

NOTES

THE RADICAL BOOKSELLER

Dave Berry writes: The last 10 years has seen a tremendous revival in radical publishing. Publishers such as Virago, Centreprise, Pluto and many more have brought into print not only theoretical and political works, but also handbooks for trade unionists, contemporary and forgotten fiction and even atlases and diaries. Side by side with this there has developed a 'new wave' of radical and community bookshops throughout the country and a radical distributor, PDC, has encouraged a strong profile for smaller book, pamphlet and magazine publishers in the book trade. Yet what has been missing is a regular publication covering all aspects of the radical book world. We are hoping that our new magazine, *The Radical Bookseller*, will fill this gap.

The first issue appeared in October and the response so far has been very good. Many large commercial bookshops and central libraries have already taken out subscriptions and are already using the magazine as a major reference source. The major attraction for them is the 'Radical Books of the Month' — a comprehensive listing of all new publications, and we encourage all publishers of the Left to send their new titles in for inclusion. The first issue also looks at radical bookshops and carries news and views about both the radical and the commercial book trade. The second issue this month will start a regular column on trade unions in the bookworld and will have an in depth feature on Collets. Available on subscription only (10 issues £15 institutions, £10 individuals) from The Radical Bookseller, Unit 265m, 27 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1.

ECONOMIC BULLETIN

John Fairley writes: Issue 7 of the *Economic Bulletin*, the journal of the Communist Party's Economic Advisory Committee, will be available in November. The *Economic Bulletin* aims to discuss and develop the Left's alternative economic strategy, to review left policy development in other countries, and to keep up with some developments in economic theory, but, in all of this, to be open in its approach, and intelligible to non-economists.

In this issue, Mark Harrison assesses the Soviet economy in the period of the tenth five year plan. F Di Ruzza, an economist in the French Communist Party, gives his view of the economic policy aspects of the break in left unity in France in 1977, and outlines current thinking in the Common Programme. In other articles, Ron Bellamy looks at the relation between the Tory government and monopoly capital, and

David Cobham examines the effect of EEC membership on Britain's growth rate. Reviews deal with employment policy, the Common Market and recent books by Bob Rowthorn and Ben Fine.

Subscriptions to the *Economic Bulletin* cost £1.80 for two issues, and can be arranged through Central Books, 14 The Leathermarket, London SE1.

SOCIALIST ECONOMIC REVIEW

Lawrence Harris writes: At this time, when the Right's political and ideological offensive is centered on its economic policies, the Left's alternative economic strategy (AES) is of great significance. Its adoption by many sections of the labour movement is an indicator of this. Since the AES is not a slogan but a concrete strategy for transforming the British economy it has to be discussed, evaluated and moved forward at every opportunity.

At the end of September socialist economists practising in universities, trade union research departments and other research offices held a conference to further this discussion and evaluation. In the new year the papers of the conference are to be published by Merlin Press as a book entitled *Socialist Economic Review*. The three opening papers of the conference and Review examine the present crisis from the perspectives of the British economy, the international economy and financial system, and the third world respectively, in each case underlining the capitalist governments' policy responses. These are followed by papers on the main aspects of the alternative economic strategy as a whole and the remaining half of the papers are on specific aspects of the economic situation and the AES. Their subjects range over nationalisation, import controls,

monetarism and expenditure cuts, taxation and incentives, unemployment, inflation and incomes policies, energy policy, and the principles of democratic planning.

The conference and Review are oriented toward concrete and policy centered issues, and thus to contribute to the labour movement's resources. This Review is intended to be the first of an annual series.

THE ISAAC DEUTSCHER PRIZE

We are very pleased to announce that the Isaac Deutscher Memorial Prize for 1980 has been awarded to Bob Rowthorn, a member of our Editorial Board, for his book *Capitalism, Conflict and Inflation* which was published earlier this year by Lawrence and Wishart. The prize is awarded annually to the author of the book which the judges feel has made the greatest contribution to the development of Marxist thought.

In his review of Bob's book in our June issue, Andrew Glynn wrote: 'The essays collected in this volume form the basis of Bob Rowthorn's justly deserved reputation as the most original of the generation of Marxist economists which emerged in Britain in the sixties and early seventies'. Until now the book has only been available in hardback, but in November it will be published in paperback form at £3.95 which will enable many more people to read what is a very important work. We offer our congratulations to Bob.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

As from this issue, *Marxism Today's* new address is 16 St John Street, London EC1M 4AY, Telephone 01-251 4406. Contributions to *Notes* (brief please) are welcome. We need copy before the 1st of the month preceding publication.

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