

NEWS

Letterbox Library This is the first non-sexist children's book club offering books which are free of sexual stereotyping and encouraging awareness that we live in a multi-ethnic society. Further information from Gillian Harris, Children's Book Cooperative, 42 Newark Road, London E5 01-985 2884.

Weather Alert Oxfam has launched an appeal for aid for some of the hardest hit in more than 40 countries suffering from unprecedented floods and droughts caused by climate extremes. Donations or further enquiries to Bernie McDermott, Oxfam, 172 Archway Road, London N6 01-348 4225.

History of the Unity Theatre Colin Chambers is currently undertaking research for a new book on the history of the Unity Theatre. He is interested in contacting anyone who has been involved in its work in whatever capacity during its 40 or so years of existence. Contact him at 18 Statham Grove, London N16.

Warrington NGA on the line 11 minute video made by trade unionists about the *Messenger* dispute, putting the trade union's point of view on picketing, and the issues. Available from Merseyside Trade Union, Community and Unemployed Resource Centre, Hardman Street, Liverpool (051 709 3995). £5 deposit, refundable on return of video.

CAMPAIGNS

Pensioners for Peace A national organisation aimed at involving our 10 million senior citizens in campaigning for peace. Further details from Jack Shepperd, P for P, 7 Sandford, Broomsborrow Heath, Ladbury HRS INX. Tel 053 181485

Rights of Women The collective of feminist legal workers (ROW) will be monitoring the effects of new rules on women's access to social security, as they fall short of the EEC Directive for equal treatment for women. They want women's groups and claimants unions to encourage women to claim if they are eligible and protest if they are not, so pressure is put on the Government to review its exclusions. Contact Rada Gungaloo, ROW, 374 Grays Inn Road, London WC1 01-278 6394 or 8501.

DEMONSTRATIONS

National Campaign Against the Police Bill 21 Jan. A march and rally

to draw attention to the new powers this will give the police, and the dangers to civil liberties. The march will be from Brockwell Park, Brixton to Trafalgar Square.

Democracy for London Day of Action 24 Jan. All the trade unions in the Greater London area will be taking action as part of the campaign to defeat the Government's plan to abolish the GLC. The demonstration starts in Hyde Park and will culminate in a rally in the Festival Hall.

CONFERENCES

Six Commonwealth Women Novelists 7 Jan. One day workshop to examine the work of Miles Franklin, Margaret Atwood, Anita Desai, Buchi Emecheta and Janet Frame. Commonwealth Institute,



Kensington, London 9.30 to 5pm. Fee £6.00, £3.00 unwaged/students. Details from Julia Osmond 01-603 4535 ex 265.

Communist Party Students Conference. 7 Jan. Communist Party students are holding a conference. Full details are available, together with conference documents, from the Student Office, 16 St John Street, London EC1 (01-251 4406). The conference is open to all Communist Party students.

Political Communications in the 1983 Elections. 13-15 Jan. Organised by the Political Studies Association to discuss the media, the parties and the polls. At Essex University. Details from Ivor Crewe, Dept of Government, Essex University, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex 0206 862286.

Racism and Sport 29 Jan. A national discussion conference sponsored by the Afro-Caribbean Organisation and the Communist Party to examine the effects of racism on sport and how this can be combatted. All sports enthusiasts welcome. 4.30pm County Hall,

creche available. Registration £1, unwaged 50p. Apply to Racism and Sport Conference, 16 St John Street, London EC 1.

Save the GLC 7 Jan. A consultative conference for Communists in London, to discuss the Tory attack on London's services, development of the campaign, and forms of resistance. Creche available. Registration £1, further information from Organisation Department, LDCP, 75 Farringdon Road, London EC1 01-242 1776.

EVENTS

Commonwealth Women Novelists 5-23 Jan. An exhibition of novels, biographies of women novelists and critical works. Admission free. Mon-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Exhibition Galleries,

Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8.

Council for Academic Freedom and Democracy AGM 7 Jan. John Saville will open on 'The last four years in higher education — an appraisal.' Non members welcome. 2.15pm, LSE, Houghton St, London WC1.

Guatemala: A Testimonial 8-14 Jan. A photographic exhibition from New York on the plight of Guatemala's refugees. Organised by Guatemala Relief Project at Camerawork, 121 Roman Road, London E2. Tues 1-6pm, Wed-Sat 11-6pm.

Animal Liberation — a socialist issue? 17 Jan. One of a series of meetings on the politics of science. Speaker M Killian, Northern Animal Liberation League 7.30pm. Polytechnic Students Union, Sidney Street, Manchester 10.

Content, presentation and politics of Marxism Today. 9 Jan, organised by North Kensington CP branch, discussion opened by Martin

Jacques. Readers welcome. 7.30pm NKAT Meeting Hall, Thorpe Close, Ladbroke Grove W10.

Kampuchea 5th Anniversary of People's Republic. Celebration and reception at Caxton Hall, London, 6.30-9.30pm. Refreshments, wine, guests from SE Asia. Invitations from Joan Yulle, 52 St Johns Park, London SE3.

PUBLICATIONS

Your Council Under Attack. A booklet which gives a detailed analysis of government policies for local services and democracy and shows how these policies are intended to benefit business at the expense of the local voter. Published by the Labour Research Department, 78 Blackfriars Road, London SE1. Price 60p (inc p&p).

Developments in the Steel Industry in Teeside. This pamphlet highlights the main factors in the decline of the BSC and shows how government policy is affecting steelmaking areas such as Teeside, giving a perspective for fighting back. Produced by the CP Middlesborough Branch, it is available from Mike Fearon, 27 Thorntree House, Cargo Fleet Lane, Middlesborough. Price 50p (inc P&P)-

Scottish Marxist Issue 27 of CP Scottish Committee journal, features articles on the women's peace movement, Scottish films, working women in Scotland and an interview with Hugh Wyper of TGWU. Price 60p (inc p&p) or £2.60 for 4 issues, from 44 Carlton Place, Glasgow G5.

Liverpool's State of Health A new pamphlet published by Merseyside CP which combines a detailed survey of Liverpool's health service with more general arguments about the need to democratise the NHS and secure major changes in the priorities of health care. Price 90p, £1.15 inc p&p, available from Merseyside CP, 39 Shaw Street, Liverpool 6.

Action: Fifty Years in the Life of a Union The film technicians' union ACTT celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, with the publication of an impressive, glossy and picture-filled history. Available from bookshops or from *Action*, ACTT, 2 Soho Square, London W1, price £9.95, postage £ 1.50.

Entries for the February Update should be sent as soon as possible (latest date Friday 6 January) to Maria Loftus, Marxism Today 16 Stjohn Street London EC1 or tel 01-251 4406 or 01-607 3344 (evenings).