

## ... PAPERS

\***EDUCAT** Local teacher and education magazine; 42 Egremont Pl. 680258.

\***QUEENSPARK** Paper for the Queens Park area. 14 Toronto Terr, B'ton.

\***SQUATTERS HANDBOOK** Available from 2 St Pauls Rd, London N1, or Open Cafe. 10p + postage.

\***WHOLE EARTH** Alternative technology, organic living, local environmental action. 20p from 11 George St, B'ton. 691318.

\***WRAG QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER** available from Womens Centre, 174 Thorndean Rd, B'ton; 50p for 2 issues.

## SHOPS

\***B'TON WORKERS BOOKSHOP** Marxist-Leninist classics and working class history. 9.30-5.30 Sats; 37 Gloucester Rd, B'ton. 684404.

\***INFINITY FOODS** Macro-biotic and organic food and vegetables. 9.30-5.30 Mon-Sat (not Weds); 25 North Rd, B'ton. 63563.  
**INFINITY BULK BUYING** 10.00-1.00, 2.00-5.00, Thurs-Sat; 3 Westbourne Gdns, Hove.

\***OPEN CAFE** Cheap vegetarian food. 11.00-8.00 daily (till 11.00 Frys and Sats); 7 Victoria Rd, B'ton. 27878.

\***PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKSHOP** More than just another bookshop - books, mags, records, coffee. Also 'Basement' events.

Member of the Fed. of Alternative bookshops. 10.15-6.00, Mon-Sat. 21 Little Preston St, B'ton. 28357.

\***SIMPLE SUPPLIES** Whole food, cast iron, jar and paper recycling scheme, publications, etc; Whole Earth Environmental Centre. 11 George St, B'ton. 691318.

\***SUNRISE RESTAURANT** Wholefood vegetarian. Run by Friends of the Western Buddhist Order. 12.00-5.00, Tues-Sat; 16 North Rd, B'ton. 63188.

\***SURVIVAL** Basic foods - grains, beans, etc. 10.00-1.00, 2.15-5.30 Mon-Sat (not Weds pm); 10 Station Rd, Lewes.

\***SYMPOSIUM BOOKSHOP** is moving; check location by ringing B'ton 28142.



\***THREE ROOMS CAFE** Vegetarian cafe. 10.00-3.00, Mon-Sat. 14 Blatchington Rd, Hove. 779933.

\***WIND HORSE BOOKSHOP** Buddhist literature and info; incense, posters, cards, etc. 10.00-5.30, Mon-Sat; 19 George St.

## ADVICE

\***AGE CONCERN** Old people's welfare. Mon-Fri 10.00-12.30 & 2.00-4.00, 57 Ditchling Rd, B'ton 683275

\***BIT-BY-BIT** Info and help service; 7 Victoria Rd, B'ton. 27878.

\***B'TON PREGNANCY ADVISORY SERVICE** Pregnancy testing, counselling, abortions,

vasectomies; Wistons, 138 Dyke Rd. 509726.

\***B'TON RIGHTS CENTRE** Advice on legal problems. Free, confidential service by the Centre's workers and solicitors. 12.30-2.00 & 5.30-7.30 at 2 Prince Albert St.

\***CANCER PREVENTION** 29801

\***CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU** B'ton: 17 Ditchling Rise, 61664, 10.00-4.00 Mon-Fri, 6.00-7.30 Tues; 2 St Georges Place 10.00-12.00 Mon-Fri. Hove: Town Hall (Tisbury Rd), 734811, 10.00-4.00 Mon-Fri.

\***FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC** B'ton: 18/19 Western Rd, 734258. Lewes: 4403. Also University Health Centre.

\***FREE VET (PDSA)** 6 Oxford St, B'ton, 63606; open daily except Thurs and Sat afternoons.

\***GAY SWITCHBOARD** Info and advice 27878, 8.00-10.00 every night.

\***HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE** (Council) 9.00-4.30, Mon-Fri, 73 Grand Parade, B'ton. 681919.

\***ICEBREAKERS** Gay counselling; 7.30-10.00, Fri and Sat, 202930.

\***OFF THE RECORD** Help and info for young people; free and confidential. Call in or phone 8.00pm-10.00pm, Tues-Thurs, 6 Marlborough Pl, B'ton. 63080.

\***RENT TRIBUNAL** Rent disputes, security of tenure, etc; 137 Preston Rd. 506381.

\***SAMARITANS** For those in despair 733333 24 hours; 102 Clarendon Rd, Hove.

**TOBIAS STORES:** 167 Elm Grove.  
**TILLSON'S:** 68 Preston Rd.  
**CONSTABLE'S:** 37 New England Rd.

\***KEMPTOWN**  
**BOOKS:** 80B St James St.  
**WINDHORSE BOOKSHOP** 19 George St.  
**KEMPTOWN BOOKS:** 91 St George's Rd.  
**SIMPLE SUPPLIES:** 11 George St.

\***FALMER**  
**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.**  
**UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP:** Main Counter  
**HILL'S NEWSAGENTS.**  
**WHOLE EARTH BOOKSTALL.**

\***LEWES**  
**CLIFFE BOOKSHOP:** Cliffe High St.  
**SURVIVAL:** 10 Station St.

\***VOLUNTARY SERVICE CENTRE** 17 Ditchling Rise, B'ton, 681919.

\***WOMEN'S AID** Refuge for battered women; contact Women's Centre 27612.

\***WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTION GROUP** Temporary contacts Gina 737791 or the Women's Centre 27612.

## POLITICS

\***ANARCHIST WORKERS ASSOC** 689897

\***COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRITAIN (MARXIST-LENINIST)** Meets every other Weds, 37 Gloucester Rd, B'ton. 684404.

\***COMMUNIST PARTY OF GT. BRITAIN ('The' Communist Party)** M. Chaplin, 83 Edburton Ave, B'ton.

\***CO-OPERATIVE PARTY** B'ton: 86 London Rd 683076 Hove: Jean Cattell, 29 Foredown Drive, Portslade.

\***FABIAN SOCIETY** Dot Voller, 49 Southdown Ave. 556185.

\***INTERNATIONAL MARXIST GROUP** 687783

\***INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS** 19 Elm Grove, B'ton.

\***LABOUR PARTY** B'ton: 179 Lewes Rd. 62592 Sec Marylyn Hill, 22 Port Hall Pl, B'ton. 557704. Hove: 40 Cowper St. Sec Jean Cattell, 29 Foredown Drive, Portslade. Lewes: 3 North St. 4312

\***LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS** B'ton: Pat Byrne, 64 Coleman St, or 61559. Hove: Mark Morton, 64 Victoria Rd, Portslade 417843.

\***LIBERAL PARTY** B'ton Pavilion: Frances Hix, 143a Western Rd, B'ton. 27960. B'ton Kemptown: Alan Horner, 3 Lustrells Vale, Saltdean. 38532. Hove: Ruth Davison, 286 Hangleton Way, Hove. 738425.  
**YOUNG LIBERALS** Robert Eggleston, 56 Valley Drive B'ton. 507403

\***REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST GROUP** Gareth Jones, c/o Arts D Post-graduate Pigeon-holes, Sussex University.

## BRIGHTON VOICE

Dec. 76 10p

## United Attack on Criminal Trespass bill

## Brighton Labour supports Squatters

## Unions refuse to take part in evictions

Labour in Brighton is fighting back against the Criminal Trespass Bill. In a series of declarations over the past few weeks the local Labour party and a number of Trade Unions have declared themselves hostile to the bill. SEE PAGE THREE.



## THE BIG SELL-OUT

The Labour Government is to rush the Criminal Trespass Bill through this session of Parliament. It is deliberately publicising it as a bill 'to control squatting'. This is how it was presented in the queen's speech. But in reality it aims to suppress any direct action on private property e.g. factory occupations, college and university sit-ins, demos in the council chamber etc.etc. For any of these you will be liable to fine or imprisonment for criminal trespass. And what's worse the police will be given all the necessary powers to move in and arrest anyone involved in this kind of direct political action.

This is the big sell-out to the propertied classes and the capitalist establishment which we have come to expect from this government. If you've got Callaghan, Healey and Rees for friends who needs the lunatic Right for enemies?

## Bank spies on Public House



## inside

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11-12	INFO

A strange and disturbing story appears inside on page 5. It is the story of an amateur but threatening cloak-and-dagger inquiry carried out by Midland Bank against the Public House bookshop in Little Preston Street. All those who bank with the Midland should read it, because who knows who will be next. And all those who do not bank with the Midland should read it because Public House had nothing to do with the Midland at all. The whole thing is strange and disturbing... see page 5.

## VOICE SELLERS

\***CENTRAL BRIGHTON**  
**ANANDA:** 19 Bond St.  
**ECCOTT'S:** 52 Surrey St.  
**INFINITY:** 25 North Rd.  
**OPEN CAFE:** 7 Victoria Rd.  
**CHURCHILL SQ:** News Stand.  
**SYMPOSIUM BOOKS:** Wherever they are.  
**LONDON RD:** News Stand (Sainsburys).

\***WEST BRIGHTON & HOVE**  
**CORDELLS:** 99 Western Rd, Hove,  
**PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKS:** 21 Little Preston St.  
**THREE ROOMS CAFE:** 14 Blatchington Rd, Hove.

\***NORTH BRIGHTON**  
**FRANKLINS:** 93 Preston Drive.  
**SCHOFIELD'S:** 44 Lewes Rd.



# Brighton and Hove Claimants Union

Brighton and Hove Claimants Union is now alive and well and meeting regularly at the Trades and Labour Club (Room 6), 16 Lewes Road, Brighton, on Wednesday evenings at 8.00.

The Union is made up of people on social security and unemployment benefit who have joined together to help each other and to fight collectively for the interests of all claimants.

We recognise that the most vulnerable people - school leavers, pensioners, the less skilled, the disabled, the sick, single parents, etc. - are hit the hardest by the rising unemployment and public expenditure cuts. However, we urge everyone on social security or unemployment benefit to organise with the Claimants Union to defend themselves and to begin to fight back.

Unemployment in Brighton and Hove has been rising rapidly over the past two years. The latest figures (August) show that 6,055 people are signing on as available for work in the town, while 686 vacancies remain unfilled, most of them for skilled or professional people.

In fact, a study carried out by Prior House recently, on unemployment in the Brighton area, revealed that Brighton should be classified as a depressed area.

While workers like those of Clarks Bakery suddenly find themselves in the dole queue, the Tory Shadow Secretary of Social Services Patrick Jenkin talks of "the scandal of those people who are scrounging off the state by living on social security benefits." We are fed up with being used as scapegoats for the economic crisis, while at the same time being forced to fight for the right to live.

If you find yourself in this situation then join one of the fastest growing unions in the country. If you come along to our meetings you will find that there are four main aspects of Claimants Union work:-

- 1) Fighting Claims - at the Labour Exchange, the social security offices, appeals tribunals, etc. We have been going to the SS offices to help people on the spot. We also offer advice at our weekly meetings.
- 2) Agitation - distributing leaflets and literature, and, in the future, organising demonstrations, rallies, etc.

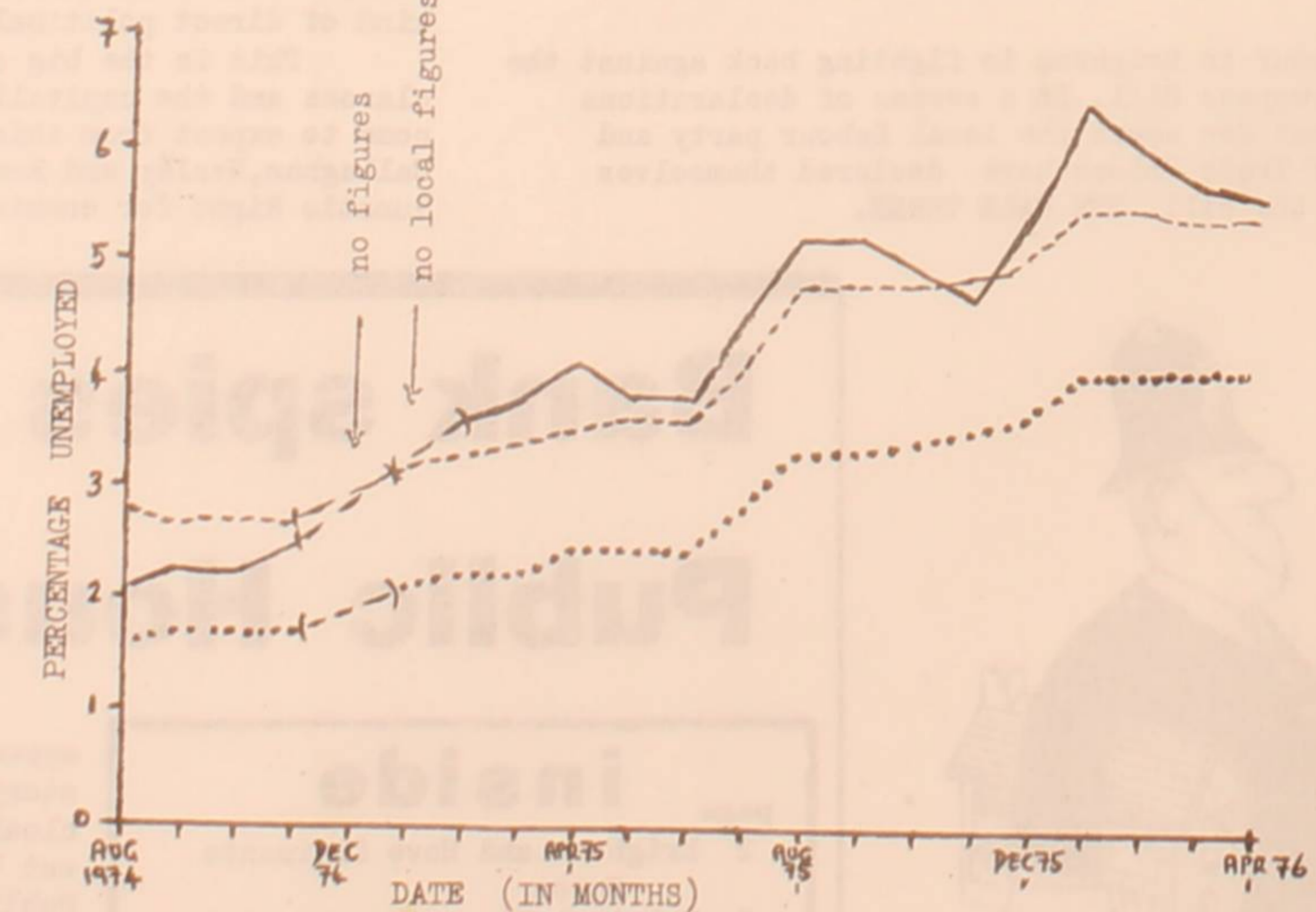
3) Other Unions - We believe in the unity of working people with or without jobs, and have therefore made contact with other unions, in particular the Civil and Public Servants Association (the union of the DHSS workers). We believe that the interests of claimants and workers are the same, in that both are fighting for the control of their lives.

4) Social - We get much support from each other through meeting regularly, discussing problems and generally helping each other out. If any single parents wish to join, we could try to organise a baby-sitting rota.

At our weekly meetings decisions are made collectively by the members present. Together we pool our knowledge, ideas and experience to advise people on particular claiming problems and to decide on future action. All claimants welcome.



UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS SINCE AUGUST 1974



— Brighton area : Average unemployed Aug 74 to April 76...	4.26%
--- Great Britain : " " " " " "	4.09%
..... South East Region " " " " " "	2.81%

( Sources ; Various Dep't of Employment Gazettes )

# CRIMINAL TRESPASS: THE CRUNCH FIGHTING BACK



## CACTL

The Brighton group of the Campaign Against a Criminal Trespass Law is to escalate its 'Kill the Bill' struggle.

Following the successful public meeting in the Labour Club on November 30, Brighton CACTL, in conjunction the Squatters Union and the Student Union, are to launch a Publicity Offensive, leafletting 10,000 Brighton homes around Christmas-time. This will be followed by meetings in community centres to explain the effects of the new law on trade unionists and the homeless.

The group will also press the local Labour Party to act on its resolution in support of the campaign (see foot of previous column). Evidence will be presented to the Labour Party's inquiry into the housing situation (see below).

These activities are preparatory for the national Week of Action and demonstration in Feb.

## LABOUR PARTY

As the Labour Govt seeks powers to stop Britain's growing squatting movement, Brighton Labour Party has given its tacit support to local squatters.

At the November meeting of the General Management Committee of the Party the following motion was passed almost unanimously:

"This GMC condemns the action of the Tory Council at the Buxton Road squat. We believe that squatters do a public service in highlighting the housing problem and should be given support by the Labour Party against attacks from the Council, the police and hired gangs.

This GMC therefore resolves to hold a meeting with a view to organising an inquiry into the housing situation in Brighton, and to invite trade unions, the Squatters Union, tenants associations, Shelter and Brighton Rights Centre to that meeting." The proposer of the motion, Pete Mason, said that the Labour Party should support squatting as an attack on the "bankruptcy of Tory housing policies" which are becoming a very important issue for Brighton's working class movement.

Redmond O'Neill (Montpelier Ward) said that delegates worried too much about attacks from the Tories for giving support to squatting, and that in the Labour Party there is confusion as to why squatting occurs. It was, he believed, a response to capitalistic and bureaucratic management of housing which did not respond to real housing need.

In conclusion, Cllr Ian McGill stated that the squatters had done a service to the public by opening up the housing debate. The Labour Party, he felt, must continue this debate and make up its own mind.

Brighton and Hove Squatters Union issued a press statement immediately after the debate welcoming the support from the Labour Party and promising co-operation for the inquiry.

"Squatters are ordinary people who are fighting for better housing. As the already serious housing crisis worsens, more and more working-class people will have no choice but to join us. The Labour Party and the Squatters Union should fight together to obtain decent housing for all."

## UNIONS

The General and Municipal Workers Union has declared that the duties of its members working for Brighton Council do not include bailiff work, which they might be called upon to perform under a Criminal Trespass law.

This follows the use of Council employees to smash up a squatted house in Buxton Road while the squatters were out.

Under a Criminal Trespass law this sort of street violence would become very common, and the GMWU's declaration, supported by a similar statement by a NUPE spokesman, will cause considerable upset amongst the local representatives of the ruling class in Brighton.

If more unions refuse to carry out the basic functions of a Criminal Trespass law then the government might have to shelve the proposal for fear of not being able to implement it.

The Labour Government is to rush the Criminal Trespass Law through this session of Parliament, aiming to have it on the statute book by February, 1977.

The new law is contained in the Criminal Justice Bill and its provisions are almost identical to those proposed in the Law Commissioners Report of March, 1976.

If the Bill goes through it will mean that occupations - at work, at college, of empty houses, of public buildings - would face widespread police intervention and disruption; the occupiers would face arrest and imprisonment.

A few examples of what the law would mean: at the beginning of a factory occupation the occupiers would face arrest for 'violence for securing entry' - no violence need actually occur, since outnumbering the opposition is enough to constitute the offence; squatters could automatically be evicted forcibly and without a court order, if they didn't happen to be in at the time; peaceful occupations of embassies as a protest would become a crime.

Direct action is a vital tactic in workplace, community and student struggles. The Bill would make it criminal.

The 350 delegates (including 15 from Brighton) at the CACTL National Conference at the end of November declared unanimous opposition to the proposed law and called for a national Week of Action, culminating in a demonstration in London on February 19.

The campaign against the law is rapidly gathering strength in Brighton, with a measure of this being the following motion, adopted at the October meeting of the Brighton Labour Party GMC:

"We believe that the Criminal Trespass Law represents an immediate danger to the Labour Movement and would make many factory occupations illegal and give the police the power to arrest without a warrant and evict not only squatters but workers occupying factories and on picket lines, and students occupying colleges. We believe that trade union branches should be made aware of the Bill, and call upon the Labour Party to campaign against it."

# WOMEN'S CENTRE MOVE

The Women's Centre has moved back into the middle of Brighton and is now operating from a room in the Resources Centre in the Presbyterian Church Hall at the top of North Road.

We are open 10.00-1.00 Monday to Friday, and Wednesday evenings from 6.30-8.30. Our telephone number is still 27612, but post should be sent c/o 5 Luorraft Road, Brighton.

We left Cllr. Ms M.A. Beaumont's flat in Thorndean Road, Moulsecoomb, where we spent the summer because we were becoming increasingly aware of the limitations of being based in a residential estate on the outskirts of town. Women who would previously have called in

pending our finding a new building in the centre of town. As this process is taking much longer than we expected, we decided to make the move back into town, despite the fact that the Resource Centre cannot offer us permanent accommodation.

We can use our room there for a provisional period of four weeks, so our situation is still very insecure, and we are continuing our search for adequate premises in central Brighton.

Our minimum requirements are two rooms and toilet, with kitchen

facilities if possible, and a low rent. If anyone knows of a suitable place could they please get in touch.

Now that we are back in central Brighton we hope that women will start dropping in on a casual basis again, as well as with specific problems, or for free pregnancy testing.

The Women's Centre Playgroup is also based at the Resources Centre, and is open 9.30-12.30 Monday-Friday. A Mothers and Toddlers Group meets there on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30-3.30.



for support while passing could no longer do so, and consequently our scope has been severely restricted. Moving to Thorndean Road was, in any case, a temporary measure,

## save paper

Instead of throwing your newspapers and magazines into the dustbin why not save them and help save:

- 1) Trees - it takes 17 trees to make a ton of paper;
- 2) Rubbish - it makes for lighter dustbins and less rubbish tipped on the countryside;
- 3) Foreign exchange - wood pulp for paper has to be imported;
- 4) Money - for community and charity projects.

Start saving now, then separate the newspaper from the magazines and tie each into bundles and take them to your recycling collection. Whole Earth Group's Centre, 10 George St, Brighton, is a good place (they will collect if you have a pile more than four feet high; ring 691318).

Better still, why not organise a street collection and take the spoils to Southern Rag and Metals Depot at Bridge Wharf, Brighton Road, Shoreham (tel Shoreham 61525) who pay £14 a ton for it. They may even collect it if you have a large enough quantity.

So start saving today - you know it makes sense.

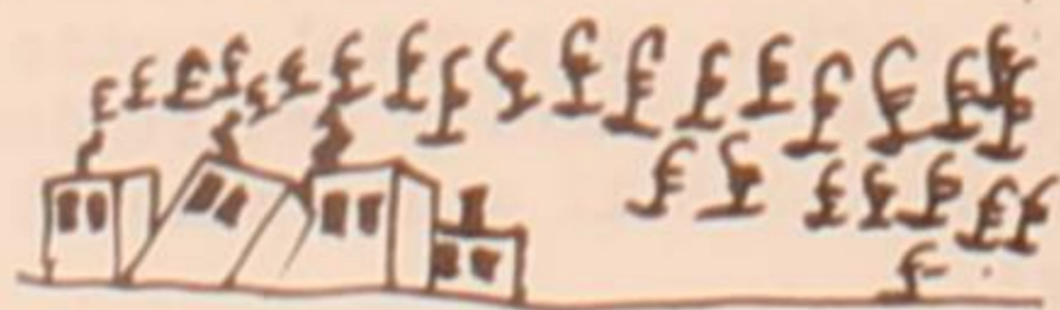
# COUNTY COUNCIL GIFTS TO BRIGHTON HOTELIERS

Over a year ago, the Voice revealed the scandal of hotel landlords making fortunes out of the homeless (Issue 25). We suggested three ways that the Council could improve things:

1. by making more council houses available for temporary accommodation.
2. by buying up some of the hotels and converting them into hostels.
3. by compulsorily purchasing some of the innumerable empty flats and houses we see around us.

Since then nothing has been done and nothing has changed, except for a further deterioration in the situation. The Social Services Dept. which provides Brighton and the other local Housing Departments with the cash to enable landlords to get rich, has just agreed to cough up another £21,000 - in addition to the £49,000 originally provided - to keep the tills ringing merrily until the end of the financial year.

The money will have to be transferred from other services provided by Social Services which means even less cash available than the savagely slashed budget agreed earlier this year. Not content with cutting back in all quarters (and raising charges on the services still remaining) the County Council is now giving away our hard-earned money to the hotel owners - not a notably underprivileged group.



It is up to the Social Services Dept. to make sure that our money is properly spent; nobody objects to helping those with nowhere to live, but we do not believe that people should make profits out of suffering and misfortune - and even less that they should be encouraged to do so by Brighton and East Sussex Councils.

### APOLOGY

J. PARSONS & SONS LTD.

Regarding the reference to the above Company in our last issue, in the article: 'White Elephant Takes Shower', we apologise for our erroneous statement that they were responsible for the construction of the building at 10-11 Pavilion Parade, Brighton, rather than the internal fitting out.

We therefore withdraw any allegations or suggestions that Parsons & Sons Ltd. are responsible for the faults referred to.



# BIG BANKER IS WATCHING YOU

The PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKSHOP in Little Preston Street has become the rather unlikely object of the attentions of the Midland Bank. Recent attempts (clumsy to put it mildly) by the bank to investigate the political nature of the shop and its customers have come to light, following the eccentric behaviour of one of their clerks this summer.

The staff at the Public House remember seeing, sometime in August, a young man in pin stripes wandering around the shop. This was a fairly memorable sight in a shop which stocks a wide range of alternative books and does not usually attract many so obviously non-alternative browsers. A few days later the young man was seen talking to other shopkeepers in the area, saying to them that the Public House were going to open an account at the Midland Bank, and inquiring about the kinds of people frequenting the shop, the kinds of books stocked and, most importantly, asking if their literature was 'subversive'.

Sure enough someone acting as oddly as that was bound to attract attention. The row broke when the Public House found out about the questioning, and, knowing that they had never had any financial dealings with the Bank, they realised that there was something very underhand going on. The young man's story of a new account had to be either a cover-up or evidence of a possible fraud attempt by 'persons unknown'.

The next step was for the Public House to tackle the Brighton Manager of Midland Bank, Mr Williams, about the undercover mission. At first he refused to comment on the affair. But having had time to contact his head office he ADMITTED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED ORDERS TO CARRY OUT THE INVESTIGATION FROM THE MIDLAND'S CHIEF INSPECTORS OFFICE in London, and the orders were clear, TO INVESTIGATE THE NATURE AND ACTIVITIES OF THE PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKSHOP. The official reason/justification was that Public House had been named in an article criticizing the Midland Bank's involvement in South Africa. More vaguely still, the connection came down to no more than a mention of the Public House in a magazine where such an article had appeared.

The Bank did not appear to find it necessary to admit the nature of the dirty work, even to its own staff. Paul Barnett, detective clerk for the Midland Bank, like the rest of the staff was told that the probings were a background check on a prospective client. It then emerged that the Chief Inspectors Office had ordered the political investigation under cover of a phoney application for an account.

Even the tenuous story of a South African article may not be true. Apart from the fact that the Public House have no knowledge of any such magazine article, there is the coincidence that the Brighton Branch of the National Council for Civil Liberties had a letter from the Midland Bank at the same time and that their mailing address for the Southern Region is none other than that of the Public House. The NCCL were dealing with a complaint from an ex-convict alleging misappropriation of money from his account at the Midland Bank while he was inside.

The NCCL case appears to be of no specific political importance but it could certainly prove to be embarrassing for the Bank. Could there not be some link between it and the investigation ordered by the Bank into Public House? If so, the NCCL probably have a bigger case than they realised.

But the implications of the Public House investigation are perhaps more important than the case itself. It was, after all a petty and amateur attempt by a large financial organisation to probe a rather small bookshop. Yet several points are raised by it:

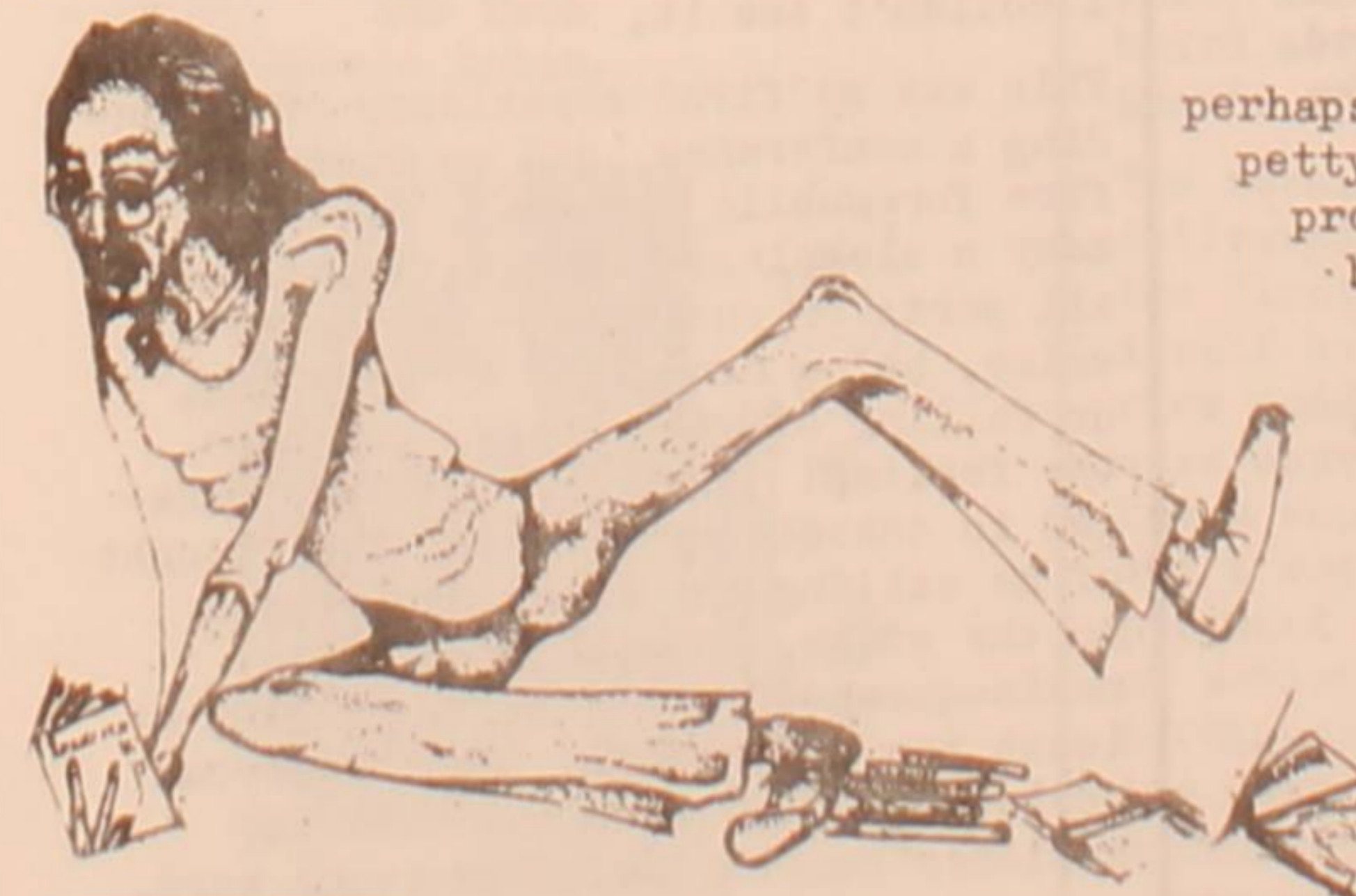
- i. Financial organisations obviously feel entitled to carry out political investigations.
- ii. The lack of alarm from the staff of the Midland when their cover was blown suggests that this kind of behaviour is a common occurrence.
- And iii. What is being done with all this information on groups and individuals of possible opposition?



Young Man in pinstripes.



Bank Manager in pinstripes.



Chief Inspector.



Behind it all?

# Council Attacked by Judge for Leaving Houses Empty

Since last January Nos.13/14 Pelham Square have been kept empty. That is until 3 Nov. when Brighton and Hove Squatters Union occupied No.13 as a protest against the Council's continuing wastage of its housing stock.

13/14 originally belonged to a housing trust and were rented out to tenants. 2½ years ago, contrary to a clause in the deeds of the properties which stated that they should be sold on the open market, they were sold to the Council direct. The old tenants remained until the beginning of this year when they were given a week's notice to quit. The Council rehoused them and gave them a sum of money not adjacent to £500. Then houses in Gloucester Street which backs on to Pelham Square were cleared leaving a large empty area crying out to be used for the homeless of Brighton.

There was then a plan for a short term reception centre for problem (?) families to be built in Gloucester St. with 13/14 Pelham Square to be used as offices for the social workers who would have staffed the centre. Dr Abrahams, a local resident and sociologist, objected to this idea of creating yet another ghetto for problem (?) families in Brighton and argued that they would benefit more by being spread throughout the borough. Whatever the reason the plan was dropped. Gloucester Street was then scheduled for renovation by the end of the summer. The squatting of one of the houses for a few days was used as an excuse



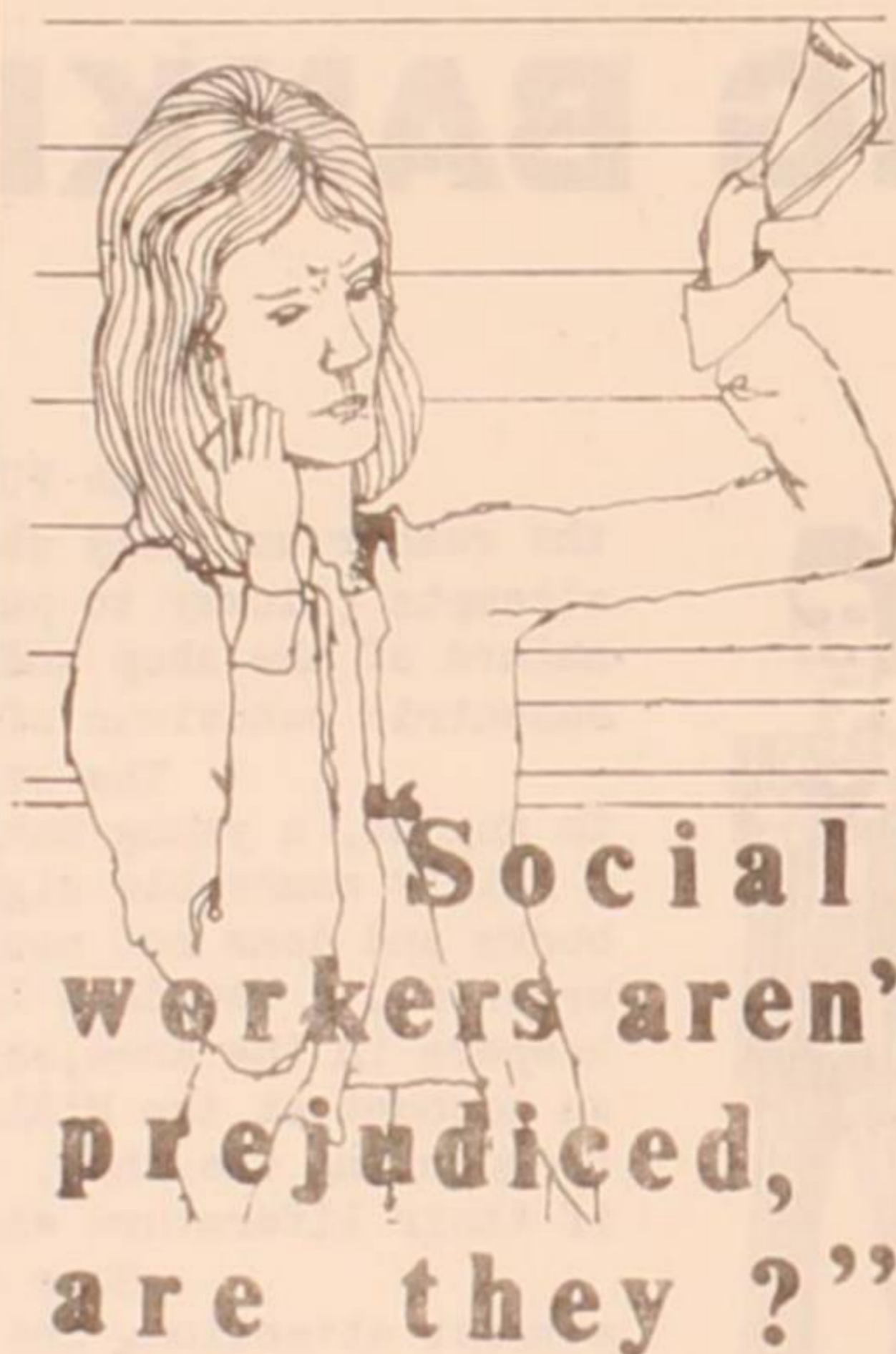
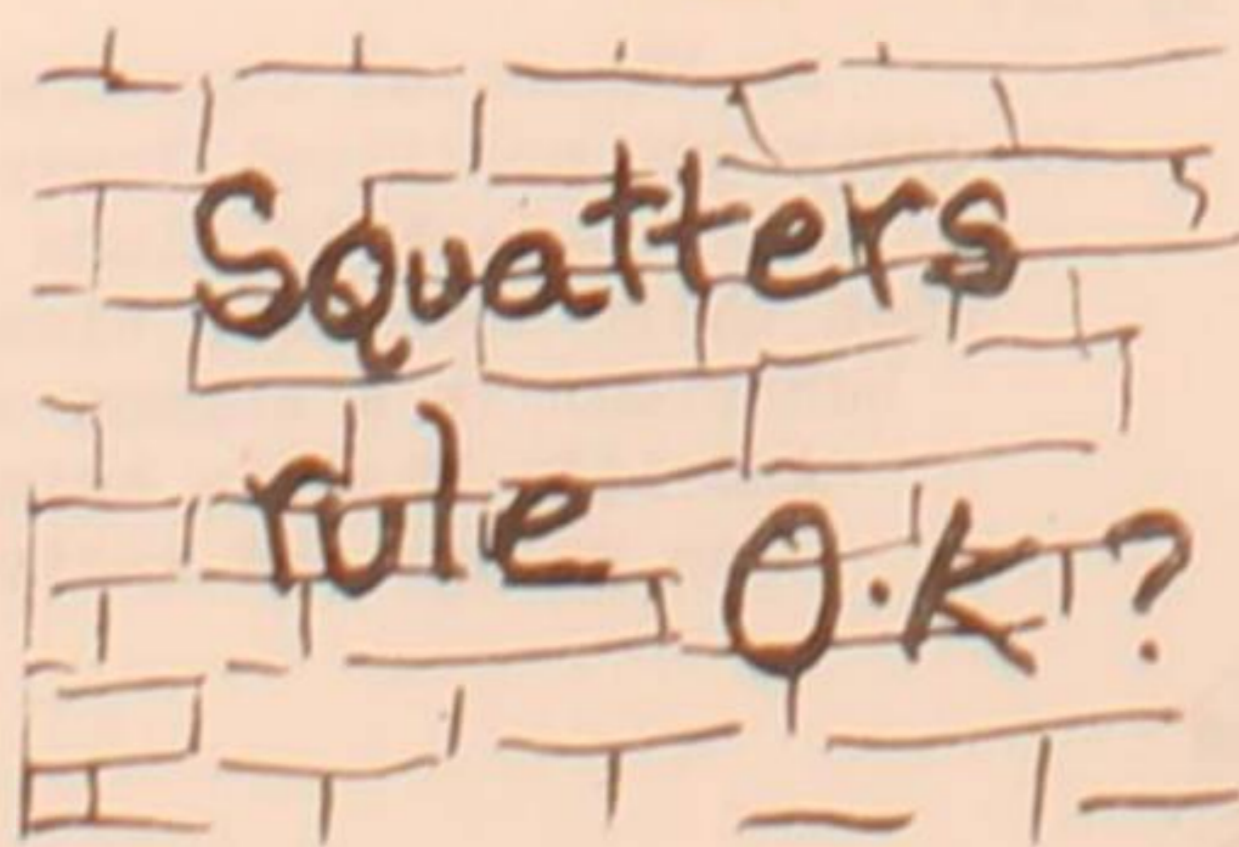
to nail up and make these properties squatter-proof, delaying the work further.

Since then an eerie silence has descended over the whole issue. No one knows anything. Wally May, Brighton's notoriously successful housing manager, appears to have decided to put 13/14 Pelham Square onto the open market. Perhaps the profit will go into the Council's renovation fund. (The Rolls Royce perhaps) Mr Fines say they will now be let as Council stock. Who knows ?/

What IS certain is that the Council have NOT USED 13/14 Pelham Square to house homeless families as they ought to have done. And this was the point made strongly by the Squatters Union on 24 November when they appeared in court to contest an eviction order served on No.13. The judge, Justice Wingate gave the Council an immediate possession order and awarded costs against the squatters BUT, IN HIS CONCLUDING REMARKS, HE IMPLICITLY ATTACKED THE COUNCIL FOR LEAVING HOUSES EMPTY.

With a strong tone of sarcasm Justice Wingate said 'Be it far from me to advise the Housing Department how to do its job...' and then he said that an investigation was needed into why these houses are left empty by the Council when there are people only too ready to pay rent and rates for them and to look after them.

This attack on the Council's housing policy from the heart of the courtroom signifies an important moral victory for the squatters. They may have been ordered to leave, but their case for the homeless of Brighton has been heard and upheld.



**"Social workers aren't prejudiced, are they?"**

"Evenings spent sitting and talking quietly together, after the hard day's work... a Jacobean banquet..." so read the programme for the British Association of Social Workers Annual Conference in Edinburgh last year. Their theme was "Decision making in Social Work".

I had decided to table a motion at the conference to gain recognition for sexual minorities. This involved collecting fifty signatures and finding a seconder for my motion, - a most interesting task, for many of the people approached were somewhat perplexed that I should be asking their support for such a thing, when, of course, gay people are accepted! Why then is there a need for it to be spelt out? One woman epitomised the approach of a cornered liberal, who frantically searching my face for reassurance, and finding none, blurted out, "...but social workers aren't prejudiced are they?" From others one could almost hear the sweetly incanted response, "But what about the Children".

At one point there was an attempt at some wheeler dealing, as one Assistant Director assured me in concerned and suitably pained tones that "...anyway, you are all covered under the existing umbrella anti-discriminatory clause." It must have been written in invisible ink - I couldn't see it.

This was my first experience of attending a conference, and my baptism of fire for public speaking. I had many a sleepless night as I imagined all sorts of ructions - losing my voice, being convulsed by giggling, or falling off the stage, you know the feeling! However, I always managed to console myself with the thought of me calling the tune, striding up to the stage, a swish of dignity, media-queen-of-the-moment, pausing at least ten minutes for the thunderous applause to subside, and then the audience hanging on to my every word.

CONTD. ON OPPOSITE PAGE →

## Women Against Fascism



AN OPEN LETTER TO THE LICENSEE OF THE MARLBOROUGH HOTEL, BRIGHTON

9 November 1976

Dear Mr. Scanlon,

The Brighton Women's Liberation Group has decided to withdraw its custom from the Marlborough.

We have made this decision because we understand that the room in which we meet is also used regularly by the National Front.

Neo-Fascist organisations such as the National Front threaten everything that feminism stands for, and we feel that we no longer wish to support an establishment which provides meeting space for such organisations.

If at any time the National Front ceases to use your premises, we shall, of course, re-consider our decision.

Yours sincerely,

Brighton Women's Liberation

## ... Soc. Wkrs...

CONTD. FROM OPPOSITE

It was not quite like that.

In the long hours spent before the mirror pursing my lips making my 'ows' sound like 'oos', delivering my monologue in truly Hancock style, I had not reckoned to do battle with a mike. It was somewhat unfortunate that the previous speaker though ably assisted by platform shoes was under five feet tall. When I reached the microphone I found it only came up to my nipples, and in my hot flush of stage fright I did not think of raising it. So there I was, looking like the hunchback of Notre Dame, somewhat less than dignified, knees knocking, providing wash-board accompaniment to my wobbling Adam's apple.

The result was that my speech was delivered in true beat-the-clock style; the first and last words were clarity itself but the middle was rather like rice pudding. The spontaneous applause convinced me we were home and dry but a show of hands proved inconclusive and a vote count was required. This produced from some quarters a flurry of activity resulting in a rending of cardigans and woolly waistcoats, falling pearls, weeping and gnashing of dentures, as some delegates of all sexes rushed round like galleons in full sail, clutching their voting cards

in their little hot hands. The motion was heavily defeated. I was not surprised.

This year was different. Another town - Nottingham. This time the university campus. A rickety lectern on a few boxes in the gymnasium. I almost felt like an old hand - much more confident. And the solidarity of the Gay Social workers and Probation Officers' Group made the difference. There were six of us and I was walking tall. The whole thing was almost an anti-climax. One minute I was slurping tea and the next minute I was summoned to the front and made my speech, again somewhat like the giving of extreme unction to the dying, only handicapped this time by a falsetto microphone.

Then, rather like a fundamentalist revival, speaker after speaker testified in support of the motion. No one spoke against it. An overwhelming majority of 500 voted for and only 12 against. Yet I feel it was something of a hollow victory. One way of dealing with opposition is to absorb it, and I am not sure how much of the support was genuine, and how much token, still it is a beginning....

Richard Mc.Cance.

## 'Let them eat cake'

On Sunday and Monday 24/25 October 1976, another crime was committed against the honest working class. 300 people at Clark's Bakery in Hove were put out of work. The gates were locked and the staff at this bakery, shopworkers etc. thrown onto the mercy of the D.O.E. and Social Security. After a fight by the Bakers' Union the Staff were able to collect a paltry week's wages only. This was paid out at the Brighton Labour club a week after the lock-out.

As regards redundancy pay, holiday pay etc. the fight still goes on. A test 'unfair dismissal case' is to be held in the Industrial Tribunal Court as soon as possible. There was no industrial dispute. No notice of impending closure.

The directors of this company, John Bentley and Leon Keene were able to cut off the livelihood of 300 innocent people at the turn of a key. THIS IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

I ask every man and woman whether working or not, to show their disapproval by taking non-cooperative action in every industry in this country. We must not become unpaid lackeys of the state. I ask every young person to campaign for a showing of silent and insubordinate contempt towards every form of authority. I ask that every worker take action to ensure that every human has a decent home, a decent job and food to eat. I also wish for 'better times'. I am appalled by the unconcern shown by local stalwarts of the British Empire, Bowden, Amery and Sainsbury.

Sam Tuck  
Bakers Union.



## council 'no'to alternative George St. plan

Mr Ken Pines, chief Planning officer for Brighton, has requested the withdrawal, or long term deferment, of the housing plan for George Street. If the applicant, the Save George Street Committee does not either withdraw or agree deferment Mr Pines will recommend refusal on the grounds of prematurity, when the planning committee meet to discuss this application on December 14th.

This request is the same as that put to developers Green Elms when they wanted to build a supermarket on the same site. The reason behind the request is the fact that George Street lies in action area 3. of the draft central area plan, an area for which is proposed: "The improvement of existing residential property and redevelop-ment of other parts of the area where appropriate to provide for new housing, shopping and car parking facilities."

"It would be premature to give this housing scheme the go-ahead before the Central Area Plan has been fully discussed", say the planners. A spokesman for the Save George St. Committee stated that they had "no intention whatsoever" of withdrawing their plan. They felt that their plan, reproduced in the last issue of the Voice, fitted in well with the existing townscape and with the Central Area Plan. They hoped to obtain from the planning committee a favourable reaction to their proposals which would assist their discussions with possible developers for the site.

The draft central area district plan is on view for public comment at the Planning Department, 83 North Street, Brighton, from where a free summary may also be obtained.

Squatters' Union  
&  
C.A.C.T.L.  
A BENEFIT BOP  
Disco/Group  
Bar  
DECEMBER 15<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm  
Old Refectory  
University of Sussex

## PRIOR APPROVAL

In our last issue we reported on the way in which the Local Authority were exercising naked power in their attempt to wrest control of the successful community venture, Prior House, from the local people and re establish a safe dull conformity.

On the 23rd November a public meeting was held to set up a properly constituted community association. This is intended to be a body through which the local residents and the users of Prior House can negotiate with Education Authority officials, with more formal standing than the ad-hoc group of representatives from the last public meeting who were so arrogantly spurned by the officials. The Prior House Area Community Association, it is hoped, will in time run the Centre in co-operation with the Local Authority.

The constitution, which, with a few modifications was duly adopted, was drawn up with the help of the Charities Commission and the National Council of Community Associations. It is fairly typical of such documents, but it also has one interesting feature of its own which drew adverse comment from Mr J.P. Kent who was representing the Education authority at the meeting. Instead of giving statutory bodies like the Education authority a set status on the management committee, the proposed constitution for Prior House says that their representatives can only vote as individual members of the Association. Mr Kent found this 'most unusual' and said that the 'normal' thing was for statutory bodies to have half the seats on the management committee. He then went on to advise the meeting of the seriousness of such 'difficult and complicated' things as constitutions and to tell the meeting that it should think very carefully before adopting anything which it would later be difficult to alter.

In spite of this kind and fatherly advice it was absolutely clear that the people of the Prior House Area knew exactly who they want in control of their Centre - AND IT WAS NOT THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY. So the constitution was adopted with the bit Mr Kent disapproved of left intact.

Later in the meeting, during a discussion of the relationship between the Community Association and Prior House, Robin Murray, an active member of the neighbouring Hanover Community Association, made an impassioned plea for the centre to be run on a largely voluntary basis. He described the enormous amount of unpaid labour which had been put into the Hanover Association's centre and described how by tapping local enthusiasm things could be achieved which would be impossible if they were dependent on council money to pay contractors or the deliberations of official sub-committees.

During this speech, Kent was seen to frown and shake his head in silent disapproval. But the meeting overwhelmingly endorsed Robin Murray's view of how the Centre should be run.



It now remains to be seen if the Tory Education machine can be persuaded to support the new Association. There will be much hard bargaining to be done by the newly-elected General Management Committee before the Education authority can be brought to the point where they recognise that the people of the Prior House area have the right - and the creative ability - to control their own centre.

If the people of one centre can run it themselves, then so can others, and if this spreads the mandarins will suddenly find themselves exposed as the superfluous petty officials they are.

ONLY A SOCIETY  
THAT HAS LOST  
ITS SANITY  
WOULD THREATEN  
THE SAFETY AND  
HEALTH OF ALL  
PRESENT AND  
FUTURE  
GENERATIONS.

DO NOT BELIEVE  
THEIR PROMISES  
OF SAFETY.  
OPPOSE EXPANSION  
OF NUCLEAR  
WASTE  
PROCESSING  
AT  
WINDSCALE!

## workers united against nuclear power

Infinity Foods' 20 strong work force are united in their protest against the expansion of nuclear waste processing at Windscale.

They have painted this slogan in the window of their new bakery, they have jointly written to environment minister Peter Shore and they are considering withholding their taxes over the issue.

In busy North Road public opinion generally supports their action. Many people however are not aware of the Windscale issue. - Those that are complain of poor media coverage, a claim which seems to be justified. Infinity's new bakery lies almost opposite the main offices of the Evening Argus, yet not a mention of their heart-felt protest has appeared in the paper.

To behold the daybreak!  
The little light fades the immense and diaphanous shadows,  
The air tastes good to my palate.  
Befts of the moving world at innocent gambols  
Silently rising freshly exuding,  
Scooting obliquely high and low.

Walt Whitman's words from "Song of Myself" convey something of the excitement of a fresh creation that I associate with 'Sunrise', a new wholefood vegetarian restaurant. 'Sunrise' is a new venture for each of the three of us, Sue, Ian and myself, who cook in the restaurant, and is also the first commercial concern of the Friends of the Western Buddhist Order, (F.W.B.O.), a registered charity, under whose auspices we run the restaurant. The F.W.O.B. is currently looking for a larger centre for meditation and yoga classes than it at present has in 18-19 George Street, so any profit made in the restaurant will contribute towards a new centre.



'Sunrise' provides food which is in harmony with the environment; that is, food which does not involve the harming of other living things. For this reason we do not serve fish, meat, eggs or any dairy produce of cows, the latter industry being exploitative of the animals.

We use goat's milk and goat's yoghurt as an alternative source of dairy food, since the production of goat's products is not so highly industrialised as that of dairy cows.

### harmonious veg.

Being in harmony with the environment can also be interpreted as eating that which our surroundings provide. The fruit and vegetables on the menu are mainly locally grown, or at least grown in Gt Britain, and correspond to the appropriate season.

For example, these crisp, cold days we're getting into the winter vegetables which provide the body with the natural means of adjusting to the change in the climate.

Whenever an adequate supply is available we cook with organically grown vegetables, but so far we haven't discovered a regular supply in the Sussex area.

So what can the ravenous customer expect to get to eat? Well, if he/she arrives when we open for lunches (12.00-2.30, Tues-Sat), the following is an example menu to choose from:

### what's cooking?

Pumpkin soup; vegetable crumble, with millet, aduki beans and onion sauce; salad; wild apricots and goat's yoghurt; all for under £1. Plus homebaked cakes, wholewheat bread, teas (including herb teas) and grain coffee to follow.

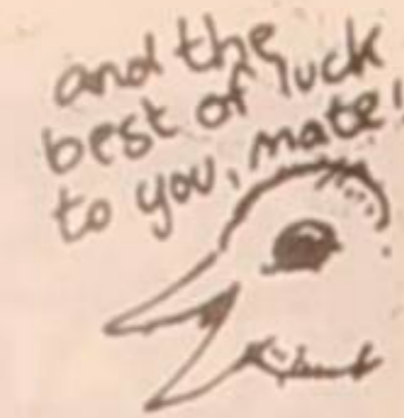
From 2.30-5.00 we continue serving soup and salad, and specialise in a variety of almost 30 herbal teas.

Herbal teas were the everyday beverage in England up until 1885 when dyed tea began to be imported cheaply in bulk from China. Traditionally, herbal teas have many medicinal properties but this doesn't mean that they taste nasty; different herbal teas suit different people, so one has the fun of experimenting and experiencing new pleasurable flavours that are free from tannin or caffeine.

You can find us at 16 North Rd, or phone Brighton 63188.

(Dawn Inkster)

# YOUR RIGHTS: PART 6



In this penultimate review of the NCCL Fact Sheets on your legal rights, we follow up last issues' examination of Bail with a look at Sureties.

Surety means a sum of money which a friend or relative pledges to the police or the court should the defendant fail to attend his trial. Alternatively the word is used to refer to the person making the pledge.

### As a surety

If you are accepted as a surety you will forfeit an agreed sum of money if the defendant fails to attend his trial. The court will rarely accept less than the full amount although you may be given a short time to find the money. If you don't have the money, you are likely to go to prison instead.

If you have doubts about the defendant and want to stop being a surety;

- a) you must notify the police in writing--take a letter to the police station
- b) the police will then arrest the defendant
- c) after the arrest you will be released as a surety

It is illegal to be paid for acting as a surety or to agree to be reimbursed by any person if the defendant jumps bail.

### How to become a surety

If you wish to bail out anyone held at a police station, go to the station and offer yourself as a surety. Take with you evidence of your financial position.

a) the police may accept you as a surety. You must then sign a Recognisance Form agreeing to forfeit a specified sum of money if the person breaks bail

b) the police may refuse your surety. If they do ask them for a reason. Refusal at the police station does not stop you putting yourself forward at court. Magistrates may accept you as surety in spite of police objections.

### At the Magistrates Court

a) try to get to the court for the first appearance. Take with you evidence of your financial position. Tell the accused's solicitor when you arrive or, if the accused is unrepresented, tell the Clerk of the Court before the case starts that you are there to stand surety.

b) if the magistrates are willing to grant bail 'subject to sureties' you will have to answer questions about your financial position and your willingness to stand as surety. You will have to sign a Recognisance Form before the

accused will be released. If there are likely to be a number of remands before the case is dealt with, ask for your recognisance to be enlarged, that is, made valid for all subsequent remands. Otherwise you must attend court each time the defendant appears and enter into a new recognisance on each occasion.

c) if you are not able to go to court or don't know of the court hearing, you may sign your recognisance at a local police station or magistrates court at any time after the hearing. If your name is given as a possible surety to the police, they must call on you to find out whether you are willing to stand. The police may also tell you whether you are acceptable to them as a surety.

### If the police find you unacceptable

The police have no power to reject you as a surety. They may make recommendations to the magistrates. If the police tell you that you are not acceptable you may still go to the court and apply to be taken as a surety.

### Who may stand as a surety

You must be over 18, have a permanent address and have sufficient funds to cover the amount of the recognisance after payment of all your debts. Sometimes the police have told a surety that he is not acceptable because he is not a householder or has criminal convictions. This does not prevent you from being considered as a surety as it is the magistrate who should make the final decision. The police and magistrates have no right to reject sureties on grounds of their personal character, political opinions, criminal records or sex. But they sometimes do!



A complete set of NCCL Fact Sheets is available for 18p post free from NCCL, 186 Kings Cross Rd WC1X 9DR

Number 8 just out price 20p. On sale throughout Brighton and Lewes.

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Folkin Sussex.

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£1

LAW AND ORDER

DISORDER

Pluto

AVAILABLE FROM THE PUBLIC HOUSE

## info...

## GROUPS GATHERINGS ETC

\*ANTI-APARTHEID GROUP  
Contact Hugh Bayley, c/o Nalgo, 104 Queens Rd, B'ton

\*A.S. NEILL TRUST For alternative education projects 691712.

\*B'TON & HOVE SQUATTERS UNION AND TENANTS ASSOC. Meets 8.30, Tuesdays, at 7 Victoria Rd, B'ton.

\*B'TON & HOVE TRADES COUNCIL Co-ordinating group of local trade unions affiliated to TUC; Keith Orange 688777. B&HTC LABOUR HISTORY PROJECT and LABOUR HISTORY PRESS 179 Lewes Rd, B'ton.

\*B'TON ARTS WORKSHOP Mime, dance, music, community events; Richard 28142 or Penny 689507.

\*B'TON FEDERATION OF TENANTS ASSOCS Secretary, 72 Swanborough Pl, B'ton.

\*B'TON FILM THEATRE 64 North St. 29563. Support your local non-profitmaking cinema.

\*B'TON HOSTEL Soup-run 10.00-11.00 daily under the arches; meals 12.00-2.00 Sundays. Need clothes, food, Help! 686320; 105 Islingword Rd, B'ton.

\*B'TON BUS USERS ACTION GROUP Secretary, 78 Holmes Avenue, Hove. 722596.

\*B'TON LESBIAN GROUP 1st, 3rd & 5th Weds at Fl 1, 9 St Michaels Pl; info from Lee there.

\*B'TON SHORT-LIFE HOUSING ACTION GROUP 2 Prince Albert St. 202492.

\*B'TON SOCIETY Environmental group; Selma Montford, 10 Clermont Rd.

\*B'TON TRADES & LABOUR CLUB Meeting place for trade unionists; 16 Lewes Rd. 61101.

\*BRITAIN/GDR SOCIETY Facts and info on East Germany; 686259.

\*CAMPAIGN AGAINST A CRIMINAL TRESPASS LAW c/o 7 Victoria Rd, B'ton. Watch for developments, especially meetings.

\*CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY Details of regular meetings from 27878 8.00-10.00pm daily. Also CHE Women's Group.

\*CONFERENCE OF SOCIALIST ECONOMISTS Keith Smith, 10 Warleigh Rd, B'ton.

\*FRIENDS CENTRE Meeting place with educational classes; 16 Ship St, B'ton. 27835.

\*FRIENDS OF THE WESTERN BUDDHIST ORDER Meditation, classes, discussion and lectures; 19 George St, B'ton. 693971.

\*GINGERBREAD Self-help and pressure group for one-parent families; 774087

\*MENTAL HEALTH GROUP Bringing psychiatric patients into the community; c/o Open 27878.

\*MOULESCOOME ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND Needs money, materials and help; c/o 67 Centre, off Hodshrove Rd.

\*NATIONAL ABORTION CAMPAIGN Contact Womens Centre.

\*NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES (Sussex Group) 689385 or write c/o Public House, 21 Little Preston St, B'ton.

\*PRIOR HOUSE Youth and Community Centre; many activities, incl open creche; Carlton Hill. 681925.

\*RANK AND FILE Organisation of teachers with NUT. 689113 after 6.00pm.



\*RIGHT TO READ Mrs Prior 29801.

\*RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN Organising trade unionists and the unemployed to fight for the Right to Work; 19 Elm Grove, B'ton. Messages 720891.

\*SOCIALIST ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCES ASSOC 236 The Wrekin, Lindfield, Haywards Heath; Lindfield 3760.

\*SOCIETY FOR ANGLO-CHINESE UNDERSTANDING Daniele Furci, 12 Berkeley Row, Lewes.

\*SUSSEX ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY GROUP c/o 11 George St, B'ton. 691318

\*TRANSPORT 2000 Kevin McNulty, 75 Upper Lewes Rd.

\*WE WANT THE WEST PIER CAMPAIGN John Lloyd, 5 Belle Vue Gdns, B'ton. 28578.

\*WOMEN'S CENTRE Open 10.00-1.00 Mon-Fri and 6.30-8.30 Weds eves at Resources Centre, Presbyterian Church Hall, North Rd. Tel 27612.

\*WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE & FREEDOM 684604.

\*WORKING ASSOC OF MOTHERS Linda Kinsella 55134. Baby sitting, creche, etc.

## PAPERS

\*BRIGHTON FIGHTS BACK Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) pamphlet on the cuts. 10p from 37 Gloucester Rd, B'ton.

\*HAZARDS BULLETIN Health and safety magazine for rank and file trade unionists, published by Science for People Group (give local advice). Dave Albury, Fl 2, 5/6 Western Rd, Hove. 77289.



The Voice Collective Meets every Sunday 8.00pm at Open Cafe, 7 Victoria Rd. All are welcome.

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