



SHOPS.

ANANDA: 111 Gloucester Rd. (Tel:67772) Odds and ends to make your life good.
BRIGHTON WORKERS BOOK-SHOP: 37 Gloucester Rd. C.P.B.M-L). Open 2-6pm weekdays, all day Sat.
THE GARDEN: 22 Trafalgar St. (vegetarian/meeting, eating)
INFINITY FOODS: 25 North Rd. Organically grown food.
PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKSHOP: 21 Little Preston St. (28357). Books and mags.
SYMPOSIUM BOOKSHOP: 12 Market St. (28142)
WRAGGLE TAGGLE WORKSHOP: 27 George St. All sorts of things to brighten you and your home.
BRIGHTON VOICE - can also be bought at:
KEMPTOWN BOOKS, St Georges St.
ST. JAMES ST NEWSAGENTS.
LONGS: St James St.
LIMLEYS: Eastern Rd.
UNIV. OF SUSSEX: Social Science Common Room.
COMPENDIUM BOOKS: 240 Camden High St. London.
EAST OXFORD ADVERTISER: 34 Cowley Rd, Oxford.
HISLING FREE: 197 Kings Cross Rd, London.

ADVICE.

AGE CONCERN: 57 Ditchling Rd. (683275) Old peoples welfare.
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX: 17 Ditchling Rd. (61664)
 7 Town Hall, Hove (734811)
FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC: 18-19 Western Rd, Hove (734258) also a clinic/cHealth Centre, Univ. of Sussex.
CANCER PREVENTION, Morley St. (29801)
FRIEND: (739729) 9am-6pm weekdays. (61664) Fri. evenings. Gay counselling.
THE LINE: 6pm-9am weekdays, 24 hours weekends. Free legal advice.
NITELINE: Lancaster House, Sussex Univ. 11pm - 7am, every night (680888 or internal phone 8-160)
OPEN INFORMATION: 24hr (27878)
OFF THE RECORD: 6 Marlborough Pl. (63080)
SAMARITANS: 24hr. (733333).
YOUTH ADVISORY SERVICE: Sunday afternoons, Young Adults Centre, Queens Rd, (Nr Clock tower).

BPAS/WINSTONS: free pregnancy tests, abortions, vasectomy etc 138 Dyke Rd (509726)

RENT TRIBUNAL: Anston House, 137 Preston Rd.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES: Contact Richard Moseley at 2 Gloucester St. (65706).

GROUPS AND GATHERINGS.

BRIGHTON COMMITTEE AGAINST FASCISM: 13 Buckingham Pl.
BRIGHTON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE: Melinda Mellish, 54 Queens Park Rd.
BRIGHTON HOSTEL: 105 Islingword Rd. (686320). Meals and soup run. Gives and needs clothes, food and help.
BRIGHTON MARINA WATCH COMMITTEE: contact Oscar Thompsett, 20 Ridgeside Ave, Patcham.
BRIGHTON SOCIETY: Selma Montford, 10 Claremont Rd. (509209) Environmental group.
CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY: Roland Stringer, 27 Osborne Villas, Hove, (732550).
CENTRE FOR INVESTIGATION OF PROPERTY SPECULATORS: coordination of research on major speculative developments in Brighton (691712)
CLAIMANTS UNION: info and advice on social security. c/o Open (27878)
FREE STREETS ASSOCIATION: 81 Hanover Terrace. (681133)
FREE VET. P. D. S. A. by the Open market: (63606). Donations welcome.

FURNISHED TENANTS ASSOCIATION: meets Wed 7.30 at Young adults centre, next Virgin Recrds, nr clock-tower. In emergency phone The Line 64243.
GAY LIBERATION FRONT: meets Tues 8.30 and disco Fri and Sat 8.30 at Markwell's Bar, Kings Rd.
THE MARMION CENTRE: community activities. Marmion Rd, Hove. (731724).
PEOPLE NOT PSYCHIATRY: c/o Open, 7 Victoria Rd.
SAVE BRIGHTON STATION: 46 Park Crescent.
SHELTER: Jenny Backwell, (594623)
SPA CAMPAIGN: 62 Bentham Rd.
TRADES COUNCIL: c/o 65 Stanford Rd.
WOMENS LIBERATION: c/o Linda White 24 Freshfield Rd - no phone as yet - or phone Penny 685431.
WORKING ASSOCIATION OF MOTHERS: Pam Smith, 5 Northease Drive, Hove.
DRAMA WORKSHOP FOR KIDS: Sat mornings. 10 a.m. Prior House, Carlton Hill.

Local Aid needs HELP in Soup Kitchen. (774906).

BRIGHTON PAVILION AND KEMPTOWN LEYS. Meetings each Tues 8.00 pm. 179 Lewes Rd. Contact John Balance 64 Coleman Street
CPB (M-L) DISCUSSION GROUPS: phone 684404 for details.

PAPERS.

DATR: 67 Vere Rd. Poetry mag.
LIBRARIANS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE: 67 Vere Rd. Radical library paper.
NEWSWAVE: 63 Gleton Ave, Hove. free radio mag.
QUEENSPARK 14 Toronto Terrace.

ARE YOU GETTING IT?



FOR IP EXTRA YOU CAN GET YOUR COPY OF BRIGHTON VOICE DELIVERED phone 500698.



WISH I'D THOUGHT OF BUILDING THE MARINA - WHAT A WONDERFUL WAY TO SPEND THE PEOPLES MONEY

'SAVE OUR SCHOOLS' CAMPAIGN - action group in the Queen's Park area to prevent the Queen's Park Sec. Mod. buildings being taken over for Queen's Park First School. The group is against the merger of 3 small infants schools into one very large one of over 600 pupils on a very cramped site. If you are interested contact: Joe Taylor, 57 Queen's Park Terrace, tel. 67456; or Mrs. E. Makorae, tel. 65990.

BRIGHTON VOICE

No. 11
 feb.-march
 COMMUNITY PAPER

5p

INSIDE

WE INCLUDE a "Praxis" special supplement

Praxis is the University-produced community action paper.

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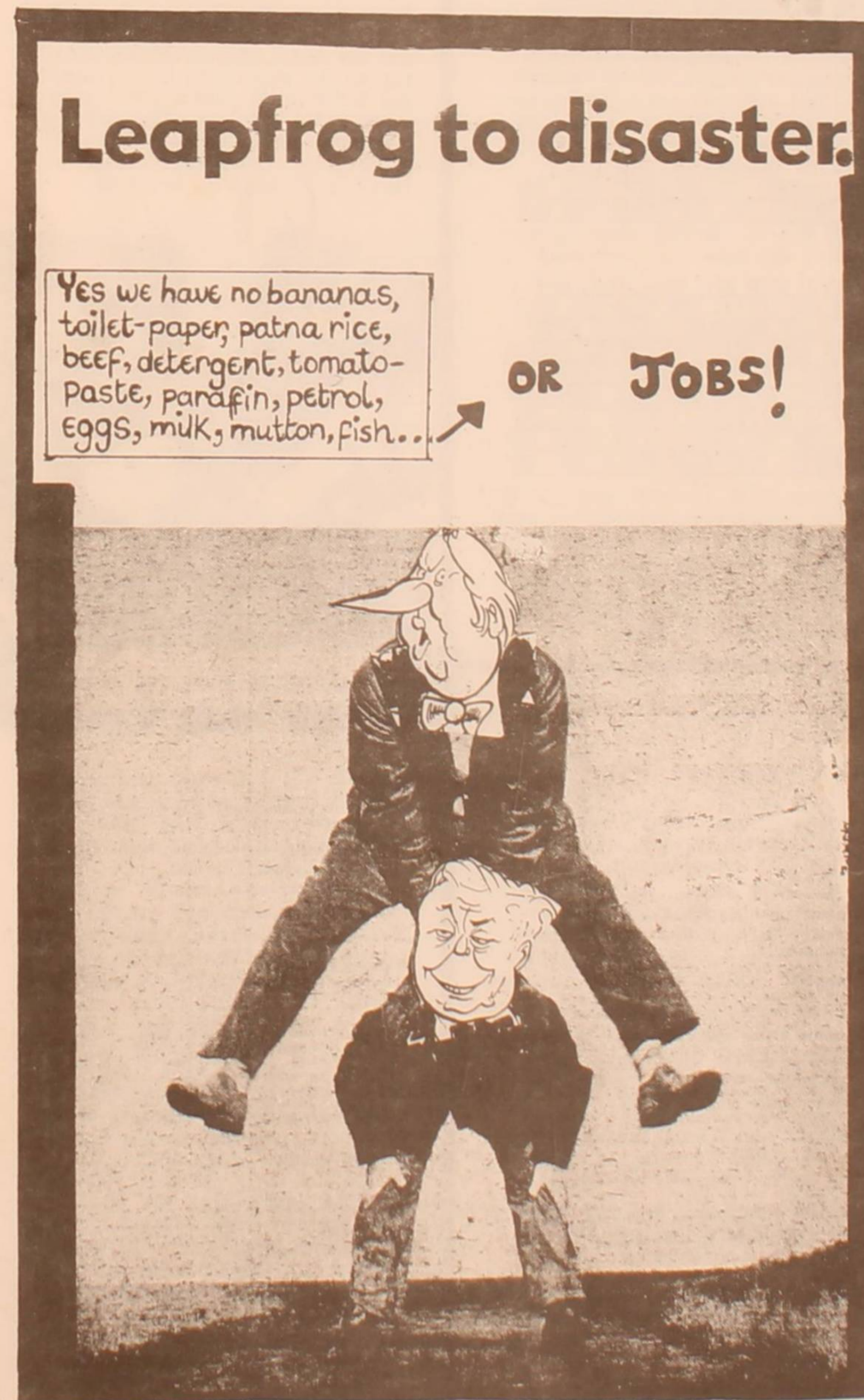
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any local chat?

SEND it to us.

WARNING H.M. Government can damage YOUR HEALTH

GO ON TURN THE PAGE!



VOTE LABOUR, TORY, LIBERAL - or NOT.

WHO RUNS BRIGHTON???

Well, there aren't any doubts about that, are there? Who controls the Argus? Who lives in the biggest houses with swimming pools and several cars? GO AND SEE WHO THEY VOTE FOR IN DYKE ROAD. Who sees that the privileged schools get most money, space and facilities? Who allotted millions of rate-payers' money to roads for a rich man's Marina? Who has steadily opposed comprehensive schools in Brighton? ASK THEOBALD, JERMY & CO WHO THEY VOTE FOR. Who are mixed up with white racists? Who are mixed up with property speculators and estate agents in the town who have made a fortune in the last ten years. Who did you say controlled the Argus. SEE WHO IT TELLS YOU TO VOTE FOR ON 23 FEBRUARY? Who were pleased to force up council rents in Brighton? Have you forgotten what Cr. John Leach said: 'For many years now council tenants have been a privileged class. Many are living in nearly luxury accommodation at a low

rent' (October 1971)

WHAT KIND OF HOUSE DOES LEACH LIVE IN? WHO DOES HE VOTE FOR? Who have/ opposed community projects for free transport in Brighton? Who wants conference centres before houses? Who has over one and a half thousand families on the housing list or in miserable short term accommodation? HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK THAT DINNER JULIAN AMERY GAVE FOR THE MARINA AND ALL THOSE TORY M.P COST? Who builds high rise flats without children's playgrounds? NOW YOU KNOW WHO YOUR LOCAL ENEMIES ARE YOU'LL SEE THEM ALL OVER THE PLACE, WHEREVER THERE'S MONEY TO BE MADE EXPLOITING OTHER PEOPLE WE USED TO CALL THEM CAPITALISTS: WE STILL DO AND THEY ALL VOTE TORY HERE IN BRIGHTON. AGAINST YOU AND US. THEY RUN BRIGHTON IN THEIR OWN INTEREST. WHAT ELSE WOULD THEY DO?

And they think it fair that 50,000 people should earn over £200 a week while 3½ million earn less than £25. And that's only the start of their system. It grows worse as you look at it. LOOK AT IT HERE IN BRIGHTON YOU'LL SEE WHAT WE MEAN.

WHO WE ARE

Brighton Voice is a community paper for the Brighton area, put together and printed by local residents. The Voice comes out every month about the 15th. It seeks to air the views and problems of ordinary people, that 'other side' of Brighton which is effectively blanketed by the Council power structure and the local press.

All readers are invited to contribute articles or letters and graphics or cartoons. It is important that you write for the Voice. Take an active part in producing the paper by joining the collective. We welcome your ideas and comments.

We are also interested in any community activity in your locality or in any local problems which you feel need some action.

We also wish to publicise movement events. We reckon we are seen around 2000 people in Bri-

ghton, and numbers are rising fast. Access to these people is yours for free. Our columns are open for your meeting or other events and announcements but we can only do this if you write. Collective meetings are held every Sunday evening. The location circulates so please phone 419319 500698, to check the address.

We would like more distributors who sell to their immediate neighbours. Phone if you are interested. Try to get your newspaper to take it as well.

The next issue will centre around law and order in Brighton. Copy date is the fifth of the month.

BUY THE VOICE, SELL FOR THE VOICE. WRITE FOR THE VOICE, DRAW FOR THE VOICE, IT IS YOUR PAPER.

Marx said "The just freedom of the Press consists in not being a business". We are not a business.

BUT WHATEVER YOU DO NEXT THURSDAY - REMEMBER THAT THE ELECTION ONLY OCCUPIES A SMALL PORTION OF OUR DAY. TO TAKE CONTROL OVER OUR OWN LIVES WE HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER AT HOME, AT WORK AND IN THE STREET TO STOP THOSE WHO ARE EXPLOITING AND PRESSING US. YOUR POWER LIES IN ORGANISATION.



THE VOICE

For this issue we got lots of contributions from our 'political' friends about the beanfeast at the end of the month. Does that mean that the election is the major political event in the calendar and that all the other issues discussed in this paper do not really affect our lives? Of course not. Then what happens at election time that's so special? Well, in the first place, the party machines beg promise and cheat us to the polls; and the media alternate between taking the whole affair seriously and treating it like a horse race which we'll all lose. The level of discussion about those policies which could drastically change our lives is illustrated below...



Lets look at what our different contributors urge us to do? They all seem to agree that electioneering is a farce and that what goes on in parliament is a charade in terms of who actually runs the country. Yet they all suggest we should do something different. Why are you voting says ignore the election and get on with the real business of organising to control our own lives; Vote Gay says go along to the polling station but vote for what you really believe in and not any of the careerists standing on a party ticket; CPML candidate is standing to allow a proper debate on the crisis in capitalism and present a marxist-leninist analysis of who really runs Britain. IMG suggests that we 'vote labour with no illusions' at the same time as agitating for a general strike; Vote Labour argues that there is a small but significant difference between the manifestos and its worth giving labour another chance; and The Bitter Pill argues that we should vote to keep the Tories out 'cos its scary to think what the Tories will do about their favourite extremists like you and me.

PEACHEY PROPERTY CORPORATION LIMITED

The following is the Statement of the Chairman, Mr. E. M. Miller, JP



On 23rd August, 1973 your Board in its Interim Statement to its members and stockholders estimated the profit for the year ended 24th June, 1973 at approximately £2 million. In the event the audited accounts now before you disclose a profit before taxation of £2,270,000. In the year under review your Board considered it prudent, during a period of steep inflation, to adopt a policy of conserving your Group's valuable property assets and, as a result, surpluses on realisation of properties diminished; this policy was mainly responsible for the reduced profits. Rental income, interest and dividends receivable increased during the year by a total of some £300,000.

Peachey have a formula for big profits out of the Brighton Station site

Peachey + British Rail + Brighton Council + = big profits for Peachey

STOP peachey profits at OUR expense!
KEEP PEACHEY OUT OF BRIGHTON
FIGHT the Station plan

contact: "Save Brighton Station" Group

...and write letters of objection to - Town Clerk, Town Hall, Brighton AND... Department of the Environment, 2 Marsham St, London, SW1P 3EE.

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	1973	1972
Total Share Capital and Reserves.....	£15,956	£15,956
Income.....	4,173	4,173
Pre-tax Profit.....	2,270	2,270
Profit after Taxation.....	1,344	1,344

The dividends for the year, with the related tax credits, are equivalent to 17.5% (1972-13.5%), the maximum permitted by current legislation.

The annual general meeting of the company was held on 15th February, 1974. Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Executive Offices, Park West, Marble Arch, London W2 3QQ.

Old King Coal
Is a Merry Old Soul
And a Merry Old Soul is he
His major sport
Is to shoot the miners, free
'Justice', 1898.

WE welcome your letters and any contribution you can make towards making this paper a valuable voice of the community, for the local people...why not write and tell us something now...don't keep it to yourself because what YOU have to say may help other people

The D.H.S.S. has recently issued, at great expense, vast numbers of leaflets called 'KEEPING WARM IN WINTER'. The millionaire press and T.V. want us to believe that when the mine miners go on strike the old people start suffering from the cold - the truth is that the old people suffer EVERY WINTER. It is a fact that lack of heating is a major cause of illness and death amongst the old. Hypothermia (when the body temperature goes too low) is the direct cause of 20,000 deaths a year. Each day during the 6 winter months, 300 old people die of diseases aggravated by the cold. One fact that the Local Authority does not publicise is that IT HAS LEGAL POWERS TO INSTALL HEATERS IN THE HOMES OF OLD PEOPLE, PROVIDE ELECTRIC BLANKETS AND CARRY OUT WORK TO ELIMINATE DRAUGHTS, CUT DOWN DAMP AND IMPROVE INSULATION.

The old-age pension allows £1.50p a week for home heating (this is enough for a 2 bar electric fire going for 8 hours a day). Old people MUST have better home heating, not just because of physical inefficiency but because thousands of them can not afford an adequate diet and many pensioners live in the worst and coldest accommodation. You know what it's like when your young and well-fed - you can walk into a room and feel quite warm at first but after you've been sitting around for some time you begin to feel really cold- imagine what it's like if you're old and immobile and HUNGRY.

crisis

INDUSTRY NEWS

The silence in the press about workers fighting against the three-day week and the issue of Saturday working, is to be expected. The three day week is a gross attack on working people. An attempt to blackmail and paralyse working people.

The new form of three day week, with Monday - Wednesday, and Wednesday - Friday working is a direct result of the response of the workers who refused to work Saturdays.

In Brighton, the bosses at Gross Cash Registers, Hollingbury tried to take advantage of the three day week to by-pass national agreements and weaken shop floor union organisation. Workers in the auto shop, indispensable to the running of the factory were involved in this national struggle to get overtime rates for Saturday working. They defended their rights using tactics from working to rule, banning overtime and once, not turning up for Saturday working.

The bosses retaliated by talk of redundancies and factory closure, and locked the men out for two days. Support from workers in other parts of the factory led to substantial gains in the number of hours paid for the number of hours worked. Afterwards the workers in the factory had to show their strength again by not allowing attempted victimisation to take place.

at GROSS CASH REGISTERS, Hollingbury

TREASURE ISLAND.

TREASURE ISLAND: A Brighton story featuring 'Prince' Louis de Soissons and his courtiers, amazing palm trees, a few boats and some eight storey blocks of flats....

You won't have read this story before, although you've read many variations on its theme. It appears in a glossy two-volume edition published by 'Prince' Louis de Soissons (who, as the tale proceeds, increasingly exhibits the same traits as Mad King Ludwig), and it's written by one of his courtiers, David Hodges. It's called, quite simply, **BRIGHTON MARINA 1973.**

It starts, appropriately, like **TREASURE ISLAND** (which indeed could be its subtitle), with a map. The map shows where Brighton is in relation to Deaerville, but despite the explicit clues of their various casinos, the map isn't actually important: the real clues, about the relationship of the Marina to the City of London (source of finance capital) are in invisible ink.

BRIGHTON MARINA 1973 is allegedly about boats. As you read it, imagine the serene eternity of a summer morning at sea, gentle caresses of water, fishing boats nestling like lovers. Your begin to feel a sense of impenetrable mysteries, of a strange "otherness" This feeling results from the **CLASSICAL NATURE** (page 17) of the story. Consider, for example, the mysteries underlying this passage - **THE ENORMOUS COST OF HARBOUR CONSTRUCTION ON AN UNPROTECTED COASTLINE...CAN BE SUPPORTED BY THE CREATION OF VALUES WITHIN THE HARBOUR OVER AND ABOVE THE VALUE OF THE MOORINGS** (page 5). There is great sadness

in the tale at this point because not a few of the mysteries are translated into 4648 car-parking spaces, 1450 luxury flats, a cyclorama, bier keller, night club, petrol filling station, health hydro, casino and floating exhib-

ition stands. There may, additionally, be a quantity of floating currency involved.

But like all good fables, there's magic in it.



The Marina wizards wave a magic wand (called **MARKET RESEARCH**) over Brighton and conjure up 3 extraordinary things -

- a) A Caribbean garden: AN OUTSTANDING AND UNIQUE SCENE containing PALM TREES AND OTHER EXOTIC PLANTS AMONGST WHICH EVEN IN THE DEPTHS OF WINTER IT WILL BE PLEASANT TO RELAX (page 35).
- b) A Dancerama: A SOMEWHAT NEW IDEA FOR DANCING WITHIN A CIRCULAR SPACE SURROUNDED BY NINE SCREENS (page 36)
- c) A Cyclorama: a system of revolving auditoria around a central stage, AS EACH AUDITORIUM COMPLETES THE CIRCLE A NEW AUDIENCE IS ADMITTED AND THUS A STEADY FLOW IS ACHIEVED WITH LITTLE WAITING TIME. (Just tell the manager of the *Vogue* about that one).

So if you feel like being swivelled around a central stage, or dancing in a circular space surrounded by 9 screens perhaps after

your teeth in the dark, the magic will be welcome.

But if you feel that all these super goodies are really for rich people - princes, princesses, people who live in big boats, you might feel neglected. Cheer up; there's a place for you after all. The Marina **MUST BE THE MEETING PLACE FOR ALL THE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES** and be **THUS TRULY A PART OF BRIGHTON** (page 32). Truly. You'll be meeting at, and paying for, the road interchange, underpass, tunnels and approach roads, you might even be lucky enough to pay for the sewage pumping apparatus as well.

The story doesn't end when you close the pages of the book. You see the wizards still need to conjure up another 45 million pounds ... and how do you think they'll do that?

See the next instalment of this gripping fable in subsequent issues of **Brighton Voice.**

New words or phrases used in this story. Write down in your own words what they mean and send your answers to the Brighton Marina Company Ltd, Marina House Dyke Road, Brighton BN1 3FE with copies to the Town Clerk, the Secretary of State for the Environment and your M.P., (as soon as there's a Parliament for him to be a member thereof.)

New words or phrases:

1. CLASSICAL NATURE
2. CREATION OF VALUE
3. MARKET RESEARCH MAGIC
4. TRULY A PART OF BRIGHTON
5. CAPITALIST LEISURE INDUSTRY
6. SOCIAL CONTROL OF INVESTMENT
7. JOBS AND HOMES IN BRIGHTON

THE BRIGHTON MARINA

WE MUST OBJECT NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE



Have YOU got the MARINA MESSAGE yet?

The Marina is not really meant for us. It's a fantastic investment racket that WE, the ratepayers and residents of this town are being forced to subsidise out of OUR rates. Very nice too for the wealthy yachtsmen in their 'Morning Clouds' who will sail happily into Brighton at the ratepayers' expense.

Brighton Council has committed itself to the tune of several million pounds on the access

roads to the Marina itself at Black Rock. In addition, a lot of questions need answering with regard to sewage disposal as this is also a Council responsibility: WHO PAYS ???

....the answer, of course, is simple...WE PAY....if they can get away with it.

The Marina Company continues to modify it's plans in order to screw the maximum profit out of the site, quite regardless of the interests of the Brighton people.

The latest change of plan involves a massive increase in housing density, to the tune of 1,450 units

of accommodation...holiday flats and second homes for rich parasites. Roughly, this figure matches the number of people on the housing waiting list in Brighton, waiting for a FIRST home. But of course, the Marina homes at £30,000 a time are not for them.

The Planning Committee have already approved of this latest Marina plan and it comes up for the final decision of Brighton Council at its next meeting, on 1st. March.

There is still a chance that if sufficient numbers of people object to these plans, the Council may defer their decision until a future full Council meeting.

WE MUST TRY AND GET THE COUNCIL TO DEFER THEIR DECISION

WE MUST TRY AND FORCE THEM TO HOLD A PUBLIC ENQUIRY ABOUT THE CHANGED PLANS

WE MUST GET THIS BREATHING SPACE because there is no way that we can reverse the decision once it is taken in favour of the present plans.

WE MUST DO ALL WE CAN TO STOP THE MARINA PLANS...NOW

Write now to:
The Town Clerk,
Town Hall,
Brighton

and also (this is important if we are to get a public enquiry):

Write also to:

The Secretary of State for the Environment,
2 Marsham Street,
London, SW1P 3EB

State that you object strongly to the change of plans for Brighton Marina, which do not provide the balance of amenities which the people of Brighton were originally promised when they accepted the Marina in principle; especially you object to the very high density of private residences put into the plan purely for the profit of the Marina Company.

WRITE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE



for a fuller account of the OUTRAGE see the special 'Brighton Voice' pamphlet called: **'THE BRIGHTON MARINA OUTRAGE'**...which summarises our coordinated research with pressure groups in the town. Ask to see it in the Reference Library or get it at 'Symposium' or from us

EDUCATION



why are some less equal?



Meanwhile....at Whitehawk Secondary Modern School....why, WHY IS IT THAT....

- 1) 60 full-time teachers have left the School since 1969, some only a day or two after starting at the place?
- 2) The School has not been given 'Educational Priority Area' status, in view of the huge number of learning and behaviour problems it has to cope with?
- 3) The local Council's Schools Sub-Committee turned down the School Governors' recommendation that staffing 'points' be increased, so that teachers may be attracted to the School; advertisements for vacant teaching posts would be more attractive if above-basic-scale salary payments were offered...?
- 4) There is a joint union refusal (the N.A.S. and N.U.T.) to teach those classes that should be taught by teachers as yet to be appointed by the local authority?
- 5) Teachers' goodwill is exhausted and they are now in a militant mood?

why?....

None of this is accident.

SLUM SCHOOLS, LIKE WHITEHAWK, up and down the country, are positive proof that our get-rich-quick, affluent society, has not abolished the fundamental inequalities within the structure of our society. The hopelessly inadequate resources available for the fundamental needs of education show how urgently we need new priorities.

We need NEW priorities, and fast, in BRIGHTON.....

The education system in Brighton, as in the rest of Britain, is collapsing.

The Government's cut of 20% in Local Authority spending has practically knocked away any chance that the local school system could survive the cuts already taken in 1972 and 1973.

What is to happen to the proposed new Stanley Deason High School at Wilson Avenue and Primary School reorganisation that involves the Whitehawk Middle School and Queen's Park First School moving into the worn-out Whitehawk Sec. Mod, and Queen's Park Sec. Mod., respectively. If Whitehawk Sec. Mod. and Queen's Park Sec. Mod. cannot both make a complete move into the Stanley Deason School in September 1975, there will be very serious trouble ahead for Brighton's schools.

"We support the Government and support these cuts" said George Burton, Chairman of Brighton C.E.C. Education Committee. What do YOU think of that!

The cuts are bad enough for big cities with big budgets but education and social services in Brighton has always been very meanly provided for.

Overcrowding, poor facilities and teacher shortage is leading to collapse in our local schools. Read the article in this paper on 'Some are less equal', about Whitehawk Sec. Mod. School's problems. It is the direct responsibility of the Council if children are sent home if there aren't enough teachers to teach them when they should be at school.

Teachers' salaries are already low, and frozen in Phase 3. Because teachers felt unable to take the Government on, Heath is lying to the country about teachers acting moderately and reasonably by accepting pay rises within Phase 3 and by implication, he is saying that teachers back his selfish and divisive politics.

Throughout Britain, and just beginning in Brighton, teachers are fighting back...in conditions of work and in salaries. They are refusing to work after normal hours, refusing extra duties such as doing 2 jobs at once, refusing economies and insufferable conditions of work. Such actions not only build up teachers' organisation and fighting spirit but will get the support of the parents, who will not tolerate the collapse of the education system.

The action at Whitehawk is the start of a local fight and is part of a national attack.

general..



strike!

& vote the Tories out

THE TORY GOVERNMENT'S DECISION to call a General Election was forced on it by a massive display of fighting determination revealed in the miners ballot, and the prospect of a fullscale working class offensive against the government.

Over three and a half years, the Tories have attempted a feat unaccomplished by the last Labour Government: to decisively defeat the workers movement in order to increase profits, and so stave off the approaching financial, and political catastrophe. It was this necessity to strengthen declining British capitalism at the expense of the vast majority of the population, that prompted the Industrial Relations Act, the Housing Finance Act, and cut-backs in the Health Services, education and student grants.

And those who have kept their eyes open over the past period will have seen even more sinister aspects of the strengthening of the repressive machinery of the State: the use of criminal law against pickets; the development of Special Patrol Groups into Anti-riot Police - trained in military techniques, armed, and yet looking like the ordinary cops - last months briefing of the BBC on how to control its broadcasts; the military operations at Heathrow and Army recruitment drives; the Pakistan Act and Immigration Act - spearheading racist attacks to divide workers, as well as boosting the growth of fascist organisations.

The Tory Government has been the centre of all these tentacles reaching out to squeeze and strangle the workers movement.



It was never more important for workers to strike against their sellout leaders; for students to fight the Tories for higher grants; for hospital workers to fight against the crumbling Health Service; for engineers to fight for their own wage claims; - and for the miners to denounce their leadership, who are begging for 'special case' status, and lead the movement forward to a General Strike against the Tory Government.

from:-

Brighton International Marxist Group

If you are interested in the politics of the IMG and want to know more about us or better still, if you want to work with us, contact:- Brighton IMG, 20 Milnthorpe Rd Hove, SUSSEX.

VOTE LABOUR

We continue with the farce. We continue as an electorate to give licence to men who lie, who cheat us, who are incompetent and immoral, who treat us as simpletons and who propagate a form of economic apartheid which is not only odious but unworkable. The supreme irony of this is that when it breaks down we are called to the ballot box, like soldiers to the ramparts, to defend it. And we do. It would seem that the only way to retrieve some dignity from the whole sorry mess is to ignore it. Abstain. But in the unrelieved gloom of this election I believe there are two glimmers of hope - both of them offered by the Labour Party.

In the first place the Labour manifesto states categorically and it is difficult to see how even they could escape from this promise, - that the decision to stay in or come out of Europe on whatever new terms are negotiated, will be made by a referendum of the British people. Slight sop though this may be, it could provide the wedge that will open the door to more open government, greater consultation with the people and a breaking of the bureaucratic stranglehold that the country is in danger of succumbing to. The second glimmer is the voluntary incomes policy that a Labour Govt. will implement with the help of the TUC. This is the one measure that has met with the greatest disapproval by the political commentators in this country. They all remember the last time, they say, and yet it is the future that concerns us. This agreement will give the unions the opportunity to come of age. To exercise their power in a responsible rather than a reactionary and sectarian manner. To seek what is good for the whole working population rather than that of individual members of individual unions. The way to a more egalitarian society may lie with a vote for Labour. It is a faint hope. But it is a hope worth pursuing. Vote Labour.

MORE ELECTION NEWS OVERLEAF



green fingers

LIFE ON AN ALLOTMENT: PART 4.

THE EASY WORK

It was September when I got my allotment and the weather was warm and sunny - golden Autumn days and masses of blackberries on my brambles. As I gradually cleared away the thickets I discovered gooseberry bushes, blackcurrant shrubs, raspberry canes and even strawberry plants and rhubarb among the long grass. Then came the digging up of turf and I followed from Amateur Gardening Magazine this good advice: 'Digging a new garden is to some a dreary task but to others a joyful days exercise. Nothing is more exhilarating in cold weather, but it must be done with a sharp shining spade, a steady rhythm and ten minutes break every hour to enjoy the sight and smell of the newly turned earth'. And with a cup of tea brewed up on my primus stove, this hard work was done. Surprisingly (to me), all the seeds I planted made it to my table: broad beans, peas, french beans, onions, radishes, lettuce, spinach and sweet-corn, with cabbage, broccolli, leeks, carrots and swedes still to come. Growing your own food isn't an economic proposition, even if you value your time at nothing, but it is very satisfying taking home a basket of your own vegetables to eat straight away; you can taste the difference even if they don't look the same as standardised produce in shops.

Other benefits are talking to your neighbours, there is a community feeling and everybody takes an interest in what other people are growing and everyone gives and takes advice. I have long talks to the man next door about his life during the depression, the state of the country now, on how working class life has changed besides less serious topics like our holidays and homes and of course how our vegetables are getting on. Another good thing is the Parks Dept. attitude, when I went to pay my rent this year they complimented me on my efforts and they have personal interest and knowledge of how everybody is doing.

Is there a recipe for success in growing? Yes, I think plants need care and attention, like treating them as people, thinking what they would like and need. They say good gardeners talk to their plants and I'd agree that this is important. You won't get anywhere unless you care about your plants and land and if you do you'll develop a relationship with them a natural balance (yes plants have feelings) leading to harmony. However if this sounds stupid you're not one for the soil, so just carry on with your convenience frozen foods. No questions need be asked of their origin or contents.

HORTICULTURIST HORACE.

COMMUNIST CANDIDATE IN BRIGHTON.

John Buckle is the candidate for the Communist Party of England (Marxist-Leninist) in the Kempdown Constituency. He believes that he represents the only party which is honest in its election propaganda. All the other candidates, he says, agree that Capitalism is the only way in which the economy can be organised. Indeed they could all save themselves a lot of money by deciding on just one candidate to represent it, against a communist candidate.

He feels on the other hand that capitalism is out of date and no longer fulfills the needs which brought it about in the first place, and that it should and must be replaced by socialism. This need is demonstrated by the current anarchy in economic affairs and the fact that the other parties agree that the English workers must suffer as a consequence. This question, capitalism or socialism is the most central issue facing the electorate and one that the other candidates refuse to discuss in an open and above-board fashion.

the bitter pill

won't go through all the arguments and analysis which makes us agree sometimes with those groups who say don't vote 'cos the whole thing is a fraud; and sometimes with those who say 'vote for the party of progressive capital with no illusions 'cos then you can expose them.

Lets be honest - no coherent analysis is possible in this confusion. What we do know is that we need to be able to organise to persuade other people to join us in building a better society. Although the 'deepening crises of capitalism' will force any government to adopt repressive measures if it refuses to yield power to the people fighting for a decent life, the Tories seem almost eager to crush opposition. If you, like me, are just scared of what might happen.....

vote the tories OUT

SUSSEX UNIVERSITY
STUDENT COMMUNITY
ACTION

praxis

COMMUNICATIONS TO:
PRAXIS
FALMER HOUSE
BRIGHTON BN1 9QF

February 1974

Reform



& the S.S.

What Social Security needs is not reform but complete restructuring. It isn't going to get this unless a lot more of society is restructured as well, so I'm going to leave restructuring to the people that are going to change it all (at a stroke) and look at some improvements on the present system. Some of these are more likely to be controversial than others, and whether they all need legal reform or could be quietly accomplished by the DHSS deciding to read the law differently (so much of it is discretion) I don't know. The opinions expressed here are my own and not Brighton Claimants' Union's necessarily.

I'll start with the simple suggestions first.

1. The SS should see to it that everyone gets the information they need. For claimants, this would mean giving an explanation of how benefit has been worked out whenever they get a payment, rather than having to fill out a form to get an explanation to check against the official rates. For everyone it would mean improving access to all the basic leaflets explaining welfare benefits and their rates, and making them easier to understand. This could mean making sure that Post Offices really do stock and display leaflets; it could mean sending them annually to people, with other official forms (e.g. tax return); and it could mean using advertising seriously.
2. The DHSS could actually go about collecting some of the information they need. It's ridiculous that policy concerning low-income families is concocted without any continuing official research on how these families use their money, cope with crises, and are helped/

overlooked/hindered by welfare services. Imagine economic policy without trade information... Right now the CPAG* provide the best data in this field, enabling some assessment to be made of how well the system works (badly!).

3. The wage-stop should be abolished. This is a fantastic device employed when the SS reckon that if a guy was in his "regular employment" he'd get less pay than the poverty line (usual benefit rates). They cut him down to this pay scale, i.e. below their definition of poverty. Particularly absurd since they usually mess up taking things like overtime into account.

4. There are a whole complex of experiences which can make claiming very unpleasant; like waiting ages in the office, having officials be insufferably rude, being given misinformation and false promises. These things can't be cured completely by legal reform. But they could be improved considerably by better allocation of resources to the DHSS - good offices, more staff, better money for staff so they don't resent unemployed people scraping along, and so they stay in the job long enough to learn more of the rules and don't make up their own all the time. Some more training of staff would be welcome, too; perhaps some course about social problems and social welfare might loosen a few prejudices; or how about encounter groups with a few claimants and social workers as well!

5. Stop wasting vast sums of money on sex snoops and the like. If any fiddling of S.S. is going on on any scale it'll be by people working without insurance cards, (e.g. the 'Lump') not single women.

6. Publish the lists used in evaluating people's requests for exceptional benefits, and the estimates of how much money is required. Let claimants know how many clothes and what quality of furnishing the SS is theoretically prepared to let them have, so that they can claim for them if they are in need, and let the public decide whether these levels are just, in view of present living standards and prices.

7. There should be a guaranteed minimum income for everyone in the country. Claimants' Unions suggest £10 per week exclusive of rent, rates, etc. Couples should get twice as much as single people, instead of 1 1/2. The Tax Credit scheme could be modified to work this sort of system. Means tests could be done away with on health & welfare benefits.

8. There should be grass-roots participation in the operation of the system. A claimants' council could comment on and influence the operation of each SS office, and their deliberations be fed into national policy by regular meetings of a national representative council. Claimants could sit on Appeal Tribunals to supplement and inform the present strange composition.

IAN MILES



"I came here years ago as a social worker. I liked it so much I've been here ever since."

Pity the lodger!

The law offers virtually no protection to lodgers. We examine the position and tell you how to claim your rights.

Furnished tenancies are often seen as the worst extreme of the housing market; rents are high, security is low, defence from harassment theoretical and largely unobtainable. There are however many for whom a furnished tenancy must appear a safe, cheap and secure way of life. These are the inhabitants of boarding-houses, cheap hotels, hostels and private lodgers. Legally this group are described as licensees and not tenants since their accommodation is controlled under a licence and not a lease. If you are a licensee you are not protected under the 1946 Rent Control Act and cannot apply to a Rent Control Tribunal.

Typically a licensee in a Brighton 'hotel' phoned the line to say he was paying £8 per week for a small room, the manager had come in while he was out and had torn down his posters and damaged his record player. Legally there is no protection against this sort of action except the hypothetical option of suing for damages to property. If he complains, the manager probably needs to give him no more than one day's notice to quit.

This type of situation is on the increase in Brighton and because it comes outside the controls of the 1946 Act is clearly very lucrative. To suggest that people need not accept accommodation offered under licences at inflated rates is to be blind to the housing situation in Brighton. At the end of last summer even the Social Security were allegedly paying £10 a week to keep a single person in a 'hotel' room, having admitted no cheaper accommodation was available.

What rights does a licensee have?

Basically none, except that

while the licensor agrees, the licensee may use the premises, subject to the conditions in the licence, without committing trespass. The only situation in which the law can help you is if the licensor seems to be breaking the conditions of the licence.

Is this of much practical help?

No, since the licensor will have drawn up the licence with his own interests in mind; it will therefore tend to say things like; he can throw you out at short, maybe a couple of days', notice, that you can't use any electrical appliances including record players, kettles, boiling rings, fires, etc, that radios mustn't be played after 10, that no visitors are allowed, he may have access to your room at any time without giving you notice, etc.

There is no way of legally questioning whether these are reasonable conditions or not; the law assumes you won't have entered into an unreasonable licence.

Does the licensor have to show you the licence?

The law seems rather confused on this because the licence needn't even be written. In general if you sign some visitors book or conditions and the licensor, his manager or typically some member of his staff give you a receipt for rent then this is taken as legal evidence that you have accepted the conditions of the licence even though you are likely not to have seen it.

Do you have any security of tenure?

Since you are not a tenant, tenure is quite the wrong word. If the licence says, or is claimed to say, that you need to be given only one day to leave, then this

is as long as you have. A precedent exists that licensees have to be given a reasonable time to physically move their belongings, but this comes from a case involving moving some industrial machinery from a rented site. If you have a small suitcase, some books, etc. a day might be considered a very reasonable length of time.

Rent advances, if they are actually called advances and not breakages deposits, could imply a contractual right to stay until the period of advance is ended.

So if you pay rent weekly in advance it might be said you had an implicit contract to remain for a week from the day of the last payment, but this probably means that if you are thrown out - and a number of 'hotels' seem to have rather heavy managers - you only have a legal claim to a refund.

The court cannot give you back accommodation after eviction, even if this followed harassment, nor has the manager done anything criminal in evicting you. All he may have done is broken the terms of an implicit contract. But a clever licence will presumably state something like: the licensor reserves the right to revoke the licence (throw you out) at whatever notice he sees fit and will at that time refund any payment in respect of rent beyond the date of revocation (in which case any implicit security you might have claim to is explicitly denied).

To summarise, a licensee is allowed to perform specified acts, usually involving restricted access to property, which without a licence could be illegal.

The main factors which make licences unsuitable for regulating accommodation seem to be:

(a) that they offer no statutory protection as to minimum standards for the accommodation. Given the wide range of areas in which licences are used, then it would clearly be difficult to incorporate such protection into the system of licensing.

(b) that agreeing however implicitly to a licence is taken as evidence that you accept the rent and conditions. At present there is no rent review body that can intervene. Given the existing accommodation shortage, 'hotels' offering rooms, but no board or service, will presumably be guaranteed a supply of residents until their rents reach the levels of the cheapest bed and breakfast establishments.

(c) that no security of tenure is given, unless the licence specifically states this.

(d) that the terms of a licence can make harassment legally possible.

When is a licence a lease?

Even if both you and your landlord think you have a licence you may legally be a tenant. The grounds for establishing whether a lease or a licence exist are based on rather ambiguous precedents and it is clearly important to use these to get as many licences as possible recognised as leases.

The ambivalence of the current distinction is exemplified by this rather opaque quote from Halsbury:

"The parties to an agreement cannot, never, on a lease into a licence merely by stating that the document is to be deemed a licence by describing it as such; the relationship of the parties is determined by law on a consideration of all relevant provisions of the agreement; nor will the employment of words appropriate to a lease prevent the agreement from conferring a licence only if from the whole document it appears that it was intended merely to confer a licence. In the absence of any formal document the intention of the parties must be inferred from the circumstances and conduct of the parties."

In cases that have set precedents the crucial factor is not the wording of any agreement or even the intentions of the parties, but what they actually do. Where a licensor seems to allow a licensee all the privileges of a tenant then the law accepts the licensee's right

to go to the Rent Tribunal. To have a claim to be a tenant a licensee must at present: not be paying a significant part of his rent for board or service charges; have, irrespective of what he was promised or agreed to, exclusive possession of the rented property; not have any contractual right to services where services could include heating and lighting, hot water supply and anything other than the provision of cold water and toilet facilities.

Of all these conditions it can be shown that a licensee has exclusive possession over some part of the property and he isn't paying for board then it seems likely that a tenancy will be recognised.

Under the current Rent Control Act if the University were to offer furnished tenancies at its boarding houses these would either have to be for a fixed term, after which the tenant has no rights of renewal, or for an indefinite period, when a minimum of four weeks' notice to.



quit is required. Neither would be very workable unless most students stayed there during the long vacations.

Residential boarding-houses or nursing homes would also be difficult to bring under the terms of the 1946 Act. Rent Tribunals rarely look into provision of and payment for services. Since conditions on this area of accommodation are often the worst and most exploitative of the whole market an independent set of tribunals with powers similar to those of the Rent Tribunals might be constituted to look at the provision of services.

What makes for exclusive possession?

If we look to case law for a clear definition of exclusive possession two precedents are available.

(i) Regina v. Battersea, Wandsworth, Mitcham and Wimbledon Rent Tribunal, ex parte Parikh (Queens Bench Division, 17-18.1.1957)
(ii) Rex v. Bethnal Green & Paddington Rent Tribunals, ex parte Rowton Houses Ltd (1947)

The 1947 case set the precedent for lodging houses, saying that residents were only licensees; allowing management access to your room to provide services such as cleaning, changing bed linen, etc, their possession of a key and your resident's rights to use communal facilities were all evidence against exclusive possession and demonstrated the intention to create a licence and not a lease.

But in 1957 exclusive possession was rather more liberally interpreted and was used to overrule the fact of sharing services.

Lord Goddard commented: "In this case, as it seems to be conceded, Mrs Flynn had the right to use rooms other than the room which she occupied... We have to see whether in addition she had exclusive occupation of the room occupied by her under the agreement." It was submitted that she did not have exclusive occupation because, under the terms of the agreement, Mrs Parikh (the landlady) was given access.

This wording in the 1957 decision seems to offer some hope for the lodging-house market. It seems to have shifted the grounds for establishing the right to a lease away from the fact of shared services and the holding of a key to saying that if one actually lives in a room and the landlord accepts this then one has a good case for exclusive possession.

Given this change in emphasis the residents of those 'hotels' in Brighton which offer no services other than clean bed linen might well be in a position to try for a new precedent and claim they effectively have exclusive possession of their rooms. If this fails or lodging houses retaliate by making more inroads into residents' privacy then the next obvious point of reform would be for the Rent Control Act to be amended, giving Rent Tribunals jurisdiction over residential accommodation granted under licence without payment for board.

"I cannot think that Mrs Parikh by putting into the agreement words saying that she is to have access to Mrs Flynn's room, has thereby excluded the Act (ie the Rent Control Act) or that, because of this Mrs Flynn has not exclusive occupation of the room. Mrs Flynn was given a key and could lock the door. It may be that Mrs Parikh could enter if she had another key, but I think that the test is: had Mrs Flynn the exclusive right to use the room as a residence? Mrs Parikh having let this room as a residence to Mrs Flynn had no right to come in and occupy it herself nor had she a right to put somebody else into the room."

Judge Cassels further added that "I do not think that 'paying guest' is an accurate description when the 'paying guest' has to do all her own work in connection with the accommodation which she has and the only thing with which she is provided is a little food."

This would still leave a significant number of licensees at risk, especially in old people's homes and boarding houses. At present no piecemeal changes in the existing law can be used to help them; we can only campaign for a new Act to control conditions in all accommodation other than hotels and inns, offering board or service.



one gentleman who'll never need to worry about....

the agency racket

One feature of the worsening housing situation has been the emergence in most large towns and cities of a substantial number of accommodation agencies. Despite the claims of those who run these agencies that they are simply providing a much needed service for both landlords and tenants it should be appreciated that their primary objectives are of a far more overtly financial nature. And since there are more prospective tenants than available properties those looking for a home are in particular a particularly vulnerable position - one that a number of agencies have been quick to take advantage of.

Volunteers needed to collate the Students' Guide to Social Security.

PROJECT LEADER NEEDED
..for old people's painting and gardening.

..also good organiser for Student Community Action Conference at Easter.

ONE HOUR A WEEK
Someone needed to teach young spastic girl to read and write.

GRASS CUTTER NEEDED
Someone required to cut a pensioner's (73 yrs old) lawn at Falmer.

For all the above contact Guss Gorsuch, S.C.A., Falmer House, Falmer.

Increasingly the market for furnished flats and houses has come to be dominated by the accommodation agencies as landlords have become aware of the benefits offered them. But frequently it is the tenant alone, rather than the landlord, who is asked to meet the agency's fees. It is on this point that the existing legislation leaves much to be desired.

The relevant Act is the Accommodation Agencies Act of 1953 which was intended "to prohibit the taking of certain commissions in dealings with persons seeking houses or flats to let." In particular any person who "demands or accepts payment of any sum of money in consideration of supplying, or undertaking to supply, to any person addresses or other particulars of houses to let ... shall be guilty of an offence." In other words, it is illegal for an agency to charge a prospective tenant simply for supplying a list of flats. Indeed, in the first test case of *McInnes v. Clarke* (1955) it was ruled illegal for an agency to accept payment for a list of addresses even though that payment was returnable if no suitable accommodation was found. Moreover the 1953 Act makes it illegal for an agency to charge a registration fee, or advertise the existence of fictitious properties as an inducement to prospective tenants.

So far so good. But the wording of the Act means that it is a simple matter for even the least enterprising agency to find a loophole. All that is required is for the agency to provide something more than a list of addresses, i.e. some additional service. This became clear in the Court of Appeal in 1971 when a decision in the case of *Crouch and Lees v. Haridas* was reached to the effect that if an agency were to offer a service to a client over and above furnishing him with addresses then within the wording of the 1953 Act it would be legal to charge for those services.

The question is, of course, what constitutes a service? On this point no legal guidelines exist - the Act merely says what agencies must not charge for. Clearly it is unreasonable to charge for services which benefit the landlord rather than the tenant, such as drawing up an inventory. Among those services which might be offered are: inspecting flats in advance with the tenant's requirements in mind; arranging for a tenant to view a flat; and drawing up a tenancy agreement. It is this last 'service' which is most often used to justify an agency's fees, and it is worth bearing in mind that legal fees are frequently charged under this heading when no lawyer has in fact been used.

If you think you have been charged illegally what can you do? As things stand at the moment, very little - unless it is a clear case of money being requested in return for a list of addresses. Once the agency can show that it has provided more of a service than you are on much less secure ground. You could of course take legal action yourself, or alternatively contact the legal department of the appropriate local authority and try to get them to take action. But the real immediate need is for a change in the law. As long as the shortage of rented accommodation continues then agencies can safely rely on desperation overriding tenants' doubts as to the legal niceties of the situation.

Russ Moseley



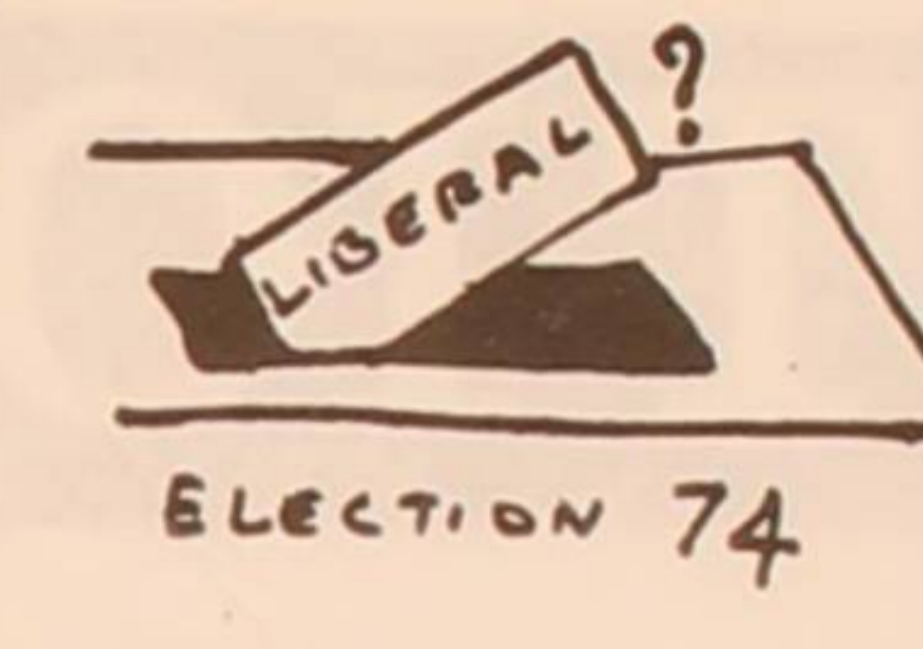
YET ANOTHER

How does one vote gay in a straight election? What real choice do I and the two million other gay people in Britain have in the way we cast our votes at this election?

Not much. Another weary election at which the majority will re-elect the majority. The new Parliament when it meets will be as overwhelmingly and oppressively heterosexual as the last one. Britain's largest minority will continue to be unheard and unrepresented. Homosexual will continue to mean second-class.

Please note: Neither of the major parties is making gay rights a plank in its platform at the hustings. Neither of them is going to put up even one candidate who will stand as gay. Neither the Conservative or the Labour Party, if elected to power is going to give gay people the same basic human rights that others take for granted. Neither of them is likely to brand as criminal every gay male under the age of twenty-one. Neither of them is going to outlaw the 'medical' tortures being inflicted on gay people in some of our psychiatric hospitals, to put an end to police harassment of gays, to allow gay people to be as free to advertise a lonely heart as anyone else. Neither of them is going to give state recognition to gay marriages. In short, neither of the large political parties is going to admit their complicity in our oppression.

Mr Heath would like us to believe that this election is solely to decide who rules Britain - him or the NUM. But, as a gay, I already know who rules. What Mr Heath is really telling us is that in his view, this election is being fought to determine which group of male heterosexuals are to be voted in to mess



Food prices have risen by 53% since the Tories came to power in 1970. Then a loaf cost 9p - today it costs 15p. FISH has gone up 192%, MEAT 81%, CHEESE 72%, FLOUR 76%, BACON 55%, BUTTER 35%. RICKETS - a malnutrition disease rarely seen in Britain since the Great Depression - 1930 - is reappearing amongst school children in working class areas. The Tories did away with school milk. YET the food chains are enjoying record profits - Tesco £10.4m 1973, SAINSBURYS £6.9m 1973.

The DEMOCRAT RAT

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU BUGGARS ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT - YOU CAN ELECT ME EVERY FIVE YEARS



The Voice comments:

Discrimination against homosexuals is one of a whole series of oppressions built into the way we live now. Blacks, women, children - all have good cause to protest that they suffer from inequality, from restrictions on opportunity and choice. In our present society, there is a hierarchy of repression. The most fundamental, the one that affects us all is ECONOMIC. We are all affected by a drop in the standard of living, and this all the more so when the only thing that dominates all economic and many other relations is Profit, PROFIT, PROFIT.

STRAIGHT ELECTION

up our lives. Naturally, Mr Heath, being a male chauvinist amongst male chauvinists assumes that it is men who are to govern; it is the lot of women to be governed and of fags to keep quiet. It does not occur to him that women and gay men disdain his paternalism, that we prefer to make decisions for ourselves.

At this election, I, a gay man have no real choice. If I am to use my vote at all, I must choose between my oppressors. I can if I am mad or perversely masochistic, vote Conservative, but that would be a vote of surrender. To vote for the party which delayed even the timid Wolfenden legislation for ten of thirteen better years, to vote for the very people who had IT busted, and introduced the Obscene Publications Bill - that would indeed be to say I love my torturers. The Labour Party, at least, is under some sort of moral obligation to listen, if nothing else, to the pleas of gay organisations. But, once again, I will be cap in hand to the male hetero, asking his grudging tolerance that I may live rather than just exist in his society.

Attitudes in the 'straight' left will have to change substantially before the dictating proletariat gives even a liberal damn what happens to gay people. As for the liberals themselves, I remember the sell-out of 1967. It is the freedom to be myself all of the time, not a part of the time, in private, behind a bolted door, that I am fighting for. Liberal, you offer me only a more comfortable closet, I despise you. So how does one vote gay in a straight election. Gay brothers, gay sisters, there is only one way. Write "I vote gay" on your ballot paper. Let them know there are two million people in this country who have had enough of their parliamentary democracy.

ELECTION...

WHY ARE YOU VOTING?

So, the much vaunted 'crisis' election is with us at last. We are being asked to choose between two groups of men, to 'run the country, and 'get us out of the mess'

that three years of Tory misrule has got us into. All the politicians are 'talking about 'moderation' and the 'need' to elect a strong government.

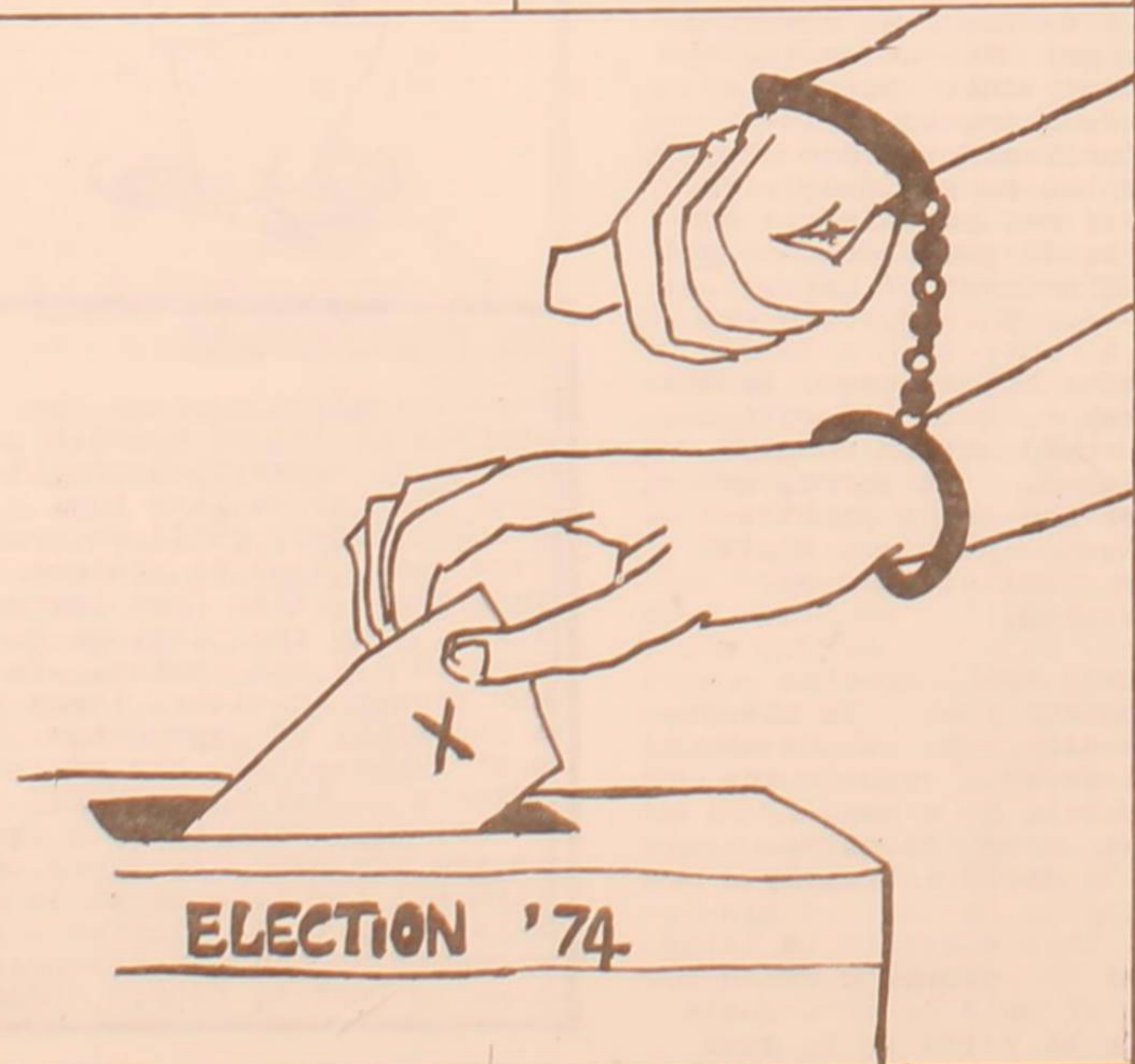
mous rise in trade in the futures market caused by investors and speculators buying goods now to sell at a later date at much increased prices. World prices in the various products offered for sale in the futures market are mostly determined by the prices being paid in this market. Over the last few months nearly all these products have doubled in price due to speculation. It can be seen from this that rising world prices are actually caused by speculation in our own Stock Exchange. Have any of the politicians or political parties said they will do anything about this speculation? Of course not. They have only just decided to do something about property speculators after years of protest and pressure from the general public.

What democracy? So don't vote for anyone in this election. If a government gets elected on only a very small vote, they can't possibly claim to ruling with the consent of the majority and the whole black comedy and governmental system will be seen to be what IT really IS.

delegated democracy

They tell us we live in a democracy, but democracy means the people rule themselves through delegates. This very fact makes our elections a farce. No-one could possibly pretend that any government that is elected, will govern according to the wish of the people. They will run the country to suit themselves and their own positions, whatever it costs the common people. A vote in this election is a vote to continue a rule of exploitation and oppression. There is a reasonable alternative: to make a conscious decision not to vote, and work towards an equal society. The miners are showing the way. We have pickets at Shoreham harbour to prevent coal being delivered to Southwick power station. All the seamen on the coal barges, the crane drivers, the power station stokers, are backing the miners in their struggle to obtain a decent standard of living in the face of very rapidly rising prices. Neither Amery and the Tories, or Hobden and the Labour Party are advocating that companies make no profit for a while to help the economy, but they all talk about maximum wage increase levels. They have to allow us to have a certain amount of wage increases so that we

can afford the constantly rising prices that are imposed on us to keep profit levels at their present record levels. Remember, Amery and Bowden and the other Tories back Ted's line of rising world prices causing most of our problems. In the Guardian on Wed. 13th February there was a small article on what is called the 'Futures market'. This is a part of the Stock Exchange in London where companies buy materials that they will need at a future date such as copper, tin, cocoa, sugar etc. According to the Guardian article there has recently been an enor-



Flapdoodle ROUNDUP Kleenexit?

A quick check round the Brighton Supermarkets shows that the British Housewife has curious priorities in these times of crisis and threatened world shortages. You might think we'd all be stocking up on flour, rice, sugar and salt fish - you'd be wrong folks - the one commodity which is almost unobtainable is LAVATORY PAPER - hard or soft - all stores report panic buying of bag rolls. Maybe all those unsold 'back copies' of 'Brighton Voice' are going to come in useful after all...

"Food prices have risen 50% in 2 1/2 years."
From The Grocer.

Why weren't any teachers told that MR TIMOTHY RAISON (M.P., under-secretary of State for Education and Science) - was opening up 3 schools in Brighton on JAN 25th? Because Boszy Burton (Chairman of Education Committee) was worried that a few teachers might demonstrate. Said Counc. Burton "Ministers are getting rather fed up with being bothered by car strikers, banners and protesters so we decided not to announce the visit" The Voice would like to tell Counc. Burton that Teachers are getting rather fed up with ministers visiting Brighton to see the show-schools. Why not take them on a trip to Whitehawk secondary or the 116 year old St Andrews C of E school in George Street?

SPOT THE FACE



The National Front has decided to put up a candidate in Hove at the General Election. Here he is, Mr. Ted Budden of 82 Tamworth Rd., Hove. Mr. Budden hit the headlines some years ago in Lewes when he appeared in court, there accused on inciting racial hatred. He was acquitted.

Mr. Budden advocates compulsory repatriation, he says this is what the British people want. Immigration says Mr. Budden is 'part of the wanton destruction of Britain'.

Mr. Budden is 47.

OUR PARK



Luke age 7

There are lots of things that spoil the park, like mud and dogs mess, and sometime there are rough boys. And sometimes the boys make fun of you and call you names. And when you play on the grass you get all dogs mess over your shoes. And sometimes when you sit on a seat you get all birds mess over your clothes.

NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE

COUNCIL FRANCIS TONKS (Prospective Parliamentary Labour Candidate for Brighton Pavilion) says: 'LABOUR GOES INTO THIS ELECTION WITH NEW AND RADICAL POLICIES' - yeah? Right On Tonka...

NICHOLAS HOOGSTATEN (Millionaire, landlord) - was remanded in custody until Feb 7th on charges involving the eviction of a Brighton family. He is accused of criminal damage at a house in Vere road.

DEREK BRYAN, Chairman S.A.C.U. to talk on CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY. Sat. 23 March. 7.30 p.m. Friends Centre, Ship Street, BRIGHTON. Admission free. SOCIETY FOR ANGLICAN-CHINESE UNDERSTANDING.

THE SAD TALE of Mrs Renee Sutton Chadborn Close who thought she'd bought a toilet brush - let the Argus take up the story:-

MISTAKE
Realising she had paid £4.65 for a china container when what she really wanted was a brush to clean her toilet, Mrs Sutton got very hot under the collar. 'It's absolutely ridiculous' she said. 'It's the brush that's most important'. Argus 31 Jan

NEW JUDGMENT EVICTS 4 SQUATTERS

FIRST USE

NEW JUDGMENT EVICTS BRIGHTON SQUATTERS.

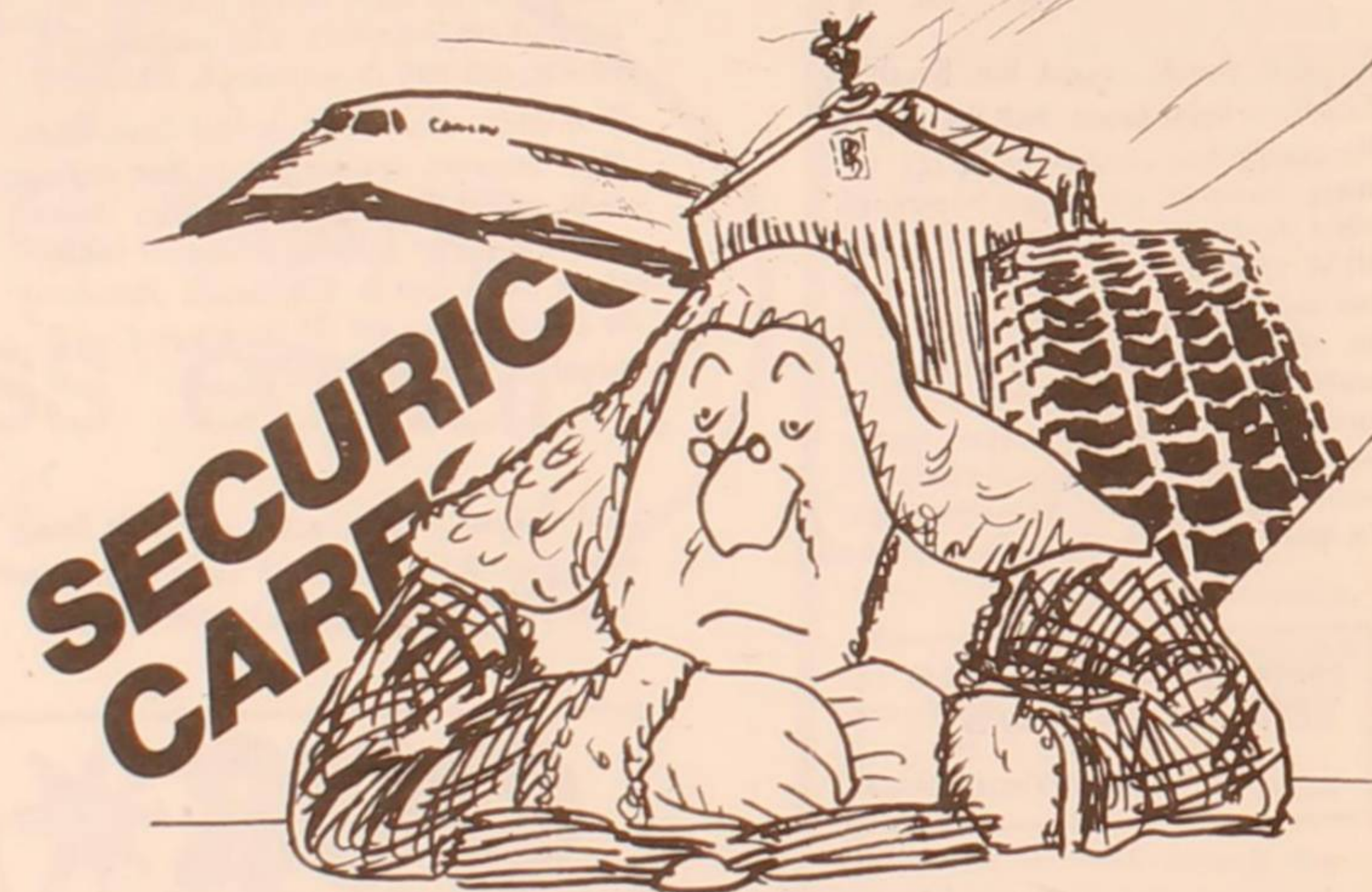
The first ever use in Brighton of a recent ruling on squatting may make attempts by the homeless to occupy some of Brighton's 2,000 empty properties increasingly difficult. Two weeks ago three squatters in a property in South Avenue, Queens Park were evicted by the owners without the use of a court order. The house in question had been standing speculatively empty for several years and was regularly used by dossers.

The police had earlier called and accepted that the three were squatters rather than casual trespassers. Until May 24th 1973 this would mean that anyone breaking in to evict them would be guilty of the offence of forcible entry - contrary to the famous Statute of 1381. For some time this was used by squatters to deter the bands of thugs often sent by owners, as well as the police. The owners had to go to the County Court for a 'possession order', which would allow them to legally evict the squatters from their homes.

Appeal Case.

But in 1973 two groups of squatters, one in Bristol and one in Islington decided to challenge the possession orders issued against them, in the Court of Appeal. They did not absolutely challenge the orders but asked for them to be suspended for four weeks, say, so that they might find new homes. The case came before Lord Denning, also known as the Master of the Rolls, who turned the entire case right round against the squatters.

He ruled that squatters could never be the legal occupants of a house, that they could never be 'in possession of it'. From henceforth they would be legal nonentities and could be put out of their homes like so much old furniture. In



..... Its the principles of justice that matter most.

Denning's words, the owner could 'go in himself and turn them out'. He was not obliged to go to the court to obtain possession against squatters, in any circumstances. So far from granting stay of execution of a possession order, the Court of Appeal ruled that an order was not even necessary.

Homelessness Irrelevant.

There was also to be no way of defending the squatter: 'He might say that he was homeless, or that the house or land was standing empty. That plea is of no avail in law'. In other words property was to be restored to its tantamount position in the legal system, lest a wrong be done. Perhaps the 1381 Statute should be regarded as a lucky legacy from the past, and its demise at the hands of the propertied class should have been anticipated. Naturally the injustice and violence done by the 7:84 society - 7% of the population own 84% of all property - matters nothing to Lord Denning's 'first principles of justice'.

So far the effects of this judgement have not been widespread. According to BIT, the London information service, most councils still prefer to obtain possession orders in the normal way before evicting

as this makes the possibility of violence less. Private owners are not always aware of the judgement, and so may act in the same way. This cannot of course last for ever. And it seems that in Brighton the police will make it their business to see that owners do know of this provision.

Police Attitudes

The police, as amoral Guardians of the Law, are always concerned that things are 'done properly'. At this time, Hoogstraten's thugs are in custody on assault charges following a violent eviction in Vere Road - a case promoted by the Brighton branch of the NCCL.

If the police encounter people who have moved into an empty house and can clearly show by furniture, family around them or what they say that they are genuinely living there, they should not and are unlikely to be disturbed. If they look as if they are casual trespassers, the police might consider that moving them on would be 'in the execution of their duty'. As the recent case shows however they will accept squatters as such, and will not personally interfere. If they tried to evict some one who was clearly squatting, the squatter would be entitled to use reasonable force to resist.

Moving into a sealed property is always a problem in squatting, and it is sometimes necessary to slip locks or similar. It is certain that if a squatter were observed breaking a window or door to get in, he would be arrested for criminal damage or breaking and entering. Once he is in, if no damage is done, it would be hard for the police to prove forcible entry. In summary, the police are most likely to be sympathetic if 'no criminal law has been broken in effecting the squat'.

Brighton Future

The new law may strangle at the outset any attempt to demonstrate against the outrage of thousands of empty homes while 1400 wait on the housing list and others struggle by in slums. For squatters it means a regression of several years to hiding behind the barricades to stay put, in private property at least. Brighton council have not yet shown their hand in the light of the new judgement. Perhaps a test case will come.

AND SOME MORE SQUATTERS

COUNCIL INCOMPETENCE!

On the 4th February, 3 groups from Lewes and 4 households from Newhaven were in court. All had been squatting in East Sussex County Council property:-

"They tried to sue us for mesne profits (back rent) but they made a complete hash of the legal mechanics of this and did the same in two cases for possession orders. So although they got possession orders in five cases, two were thrown out on technicalities. It was quite a victory in a way(?) as the five got 'undertakings' for rehousing; whether these will have any effect has still to be seen. But, above all, what are they doing the rest of the hundreds of people living in squalid overcrowded conditions, or out on the streets? The answer - NOTHING!"

"Their much vaunted £25000 has been swallowed up by 8 houses to be renovated, and even these are being held up by wrangles between ESCC and Lewes Borough Council. And if you walk round Lewes, you will still see scores of

empty houses. Does the council think its got its priorities right in spending its funds on ineffective useless court cases against squatters who are its responsibility anyway. The defence lawyer on the two unsuccessful possession cases was awarded £30 costs against the council for this waste of time."

"Its still the same old story - speculation, empty houses, council incompetence, and homelessness."

Voice Comment

Why is East Sussex County Council so counterproductive? - something to do with this 'rule of law' that seems so important these days?

If you are seriously interested in squatting in Brighton District please contact:-

Jon Gray
c/o 31B Franklin Rd
BRIGHTON.

DON'T LET THEM SELL WHITEHAWK

WHERE WILL ALL THE FAMILIES ON WHITEHAWK GO?

The Council claims it will accommodate all tenants on Whitehawk. But only a fight will prevent the existing families being squashed into jerry-built flats that are more like barracks than homes, without gardens. The Council claims it will grant disturbance allowances (no more than £30 a house if THEY can get away with it).

CHANGING THE NAME OF THE NAME OF THE GAME

The Tory Council's Whitehawk plan remains unchanged. A large central area is to cease being publicly owned. It is irrelevant whether the new owners are property developers or housing associations. The point is that a lot of houses and flats are planned and they will be beyond the pockets of working class families. You can change the name of the game but the game remains the same. It is NOT council property that is to be built.

THE MARINA

The adventure playground for the rich means that Brighton must absorb a whole new collection of yacht-owning snobs. Furnished accommodation will empty as flats are converted for these parasites. Competition for scarcer accommodation will increase. Privately rented flats will rocket even more in price and the Council waiting list will grow longer. But the Council will do nothing if we let them get away with it. This is what Tory politics is all about in spite of all their slimy talking. You should think about this before you vote. YOUR action IS important.

WIN A WEEK'S RENT!

THE BRIGHTON FURNISHED TENANTS ASSOCIATION IS RUNNING A COMPETITION WITH 2 PRIZES. ONE FOR THE PERSON WHO SENDS IN THE LONGEST LIST OF EMPTY HOUSES IN BRIGHTON; AND ONE FOR THE PERSON WHO FINDS THE HOUSE WHICH HAS BEEN STANDING EMPTY FOR LONGEST IN BRIGHTON.

ANY RELEVANT DETAILS WHICH CAN BE FOUND OUT ABOUT THESE HOUSES, E.G. NINE AND ADDRESS OF THE LANDLORD, WHETHER ANY APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ETC. WILL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION BY THE JUDGES, WHOSE DECISION WILL BE FINAL.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SEND IN YOUR LIST OF HOUSES (YOU CAN ENTER BOTH CATEGORIES OF THE COMPETITION) TOGETHER WITH YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO:

COMPETITION,
BRIGHTON VOICES,
111, GLOUCESTER RD.,
BRIGHTON.

B.F.T.A. MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS COMPETITION, THE CLOSING DATE FOR WHICH IS 31st MARCH 1974.

OR AS THE RENT EXCESSION FIGURE



COME AND FIRE MISSILES.

A GREAT CAREER IS JUST ROUND THE CORNER.

LETTER OF THE MONTH

I'm a visitor to Brighton for a couple of days and was pleasantly surprised to come across a lot of nice people gathered together to demonstrate a point. The point being a Mr. Tidy in particular and speculators in general. As was explained to me Mr. Tidy had bought the site in 1967 ostentatiously to develop it and the price was £3000 and he has now sold it for £24,000 to a company he owns or directs. Dubious?

I don't live in Brighton, but hope you can manage the expose of all such people, and not only in Brighton but wherever you come across them -

Peace and Love,

Stan

OAP'S HOME

I had no idea of life in old people's homes before working in one. Not that I particularly wanted to work there but I needed some money and this was the only necessary qualification. I started before Christmas.

Ten out of eighty old people went to spend Christmas with friends or relatives. The rest had paper hats and decorations. Well, you may think that's alright, their beds are made, their meals served, their baths supervised. But where has all the laughter gone, the joy, the pleasure?

Well, you say, they have television. Yes they do have books as well. They are permitted to dream of pleasures they will never experience again. Yes they have a garden where they have benches and a 'keep quiet' to comfort them.

You say they are old - no-one can do anything, but you won't admit that the home is like a preparation for the grave. Squeezed like lemons, to the last drop, for their long and loyal services, then - into the dustbin, sorry, old people's home. Only the withering mind is left of their former lives. Yes, it's embarrassing; it's embarrassing to us who in turn are giving our long and loyal services.

Economically old people are useless - the solution is shove them in a home. There they get the necessary attention, and it keeps them off the streets. Today, if you want to be listened to, to be loved, you've got to be productive and prove it. That's why we pay attention to children, make excuses for them, teach them and stick the old up in the attic. You can not consume or sell the memories, joy and pain of an old person. They are put in a home to whiten the conscience of the system and in order that those who have taken their place, and are looking forward to earlier retirements, are not discouraged.

MOULESCOOMBE ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

The playground consists of several wooden structures, towers, swings, pull pulleys etc and most of the activities are centred around these things. Other activities which we undertake include football, trips out in our minibuses, games and just talking with playleaders and each other. Kids also build their own camps and fires etc. To include other people in the community we organise Bingo sessions, dances coach trips for parents, barbecues and holiday camps.

The development of the playground depends largely

on whether or not a decent playcentre (indoor area) is built. If it is then the playground can become very much more of a meeting place where people can develop, discover things and generally feel they have a place which is theirs. The playground is an ideal base for community work through the kids, parents are contacted and a common interest in them and the project can bring about a lot of ongoing activity. Playleaders can also be a very useful link with other more formal branches of social

UPPER NORTH STREET RESIDENTS GROUP - action group against heavy traffic in the street resulting from the Council's piecemeal traffic management whereby traffic now excluded from Western Road during the day is now diverted to a narrow residential and trading street. Contact Robert Gregory at 97 Upper North St. (26749)

BRIGHTON

COMMUNITY

SAVE BRIGHTON STATION CAMPAIGN.

Our aim is to secure the rejection of the present vandalistic money-making plans for the station site in favour of a more humane policy that takes into account the needs and wishes of the people of Brighton.

We need to find out more precisely what the people of Brighton would like to see on this site and envisage perhaps a mobile exhibition, meetings and canvassing of local opinion.

In planning matters we feel the councillors should consult the wishes of the people affected. People must in the present situation, organise themselves to make their views known.

For further information contact: Henrietta Dombey, 46, Park Crescent.

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY

Formed to conserve and improve the character and amenities of Brighton and to deal with proposals, such as the demolition of the Station, transportation problems which affect the whole - also to watch planning applications in all areas of town, esp. those without their own amenity society - to arrange meetings for members to try and prevent a new Brighton created out of stereotyped concrete disasters

THE 'VOICE' BELIEVES IN COMMUNITY ACTION, AND WE WANT TO ADVERTISE ANY SOCIETIES AND GROUPS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE ORGANIZING THEMSELVES AGAINST THE POWERS-THAT-BE. WE HOPE, EACH MONTH, TO FEATURE SEVERAL SUCH SOCIETIES. IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE WORK OF YOUR GROUP PROMOTED, SEND US THE INFORMATION AND WE'LL PRINT IT.

THE FRIENDS CENTRE

Adult Education Centre : meeting place for community groups.

In providing classes for people out of work, and in hoping to play an increasingly experimental role - taking education to the community - we hope to overcome the institutionalisation of the building. At the same time, there is at the Friends a real sense of community for many of Brighton's elderly citizens: we provide a focal point.

Friends see it as crucial that links are forged with other community groups so that the kind of back-up admin. services that may be provided at the Centre can be used to the full.

Friends, as a voluntary body, can encourage Local Authority provision and especially in relation to problems connected with age - there is a reservoir of people willing to help but it needs direction.

Contact Alan Tuckett at the Friends Centre, Ship St. (27835)

THE WHOLE EARTH GROUP.

This group takes as its philosophy 'man is what he eats' and as such we want to encourage and promote the growing and eating of vegetables. We think there should be a complete cycle from the growing and gathering of food to its cooking and preserving with the non-edible parts used in brewing, dyeing, weaving and medicine and the remainder returned to the soil as compost or recycled. The Whole Earth Group is split into a number of sub groups each specializing in a certain area. So far there are the following sub groups: Organic Gardening, Allotments, Wild Food Gathering, Cooking, Jams and Pickles, Brewing and Wine Making, Waste and Recycling, Knitting, Weaving, Medicine,

Each of these groups is headed by someone who is responsible for encouraging interest in that subject for those who want to know more. Each group promotes

activities. He or she does not set themselves up as an expert in that subject but just as someone who is interested, and who is also a contact person for the group. We hope as the small groups expand we can rotate the 'chairman'. The Whole Earth Group is at present based at the crypt at the University, but we hope as activities expand, to hold them in people's homes and at Open (7 Victoria Rd, Brighton.). At present there are regular meetings in the Crypt but there will be a meeting at Open on **TUESDAY 26th FEB** at 7p.m. for anyone who wants to know more. At Open and at the Crypt you can find the list of contact addresses and notices of meetings. We hope to write regular features on each sub group in The Voice. So far we've written about allotments, next month Waste and Recycling. Horace.

ACTION SOCIETIES

PRIOR HOUSE.

Prior house is a 2½ storied building in the Carlton Hill area of Brighton. It used to be the Brighton Girls Club but since it was modernised 2½ yrs. ago the centre workers have tried to establish it as a neighbourhood Youth and Community Centre. First, the different youth clubs were developed attracting young people from the surrounding flats and council houses, aged from 6-18. We tried to adopt an accepting unassuming atmosphere, which allowed each age group to organise itself. We opted for creative art-based activities, to counter the sports-orientated Boys Club, to offer alternatives. Our lack of structure has caused several crises, but we manage to carry on and attract a lot of help from a wide range of sources, knowing now that individual and group behaviour is enormously erratic, but needs continuous support and encouragement. Rejection is a weapon to be used sparingly. Use of the building started in July 1973, with meetings of local, interested people. We aim for a comprehensive ideal which excludes no interested person, but is based on our neighbourhood. This is not easy.

The Fier Ward/Carlton Hill area has a great mix of people. Gradually a group has emerged to run the playground and with financial help from the University's 'Link Up' it got off the ground. By Friday 25th Feb it will be working five mornings a week. The mothers and toddlers group also emerged from local contacts, and Parents without Partners and the Working Association of Mothers came together in Prior House to run their much expanded Sunday Club. We run a senior citizens social club on Tuesday afternoons and a junior drama and puppet work shop is starting on Sat. mornings from 16 Feb.

It seems that prior house has a warm, welcoming atmosphere, in which people feel free to organise themselves supported by the full-time workers. There is still room for lots of development. Ideas crop up frequently - information and advice service, basic literacy and legal education classes, playgroup courses, truancy centre - all we need is people ready to try and make them work. **SO MAKE CONTACT!** Carolyn Sivers. Tel: 681925

community graphic



Urgent: anybody interested in setting up a free crèche contact S. Carr-Hill, 27 Florence Road 500698

Posters 12½ x 18" from your artwork (same size or we can enlarge) from £10 a thousand (one colour) or £16 a thousand (2 colours). Quick delivery + any other printing. Come + see us at Printing Outfit / 2 Gloucester st

phone 684266.

If you have any info which should be publicised send it to the Voice.

INFO PAGE

PRIOR HOUSE: Carlton Hill, B'ton, youth club, nursery group, parents without partners etc.
CLASSES FOR UNEMPLOYED: on civil rights, women's lib, etc. Thurs. afternoons. Contact 'Friends' Centre. (27835). film shows too.

"HANDS OFF WHITEHAWK": Campaign by East Brighton Action Committee to prevent Whitehawk being sold for private redevelopment. Contact Mr. G. Andrews, 8 Twineham Road. Phone: 687715.