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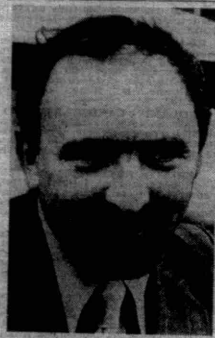
See Page 11 for full details.

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HOSIERY 'BACK-ALLEY EXPLOITERS' CRASHED

'Save my father from firing squad'

LEICESTER student David Scanlon was today planning a desperate appeal at the Foreign Office to save his father from President Amin's execution squad.



MR. TONY COE

His cry for help came despite some reports from Kampala that engineer Bob Scanlon (44), arrested on spying charges, had already been shot and his body burned. Reports denied by Uganda's representative in London.

David (20), a part-time electronics engineering student at Leicester Polytechnic wants the Foreign Office to intervene even though his father has renounced British citizenship.

David, who lived with friends in Gainsborough Road, Leicester, left the city about two months ago to stay with Leicester businessman, Mr. Tony Coe, at his Derby home.

Today friends said David was living at a secret address in London, and working at a small boat yard on the River Thames although he should have been sitting exams at the Polytechnic.

'Not a spy'

His sister, Cherie (16), starts her O' level examinations today at the Royal Masonic College, Rickmansworth. His mother, Gloria, and other sister, Jane (9), are living in Uganda.

Mr. Scanlon, a car firm's service engineer, who was arrested on Thursday, was pictured two years ago with Mr. Coe and two other men, carrying President Amin shoulder-high in a sedan chair.

Mr. Coe, formerly managing director of Contact Radio, which was involved in a row over supplying radio equipment to Amin's secret service, once employed Mr. Scanlon.

Today, Mr. Coe's wife, Fran, was sitting by the phone in their Leicester home waiting for a call from Uganda, in reply to a telegram her husband had sent to President Amin and the head of the country's security forces.

"We have contacted the Libyan charge d'affaires, who is a friend."

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THE HOSIERY UNION in Leicester is bedevilled by low wages, bad working conditions, and tax evasions which are being operated by back alley, get-rich-quick entrepreneurs, the union's annual conference at Southport was told today.

Mr. Ray Bateman, the union's assistant secretary for the Leicester district, claimed that when the union tried to pursue any of these complaints the same people were reluctant to get involved.

He acknowledged difficulties with the "growing menace of outworking", of several families living in one house, with an industrial sewing machine in one corner of a room which conveniently became domestic in order to comply with local housing regulations.

Mr. Bateman who was speaking on the National Executive report on employment, said he was not embarking on a witch hunt, his only object being to help protect the industry.

He referred to "back alley manufacturers who set up with

no regard for legislation, the Factories Act or human dignity."

Any cases brought to the notice of the district would be investigated, he added.

He sought full co-operation from all sides of the industry to ensure that living standards were not eroded by "cheap unorganised labour and short changing practice of get-rich entrepreneurs."

The union's general secretary, Mr. David Lambert, said he was disturbed by Mr. Bateman's speech, which included a lot of wide generalisations.

"In our industry there are always small manufacturers who endeavour to exploit their situation. It is up to the union to take up this challenge," he said.

People who were guilty of exploitation existed across the length and breadth of the country and had done for some time. However, if the situation was deeper in Leicester, he will see what we can do to help those who are being exploited."

Mr. Lambert referred to the executive's report, which showed that between October 1976, and October 1978, total employment in the industry had grown from 112,700 to 117,800. He regarded this improvement as refreshing, although the figure was still below the 124,700 employed in the industry in 1974.

Four men admit £4,384 Giro cheques fraud

IDENTIFICATION requirements to ensure that social security Giro cheques were cashed by the rightful owners were practically non-existent last summer, it was said at Leicester Crown Court today.

Four men pleaded guilty to seven specimen charges of theft and obtaining money by deception from the Post Office and Department of Employment totalling £4,384.

Mr. Christopher Goodchild, prosecuting, said that the way in which the cheques were falsely cashed showed "sophistication and ingenuity."

Malcolm Goodwin (23), of 24 Woodbine Avenue, Leicester, admitted two offences of stealing Giro cheques from the Department of Employment of secretariat Post Office property while working for the Post Office, and he asked for 125 further offences to be considered.

John Andrew Penman (25) of 51 Princes Street, Leicester, admitted three charges of stealing Giro cheques and dishonestly obtaining money from the Post Office by deception.

He asked for 90 other offences to be considered.

Errol Gordon Westwood (27) of Caswell Close, Leicester, pleaded guilty to dishonestly obtaining by deception £24.95.

David Alfred Westwood (27) of Cosely, Worcestershire, admitted obtaining £25.35 from the Post Office by deception.

Two counts of conspiracy to steal and defraud against all four were left to "lie on the file" and two charges of theft of Giro cheques against David and Errol Westwood also lay on the file.

And today an industrial tribunal in London was told that membership of the Magic Circle gave status that helped a magician's career and facilitated getting engagements.

The Magic Circle rule is being challenged under section 13 of the Sex Discrimination Act, which covers organisations conferring professional qualifications.

Mrs. Vickers, quoted from a Magic Circle publication which described it as "the greatest magical club in the world," said now out-of-date handbook said that women could not be members because they "cannot keep a secret."

Police investigate bedroom fire

Police are still investigating the cause of a bedroom fire which caused £200 worth of damage at 13 Wakefield Place, Sutton Estate, Leicester.

The house is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gadsby, who have eight children. Nobody was injured in the fire, which severely damaged bedding.



WINNING SMILE from a queen - six-year-old Ann Marie Benjamin, of 88 Henry Street, Wyke, who won a fancy dress prize in the Hinckley Carnival. Story and more pictures, Page 23.

Helicopters crash in mid-air

THREE HELICOPTERS from the Sharks Display team are believed to have crashed in mid-air today at Praa Sands between Helston and Penzance in Cornwall.

According to first reports reaching the Ministry of Defence, the incident happened during a practice work-up by the Gazelle helicopters belonging to the Naval Air Squadron based at Culdroe, near Helston. The Ministry of Defence understood that two helicopters ditched into the sea and the third was returning to base with some damage. The Royal Navy say three men are missing.

MOTORISTS should be compelled by law to display discs on their windcreens, showing they are covered for third party insurance, Mr. Gwilym Roberts MP for Cannock urged today.

A WAVE OF BOMBS killed one person, wrecked a railway line and destroyed part of a television transmitter in Spain's Northern Basque country last night.

THE BRITISH underground underwater dive record is to be attempted next weekend in a journey into the unknown. It will take place in a water-filled cavern 150 feet down in the world-famous Somerset Woolley Hole Caves.

THE LEADER of the Johannesburg's Soweto students and 19 other black pupils have been detained at the weekend in connection with plans to commemorate the anniversary of riots in the black township.

BRITAIN HAS officially recognised the new government of Alibon in the Seychelles, 10 Downing Street said today.

NICHOLAS HEADON and Joseph Strummer of the punk rock group The Clash who recently performed in Leicester, were fined a total of £100 at Morpeth, Northumberland, after admitting stealing property from a hotel.

Passenger dies in three-car collision

A 41-YEAR-OLD Loughborough man died today when the car driven by his daughter was in collision at Derby.

Mr. Jubip Singh, a machinist, of Rockingham Road, Loughborough, a rear seat passenger was killed when the car was involved in a collision with two other vehicles in Osmonston Road, Derby.

Mr. Singh's daughter, Rajinder Kaur, aged 19, of Dairyhouse Road, Derby, suffered minor injuries.

She was detained in the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, where her condition was said to be "satisfactory".

Mr. Singh, had lived in Rockingham Road, Loughborough, for about four years.

He and his wife have three daughters and two sons and he was visiting his daughter Rajinder in Derby when the accident occurred.

Shop vandals caused £200 damage

Vandals who smashed a window in the premises of Top Town Sports at Barwell caused £200 damage. They stole nothing but had access to a large quantity of toys and other property.

WEATHER FORECAST

Leicester and East Midlands: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, heavy at times, Dr. breaks interludes. Near normal temps., max. 17 or 18C (63 or 64F).

Outlook: continuing unsettled with near normal temperatures. Light up: 9.59 p.m. - 4.14 a.m.

MAGICIAN MO FIGHTS TO JOIN THE CIRCLE

LEICESTER magician Mo Vickers refused to do a vanishing trick when she was turned down for membership of the Magic Circle—because she is a woman. Instead, she decided to challenge the rule of the magicians' club which says that women cannot join them.

The latest handbook makes no reference to women not being able to keep a secret but the rules remain unchanged.

Mrs. Vickers (45), of Abrahams Knighton Lane, Leicester, who has been a professional magician of 25 years, first applied to join the Magic Circle last December. She was told the rules forbade it.

Mr. McLaren said that Mrs. Vickers' qualification for membership was not disputed. She was a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and in 1966 won two of their top awards.

The judge on that occasion was Mr. Francis Whitte, president of the Magic Circle. The appeal continues.

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