

Not for pruning

Mike Thompson, a striking South Wales miner, and twice British rose-growing champion, is seeking Scargill's permission to register an Arthur Scargill rose. Thompson was inspired to make the tribute when a picket was being derogatory about Scargill. He tells me the rose is strong, vigorous, slightly scented and light red. I fear the latter may breach the Trades Description Act.

● First on the phone to Thames TV after news broke of the Gandhi assassination was its film crew, making a documentary in India. "We're the only British crew out here. Where do you want us to go?" asked the director. "Forget it," was the command from Euston Road, "We're on strike."

Spooling over