; Central News. 1.30 The Champions. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems. 3.25 News Headlines. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.15 Different Strokes. 5.45 News. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 Central News. 6.55 Emmerdale Farm. 7.25 Film: *The Train Robbers*. 9.00 Duty Free. 9.30 TV Eye. 10.00 News at Ten; Central News. 10.30 Central Lobby. 11.00 The Protectors. 11.30 Fight Night. 12.30 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.25 Regional Weather Forecast. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 The Little Green

Man. 12.10 Mooncat and Co. 12.30 The Calendar Picture Show. 1.00 News; Calendar News; Weather. 1.30 The Love Boat. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems. 3.25 News Headlines. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.15 Keep It In The Family. 5.45 News. 6.00 Calendar; Weather. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35 Film: *Lieutenant Schuster's Wife*. 9.00 Duty Free. 9.30 TV Eye. 10.00 News at Ten. 10.30 Live at City Hall. 11.00 Barney Miller. 11.30 Fight Night. 12.30 Closedown.

TSW

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 The Little Green Man. 12.10 Mooncat and Co. 12.30 The Sullivan. 1.00 News; TSW News Headlines. 1.30 The Love Boat. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.15 Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthdays. 5.20 Crossroads. 5.45 News. 6.00 Today South West. 6.35 Gardens for All. 7.05 Benson. 7.35 Film: *Lieutenant Schuster's Wife*. 9.00 Duty Free. 9.30 TV Eye. 10.00 News at Ten; TSW Late News and Weather. 10.35 The Yellow Rose. 11.30 Struggle. 12.00 Postscript; South West Weather; Shipping Forecast; Closedown.

TVS

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.25 TVS Outlook. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 The Little Green Man. 12.10 Mooncat and Co. 12.30 The Sullivan. 1.00 News; TVS News. 1.30 Afternoon Club; Shine On Harvey Moon. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems. 3.27 TVS News; The Protectors. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.12 TVS

News Headlines; Blockbusters. 5.45 News. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35 Film: *Lieutenant Schuster's Wife*. 9.00 Duty Free. 9.30 TV Eye. 10.00 News at Ten; TVS News. 10.30 Sporting All Stars. 11.00 Inn Quiz. 11.30 The Master. 12.30 Company; Closedown.

HTV

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 The Little Green Man. 12.10 Mooncat and Co. 12.30 The Sullivan. 1.00 News; HTV News. 1.30 A Country Practice. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems; HTV News. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.15 Different Strokes. 5.45 News. 6.00 HTV News. 6.40 Crossroads. 7.05 Emmerdale Farm. 7.35 Film: *Lieutenant Schuster's Wife*. 9.00 Duty Free. 9.30 TV Eye. 10.00 News at Ten; HTV News. 10.30 Winter Outlook. 10.35 The West This Week. 11.00 Shelley. 11.30 The Streets of San Francisco. 12.30 HTV Weather; Closedown.

HTV WALES: 6.00-6.40 Wales at Six. 10.30-11.00 Wales This Week.

ANGLIA

6.15 Good Morning Britain. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 The Little Green Man. 12.10 Mooncat and Co. 12.30 The Sullivan. 1.00 News; Anglia News; Weather. 1.30 The Champions. 2.30 Daytime. 3.00 Gems. 3.25 Anglia News. 3.30 Sons and Daughters. 4.00 The Little Green Man. 4.15 The Moomins. 4.20 Sooty. 4.40 Words, Words, Words. 5.00 Dangermouse. 5.15 Blockbusters. 5.45 News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Knight Rider. 8.00 Duty Free. 8.30 Minder. 9.30 TV Eye. 10.00 News at Ten; Anglia Late News; Weather. 10.30 Professionally Speaking. 11.00 Snooker. 12.30 Epilogue; Closedown.

News
Line

BOOKS

A weekly review of
the latest publications

The Brotherhood exposed

ACCORDING to 'The Brotherhood', now in paperback after being a runaway bestseller in hardback, there are approximately 700,000 Freemasons in Britain.

They are all male and mostly from the upper and middle classes.

Freemasonry, which started out as a Catholic medieval trade guild for building workers, was taken over by the aristocracy and gentry and today is a secret society with thousands of adherents throughout most of the capitalist world.

Little definite is known about its workings, although rumours

The Brotherhood by Stephen Knight — Granada, £2.50

abound. Knight himself became interested in the subject when he was researching a book about Jack the Ripper and became convinced by the evidence that the murderer was, in fact, a demented Freemason whose bloody crimes were covered up by other Masons.

His controversial book, 'Jack the Ripper: The Final Solution', was widely read, although a number of bookshops with Mason associations refused to stock it.

From there Knight went on to a full-scale investigation into the Brotherhood, as they call

themselves, and claims to have built up a wide network of 'moles' who were prepared to break their Masonic oaths to help him. In many cases they refused to be named for fear of Masonic revenge.

Whatever the mystic idiocies of Masonic rites, and the secret signals, handshakes and signs by which Masons can recognise each other, there is no doubt that Freemasonry cannot just be dismissed as the fantasy play-acting of overgrown adolescents.

Freemasonry draws most of its membership today in Britain from

businessmen, lawyers, policemen, judges, bankers, professional people, the armed forces, the aristocracy and royalty.

While much of the book is hearsay and circumstantial, there is sufficient evidence to show clearly the corruption and injustices with which it is concerned.

Knight quotes numerous non-Mason policemen who are convinced that secret signs given in court by a policeman giving evidence, or by a defendant to the trial judge have resulted in the unlikely verdicts being brought in.

Above all, the way in which the Brotherhood is used to ensure successful business deals and rapid

promotion to the most undeserving people, is fully exposed.

The Poulson local government corruption case is only one ascribed to the use of Masonic affiliations which enable unscrupulous business deals to be pushed through.

While the majority of the book is interesting reading, a word of caution about the last couple of chapters, which are concerned with the international ramifications of Freemasonry.

Working purely on conjecture, Knight works out a whole theory that the KGB is trying to infiltrate the Brotherhood in order to undermine Britain and the fact that leading members of the Argen-

tine armed forces are Masons might have had something to do with the Malvinas (Falklands) war.

These far-fetched and ludicrous suggestions completely leave out the real movement of class forces.

Whatever the real extent of Masonic corruption, its real danger lies in its class content. That business deals are corrupt is nothing new — that is an inherent part of capitalism itself. That policemen and judges should be 'bent' is part of the whole makeup of the state apparatus which exists, not to uphold 'the law', but to maintain the corrupt and brutal rule of capitalism.

Freemasonry, as an organisation concerned above all with the self-interest of the members of the upper and middle classes (and all Knight's attempts impartially to point out the charitable activities of the Brotherhood do not alter that fact one iota) is really a secret conspiracy against the international working class.

Knight makes a plea for the 'good' Masons to clear out the 'rotten apples' before they corrupt the whole barrel. Such pleas will fall on deaf ears.

All the rottenness of Freemasonry will be swept aside by the destruction of the 'barrel' along with the capitalist state of which it is a part.

The long
crawl back

Little Caesar: a biography of Edward G. Robinson by Alan L. Gansberg — New English Library, £2.50

'EITHER snap my neck or set me free', said Edward G. Robinson to the House Committee on Un-American Activities in December 1950. 'If you snap my neck I will still say that I believe in America.'

With these words, and plenty more besides, Robinson proclaimed himself an anti-communist liberal.

The careers of a whole generation were at the crossroads. Robinson, who according to Alan Gansberg in this thorough biography was always obsessed with the progress of his career, tried very hard to capitulate to the witch-hunters.

Although he had been among the early supporters of the Committee for the First Amendment formed to defend the Hollywood Ten, who were called in by the HUAC in 1947, Robinson quickly withdrew when he saw what was at stake.

In fact, almost as soon as the filming of 'Key Largo' was over, Humphrey Bogart publicly withdrew from the CFA with a statement of anti-communism, and Robinson followed.

He refused money to the families of the jailed and bankrupted Hollywood Ten and volunteered evidence to the HUAC investigators.

But as other actors found, it was a long crawl back to work, and it took participation in the propaganda outburst for the Korean war to restore Robinson's credibility with the men who controlled the industry — and particularly with the sponsors of the television shows which were by then a dominant force.

Gansberg makes much of Ronald Reagan's part, as president of the Screen Actors Guild, in stimulating red-baiting in the film industry.

It was his pronouncements that branded as communist front organisations groups like the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, which Robinson had sponsored.

But Gansberg does not show how the divisions were made between those who had principles and sacrificed their careers, and those who, like Robinson, made the job of the witch-hunters possible.

While his is far from a sycophantic biography, it is undoubtedly sympathetic to Robinson's liberal cowardice. It shows the determined way Emanuel Goldenberg, the son of Rumanian Jewish immigrants, set about his career.

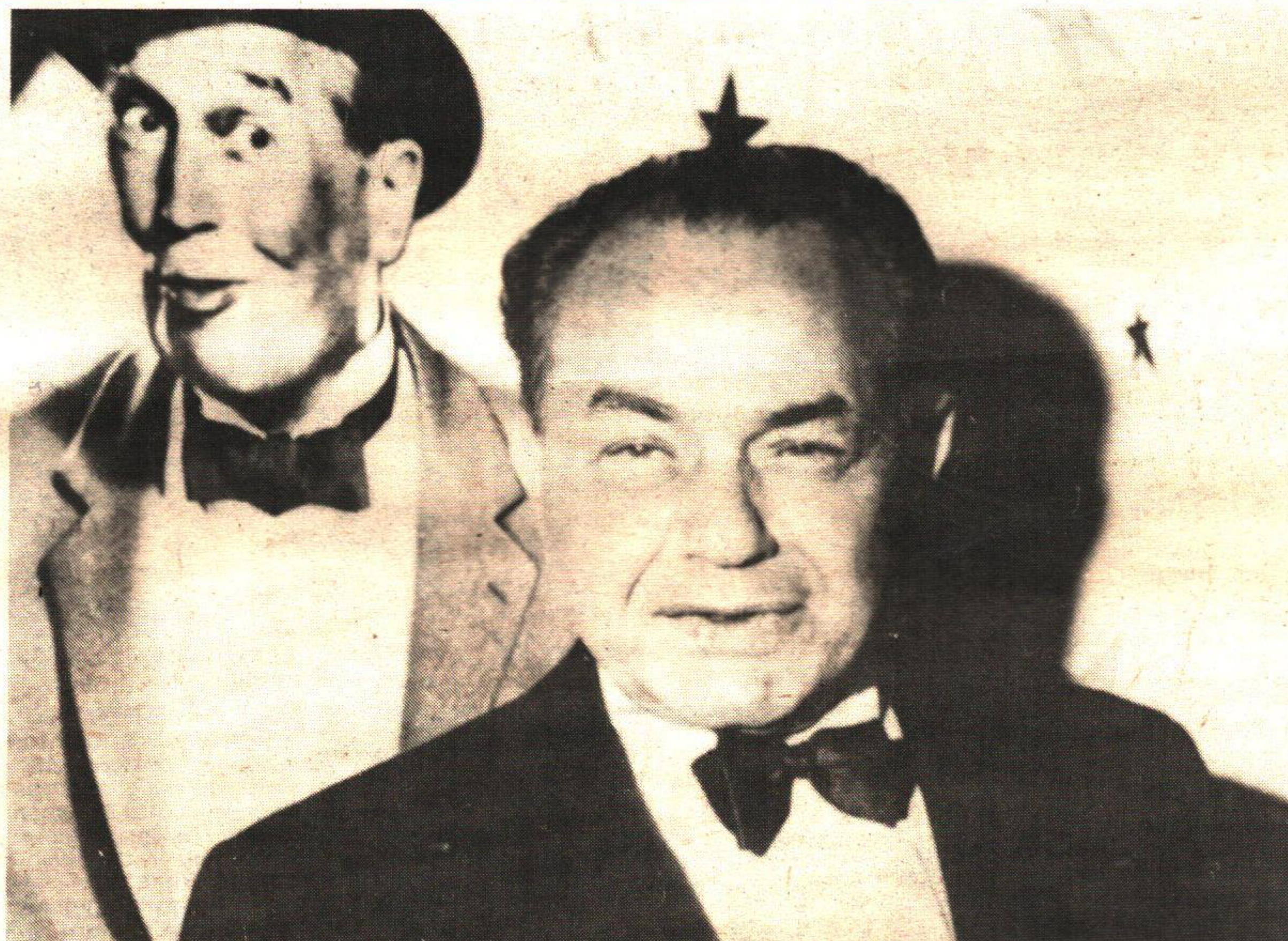
He had first wanted to be a rabbi, but quickly realised what he wanted was an audience, and he headed for the stage.

Theatre

Unlike other Jews of his generation, he only played once in the Yiddish theatre, and quickly found small stage parts where he could use his versatile voice.

Silent films did not suit Robinson, whose voice was developing into that crucial snarl that made him Little Caesar or Johnny Rocco in 'Key Largo', and which he finally used to sell coffee in television commercials after the McCarthy nightmare.

He began his acting life in patriotic performances — although he had initially supported German imperialism in the first World war — became a pacifist who cringed his way through the gun scenes in his gangster roles, and worked his way to the heart of the establishment with broadcasts for Voice of America, ensuring himself a posthumous honorary Oscar after his death in 1973.



Edward G. Robinson at the premier of 'Gigi' in 1958

New in paperback

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith — Pavanne, £1.95

Although published over forty years ago, the story of Francie Nolan's development from a little girl reading library books on the fire escape of a Brooklyn tenement to a young woman setting out for a college education has an immediate and absorbing radiance, much copied and seldom bettered.

The Nolan family struggles through poverty for dignity and there are some unforgettable scenes, like the ten-year-old Francie and her brother winning the biggest Christmas tree in Brooklyn by standing up when the tree is thrown at them, and 15-year-old Francie picking up the newspaper that announces

America has entered the war.

Japanese Inn by Oliver Statler — Picador £3.95

Minaguchi-ya is an ancient inn, four hundred years old. Oliver Statler has reconstructed its history as a sort of true fiction based on family legends, documents, memories and Japanese prints. The story is a microcosm of the way in which Japan developed over these years from feudal times to capitalism. There are many digressions, the most spectacular being at the end where twelve pages are reproduced showing the menus for the Emperor's stay in 1957.

Pet Sematary by Stephen King — New

English Library, £2.75

Stephen King's usual mixture of the apparently innocent with death and foreboding and the supernatural. In this case, a young doctor moves with his family to the countryside of Maine, where fears of death are aroused in the whole family by the clearing in the woods where children have been burying their pets for a century.

Swag by Elmore Leonard — Penguin, £1.75

In which car salesman Frank Ryan and car thief Ernest Stickley, 'Stick', team up to rob bars, supermarkets and gas stations. A cool plan and a fast moving book as a string of successful holdups rattle through the pages.

Sugar
free

Sugar Off by Richard and Elizabeth Cook — Pan, £1.75

FOR twenty years as a dentist, Richard Cook has been patching up the damage caused by sugary foods. In this book, he and his wife Elizabeth give practical advice for parents who want to ensure that their children do not, like a third of British adults end up with false teeth, and who also know that there are no remedies which can buy 'zero fillings'.

The book discusses the advantage of a sugar-free diet, not only for dental but also for general health.

The book recommends brand name products which are acceptably low in sugar. For those with more time, there are recipes to appeal to children, and particularly to solve the problem of desserts and puddings.

The book is written in a deceptively light style which enables its advice to be conveyed simply and without fanaticism.

BOOKS

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BOOKS

INTERNATIONAL TENNIS PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP



ONLY FOUR of the original 16 seeds remain at the quarter-final stages of the men's singles in the inaugural International Players Tennis Championships after more upsets in Tuesday's play.

Another upset in the women's singles during Tuesday's abandoned schedule was the elimination of the No.13 seed Andrea Temesvari of Hungary by the 15-year-old West German Steffi Graf.

Sweden's Stefan Edberg caused the biggest upset so far in the two-week long tournament when he ousted the No.1 seed, Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl on Tuesday.

Their fourth-round clash was halted by bad light, a swirling wind and rain on Monday evening with the 19-year-old Swede leading 6-4, 5-6 on service.

Edberg, the only member of the Swedish champion Davis Cup team to gain a quarter-final place at the Delray Beach, Florida, event, held service on Tuesday afternoon when Lendl netted a set-point forehand and won the tie-break 7-4.

Weather

Lendl, however, did not blame the weather conditions for his loss.

'It was the same for everyone,' he said after his defeat. 'When we began again I thought I'd try my best to break his serve and go to a third set. His serve sets up everything, and he doesn't miss any first serves.'

Edberg, who had sat and watched his teammates Mats Wilander, seeded two, and fourth seed Anders Jarryd go out of the competition earlier as the wind played havoc with their baseline games, said he had never played better.

'I'm very surprised with the way I'm playing,' he said. 'I've never played better in my life. I'm serving well and I'm playing more from the baseline, too. I'm not making the mistakes I used to.'

Victories

The youngster added that his victories over Jimmy Connors and Yannick Noah of France in the US National Indoor Championships last month had helped his confidence.

'I won in Memphis and that helped my confidence a lot. The idea is to play a lot of matches, to win matches and get confidence. I feel now I can win every match,' he said.

Edberg will now face unseeded American Scott Davis in the quarter-finals.

Graf said she just 'tried to put the ball in court' as Temesvari made many unforced errors in what the Hungarian called 'unfathomable wind conditions'. Graf won five games in a row from 2-2 in the first set.

Ninth-seed Yannick Noah of France became the only survivor among the top ten seeds when he turned back unseeded American Sammy Giamalva 6-3, 6-4 to reach the quarter-finals.

Noah, who broke Giam-

BY A TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

malva's service in the sixth game of the first set and beat him 3-2 in second set breaks, said he was not satisfied with his play. 'The wind conditions were so tough it was hard to tell how I played,' he said. 'But I do the best I can to win and I don't care how I win.'

He refused to consider himself the favourite to take the \$112,500 first prize in the final on Sunday. 'I don't feel like a favourite. There is none. Anybody can beat anybody else. Nobody will have an easy match,' he said.

The top two women players, Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert Lloyd, gained the semi-finals in matches made difficult by winds gusting to 50mph.

Rally

Navratilova defeated Bettina Bunge of West Germany 6-4, 6-4, while Lloyd, seeded second to Navratilova, was forced to rally to get by 12th seeded American Barbara Potter 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Navratilova said: 'It was almost unplayable. They could have called the matches off.'

The world's No.1 made allowances for the conditions. 'I had to change my serve to compensate for the wind,' she said. 'I used a low toss and a quick motion. The dust and the cold, plus the wind, was so bad I didn't even perspire.'

Bunge came out of the match saying: 'Hopefully it will give me confidence for the next time I play her. I'm pretty happy with the way I played.'

Lloyd had a closer call than Navratilova as Potter led 4-3 in the second set and had Lloyd down 0-30.

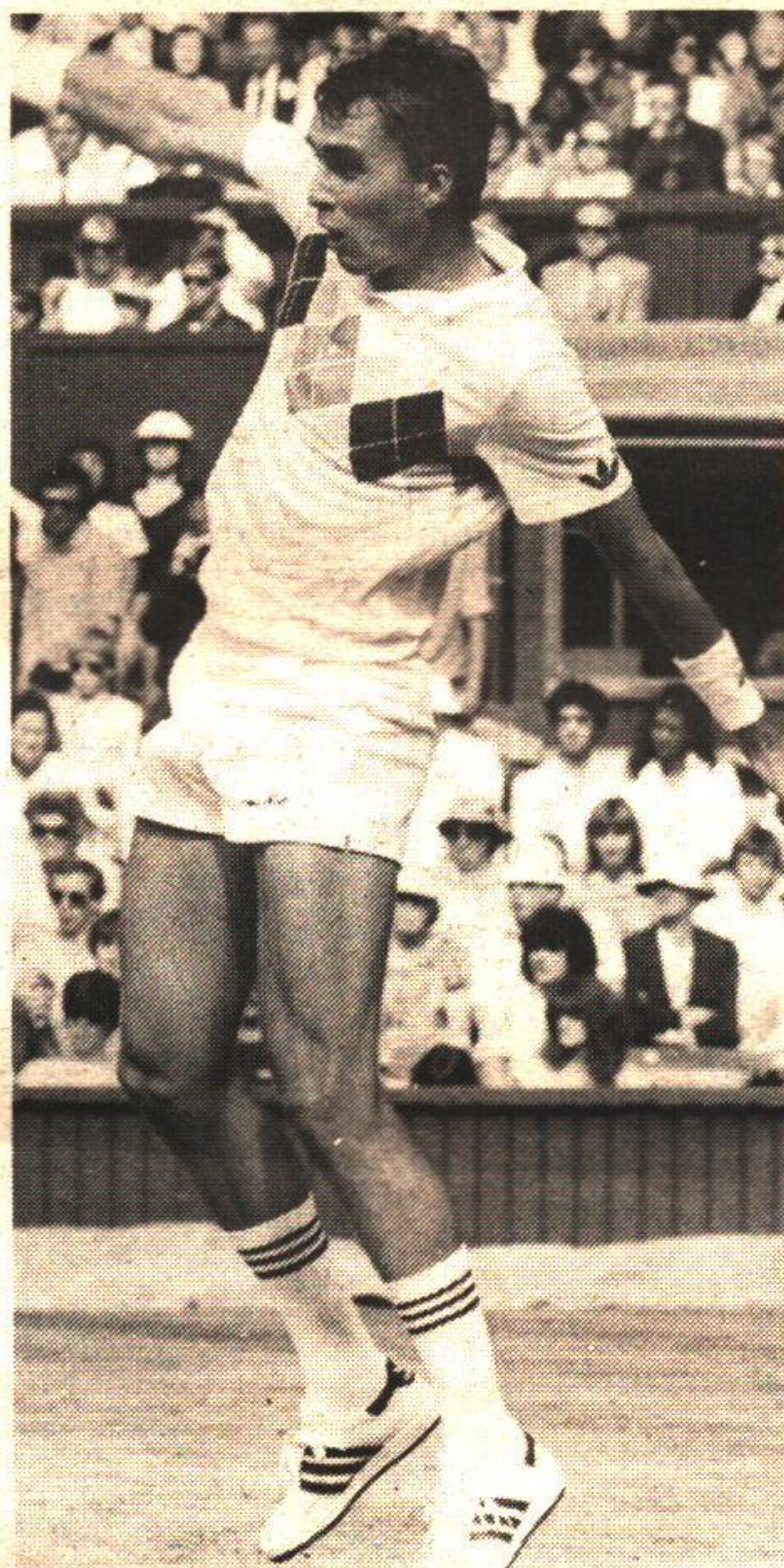
'I was very lucky to get out of the match,' Lloyd said. 'Barbara played some great tennis. She handled the wind well. I'm used to playing in south Florida wind, but I never played in wind like this before.'

Cold

The evening programme was cancelled for the second day in a row, this time because of cold weather.

Only one singles match, a quarter-final between seventh seed Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia and 10th seeded Carling Bassett of Canada was affected.

SEEDS FAIL TO BLOSSOM



IVAN LENDL . . . 'The conditions were the same for all'



MARTINA NAVRATILOVA . . . Adapted her game to the wind



CHRIS EVERT LLOYD . . . Great fightback against Potter

New sponsor for tennis

THE PRESTIGIOUS Eastbourne women's tennis tournament received a welcome boost yesterday when St Helens' Pilkington Glass announced a three-year £450,000 sponsorship of the event. The major glass manufacturer will sponsor the event in the week before Wimbledon, and their prize money injection amounts to £150,000 for each of the next three seasons.

In addition — and with an undisclosed figure — Pilkington Glass are also to finance a series of regional

tennis clinics throughout the summer to be conducted by Jo Durie and her coach, Alan Jones, as well as putting money into a new grass roots scheme, to be announced at a later date.

● JEREMY BATES became Britain's lone survivor in the fourth leg of the LTA men's indoor satellite circuit at Bramhall yesterday. Playing against 23-year-old Bruce Derling of New Zealand, Bates survived the loss of the first set in their quarter-final encounter and won 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

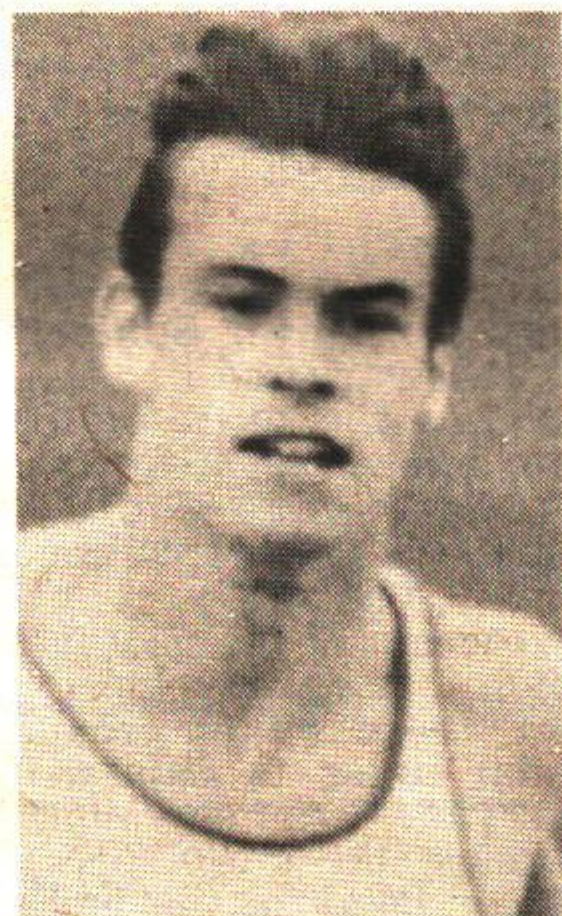
Sharp's Italian job

CAMERON SHARP and Heather Oakes lead Britain in their indoor athletic international against Italy at Genoa on Saturday.

Sharp and Oakes will need all their experience to guide a young British team through a difficult match.

Oakes, the world indoors silver medalist, is joined by the fast improving Pipa Baker in the 60 metres while Sharp, a European outdoor silver medalist, again teams up with Birmingham's Lincoln Asquith in the short sprint.

Ade Mafe has opted to miss this fixture and so has Liverpool's Ikem Billy, who, after a disappointing season on the boards at 800



SHARP . . . Team leader

metres, wants to concentrate on his build-up for the summer.

So there are eight new faces from the team that gained a fine victory over West Germany at Cosford last weekend.

West German GP is back

THE West German Formula One Grand Prix will return to the Nuerburgring track after an eight-year absence following settlement of a financial dispute, the organisers said yesterday.

The West German Automobile Club (AvD), which runs the Grand Prix, had balked at the Nuerburgring owners' demand for a 4.50 marks (\$1.39) share of every ticket sold for the August 4 race and the preceding practice sessions.

The AvD, which was unwilling to go beyond four marks (\$1.24), had threatened to hold the Grand Prix in Hockenheim, venue for the past eight years following a boycott of the Nuerburgring by Formula One drivers after a near-fatal accident involving Austrian Niki Lauda.

RACING PROSPECTS ARE BAD

THE ABANDONMENT of today's race meetings at Taunton and Southwell, quickly followed by Sandown Park for Friday, means that 65 fixtures have been lost this jump season.

There seems to be no immediate end in sight to the freeze, and inspections at Newcastle and Fakenham this morning look certain to increase the casualty list.

At Newcastle, where the feature on the two day card is Saturday's Mercedes-Benz Eider Chase, there is a severe frost in the ground. A course spokesman said: 'I would be surprised if racing goes ahead on either day. The frost is well set in.'

So it looks like a blank

day on Friday, with a bleak outlook for Saturday at Chepstow, Windsor, Nottingham and Newcastle.

The situation is only slightly better in Ireland. Today's Gowran Park fixture has been postponed until next Tuesday because of frost, but there is a chance of the big Leopardstown meeting on Saturday going ahead.

On Tuesday, the hurdle track was just about usable, although there was frost on the chase course. But Leopardstown benefits by being near the coast, and with only a slight improvement in temperature the meeting could take place on good ground.

CRICKET

BRIMMING

By our cricket correspondent

ENGLAND captain David Gower said yesterday his team were confident they could maintain the form of their India tour when they launch the World Championship of Cricket one-day series against Australia in Melbourne on Sunday.

'We fancy our chances, the same as Australia probably fancy theirs,' he said.

The Australia-England match is the opening game of the limited-over competition to mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the state of Victoria.

All seven Test-playing countries are taking part. Australia, England, India and Pakistan are in one preliminary group and the West Indies, New Zealand and Sri Lanka in the other.

'The Australians will be fired up against us, but we have some interesting performers in the team following the Indian tour,' Gower said.

'Opener Tim Robinson and pace bowler Neil Foster got their breakthrough on that tour and there is also the batting of Mike Gatting and the bowling of Norman Cowans to add to the strength.'

Gower backed up his confidence by noting: 'We had a win over the West Indies last year and we have beaten them before in Australia which must give us some hope for the coming series.'

Gower then expounded some thoughts on the one-day games.

'Limited over cricket

is a different category to Tests with changes required in fielding, batting and tactical thinking.

'If the batsmen play properly, pick up the ones and twos, and don't panic, the team will be in a position to play all of its shots during the last section of the innings.'

Art

'It is not a crash-bang-wallop game. The art is to bat correctly and keep your head because even if you lose early wickets a team can still come from behind as the West Indies did against Australia in Melbourne last Sunday.'

England had their first serious practice yesterday since arriving in Australia last week. They will play a warm-up game today against a Sydney Metropolitan Team.

WITH

CONFIDENCE



TIM ROBINSON . . . Gower sees a bright future for the young England batsman

Gavaskar happy

INDIA are undaunted by having to play two of their first three World Championship of Cricket matches under lights, captain Sunil Gavaskar said yesterday.

Gavaskar said that although Australia and the West Indies were vastly more experienced at day-night cricket, the playing conditions would not affect his young team.

India play all three of their preliminary matches in the limited-over competition in Melbourne — against Pakistan on February 20, against England on February 26 and against Australia on March 3.

Gavaskar, who will give up the Indian captaincy after the series

said the 14-man squad that arrived on Tuesday would be looking to redeem themselves after the poor showing against England in the recent home series.

England beat India 4-1 in the one-day matches and 2-1 in the five-match Test series.

Gavaskar picked out batsman Mohammed Azharuddin, 22, the first man to score three centuries in his first three Tests, and leg-spinner Sivaramakrishnan, 19, as the players to watch in the Indian squad.

But Gavaskar conceded India's fielding would have to improve significantly. The ground fielding against England had been poor.

Crowe steadies the Kiwis down

MARTIN CROWE and Jeremy Coney came to New Zealand's rescue on the fourth day of the third and final cricket Test against Pakistan yesterday, but even their stirring fightback may not be enough to save the home team.

Needing 278 to win, New Zealand were 114 for four at the close and looking hard-pressed to preserve their 1-0 series lead on the final day today.

But their position represents a marked improvement over the start of their second innings when Wasim Akram, the teenage medium-fast bowler

who took five wickets in the first innings, and Azeem Hafeez swept aside the first four New Zealand batsmen for 23.

Crowe and Coney prevented further devastation in a dogged, unbeaten stand of 91 for the fifth wicket. Even so, the 164 New Zealand still need to win remains a distant target.

Coney, always at his best under pressure, is 46 not out and Crowe 41.

Pakistan were soon among the wickets when New Zealand started their second innings. John Wright was caught in the slips off Hafeez, John Reid, who scored centur-

ies in the two previous Tests, and Geoff Howarth also edged catches off Akram, who picked up a third wicket when he had Jeff Crowe lbw first ball.

Earlier, Pakistan, 109 for five overnight, carried their total to 223. Qasim Omar failed narrowly for the second time in the match to reach a century, being caught at the wicket off medium-pacer Ewen Chatfield for 89. He made 96 in the first innings.

Rashid Khan, who arrived in New Zealand shortly before the Test as a replacement, also made a valuable contribution with a hard-hit 37.

Liverpool applies pressure

LIVERPOOL'S title challenge is gaining momentum. Their 3-0 crushing of Arsenal at Anfield on Tuesday night leaves them ten points behind leaders Everton with three months of the season left.

Three months ago they languished in the bottom three, 14 points adrift of Arsenal, who were then top. After Tuesday's setback, Arsenal are now only a point better off than Liverpool, who have now gone five League games without defeat.

The return to form of Ian Rush has revived the champions and he set them on their way against Arsenal with a superb 32nd minute goal, his 14th of the season, and seventh in seven games.

Phil Neal scored the second, after good work by Steve Nicol and Kenny Dalglish in the 52nd minute, and there were near misses before Ronnie Whelan netted the third with three minutes left.

Rush had a shot deflected

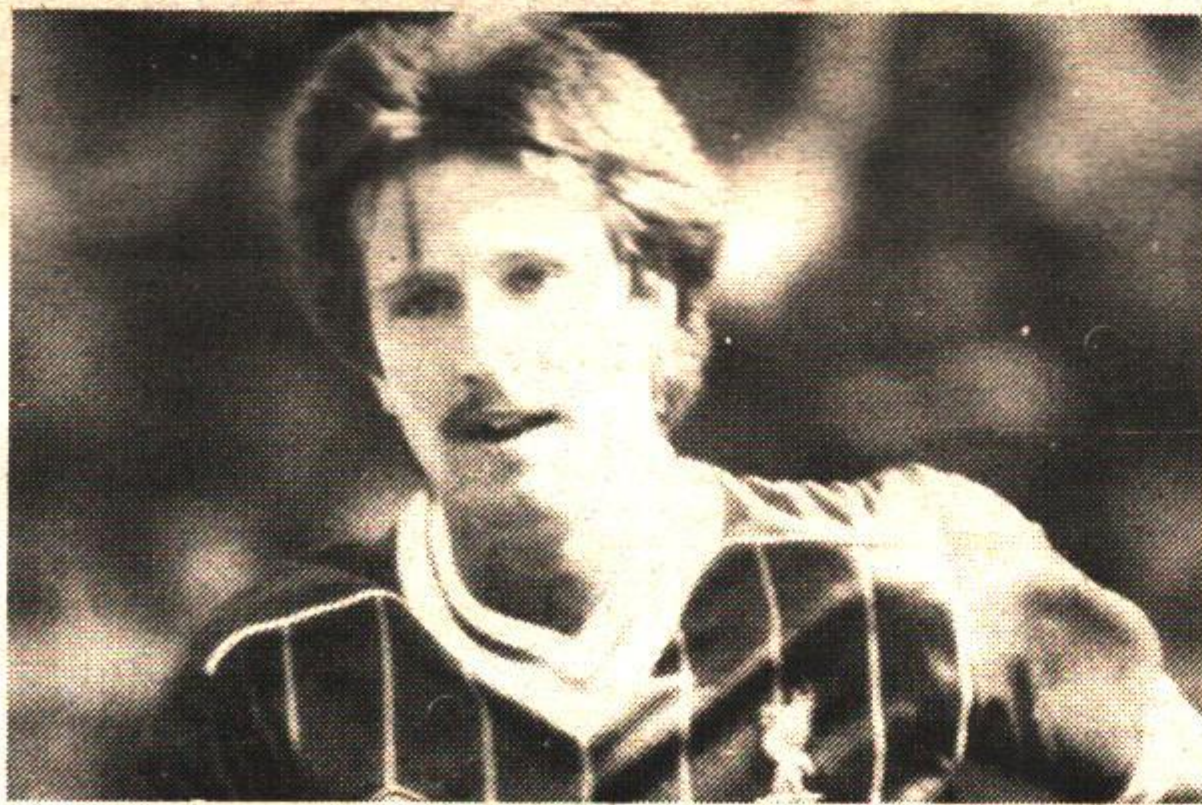
SOCCER

against a post, John Wark headed onto the bar and rush had a 68th minute penalty saved by John Lukic, who had brought him down in the area.

Arsenal were well beaten after dominating the first 20 minutes with fast skilful football, and the appearance of substitute Charlie Nicholas for the last 20 minutes, in place of Ian Allinson, brought no relief.

Liverpool's FA Cup opponents, Third Division giant-killers York City, needed a first-half penalty save by Mike Astbury to help them avoid defeat in a goalless League game at home to Plymouth.

Astbury, who has not conceded a goal in seven games, dived to keep out a



RONNIE WHELAN scored Liverpool's third goal on Tuesday night

32nd minute spot-kick from Tommy Tynan.

York manager Dennis Smith said: 'The lads all feel sick about the result as we wanted to go into Saturday's fifth round FA Cup title with a good win behind us.'

He added that York had missed the height of Keith Walwyn and Keith Houchen, who are still having intensive treatment. There were no further serious injuries, although full back Steve Senior ricked

his neck.

Sheffield United achieved their first home League win of 1985 by beating Oldham 2-0. After an own goal by Gary Hoollickin had put them ahead in the 30th minute, United stretched their lead when Keith Edwards scored his 15th goal of the season in the 67th minute.

John Bond's Swansea revival continued, as his side stretched their unbeaten run to four games with a 0-0 home draw against Bournemouth.

WELSH MATCH LOOKS GOOD

RUGBY

SATURDAY'S international between Wales and England at the National Ground, Cardiff should go ahead — if there is no heavy snowfall before the weekend.

Head groundsman Bill Hardiman said yesterday that the frost alone would not prevent the match from taking place but another fall of snow could end any hopes of saving it.

'At the moment there is no cause for alarm,' said Hardiman. 'If the covers were taken off now, the game could be played.'

Stands

The massive stands surrounding most of the ground mean that very little sun reaches the pitch, but a covering of snow and plastic sheeting is preventing further frost damage.

Leeds prop forward Dave O'Connor, who has not played a game this season due to injury, is a surprise choice. O'Connor, now back in training, is the amateur game's top forward, having won the Barla Player of the Year award a record three times.

Squad

The selectors have named a 26-strong squad with their minds on the Australian tour in 1986.

SQUAD: Andrews (Hull), Brown (Castleford), Critchson (Hull), De-nham (Hull), Donald (Barrow), Emson (Warrington), Fairbanks (Hallifax), Gaskell (Leigh), Harrison (Widnes).

Harrison (Warrington), Hough (Oldham), Hulme (Leigh), Kendall (Barrow), Kershaw (Rochdale), McGowan (Dewsbury), Mercer (York), Mossop A. (Barrow), Mossop C. (Barrow), O'Connor (Leeds).

Percival (Widnes), Richardson (Whitehaven), Rose (Leeds), Scott (Wigan), Stead (Hull), Thaler (Castleford), Wrench (Warrington).

Reject S.A.'s cosmetic changes

THE LEADER of New Zealand's main anti-apartheid group yesterday rejected a suggestion that the possible abolition of racist South Africa's vile apartheid sex laws would reduce opposition to a New Zealand rugby tour of the repressive state.

John Minto, chairman of HART (Halt All Racist Tours), said the South Africans were trying to sell New Zealand anti-tour campaigners a dummy. 'There is no way this will reduce pressure for change,' he said.

The reactionary Pretoria regime said earlier this week that it planned to 'repeal' laws barring sex and marriage between whites and non-whites under the apartheid system of racial segregation.

South African Rugby Union boss Danie Craven told reporters that change should reduce opposition in New Zealand to an All Black rugby tour.

'I think Danie Craven is trying to sell us a dummy and I think it is obvious the government in South Africa, along with Danie Craven, made the announcement now to re-

duce pressure on the New Zealand Rugby Union (NZRU) to cancel the tour,' said Minto.

Minto added that all the more than 300 repressive laws making up the apartheid system would have to be abolished before pressure for boycotts of South Africa would be reduced.

'Repeal of the sex laws would be another example of "window dressing",' Minto said.

The NZRU, under intense government opposition, deferred a decision on Friday on whether to send a team to South Africa this year.

New Zealand's 1976 tour of the racist state led to an African boycott of the Montreal Olympics. A Springbok tour in 1981, allowed by the right-wing National Party government, sparked riots all across New Zealand.

CUP ICED UP!



Five ties in danger

BLACKBURN ROVERS and **Everton** are certain, barring last-minute blizzards, of staging their fifth round FA Cup ties this weekend.

York believe they have a better than 50-50 chance but the remaining five ties are in danger of being called off.

BY A SPORTS LINE REPORTER

Blackburn manager Bobby Saxton, whose team is due to meet Manchester United in a televised tie at Ewood Park tomorrow night, says: 'The pitch is perfect. We've had snow so there is no ice and the pitch is firm and dry, a bit like a rock hard ground in May.'

'We played against Fulham with no problems on Saturday and if the weather stays the same we shall be playing Un-

ited on Friday as planned.'

Everton, who are at home to non-Leaguers Telford United, have under-soil heating and only a blizzard on Saturday obliterating the terraces could possibly threaten the tie.

York drew 0-0 at home to Plymouth on Tuesday

night and the pitch was frozen and slippery. But club officials have covered it with plastic sheeting and expect conditions to be better on Saturday afternoon for the tie with Liverpool.

If there is more snow it will not cause a great problem for it can be swept straight off the sheeting, say officials at the Third Division club.

The other five matches must all be in doubt un-

less there is a sudden improvement in the weather.

Wimbledon, home to West Ham, are bringing in supporters and their apprentices today to help clear snow from the pitch while Luton, home to Watford, have begun to clear snow off the terracing.

Millwall, who are due to meet Leicester, had their ground waterlogged and then it froze, leaving the

pitch unplayable.

A club spokesman said last night that unless the weather improved there was 'little chance' of the match being played.

Ipswich, who meet Sheffield Wednesday, had to call off their Milk Cup semi-final, first leg, with Norwich last night and say their pitch is 'like concrete', while Southampton need a big thaw for Saturday's game with Barnsley to go ahead.

TV soccer summit

BY A SPORTS LINE REPORTER

TV ... or no TV? That is not really the question to be answered at today's meeting of Football League chairmen in London.

The clubs seem certain to reject the joint BBC and ITV offer — £16.7 million, £19.1 million or even £52 million depending on which way you juggle the fixtures — but it is beyond belief that there will be no soccer on the small screen next season.

The haggling will go on through the spring and possibly well into the summer, but in the end there will be 'live' Sunday games on both channels and recorded highlights.

Script

The action has been scheduled: only the finer points of the script have to be written.

Today's meeting will sound out just how much live football the lesser clubs will allow in order to get their sponsor's name on recorded high-

lights, plus how many times the elite feel they can appear in live TV action before smaller crowds outweigh advertising income.

The Third and Fourth Division clubs can only watch to learn just how many crumbs they are to be allowed from the top table.

They have only eight votes against the 44 of the First and Second Division clubs. A simple majority of 27 votes will decide whether to reject or accept the new four-year agreement which was offered by BBC and ITV after lengthy talks with

the League negotiating team.

Against the advice of their representatives the members refused to accept the deal a month ago and asked for more time to think.

Basic

The agreement offered is believed to be for:

- 1. A basic £3.8 million per season to be divided between all 92 clubs.
- 2. An index linking which would raise the basic price over the following three seasons.
- 3. A guarantee of £600,000 per season from overseas sales.

- 4. 16 live League games, eight per channel and all on Sunday, plus two live Milk Cup semi-finals and a live Wembley final.
- 5. Continuing recorded highlights on Saturday for BBC.
- 6. Possible regionalised live games for ITV.

The total package is calculated at £19.1 million over four seasons, with connected sponsorship, advertising and other spin-offs likely to bring the total income over the period to £52 million.

Money

The number of matches seen, rather than the money on offer, is felt to be the stumbling point with the majority of clubs, but not all the chairmen who vote 'no' today will do so for the same reasons.

That alone suggests a compromise is possible before the final whistle is blown on a football-television combination which has benefited both over the past two years.

Jonathon Martin, head of BBC sport, says: 'We have not simply dictated a take-it-or-leave-it agreement to the clubs. We have had five months of very tough talks with the League negotiators. The agreement offered is a product of the sensible negotiating.'

'We have given a little, they have given a little. It has been arduous and it will be very disappointing if we are now expected to start all over again.'

Package

'The negotiators, men we respect, said the clubs wanted more money. We told them that if they wanted more money the package they offered had to be more acceptable in terms of what the viewing audience wants.'

What the armchair fans, apparently, want is more live soccer. What the whole football-following public wants is a commonsense solution and less headline-making outbursts from a handful of club chairmen.

For Sot read Chawaklit!

IF CHARLIE MAGRI believed he was fighting Sot Chitalada for the world flyweight title at Alexandra Palace next Wednesday he was in for a surprise when the champion made his first appearance in London yesterday.

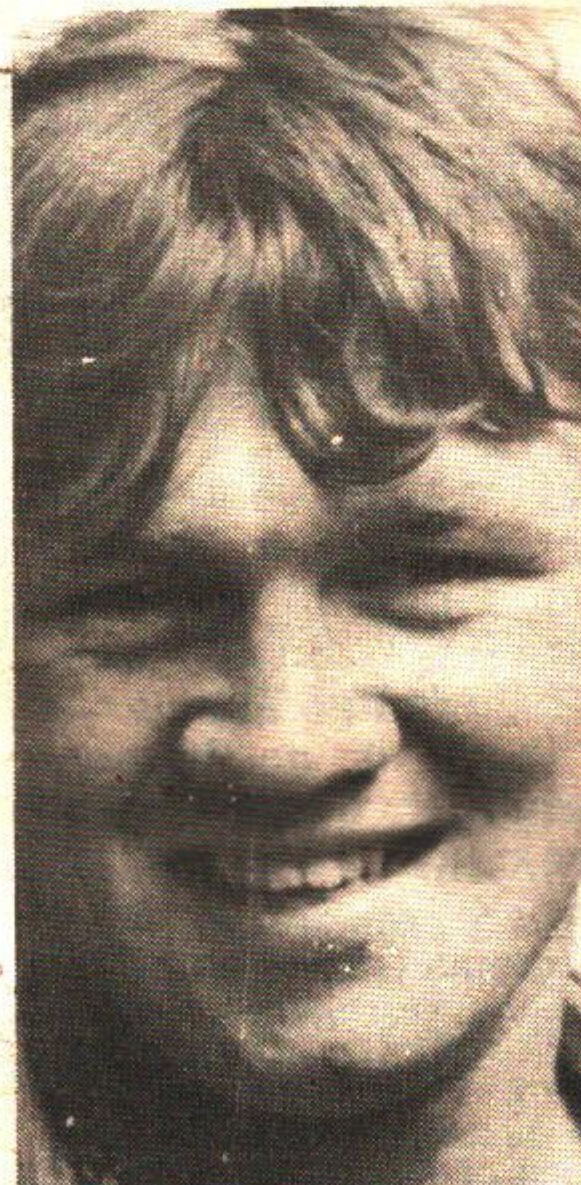
Sot Chitalada turned out to be Chawaklit Wongcharoen. Sot is a nickname meaning 'fresh', and Chitalada is his boxing camp, named after the Thai royal palace.

And to complete the unlikely picture, the camp is presided over by a Liverpoolian, Charlie Atkinson, who travels to Bangkok every time a fighter has to be prepared for a major contest.

Yesterday, at a reception in a London hotel, Chitalada was reluctant to take off his gloves. The reason — a drop of 35 degrees centigrade between the temperature in Bangkok and London.

He also kept his woolen hat on throughout, but claimed he prefers fighting in cold conditions because it raises his work-rate.

The Thai, who boxed unsuccessfully for the world flyweight title in March before winning the flyweight championship from Mexico's Gabriel Bernal in October, is 22, baby-faced and disarmingly placid



TONY SIBSON

will be televised to eight countries.

● TONY SIBSON, Leicester's European middleweight contender, is likely to meet Buster Drayton of the US in an American television spectacular, at Wembley Arena, on April 14.

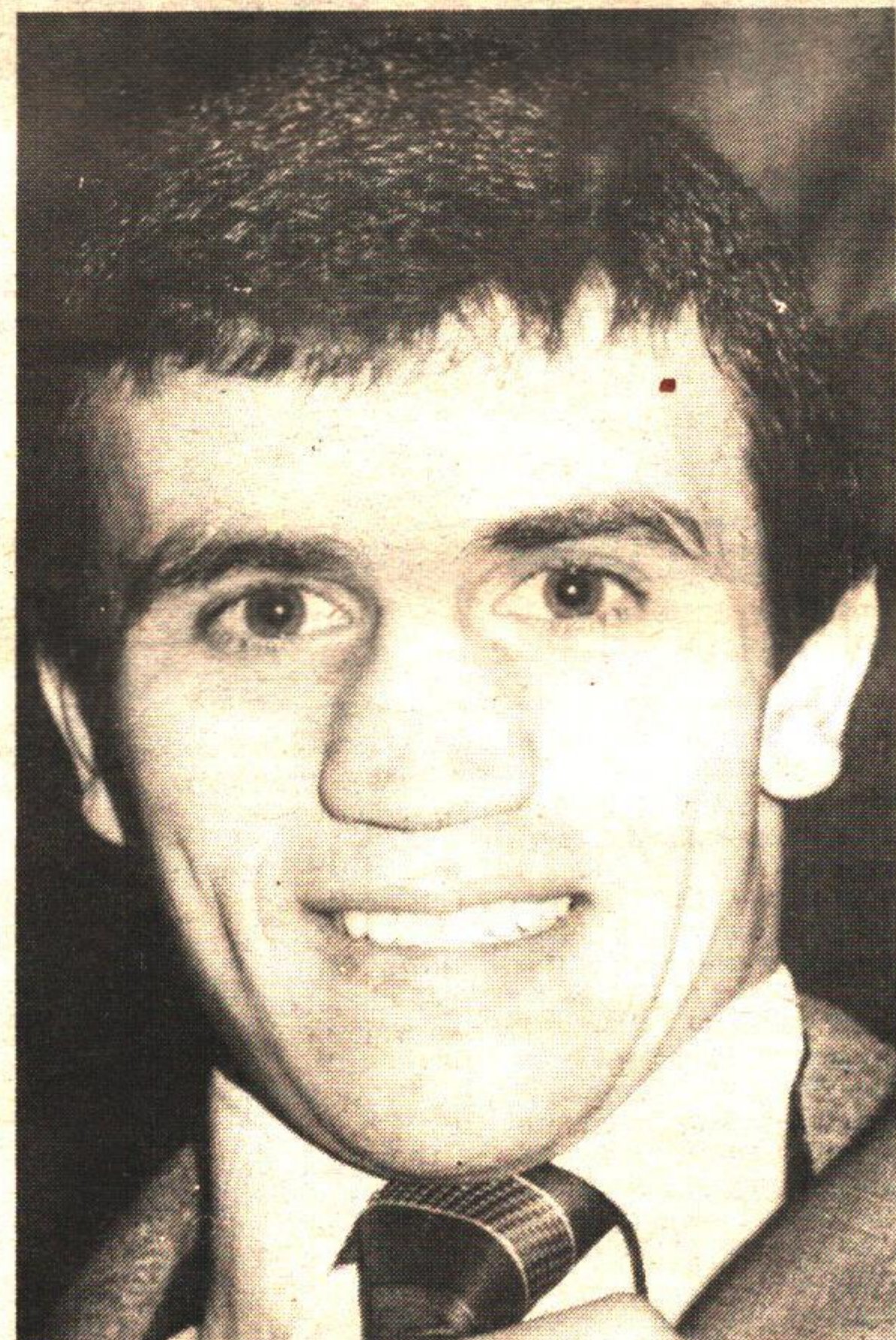
The ten-round fight, which is being staged on a Sunday evening, will be transmitted live by one of the major American companies, if negotiations are completed.

Deal

Promoter Mike Barrett stressed yesterday that the fight is not yet 100 per cent on. 'We are close to it, and arrangements are proceeding but the deal is not yet finalised,' he said yesterday.

This will be Sibson's first fight since his points defeat of Mark Kaylor in their triple title fight last November.

Drayton is highly dangerous. Nominally a light middleweight, he made two trips to Britain last year and disposed of light middleweight champion Jimmy Cable in one round and middleweight champion, Kaylor, in seven.



CHARLIE MAGRI ... 'Sot' promises no kick-boxing next week

BY A BOXING CORRESPONDENT

But 22 wins out of 23 suggest that he knows his trade, even though only four have been inside the distance.

Like every other Thai world champion — he is the ninth — he is a graduate of the kick boxing school. The son of a poor rice farmer, he started at the age of eight and had 137 contests before turning orthodox.

Press

His camp assured yesterday's press conference that there is no chance of him forgetting himself and knocking Magri out with a left heel to the chin.

Atkinson, who had Chitalada in Liverpool for a

month's training last year — for the fight that won him the title — describes the fighter as 'very young, very strong, very colourful and very talented. You don't beat tough Mexicans unless you are tough and talented yourself,' he said.

Next week's championship, which will be sponsored by a brewery,