



Angry nurses: Left, Senior SEN Melirone Hawkins, and right, SEN Jackie Walsh.

Honour for ex-Mayors?

THREE former mayors of Rhondda — who are not standing at this year's borough council elections — may be made Freeman of the Borough.

They are councillors Dan Murphy, T. J. Davies and Richard Newman. Coun. Tom Matthews moved that a special meeting should be held to consider the plan.

He said of Coun. Murphy's decision not to stand: "The whole council learns this with some regret. Over the last 30 years he's been known throughout the country".

Coun. Mrs. Mattie Collins said: "This has come out of the blue. I am glad to see the opposition has recognised that the leader of the majority party has done excellent work".

Rhondda will have its first communist mayor next year following the election of Coun. Mrs. Annie Powell, a retired teacher, of the Penygraig ward.

Leader of the Labour group, Coun. Dan Murphy said: "I hope everyone will note we are a democratic party".

Mrs. Powell said: "I very much appreciate the opportunity to serve as the first citizen of Rhondda".

Coun. Roy Hicks, Ynyshir was elected deputy mayor.

Family fears for Ton man in Spanish jail

April 1979

THE trial of the Rhondda man being held in a Spanish jail on a drugs charge has been adjourned for two months.

And now it looks as if Alan Jones of Ton Pentre may have to spend almost a year in jail before the outcome is known.

Mr. Jones, aged 36, was arrested on July 11 last year and charged with smuggling 23 kilos of hashish over the Spanish border.

Mr. Jones has always said he was innocent and that the drugs were planted on him.

After his arrest, he spent several months at Cueta jail in Spanish Morocco before being transferred to Cordoba prison on the Spanish mainland.

Now he has been transferred back again to Cueta — the scene of an abortive escape bid with some fellow prisoners last autumn which he complained resulted in him being badly beaten up by prison guards.

Back home in the Rhondda, his relatives are increasingly concerned at the latest chain of events.

His brother, Mr. Norman Jones, a ventilation officer at Lewis Merthyr Colliery, is particularly worried because Alan was so badly treated the last time he was in Cueta. And

letters to his lawyer, the prison governor, the British Vice-Consul have all failed to illicit any response as to the reasons behind this latest move.

"The rumours were that he would have to go back to Cueta for his trial as this may be a step in the right direction. But why won't anyone in authority give us some information. Are they afraid?" asks Mr. Jones, who lives in Leslie Terrace, Porth.

The Rhondda Leader understands that the trial date was originally fixed for March 7, but was adjourned for, perhaps two months, so that a police report could be com-

pleted and Interpol contacted.

It is now **nine months** since Alan Jones was arrested and he has been in jail awaiting trial ever since.

Some indication that he himself is concerned at the new move is his reluctance to now give us details of his life in prison.

He had promised to write an article for the Leader on his experiences inside Spanish jails and in fact had nearly finished it.

But, said his brother, "he is now afraid at the present time to release this because he has been transferred back, to Cueta jail where he was originally maltreated".

He is also understandably reluctant to be too open in case it may jeopardise or influence his trial or his treatment there.

"Alan says that although he has been left alone in Cueta since he was transferred back, there appears to be the stony silence treatment by the guards who recognise him from his previous visit", said his brother.

Janet to the rescue

AN unusual spring present awaited a Treherbert girl four days before her wedding.

When Janet Slade opened her front door, she found an injured sheep on the step trying to lamb.

The animal had been injured by a car, and Janet pulled it off the street and turned midwife.

A farmer from Hirwaun came and collected the sheep and healthy lamb.

Janet, aged 19, who works at Glenise Hair Fashions of Bute Streer, Treherbert, was married on Saturday to Mr. Denis Jones of Blaencwm, and they live at Gwendoline Street, Treherbert.

Janet is a Sunday School teacher, and at the ceremony at Libanus Chapel the children she teaches added their own touch of harmony to the proceedings by singing one of the hymns.

Stolen

A MOBILE generator valued at £600 was stolen from Standard View, Ynyshir, at the week-end.

The generator, which has 18-inch handles, was the property of O.C. Summers, works contractors, who operate from the Gwaelody-Garth Industrial Estate.

They also owned a similar generator which disappeared from a house in St. Mellons, Cardiff, on February 23.

Council join fight threat to pits

By JAN COLLEY

meeting at the AUEW building. Mr. Jones pointed out that 1,000 jobs would be lost in the Rhondda and Pontypridd areas if the Ferndale,

"It seems part of a Common Market plan to phase out the peripheral coal fields such as Wales, Scotland and Kent. Only the major English pits

Theft from

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