



'ARD TIMES NO.1

TIGHT-FISTED BASTARDS!

Well, on 22nd October Norman 'Throttle Me' Fowler came amongst the poor and promised to dispense some extra pennies to us starting on April 6th, 1987. For single people on the S.S. this will mean a 60p increase a week - almost enough to pay for an extra visit to the job shop to see some long-lost friends; child benefit will go up 15p a week (still not restoring the cut made last year); a couple on the S.S. will get 95p a week extra up to £49.35p and pensioners will get 80p a week extra and £1.30 a week extra for a couple. This ultimate act of generosity from the rich scum who run this society pales in comparison with the benevolence of rich Tory Jeffrey Archer who gives £2,000 in used notes to someone he says he's never met - and if that's true, pigs will not only fly they'll sprout tail fins !!!

STEALING TIME

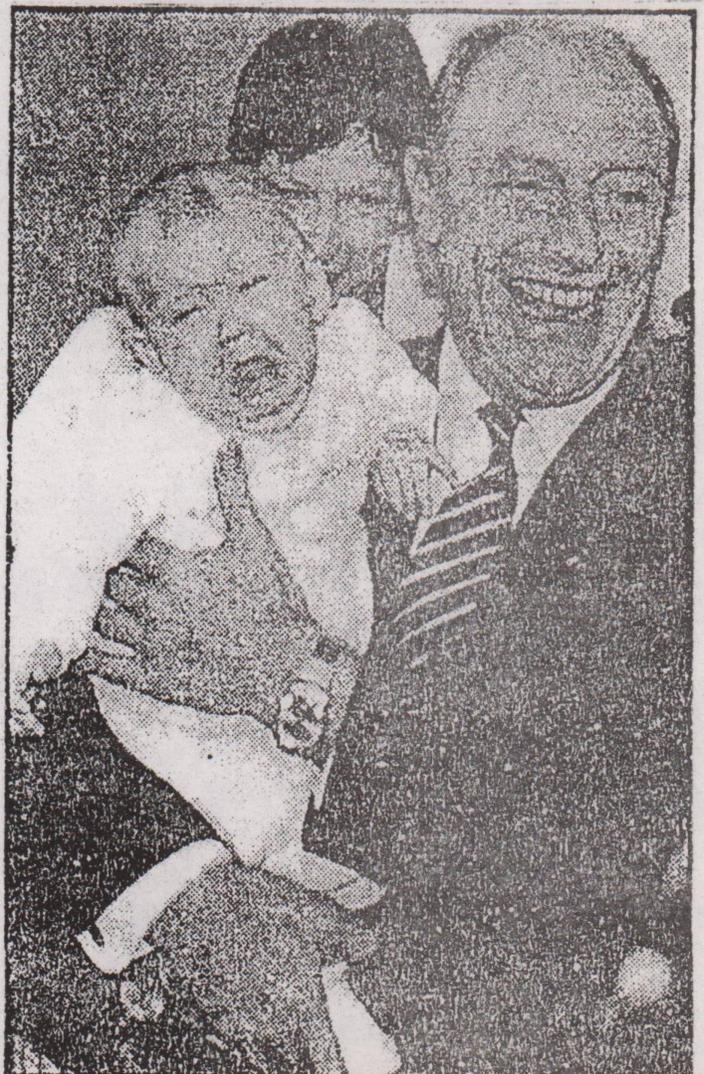
So absenteeism costs 40 times more in lost production to British industry than strikes. Who gives a shit? It's obviously a headache for the employers - those who profit from our work. As a personnel director of Vauxhall Motors complains: "family loyalties quickly take over from work loyalty in some cases." But why should anyone feel any loyalty to the firms that wear them down and rip them off?

Apart from a healthy distaste for work, taking days off to unwind is a natural reaction to the increased pressure management is bringing to bear on workers. With redundancies to 'streamline' workforces, those that are left are pushed harder by efficiency drives, speed-ups, tougher discipline, etc. to increase productivity. Meanwhile, those of us on the dole are gradually being bullied into shitty low-paid jobs. When many workers don't have the confidence to take strike action, taking time off seems the individual solution.

However, the significant loss of profit as a result of absenteeism isn't lost on the bosses. The Industrial Society - a group dedicated to the smooth functioning of British business - advises that absentees should be interviewed, absence patterns checked monthly and management should be prepared to take disciplinary action.

There's no doubt that the employers are getting their act together on this front, treating absenteeism as a problem to be eradicated. The 'individual solutions' of isolated absentees won't be enough to hold out against the squeeze to come. If we are to effectively push back the bosses' attack on our living standards and quality of life then all the methods of 'resistance used by employed and unemployed need to be co-ordinated and extended - sit-ins, strikes, mass shoplifting, riots - direct action that places everything that we made and produced at our disposal without the need for the bosses and their money.

CHILDREN AT RISK



PHONE FREEPHONE 08001111

'ARD TIMES

This broadsheet isn't concerned with superpower summits and the trivial pursuit of royalty that those with the wealth and power have us distracted with. These things have no relevance to what we have to put up with everyday just to get by.

As things stand, today's tradesman or office clerk could be tomorrow's claimant, and today's claimant could be tomorrow's low-paid casual. Dole cuts, wage cuts, compulsory overtime, evictions for rent arrears or mortgage defaults, hospital closures - no accident - just the result of a market system that holds sway from the so-called 'free' world to the so-called 'communist' world, that benefits a privileged few. There can be no 'security' for any of us while these gangsters call the tune.

Which is why what working class people do on their own account against the bosses has far more bearing on how we can shape our own lives and control our destiny than the 1,001 opinions, distortions and lies transmitted on our masters' behalf.

'ARD TIMES is concerned with gathering together and making public the facts of working - class struggle that the rulers would prefer buried .

If you would like to get involved with the writing, printing and distribution of 'ARD TIMES or have got any comments - abusive, praiseworthy or whatever - on it or indeed would like to give us some cash then we can be contacted at the following address ;

'ARD TIMES , Box A, 4, Onslow Road, Southampton.



THAT'S MY 10p - I SAW IT FIRST!