

# NOTES

## SCIENCE AND SOCIALISM CONFERENCE

*Richard Clarke writes:* This conference, mentioned in Notes, December MT, has been postponed. It will now take place on Saturday 5 March at Marx House, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1. It aims to examine the positive achievements of science in the socialist countries in comparison with the stagnation and distortion of science within capitalism in crisis, as well as to examine the very real problems of science as practised within socialist economies.

Speakers will include Zhores Medvedev and Julian Cooper. Admission will be £3.00 (£1 unwaged) in advance and £3.50 (£1.50 unwaged) at the door. More information is available from CP Science Committee, 16 St John Street, London EC1.

## RAPE CRISIS CENTRE

*Denise Vale writes:* The London Rape Crisis Centre has recently moved. Their new number (24 hours) is 01-837 1600, and the office line is 01-278 3956. The address is RCRP, PO Box 69, London WC1X 9NJ. The Rape Crisis Centre runs a 24 hour telephone line for women and girls who have been raped or sexually assaulted. Any woman who wants to talk to another woman or needs legal or medical information can ring the centre any time, whether it is an emergency or not.

## SOCIALIST EDUCATION POLICIES

*John Kelly writes:* Why has the Educational Alliance been so ineffective? How should unions respond to the New Training Initiative? Is the traditional university an out-moded institution? How should adult education be politicised? These are just some of the questions that will be explored at a one-day conference on Post-16 education policies at the University of London Students Union, Malet St, London on Saturday 12 February 1983. Organised by the Campaign for Higher Education, and the NATFHE and AUT Broad Lefts, the speakers will include: Mike Rustin author of *Comprehensive Education after 16* (Socialist Society), Philip Whitehead MP, Tommy Shepherd NUS, John Fisher TGWU tutor, Royden Harrison.

Write for details to: Campaign for Higher Education, c/o Department of Sociology, North East London Polytechnic, London.

## HUNT ON CABLE TV

*Loretta Loach writes:* The latest book from the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom warns that the installation of cable technology will mean quick profits for a few city entrepreneur's based on a wave of

imports which will swamp those very information techniques which the Government sees as Britain's industrial hope of the future.

The authors, members of the Communications Group of Socialist Economists, argue that it is vital for the labour movement to develop a communications strategy and suggest that Labour controlled local authorities should develop proposals for democratic control over the range of activities within the communications sector. *Hunt on Cable TV—Chaos or Coherence* costs £1.95 and is available from CPBF, 9 Poland Street, London W1, Tel: 01-437 2795.

## BALLOTS AND BULLETS

*Mike Gatehouse writes:* 'Ballots and Bullets,' a new and powerful documentary from the Salvadorian Film Institute is a scathing indictment of the fraudulent electoral process and sets the backdrop of the elections—massacres, army harassment and death squad threats against the popular opposition—to ask the question: how it is possible in this situation to hold truly democratic elections? The film makes an interesting analysis of Western media coverage of the elections and the pressures from the armed forces on Western journalists. 'Ballots and Bullets' VHS Video Cassette lasts 30 minutes. It is available for hire at £10 plus carriage from SFI Support Group, 36 Jackson Road, London N7, Tel: 01-609 3925.

The El Salvador Committee for Human Rights has also produced a 20 minute colour video about its work. It has the gruesome and dangerous task of finding, photographing and attempting to identify the bodies of people arrested by the security forces, which appear at a rate of 3-400 per month. This is available for £7.50, including postage from the El Salvador Committee for Human Rights, 21 Compton Terrace, London N1, Tel: 01-359 1836.

## ISAAC DEUTSCHER MEMORIAL PRIZE

*Mary Townsend writes:* The Isaac Deutscher Memorial Prize is awarded annually in recognition of outstanding research and writing in the Marxist tradition of Isaac Deutscher. The 1982 prize was awarded to Geoffrey de Ste Croix for his work on *The Class Struggle in the Ancient Greek World* (Duckworth pbk £15). Geoffrey de Ste Croix will give the Isaac Deutscher Memorial Lecture in autumn 1983 (details to be published later). The prize for 1983 will be judged in May. Works for consideration should be submitted to The Isaac Deutscher Memorial Prize c/o Lloyds Bank, 68 Warwick Square, London SW1.

## STATUTORY SICK PAY

*Shelley Adams writes:* From next April most workers will not be entitled to State Sickness Benefit. Instead they will have to rely on their employer to pay them a new state benefit, Statutory Sick Pay (SSP). Unless unions negotiate sick schemes the introduction of SSP could mean

- \* less money for workers during illness
- \* stricter control over sickness and absences
- \* more sickness related dismissals

The Labour Research Department have published a pamphlet which provides a straightforward guide to SSP for all workers. The guide gives information needed by union representatives for the protection of their members when SSP is introduced. *Statutory Sick Pay* is available from LRD 18 Blackfriars Road, London SE1.

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

**John Warr** is a barrister.

**Paul Ensor** works at the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University.

**Phil Jones** teaches law at the Polytechnic of Central London.

**Mark Doyle** is a journalist working on *West Africa* magazine.

**Sarah Benton** is a journalist with the *New Statesman*.

**Sally Davison** was formerly a national organiser of CND and is a member of the Communist Party peace advisory committee.

**Helen John** is a founding member of the Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp.

**Joan Ruddock** is chairperson of CND.

**Chris Pond** is director of the Low Pay Unit.

**Dave Cook** is a member of the Communist Party's National Executive Committee.

**Peter Haiti** is prospective Labour parliamentary candidate for Putney.

**Harold Immanuel** works for the Anti Nuclear Campaign.

**Doug Cook** is vice chairman of Nalگو's National Health Committee and a member of the TUC Health Committee.

**Peter Ball** is a freelance writer.

**Brian McNair** works on the media at Glasgow University.

**Sarah Lefanu** is an editor with the Women's Press.

**Maria Loftus** is a teacher.

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**Grahame Thompson** works at the Open University.

**Martin Weegman** researches on psychoanalysis.