

Worker co-operatives in the United Kingdom

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A marginal contribution

« In effect, Industrial Co-operation among producers exists in Great Britain only as an adjunct to the Consumers' Movement, on which it entirely depends. »

G. D. H. Cole, A Century of Co-operation

1944

The awakening of mass industrial action



Two fined after theft
A WARWICK self-employed painter and decorator was fined £50 and ordered to pay £30 compensation yesterday after admitting handling stolen decorating materials.
Patrick Joseph O'Grady, 66, of Canal Side Farm, Coventry Road, Warwick, ad-

Inside the siege lines at the Meriden plant

10 The Liverpool Echo, Wednesday, July 14, 1972
Strike at Bendix becomes official

Morning Star NO TO THE COMMON MARKET
INCORPORATING THE DAILY WORKER TUESDAY OCTOBER 10 1972

We have honoured our pledge, says Jimmy Reid

HISTORIC WORK-IN ENDS IN VICTORY

We say

Press should be more free says Wilson

By ARTHUR WILSON

CLYDEBANK, Monday. The UGW workers' historic campaign ended today in victory for the demands made over the last 15 months to remain all four yards and all jobs.

Today that a mass meeting of workers at the Clydebank Yard — now owned by the Morrison Corporation of America — had agreed to proposals which will resolve the issue of pending redundancies at that yard.

The workers' strike had brought about a unique situation in which redundancies had been avoided.

Mr. Wilson said he was anxious to see the Press more free, not less, in a statement on the Woodstock from strike yesterday. Guardedly, he endorsed Mr. Benn's exposure of the pro-Tory and anti-labour movement bias of the Press.

But he seemed to make clear the Labour Party's view, as in its stance of the use of industrial action for the purpose of demanding more on the improvement of life.

In his BBC broadcast, Mr. Wilson said that he would be happy to carry such a "line" and that he was opposed to any form of censorship.

Mr. Wilson found it impossible to believe that "the whole staff of British Intelligence, many of whom are subject Party members, do not subscribe to a regular reading of the newspaper's news column. Or that they had access to it in any form."

ONE boy was killed and two others injured yesterday when a party of schoolboys were surprised by a group of men at the head of the Hovve Waterfalls, Westmorland.

These mountain rescue teams had set out to make the falls safer in the day.

Boy dead in mountain tragedy

Siege to the bitter end



SIT-IN leader Fred Carlton with AEU district secretary Jack Repton and Brian Griffiths and John Morley.



HARRY BARRON (left) and Keith Little check the papers at a car at the works gate.

« Against the Tide »



Industry Act 1972

1972 CHAPTER 63



An Act to authorise grants towards expenditure on the provision of assets for industry in certain regions in Great Britain, to authorise the provision of financial assistance for industry in those regions or elsewhere, and provisions about credits and grants for the building of ships and of offshore installations, to amend the Local Employment Act 1972 and to make temporary provision as to one of the areas to be treated as a development area under that Act; and for connected purposes.

[9th August 1972]

Industrial Common Ownership

c. 78

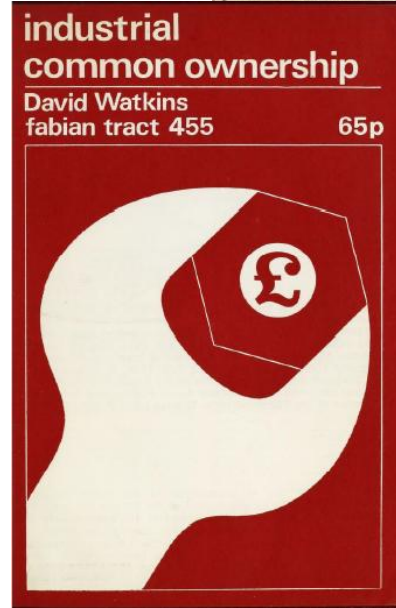
ELIZABETH II



Industrial Common Ownership Act 1976

1976 CHAPTER 78

An Act to further the development of enterprises controlled by people working in them, and for purposes connected therewith. [22nd November 1976]



Local authorities take over



Inner Urban Areas Act 1978

CHAPTER 50

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Designated districts

Section

1. Designation of districts by Secretary of State.
2. Loans for acquisition of or works on land.
3. Loans and grants for establishing common ownership and co-operative enterprises.

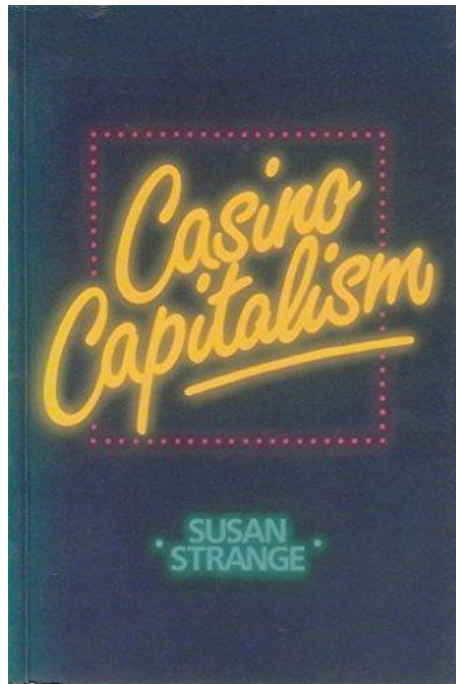
**Mini boom in
worker co-ops**

**Workers'
co-ops on
increase**

**A NEW CO-OP
IS LAUNCHED**

**Workers'
co-ops set
to take off**

« A nation of small shareholders »



The new face of the UK work world?

Figure 1: The cumulative change in employee and self-employed jobs

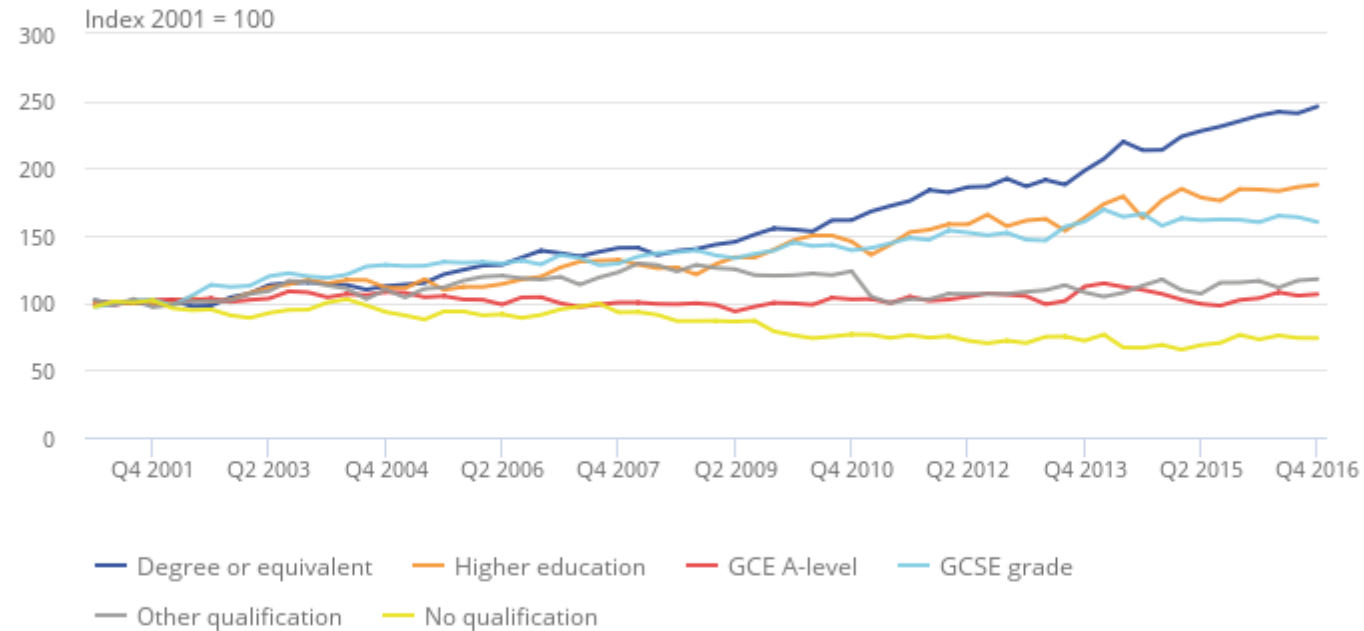
Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2007 to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016, UK



Source: Office for National Statistics

The new face of the UK work world?

Figure 14: Self-employment by highest qualification

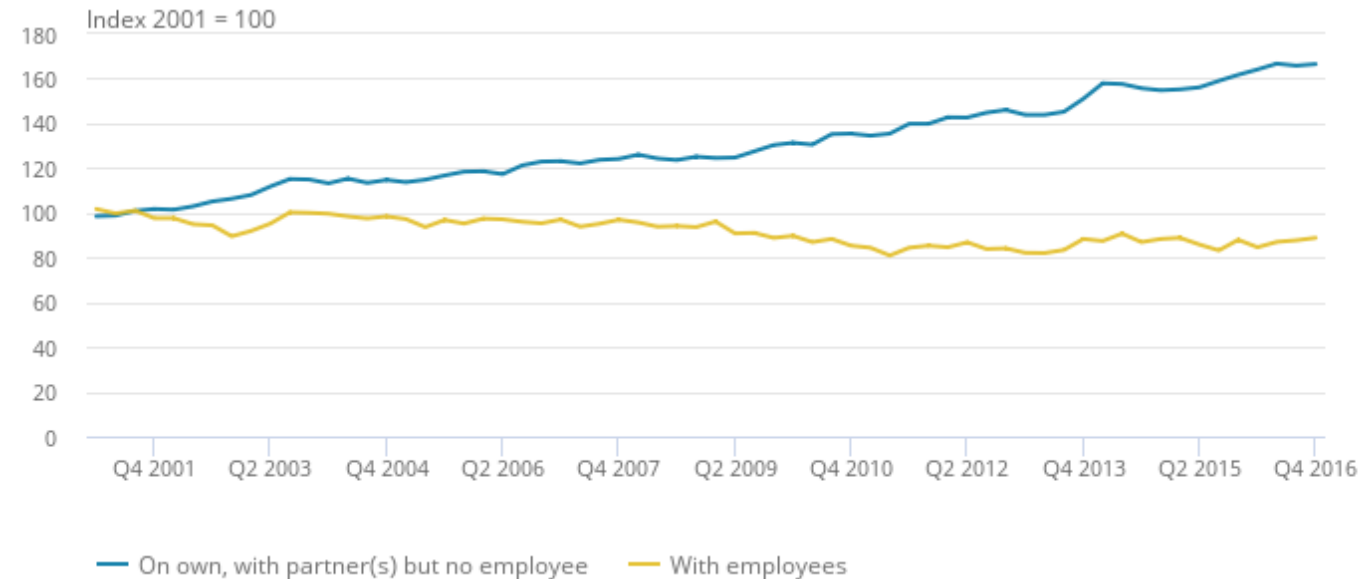


Source: Office for National Statistics, Labour Force Survey

The new face of the UK work world?

Figure 2: Self-employed with or without employees

Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2001 to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2016, UK



Source: Office for National Statistics, Labour Force Survey

*« You have to meet people, talk to them, organize, educate, agitate ...
Carry out actions that dramatize it. That's the way things happen. That's
the way all progress has ever taken place. »*

Noam Chomsky on workplace democracy,

May 2019

Co-operative literature

BADDON, Lesley, HUNTER, Laurie, HYMAN, Jeff, LEOPOLD, John and RAMSAY, Harvie, ***People's Capitalism? A critical analysis of profit-sharing and employee share ownership***, London: Routledge, 1989, 322 p.

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COATES, Ken (Ed.) and *al.*, ***The New Worker Co-operatives***, Nottingham: Spokesman Books (Published for the Institute for Workers' Control), 1976, 224 p.

COLE, George Douglas Howard, ***A Century of Co-operation***, Manchester: Co-operative Union, 1944, 427 p.

THORNLEY, Jenny, ***Worker Cooperatives: Jobs and Dreams***, London: Heinemann Educational Books Ltd, 1981, 216 p.