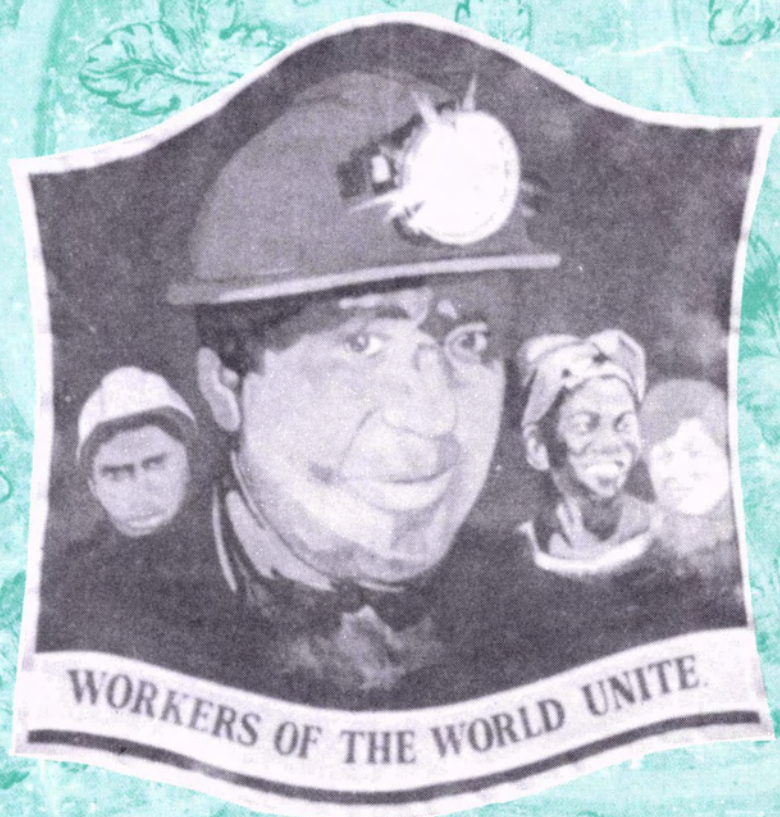


# COMMON SENSE

*Journal of Edinburgh Conference of Socialist Economists*





# COMMON SENSE

*Journal of Edinburgh Conference of Socialist Economists*

*11*

*Winter 1991*

COMMON SENSE • EDINBURGH

*Published in Scotland by Common Sense, PO Box 311,  
Southern District Office, Edinburgh, EH9 1SF, Scotland.*

Printed by Clydeside Press, Glasgow.

Typeset in 9pt Times Roman on 16pt.  
Produced and Designed on Apple MacIntosh computers.

1991 © Copyright October 1991, by Common Sense and the individual authors indicated. All rights reserved.

**Editorial Committee for this issue:**

*Werner Bonefeld, Bob Goupillot, Richard Gunn, Brian McGrail.*

**Notes for Contributors:** if at all possible send articles (of no greater than 6000 words) on 3.5 inch IBM or Apple MacIntosh computer disc, otherwise send articles in clean typescript, please note that it would help the editorial committee greatly if more than one copy can be sent.

**Subscriptions:** please see backpages.

**World-wide Distribution:** *AK Distribution, 3 Balmoral Place, Stirling,  
Scotland, FK8 2RD.*

**British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data**

Edinburgh Conference of Socialist Economists,  
Common Sense  
1. Social Theory  
2. Philosophy - Education - Scotland  
I. Title

**ISSN: 0957 - 240X**

---

# Contents

---

Page 5 . . .	EDITORIAL
Page 7 . . .	<i>BEYOND THE NEWS</i> A TRULY RUSSIAN COUP? <i>by Common Sense playwrights</i>
Page 16 . . .	THEORY AND HISTORY OF THE MASS WORKER IN ITALY <i>by Sergio Bologna</i>
Page 30 . . .	POETRY <i>by Colin Chalmers and Bobbie Christie</i>
Page 34 . . .	DEATH RULES OVER GERMANY <i>by Karl-Heinz Roth</i>
Page 42 . . .	THE ECONOMICS OF THE FINAL SOLUTION <i>by Götz Aly and Susanne Heim</i>
Page 61 . . .	REQUIEM FOR TWO OR THREE SCOTTISH MINERS . . . <i>by Ed Emery</i>
Page 69 . . .	IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE SCREAM <i>by John Holloway</i>
Page 79 . . .	MARXISM AND COMMON SENSE <i>by Richard Gunn</i>
Page 101 . . .	SUBSCRIPTION AND BACK-ISSUES



# Editorial

The ten issues of *Common Sense* which have appeared since its foundation in 1987 confirm the value of its initial project: we said our aim was to overcome the grip of academic specialism on the life of the mind. Publication of articles on politics and philosophy, of poems and short stories and of reviews and topical commentary has met with a response which demonstrates the liveliness of debate once it ceases to take place just within (or indeed just outside of) academic walls. Walls can come down in more ways than one.

Beginning with issue 10 *Common Sense*, hitherto a wholly informal journal, has allied its forces with the Conference of Socialist Economists (CSE). *Common Sense* is currently the journal of the Edinburgh CSE. A statement of the aims and objects of the CSE is supplied at the back of this issue. This alliance sustains our original project in that a symbiotic practice ties breadth of coverage to a political project. This project is one of maintaining debate within a world where, notwithstanding media enthusiasm, the shutters on the life of the mind seem more and more to close. Everyone (whether or not she or he has a career) is a careerist now.

As in previous issues, *Common Sense* 11 presents a blend of literary genres and a juxtaposition (or constellation) of international and Edinburgh-participatory ideas. Additionally, in this issue you can find an explanation of our title. Read on, contribute and help us to ensure that the social division of labour which separates theory from practice continues to break down. *Common Sense* is less a journal destined for the shelves of libraries - although you can find it there! - than a relay station for the exchange of ideas.

Finally, in this issue we introduce a new section for works of a speculative and topical kind - *Beyond The News* - which will ensure the journal always has a lively start. This time its a play about the political goings on inside the Kremlin, but who knows what it could be next issue? If you have any ideas for this section you are more than welcome to make a contribution.



































































































































































































































