

# GUTTER PRESS no5

BOH! THE PEOPLE!  
FILL THEIR MINDS  
WITH FUN-TECH  
DANCE—AND THEY'RE  
HAPPY TO GO TO  
THE WILD!

THE  
BLACK ARCHER  
SEZ:

Let's fire our  
dreams at the  
bullseye of reality  
with the bow of  
revolution.

four Xtra  
pages!

4p



GUTTER PRESS comes to you again - this is No.5 - with, we hope, more local and community news. We are a group of Anarchists; our aim is not to take over any struggle, but to assist if we're asked and to try to spread ideas of self-confidence, mutual aid and co-operation.

We feel that you shouldn't leave it up to the M.P., the union bureaucrat, the councillor, the policeman, to do things for you. These men are unnecessary: what is more, they are instruments of a society where the privileged few lord it over the great majority.

Just take a look at Brighton: we see the Tory-dominated Council acting for the landlords and business-men in the town. Behind the gilt and gingerbread facade of the Pavilion, the Palace Pier, the Regency houses, the illuminations, the parks and gardens, are areas of tatty houses where the working-class population of Brighton live.

The amenities weren't designed for them; they were designed to attract tourists so the bosses can make more money - more PROFIT. None of this gets to the local people - but then they were disinherited a long time ago. Everything in Brighton is designed to benefit the rich, everyone else must live without basic things like adventure playgrounds and good housing and community centres.

But things can be changed. If we start creating alternatives now we can, eventually, make Brighton OUR town. Remember, if you start believing that the struggle is possible, then the struggle becomes actual, and then anything can happen.

So keep on keeping on - and we hope you can get a few useful ideas from the articles in this mag.



# Peoples' Papers ~

Featured in a programme on the alternative press on T.V. recently was the Tuebrook Bugle, a paper run by the people of the slum area of Tuebrook in Liverpool. The local people, realizing they weren't being fairly represented (or even represented at all) in the Establishment press, decided to start their own monthly paper. It's really run by the community, housewives, O.A.P's taking an active part, and it's getting more radical every issue as the local people, with no outside help from political groups, formulate their own ideas about this society.

It's possible to run a community newspaper in other towns, why not here in, for example, Moulsecoomb, - it's fairly simple, much simpler than the authorities try to make it - interested people could club together their money, or raise some in a jumble sale - from there they could hire an electric typewriter and engage the services of an off-set litho printer, or, failing this, duplicate their newspaper.

On a smaller scale, how about your own street? What about bringing out a regular or irregular street-sheet - starting out at first maybe with just you and a neighbour or two in the same street, writing about, for example, rents, landlords, conditions - or whatever you feel like. Greater involvement could gradually be gained, and the participation could build up from one street to two, to five, to a whole small area. Not only would people's views be aired and information passed on, but people would actually be communicating with each other - a community feeling could develop, and with it possible joint schemes for the area. Remember, all you need is a typewriter, some stencils, the loan of a duplicator - they're fairly easy to get access to - and you're away.

## Radio 'Free Brighton'

On from papers to radio - yes, radio.

Take a listen to Radio Brighton, the few hours it's actually on - mostly in the day-time when only housewives can listen - 'Serving Seaford to Worthing' oh really? Does anyone really think that pallid (and putrid) radio station really serves the 300,000 (at least) people in the area it covers? You must be joking! What have we got - 'All About Dogs', 'One Religion', a news programme which is a carbon copy of what the Argus says - and that's what those in power want us to believe. Well, Radio Brighton certainly serves the community well! It is so obviously the mouthpiece of the cultured elite and finally repressive middle-class. Given its set-up, finance and administration it could not be otherwise.

The alternative we suggest is the libertarian one of subscriber radio - a station run, operated and listened to by Brighton people. It takes from 24-40 people to run a BBC local radio station and operation expenditure is about £85,000 per annum. Including capital expenditure the cost comes to £100,000. The biggest capital expenditure here is the programmes themselves - copyright fees, salaries and wages of those involved in the planning, execution and performance of programmes. Next is engineering, then premises, then the bosses themselves.

Now no-one expects Brighton people to raise £85,000 to run a radio station. (It amazes us that the crap Radio Brighton puts on costs so



much) Subscriber Radio in New York costs £50,000 p.a. Radio Free Brighton could operate on £10,000 - one tenth the cost of local B.B.C. radio.

Brighton's population (not including Hove and the rest of the conurbation) is around 159,000. If 5,000 of those agreed with the idea of real community radio and each subscribed £2 for the first year that £10,000 could be raised. Hopefully the following year the number of subscribers would increase and the sub.rates could be lowered. The cost of subscriber radio per week would be 5p.-less than two Arguses

How does one create community radio ? - By talking about those things that concern Brighton people - jobs, unemployment, housing, education, health, social security - and by having community radio run by those people. There are 3,500 unemployed here - why does Circus House bugger these people about ? These people need to be heard.

Operating- Production costs in terms of fees, wages, etc. would be small because of participation by local people - RFB would obviously be non-profit-making. Participation means hi-fi enthusiasts, radio hams and electrical engineers looking after the recording, mixing and editing of tapes and transmission and repairs. Participation means people in all areas of Brighton producing their own programmes with, initially, technical assistance. The more people participating and hearing their own efforts on their own station, the more broadly based and, therefore, successful the station would be.

There would need to be some full-time staff - perhaps 6 at the most, working for the love of radio itself and community radio in particular. Wages would be low - say £15 a week - one full-time technician/engineer, one full-time reporter, two full-time programme co-ordinators, etc. Operating costs would be, per week, wages for the staff, cost of tapes etc. (out of say 50 hours transmission a week, 25 or more would be on tape - a lot of tape, a lot of money). Over the year rent on premises and repairs and renewal of equipment would have to be covered.

Programme Control - This could be the most difficult aspect - the danger to avoid is the establishment of an elite - all subscribers would have an equal say in programme planning and content - full-time workers would also have equal, but no more say.

Content - In depth, on the spot coverage of those things that affect the majority of Brighton people, and open-ended discussion of these topics. Also programmes on, say, the Budget, Immigration Bill, Union Bill, raised National Health charges, etc. Advice programmes - legal, medical, housing, etc. Programmes on sex education, birth control, etc. Direct relays from meetings ranging from a talk at the Cage Bird Society to a teach-in on Ulster. Music - huge scope here - an hour each of pop, underground, reggae, Indian music, blues, jazz, folk

# Subscribe

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classical, live, on the air, music workshops, feed-back and all. A local pub could be featured each week in different areas with their resident groups.

Drama - children could write and perform their own plays; adults could experiment with audio-film - plays on, say, a documentary of local working-class life, using people living locally - the people being written about are also the actors and actresses.

It is utopian to expect 100% active participation. To get 10% active participation would be excellent, but participation takes many forms - just listening is one of them. You cannot congeal 160,000 people into one homogenous unit. But there are more workers than bosses, more badly housed than well housed, more people who have to spend 5 minutes in Tesco's working out the cheapest buy: there are more potential writers and musicians than professionals - It's time these people were heard.

Up and down the country we are seeing the establishment of community papers, community playgrounds, community councils. If we start talking and outlining ideas of how a community radio could work it will, at least, start people thinking. Talk about its possibilities. Spread the word, ideas are stronger than force. They survive prisons, executions, and repressive governments.

#### TOWARDS FREE RADIO BRIGHTON !

## Another Nasty

Exploiter of the Month Award goes to the bosses of the Palace Pier Hotel in Grand Junction Road.

Some staff were laid off in November and not given the bonuses they were expecting. Mr. Harry Potterill, managing director of the firm, said he knew nothing of the promises made to the staff.

This sort of thing happens all the time to hotel and kitchen workers - bad conditions, poor pay and blatant robberies like this one. Only when catering workers join together and fight back can this situation be altered.

We repeat the advice given in a previous GUTTER PRESS to hotel workers -

  
**ORGANISE**



# Wise Council ?

Brighton and Hove Trades Council voted last month to boycott a special council liaison committee, condemning it as an Old Boys' Network. The committee, set up by Lord Cohen (obviously a good socialist with all his money), gave the Trades Council - and Brighton and Hove Chamber of Commerce and Trade - a chance to 'question council officers on council business a few days before the Council meetings.'

Comments passed on the committee by members of the Trades Council were, for example, 'just a bit of window dressing to give them the nice comfortable feeling they are creating participation' - the Trades Council were there as 'poor relations' to hear what was said. 'An excuse for the Chamber of Commerce to have a glass of sherry with the mayor'. It was impossible to raise important issues concerning the working-class.

The Trades Council should have realized all this a long time ago - but then most of them are plodding Labour and Communist hacks bound to the idea of Parliamentary socialism - as if such a thing could exist. Maybe, we can always hope, their illusions of negotiating with the Council will soon be shattered. Involving oneself in Parliament and local councils can only mean being bogged down in a morass; one quickly loses contact with those one is supposed to represent; obviously, being in a well-paid job is also influential, and one is forced to compromise, however committed one was to begin with.

The Trades Council, in our opinion, is far from the aspirations of Brighton workers. Last year it was to be noted at a meeting in the Pavilion on the evening of the nation-wide demonstrations against the Union Bill that there was a great demand from the floor for a General Strike, which was reflected in a very half-hearted way by Trades Council people on the platform. But then, it's a body that's far removed from its original ideas when first formed. Remember the Trades Council supported the plans for the Marina, saying it would bring more money into the town and provide local people with employment - But everyone working on the Marina is from outside Brighton - and the money that will come in when it is finished will go into the pockets of those who always receive it.

The only way ahead is not by talking with Tory Councillors but by direct action in your area. Don't leave it up to others to decide what to do.

Do It Yourself.

# Inhuman Bondage —

How much do they, the police and the authorities, know about us, the Anarchists and libertarians? If you saw Elio Petri's film 'Investigation into a Citizen above suspicion' at the Continentale recently you'll recall the huge observation and information gathering apparatus of phone-tappers, letter-openers, films and computerised files in the basement of the Italian Police H.Q. As the new head of political intelligence was being shown around ('And here we have socialists and communists through to Maoists and Anarchists') a



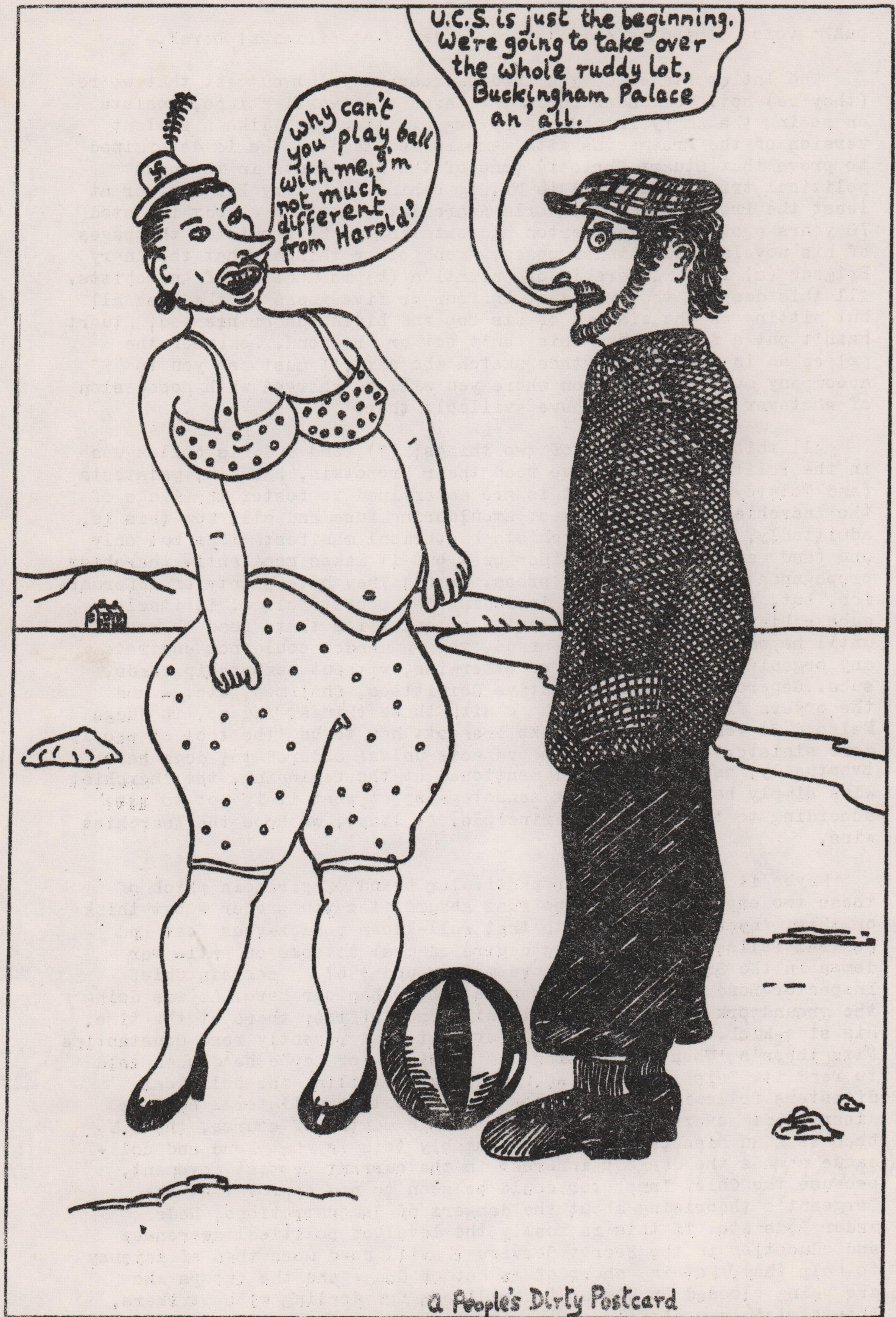
pukka voice behind me said, 'I hope we're that efficient here'.

The latter stages of the Purdie-Prescott Trial suggest that we're (they're) not. Commander Bond, in charge of investigations, insists on seeing the Angry Brigade as an organization much like a violent version of the Freemasons with members and leaders. He is determined to prove that Stuart Christie (one of the defendants in the next political trial coming up) is Mr. Big behind the Angry Brigade, or at least the President of the World Anarchist Council - a body invented 70 years ago by G.K. Chesterton and existing nowhere outside the pages of his novels. All this supposes, among other things, that the Angry Brigade (a) is a membership organization (b) is made up of Anarchists. All this despite the fact that in four or five years of the fuzz all but sitting on the cistern of his bog and hiding under his bed, Stuart hasn't put a foot wrong. This won't bother Mr. Bond. Remember the policeman in the Monty Python sketch who said, 'I must ask you to accompany me to the station where you will be charged with possession of whatever we happen to have available there' ?

All this suggests one of two things; (1) Bond and his colleagues in the Political Police have read their Kropotkin, Bakunin, Malatesta (and Tolstoy) and despite this are determined to foster the image of the Anarchist a la Guy Fawkes, smouldering fuse and all. Now this is, admittedly, one of the Anarchists historical manifestations but only one (and many would say a minor one) but it makes good anti-Anarchist propaganda for Bond and the press. Or (2) They have plenty of information, but, the Police Force, including the Secret Police, is itself such a hierarchical, authoritarian organization that, read Thoreau until he was pig-blue in the face, the Commander could not envisage any organization, political or otherwise, without membership cards, subs., General Councils, Executive Committees, Chairmen, etc. - and the orders from on High which go with these things. And so, in Judge Melford Stevenson's words, Jake Prescott has to be 'the tool of people more sinister'. After all, no one acts unless ordered to, does he ? Eventually, as in the film I mentioned at the beginning, the Anarchist wins simply because the Fuzz cannot grasp at what it is not to live according to the Authority Principle. At least, we hope the Anarchist wins.

Maybe it depends on your particular brand of paranoia which of these two explanations of the fuzz absurdities you prefer - but think on this. Anyone familiar with that well-known rendez-vous West End Central Police Station, nerve centre of most attacks on anti-war demos in the Sixties, might have met, round 1967, a certain Chief Inspector Bond who may well be none other than our hero. He was doing the groundwork as a political intelligence officer there at the time. His side-kick, an argumentative Det. Sgt. had recently read Constantine Fitzgibbon's 'When the Kissing Had To Stop' (or maybe he'd been told to read it. This is an anti-C.N.D. tract detailing the political disasters following the election of a socialist unilateral nuclear disarmament government in Britain. Within months, of course, the P.M. becomes a Russian pawn. Well, presumably this is what Bond and colleague saw as the dangers inherent in the current protest movement, because the Chief Inspector could be seen to nod approval at the Sergeant's theorising about the dangers of demonstrations, Reds under Beds etc. If this is really the level of political awareness and education in the Secret Service they'll need more than efficiency to help them. Nothing short of an act of God - and the troops who are being blooded in Ulster in readiness for dealing with Strikers. They certainly won't win on the level of ideas.







# Dear Dennis . . .

Well done, Councillor Hobden. At the December Council meeting dashing, dumpy Dennis wasted a good three minutes of his limited speech-time on a weak witticism and then, in a fit of peak, led his Labour cronies from the Council Chamber when the nasty people wouldn't let him finish his speech on housing. There, there.

So much for Labour's sense of social responsibility. He didn't bring the gallant band back when the important question of the town's future education system came up. And we are landed with a hotch-potch mixture of High Schools, possible Sixth-Form Colleges and safely entrenched Brighton, Hove and Sussex Grammar. The Labour Group, all because of Dennis's slighted satire, avoided the difficulty of publicly commenting on the scheme which, ditching what remained of any socialist principles, they had decided to support - those of them who had actually taken the trouble to discover what the scheme entailed that is. Now they can claim that on paper at least they have not voted in favour of a scheme which has confirmed for years to come the class structure of education in this town (See 'Black Flame 2'), while their absence not only made the adoption of the scheme certain but ensured there was no public comment on it in the Council Chamber.

No doubt Dennis is a Party hero for getting them out of such a tricky situation.

Right on the people's Party ! Up yours Councillor Hobden !


## Power and Pollution

The River Pollution Survey report recently established Sussex as one of the cleanest counties in Britain. BUT 112 miles of Sussex rivers are of poor quality, and 8 miles are badly polluted, and 3 miles are not supporting fish. This may be good compared to the national average, but it is still appalling. The only way we can stop pollution is not by an Act of Parliament but by the workers themselves taking over and running the factories (or in some cases dismantling the factories) and installations causing this.

Pollution is a direct result of the present system - a system run by the profit motive, where the safety of the human race and the planet is sacrificed by the bosses for the sake of luxury for themselves and drudgery and boredom for us. Only when the people run the means of production and distribution for themselves and are responsible to everyone can pollution be eradicated.

Take over the factories and save the Planet.

'The social question will be decided by molecular processes in the life of the people which bring the tissue of society to a new birth. It will be decided from below, not from above, as an effect of freedom, not by the act of authority.'





# Open and Shut Page

## PEOPLE NOT PSYCHIATRY .....

There are weekly meetings at seven Victoria Road, about eight o'clock every Wednesday. There are some people who got together because they felt that they and others need to talk and work out the situations and states of mind they find themselves in. The meetings are completely informal and unstructured and are open to anybody who needs to talk about something to somebody ..... come along and get it out of your mind.

## FOOD CO-OP .....

The food co-op still functions each Saturday afternoon and at other times when there's work to do ..... and it still needs breaking down into groups that cover a much smaller area ..... there isn't the room to weigh out 80 - 100 or more orders each week ..... but mainly more people are needed to cope with the present situation ..... people to give a little time regularly and transport sometimes ..... why is it that most people just use the co-op but put nothing into it .... it is supposed to be mutual aid after all.

## ACCOMADATION .....

The crash pad service has had its lists bought up to date and unfortunately some places are no longer listed ..... there is a shortage of places in the area, which is a shame .... more offers please and don't worry it's up to you at the time whether you let somebody stay and this is made clear to anybody wanting a crash pad.

## ATTILA .....

Sorry to hear of the demise of that well known local community weekly ..... it will be sadly missed .... really.

## GUTTER PRESS .....

Will try to be a real local newspaper, discussing what is happening in Brighton and the rest of Sussex, but this needs people to write in and let us know what is happening around and about and we need somebody to sell it somewhere regularly and buy it each month ..... the more we get the more you'll get.

## COAL STRIKE THOUGHT .....

When will the electricity start getting cut and what's the betting it's domestic users which go first???

The landlords of Brighton and Hove don't let up do they ..... we are receiving stories of illegal evictions, ridiculously high rents, so called holiday lettings etc. etc. .... keep those stories coming in ..... all the dates, names and all the rest .... we are going to publish as much as possible soon ..... help expose these landlords for the cunts they are.

Brighton Council has 167 empty council houses ..... why ??????????

## PUBLIC MEETING OH YEZ .....

On the 20th of January, the Thursday after next, at the Central Free Church Hall in Queen Sq. about eight o'clock ..... a combined meeting of the anarchist groups working in the local vicinity and anybody else who is interested.

State Murder      STATE MURDER      State Murder .....

Pinelli Murdered ...

Valpreda innocent .....

demonstration outside Italian Embassy on Sunday, 16th, Jan  
march from Speaker's Corner at 2p.m.



# Strikers and the S.S.

(Claimants Union Handbook for Strikers - available from Unicorn Bookshop, Gloucester Road and The Public House, Little Preston Street.)

This booklet is an invaluable asset for anyone who is on strike or likely to be in this position in the future. Together with practical knowledge of how the social security system works the Federation of Claimants Unions combine their experience gained in strikes; notably the Postal Workers strike, to give a clear concise picture of what you can get from the social security and how you get it.

The Claimants Unions take a realistic attitude to strikes. Instead of sloganeering and cliches which are of no help to the striker, they point out the advantages which the boss has - control of the T.V., Press, Government backing, bent T.U. officials, etc. This compared to the lot of the striker - how to feed the kids, pay the rent, keep up the H.P., and, most important, being isolated from workmates. Whether or not one gets strike pay is dependant on whether the strike is official - however, who can live on the strike pay most unions dole out ?

Many more workers are wising up to the fact that social security can be claimed while on strike. For example, £4 million were paid to striking postmen, but it could have been at least 3 or 4 times as much. But strikers only get their entitlement by fighting for it like all other claimants. The postmen found they were forced to wait hours in uncomfortable offices and make several visits before they got anything. The Dept. of Social Security certainly do not want to pay out money to keep strikes going, in fact they often act as strike-breakers by deliberately not giving the strikers their entitlement e.g. by refusing benefit to unofficial strikers on the grounds that they are 'voluntarily unemployed', and refusing aid to unmarried strikers. There is a warning against using T.U. officials to help in dealings with the Social Security as the Handbook points out, they often have no more experience on dealing with claims than the Claimants themselves, and also tend to look at problems from the point of view of Bureaucracy.

The only way to win is collective bargaining by the strikers themselves with the help of Claimants Union experience. The next step is the setting up of a strike Claimants Union, ( This has been done at Fine Tubes, Plymouth) with the participation of all the strikers and their husbands/wives and dependants. An outline of how to do this, together with advice drawn from past experience is included together with details of how a claim is assessed, what other benefits one can claim for - such as grants for clothing, footwear, etc.

The S.S. only pay out for wives and children of strikers. However, during the postal strike, many single strikers were able to claim emergency payments under Section 13 of the S.S. Act.

In the 1971 S.S. Bill the position for strikers was considerably worsened (see Appendix III in Handbook and GUTTER PRESS-4) as is the case with other savage attacks on the organized working class, such as the Industrial Relations Act, the Tory gout is coming down hard on the striker. Its main provision is that all strike pay is to be considered when a striker puts in a claim for supplementary benefit, which has the effect of cutting down the income of a strikers family to less than the bare minimum level of Social Security. If going on strike is to be used as a tactic, which it will probably continue to be, despite recent use of methods which anarcho-syndicalists have traditionally advocated, such



as occupying factories, strikers must organize to prevent being sent back to work defeated because they cannot afford to stick it out.

The first step, as stated before, is for strikers to try to set up a Claimants Union among themselves. In every major town or city there are Claimants Unions which will give assistance and advice. Strikers should be prepared to use many tactics to stop the D.H.S.S. breaking the strike. The Strikers Handbook suggests, for example, making the wife of a striker the householder (if she isn't already) to increase benefits. Union members should press Unions to arrange payment of strike money, in a way that makes it easier for strikers to get supplementary benefits. The way to win, whether it is a strike or any other action, lies in the workers organising themselves. The theory behind the Claimants Unions and their actual structure is based very much on this premise. Through the success they have had so far they have gained great experience which is of value to anyone who has dealings with the D.H.S.S.

(Reprinted from 'Black & Red Outlook' - journal of the Anarchist-Syndicalist Alliance - available from 29 Eskridge St. Salford 7 Lancs. - 5p)

## Topical Twittery ~

CLAP TRAP - Dr. V. Geoghegan, Chichester Council's M.O., to whom we awarded last month's GUTTER PRESS prize for prudery, ignorance and puritanism, made another and similar announcement recently. He again stated that T.V. papers and teachers encouraged people to indulge in sexual freedom and that this led to an increase in V.D. But then if there is an increase in V.D. it's due to public ignorance in these matters which, thanks to the views of people like you, Dr. Geoghegan, you pontificating old twit, has no chance to gain information from T.V. press etc. Anyway, you merely use the fear of catching disease to discourage people from participating in healthy sexual relationships. Puritan morality is a mainstay of the Sick Society, and it must disappear with the dismantling of the system.

\*\*\*\*\*

PLAY POWER - Brighton Council has turned down suggestions by the Community Aid Group for improvements such as a paddling-pool and adventure playground on the Level. In fact, it was even suggested that the C.A.G. provide the labour force for such s . As they replied in a letter to the Argus, it is not up to amateurs to cope with such a job. The Level, they stated, serves the most densely populated and poorest part of Brighton. As they said, 'It could be an oasis, a haven. Yet it is treated with shameful neglect. It is the Council's job to right such wrongs... Our original proposals asked that the Council fulfil their responsibilities to the local people by providing good facilities on the Level.' But then, the Council couldn't care less about local people - they represent the ruling-class, and they're not out to be nice and kind to the people they've bled dry for generations.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

THE QUALITY OF MERCY ? - Brighton Recorder, Charles Doughty has recently retired - he will long be remembered by those who came up before him for his harshness and reactionary views. He competed with Mr. Herbert Ripper as Brighton's Judge Jeffries. He's left the Bench - thanks for small mercies - but meanwhile the legal system continues to devour thousands of victims every day.

!-!-!-!-!-!-!-!-!-!-!-!-!-!-!

AND NOW - NEXT ISH. Be sure you get the next issue of GUTTER PRESS out Feb. Containing - among other goodies THE INSIDE STORY OF BRIGHTON'S NURSES. The PLIGHT of Brighton's WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS and a special on MUTUAL AID BUILDING all this & jokes, jeremiads and jibes at Bureaucratic Bullshit.





# people's page



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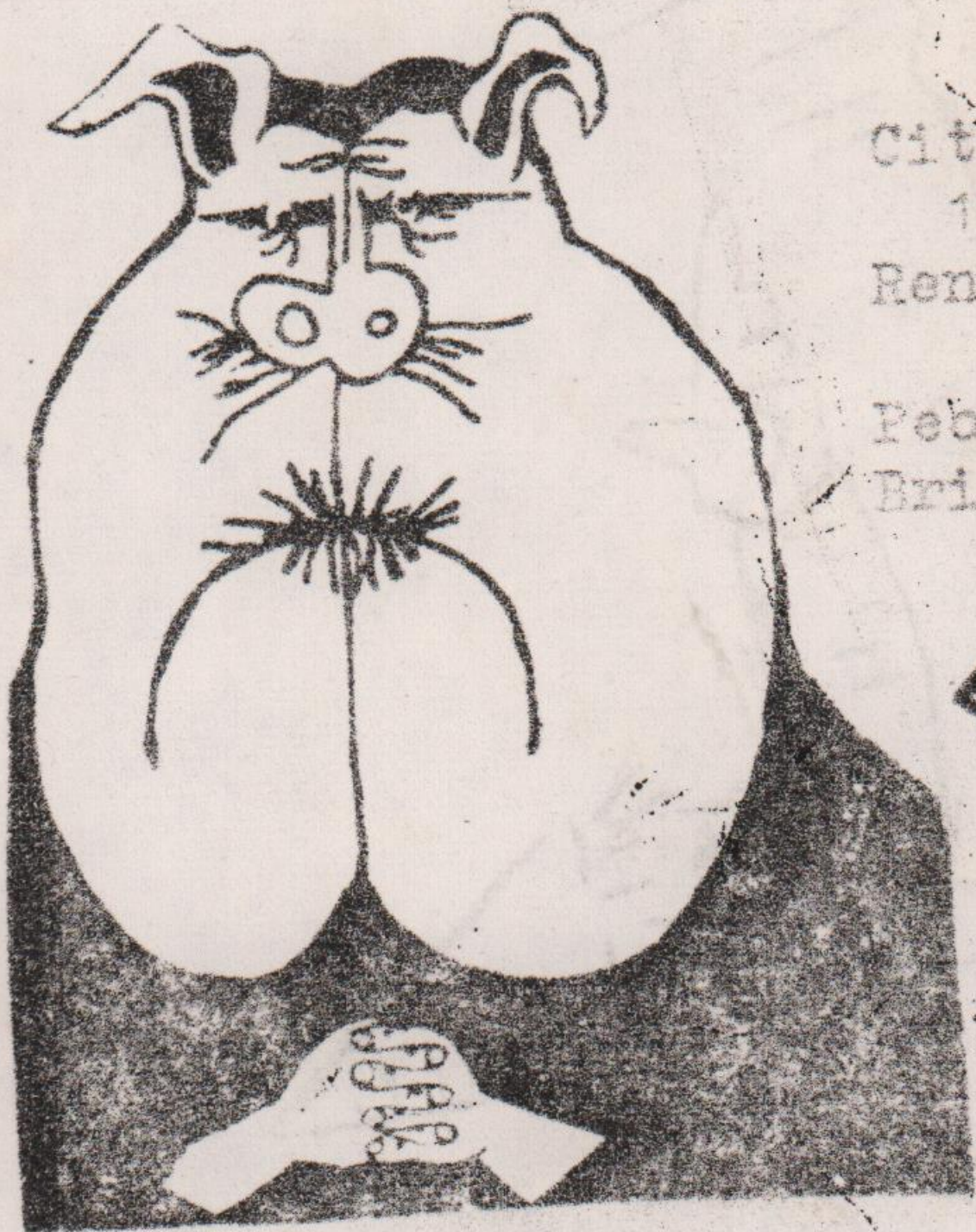
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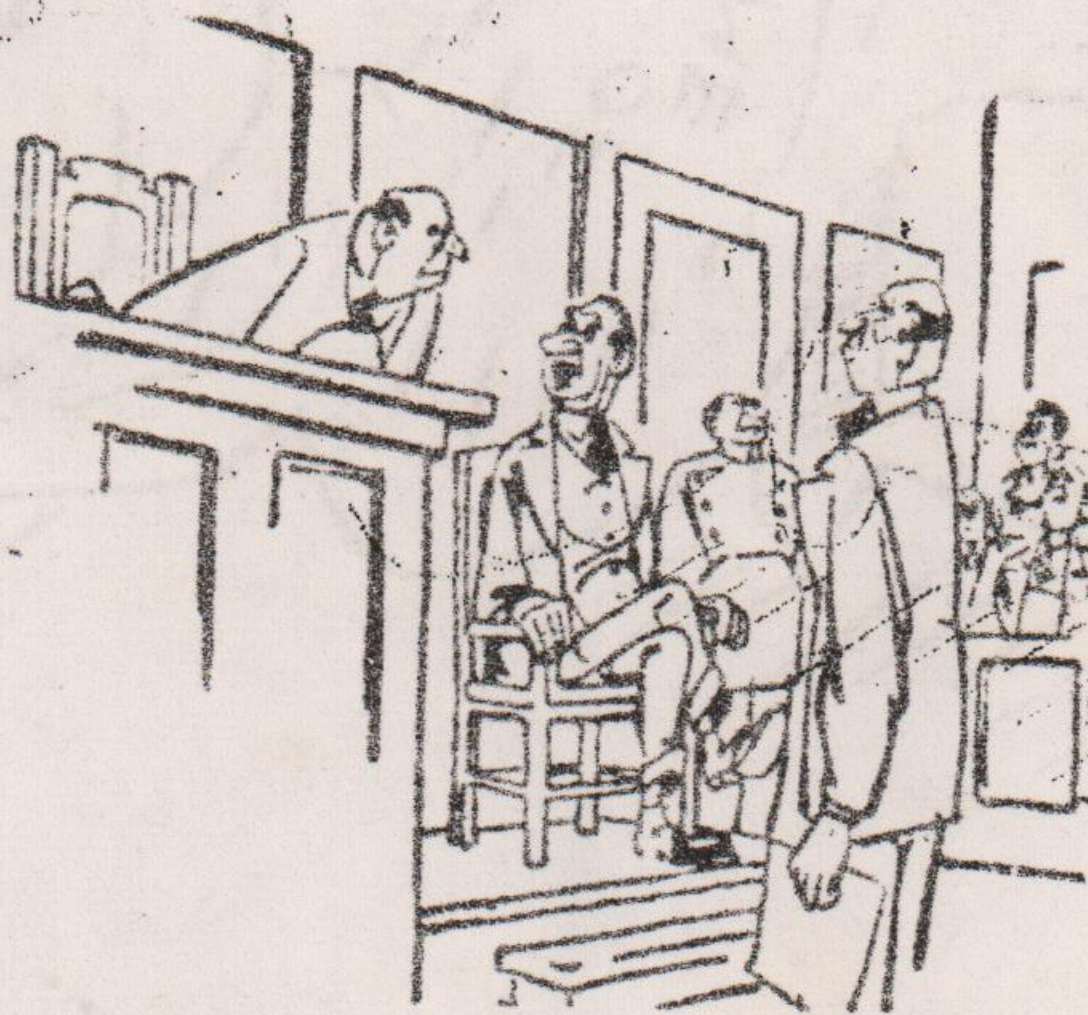


by da peepie  
for da peepie!



jake  
prescott  
15 years

## ← their JUSTICE!

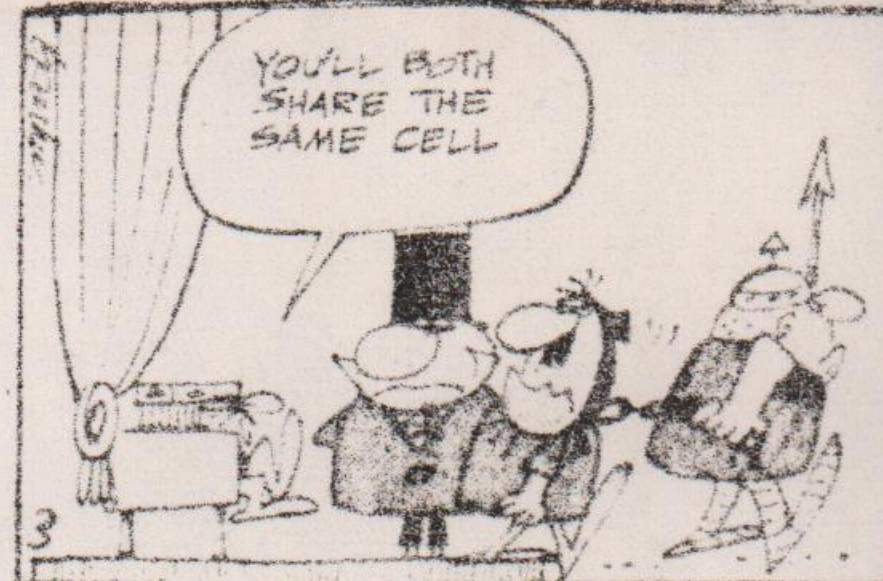


FRED WRIGHT

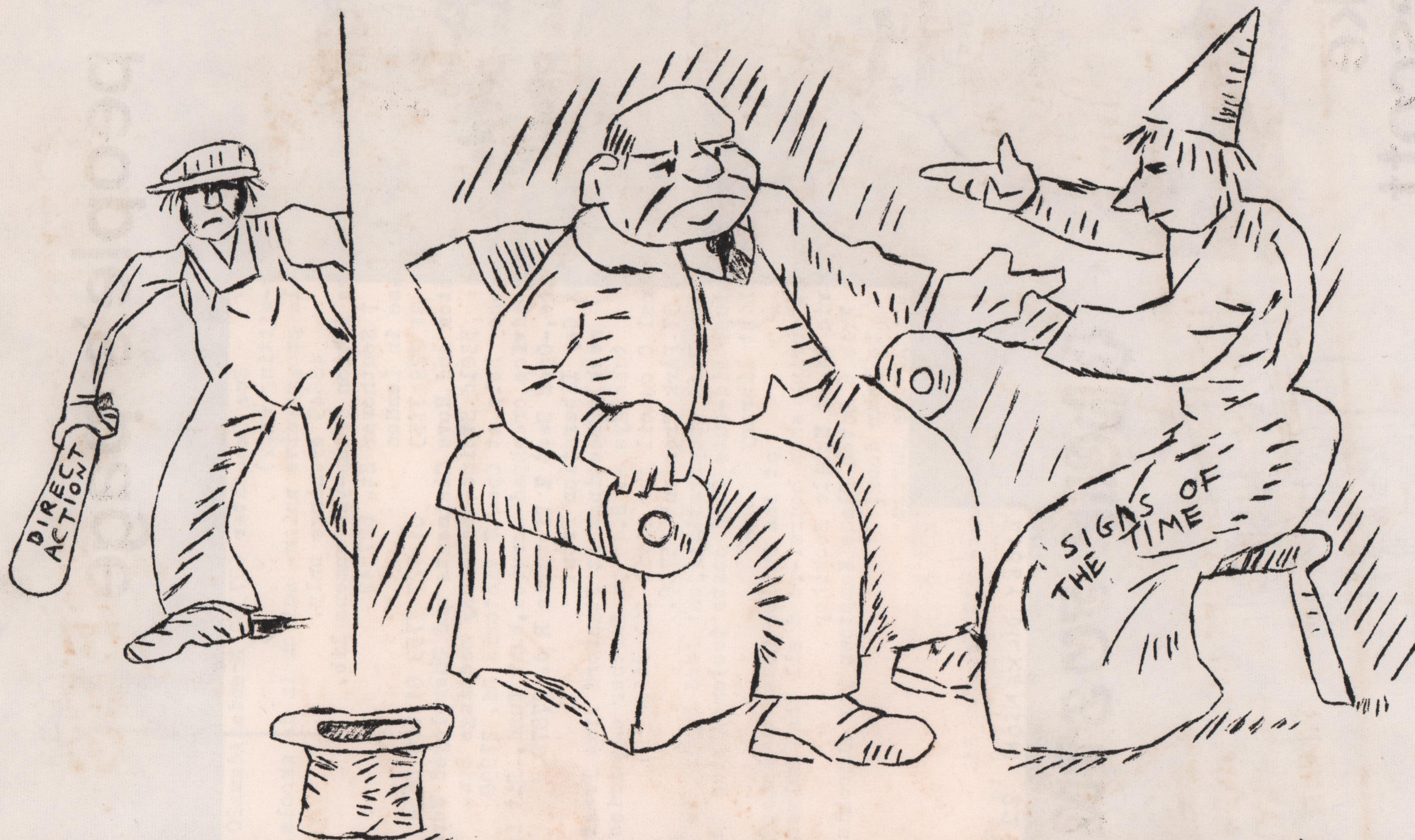
"I know absolutely nothing about the case—I'm just here to help frame the defendant . . ."



OH, THANK YOU, SIRE!







PALMIST: 'There is a man following you with a bludgeon'  
CAPITALIST: 'Yes, yes! What else do you see?'  
PALMIST: 'Nothing but your finish!'