

THE NORTH EAST'S OTHER NEWSPAPER

MOTHER GRUMBLE

JUNE 12 No 6

10p

CLAIMANTS UNION



also Legal Aid
Soc'em March
Dr Martin Cole
Festivals



EDITORIAL



Ah well! Here we are again - a couple of weeks late due to being skint, but we've made it. Anyway, once again we think it is time to put ourselves in a clear relationship with the paper. Every issue we write an "Editorial" but we do not have an editorial policy as such. Some-one has to do the day-to-day organisation of the paper, and somebody has to get the paper together: and that's us. Doing that means that we have to be the ones to choose which articles to print, what artwork to put in, who to get it all from, etc. Basically we try our hardest - not always totally successfully, but well...! - to avoid being censors. We have to make some decisions about what goes in the paper, but we try to do it on the grounds of quality, local relevance - we are, after all, a North-Eastern community newspaper - and inevitably our personal opinion. We try to put as much as possible in the paper, and we try not to inconvenience our artists too much. But, sometimes we have to cut things, or shorten them, or reject art work. Our only "editorial policy" is to print what we get. And if we do have to chuck things out, no one of us ever makes a decision on his own. We try not to be power crazed. Any one involved in any way with Muther Grumble is in on any decision that is taken while they are around. And we're always open to having more people around - there's too much to do as it is.



Muther Grumble as an organisation is becoming quite effective in its own way. The paper...well, make your own decision. We are getting our info more and more together, both advice and knowledge - and someone has introduced a system to us to classify it. So Maurice has been condemned to a month's bureaucracy getting it all together in the right order. The Durham City Claimants' Union has its home here and a lot of us have become actively involved in it. Also Rich is sorting out legal odds and ends and building up a legal info/help/advice service with, for example, a list of friendly solicitors. (Do you know any?). We are also in the process of starting a mail order book service with some pretty unusual and hard to come by literature.

Please ask us for anything - we may know and be able to help. Anyway we can try and find anything out. Also, please send us info etc. etc. MG gets more efficient only through feedback. Get in contact. The more people we know and who know us, the better MG will be.

We try to be aware of the balance of what goes into Muther Grumble. We try not to have too much of the content of any issue on one subject. But on looking back over the six issues of MG, there is a lot of stress on pollution, the environment, planning etc. This is largely deliberate. We are all very aware that pollution is one of the major factors controlling our survival and the survival of our children. Closely linked to this is the belief that the people responsible for so called 'planning' are in a position to have an immense direct effect on the present quality of our lives. Think of how the new motorway will affect the lives of the people of Newcastle. Think how the development of Teesside affects a huge number of people without much apparent thought for their general welfare and happiness. It happens all over, the whole time. That is why we will go on plugging environmental issues - showing up some of the scandals, and generally trying to spread a truer sense of responsibility among all of us and awareness of the importance of the position of polluters and planners alike.



DURHAM: 61242

N/CLE: 668498



Muther Grumble Road Show

Maurice, Ian, Don, Andy, Mike, Jinx, Alan, George, Rich, Geoff, Chris, Pam, Bernie, Paul, Sian, Janis, Mairon, Claire, Ken, Viv, Joe, Deliah, Yvonne, Alison, Maurice, George, Barry, Barbara, Captain Moonlight, Linden, Toby, Mike Faith, Andrew, Mate, Pete, Harris, Jules, Rik, Arol.

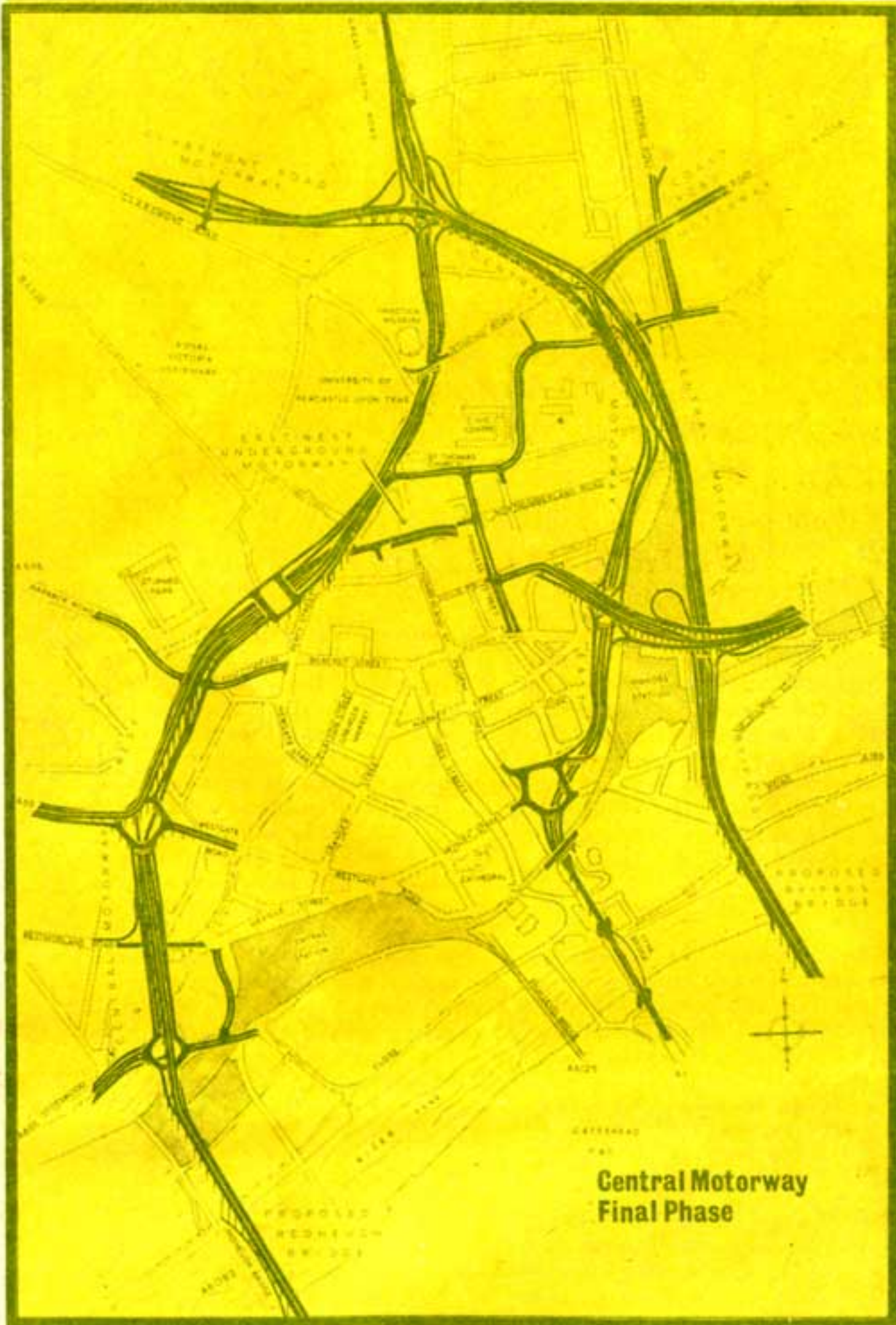
If you want to talk about your grumble or what you're doing, or simply yourself contact Muther Grumble at:
13, Silver St. Durham City
Tel. 61242

Between 10.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. Mon - Sat
or Don and Andy
10, Ashleigh Grove, Benton
N/cle 12. Tel. 668498.

If anyone has written to us and not yet received a reply please write again, or phone, as some of our mail has 'gone astray'.

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Central Motorway Final Phase



MOTORWAY DEMO

We met at the shattered ruin of Victoria Square, along the Jesmond Rd. in the heart of Newcastle's middle-class dormitory.

Over the other side, where once an elegant three storey terrace of well proportioned Georgian housing over-looked a small green and shrubbery, bulldozers now play.

It is the second time we have marched against the Newcastle motorway plans, but this time we are much stronger - there are more than 200 of us.

We stand where, in 1975, the Central Motorway East will gouge through the city - it will cost a mere £11m.

When finished, it is said, it will cut several minutes off driving time from the south of the Tyne to the Great North Road.

But they don't tell you the real reasons.

One is that it employs men in a region where nothing grows except the dole queues. Another is that it injects blood into ailing service industries which will feed the men and their concrete.

So, they have invented a new free enterprise philosophy: where no market exists, invent one, make it labour intensive, and

then supply.

SOC'EM - Save Our City from Environmental Mess - and Friends of the Earth link up outside Mrs. Neary's house in what was once Sandyford, a quite warren of little Victorian streets to the immediate north-east of the city centre.

Now it is a wasteland of rubble. Everything is laid flat ready for the motorway.

Mrs. Margaret Neary's boarding house stands alone while the mechanical grabs tear deep ravines in the debris around her.

We greet Mrs. Neary outside her house. She is overwhelmed by the reception. Friends of the Earth present her with a box of chocolates!

When the City Council moved in on her street, everyone else moved out except her.

"They offered me a house in Jesmond last week", she tells us. "But I won't take it. It's so smelly; terrible. Thank you for all you have done for me".

Most of us are young and our clothing is colourful. But some older people are marching too and there are a few prams.

"Welcome to the dictatorship and country of concrete on Tyne", says one placard. "Don't accept

the motorways - they aren't built yet", says another.

"Your concrete future - no more trees, no more grass, no more plants", shouts a marcher.

"You're right there," shouts back an elderly man. He stays on the pavement and keeps pace with us shouting "But it's too late".

Our column is growing as we march through the city. Children from the streets join us and so do some older girls, clutching posters, on day's relief from their office typewriters.

"Ee woman, I know you", says a policeman to a real Geordie mum at the back of the march. "you're from Seaton Deleval, aren't you" he says. Her face turns red.

But there's not enough dialogue with the crowd. Hardly anyone is saying anything.

We must communicate. Some of them out there don't know what we are marching for.

There's a shadow wearing heavy metal boots walking shoulder to shoulder with us.

He's spitting lumps of concrete onto our marches and dark monoliths of human cells rise up from his every footstep.

The once horizontal city is now vertical. Where once we waited for the bus, we now wait for the lift to come down from the 29th floor.

Faster and faster go the bulldozers. Already, Newcastle looks like a blitzed city. All that's good to look at and all that felt warm and friendly to live in is coming down.

But here, in the North-East, they must have told themselves; "surely they will leave us alone as they have done in almost everything else". How wrong they were.

Yet, as the hammers fall on more beautiful houses, older life-styles shudder and depart. Another memory is destroyed.

Steadily, the traffic builds up behind us as we march. The fuzz are no longer smiling.

"Keep moving. You've made your point - now move".

But there's a really good jam in Market Street now. Three stranded buses are belching their fumes onto those at the head of the march.

Suddenly, the Friends of the

Earth turn on the street theatre - clutching their throats and throwing choking fits.

One guy falls into the road writhing.

Another guy has a gas mask on. He's pretending to suffocate some of the marchers.

Then we are coming back down the Haymarket towards the Civic Centre. It's nearly over, but not quite.

We get to St. Mary's Place, within the shadow of the Civic Centre itself when it happens.

"All sit down", someone shouts at the back. Then others shout it too.

Two or three sit down, then more - soon, it's 50 but the front of the column has become completely detached from the rear. Now everyone at the rear end of the march is sitting down in the road.

The fuzz are starting to throw tantrums. One tries to wave lines of cars round us as we sit and another tries to pull people to their feet.

But it's no good. One of the organisers tells us we can sit down at the Civic Centre in the grounds - out of harm's way.

Some of the waverers follow him and then the sit-in just melts away in seconds.

Later, as we march towards Brandling Park on the Great North Road, where the trees have been cut down, one guy pokes two fingers at a motorist.

The driver is with his girlfriend and feels he can't ignore it. He is snazzily dressed, so is his girl, and his car is new.

He stops his car and confronts the guy. He demands the fuzz take down the guy's name. The motorist is very, very angry.

They take down the guy's name but when the motorist has gone, they tell him to forget it.

At the park, there is an attempt to get a rap going but hardly anyone will get to grips with the situation.

Finally, there is talk of another demonstration and of perhaps leafletting every house in Jesmond. Others, on the fringe, begin to talk of organised civil disobedience.



LOOK NORTH



A.J. HARTY-JUNE 72

ESPECIALLY FOR NORTHERN VIEWERS, OUR GROCER-IN-CHIEF TALKS ABOUT HIS DAY IN THE MARKET.

ER... HELLO! TONIGHT I WANT TO TELL YOU OF THE GREAT EFFORTS THAT I HAVE BEEN MAKING ON YOUR BEHALF TO JOIN THE COMMON

MARKET. INDEED I HAVE ACTUALLY LEARNT FRENCH. THIS HAS UNDOUBTEDLY SPEEDED OUR ENTRY. NOW SOME OF YOU IN THE DEPRESSED

AREA OF THE NORTH-EAST MAY FEEL THAT I OUGHT TO MAKE A SIMILAR EFFORT TO ALLEVIATE THE UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION. WELL I

WILL!... I'M GOING TO LEARN JORD... ER. JEOR. ER... GEORDY... WHATEVER THAT IS!

Method Or Madness

It's self evident to me that the interests of the influential authorities in Newcastle, the Press, the University, Commerce, are, by nature of their role in the city (i.e. the acquisition of influence) one and the same as the interests of Newcastle Council. On those occasions when they are obviously not, they are easily reconciled.

For example, it would be interesting to know how Dr. Tony Ridley, director of Tyneside Transport Passenger Executive found that it was in the interests of that body to give his blessing to the motorway scheme (Eve. Chron 14/4/72), or how the headmaster of the Royal Grammar School found it to be in the school's interests to lose one acre of its lands in the present development. It just doesn't pay an organisation to put its interests in conflict with those of its 'elected' parliament.

Anyone who has lived in a socially deprived area knows from experience that the official departments set up to help them, exist only to paralyse the ability and will of the community to make an issue of their deprivation. How else could the richest borough in London, Kensington and Chelsea, boast the city's worst over-crowding and slum racketeering?

And of course, in England you stand no chance outside institutions. This is the dilemma dissident majorities face. It is a strange thing about pressure groups (like SOC'EM) that without ever realising it they are cornered into parodying the parliamentary institution they set themselves up to counteract. This is how dissent in English life is contained. In order to change legislature it must describe itself so wholly in the terms of what it opposes that it loses its energy, authority and cause. The gravest example to spring to mind is the history of the trade union movement, 1926 or 1971 model.

I'm not a Geordie. I've lived most of my life in and around Notting Hill, which is a together place. More people turned out to vote at the Gold-borne election than did at the municipal election. I say this so that you appreciate my viewpoint when I observe the activities of SOC'EM. SOC'EM's following seems to range from those who just don't want a motorway at the bottom of their garden to those who make the issue not simply a matter of arbitrary aesthetics (i.e.

taste) but part of a life-style. In order to house these otherwise conflicting groups, SOC'EM makes a policy of being a political. Of course, even if it weren't true, and in my opinion it can't be, it needs the umbrella of such a mystification to; short cut to some sort of solidarity. It was unable to give a lead to members in the last election. The questionnaire sent to prospective candidates was only half heartedly followed up. It is in SOC'EM's constitution that there must be no affiliation with no political party. See what I mean about the organised paralysis of dissent? Without questioning the integrity of SOC'EM I think one can make a good case for its naivety.

Is the problem one simply of whether or not we want a motorway? Is that the whole of it? I mean, is it that we think our representatives have erred on just this one occasion? Or do we want to make it a much wider issue of social priorities and put into question the legislative process which doesn't accept such social priorities? In so far as the SOC'EM set-up parodies that of the Civic Centre, I think it has opted for the former position, whatever its propaganda says to the contrary. The ladies and gentlemen who run it - for that's what they are - pay lip service to democratic notions as do the City Council. They do this not through choice (as far as SOC'EM is concerned. This isn't the issue.): being English is a habit of mind.

Like the City Council SOC'EM executive organisation comes down from the committee, a coterie which does the work and chooses the work it does (choosing the work is the reward for doing it). There is no machinery to either mandate it or to plough outside energy into the enterprise. Like all English 'Institutions' its authority comes not so much from the election as from being the repository of its electors.

My own view is that only harnessing grassroots energy achieves results. The environmental question does not exist in cosy isolation from unemployment, industrial exploitation of human and natural resources, building racketeering, civic fraud.... Such a 'political' enterprise, however, might involve procedures which Councillor Grey and the Editor of the Journal would not respect.

Whatever it involves, such a movement is prohibited by the structure of the pressure group, modelled as it is on the organisation it would pressurise.

One suggestion at the last public meeting, which was met with loud acclaim, was that students and freaks put a suit on

and tidy themselves up. That gives you some idea both of the level of SOC'EM's preoccupations and of the pressures of respectability I've been talking about. It was sad to notice how many 'students and freaks' - not grasping the parallel with the Council's plans for Newcastle, voice approval of the idea.

Neil Ferguson

SOC'EM comment:- the suggestion that freakies get their hair cut was not taken very seriously. Last Wednesday, as a result of Neill Ferguson's outburst at the public meeting, a meeting to discuss new ideas was held. Neill Ferguson attended and seemed quite happy with the discussion.

Soc'em

In the last issue (page 3 - "Do They Care?") we wrote about the candidates for Newcastle City Council being sent a questionnaire by SOC'EM in an attempt to assess, and make public, Councillors' concern for the environment.

Out of 83 questionnaires sent, only six were returned by the date specified - no Conservatives, no Liberals, no Communists, the one Independent and five out of forty-three Labour. A further seven were received later from Labour men. SOC'EM also received one letter from a Conservative who was going to send a "full and constructive answer as soon as possible" - it has never arrived - and one letter from a Labour Councillor supporting "any agitation that makes people think about the future".

Without going into details, the great majority of the answers were in favour of SOC'EM's proposals, with the exception of the suggestion that free public transport should be provided out of the rates. None of the questions was answered unanimously in favour of SOC'EM's suggestions.

Of those that returned the questionnaires three were re-elected, six were not up for election and four were defeated.

Meanwhile SOC'EM are continuing their protests against the destruction of Newcastle. They have presented a petition of 6,000 signatures to the City Planning Committee about the "Douglas" site, which was 'vetoed' virtually out of hand. Since then the numbers of people asking to sign the petition have increased, so they are continuing with it.

The City Council has continued to publicise the myth that it would cost Newcastle rate-payers some £2M to buy the site and turn it into an open square.

Whereas the truth is that the City Planning Officer in his report to the Planning Committee, actually wrote: "The total foreseeable cost, therefore is not easy to estimate, but it could possibly amount to about £1m, including purchase of the site."

SOC'EM is also concerned with Quayside, the Old Assembly Rooms, Jesmond Cemetery Gates and Brandling and Exhibition Parks. They have also published various pamphlets and reports and are now producing a monthly progress report. Monthly public meetings are also taking place.

They still need help, more members, people to sign petitions etc., etc.,

For membership, help, pamphlets, reports etc., contact SOC'EM at 79, Roseberry Crescent, N/cle 2. Tel 810985 or 612611.

Wasps

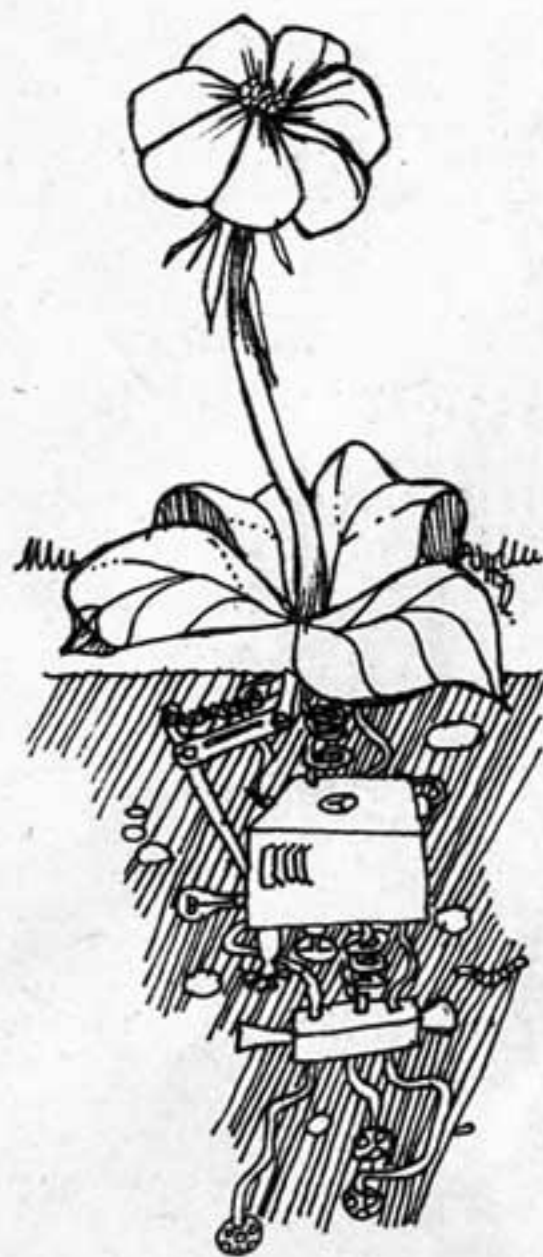
In Stockton the North East branch of the National Cleansing Crusade have produced a pamphlet called "Mothers of Britain - Wake Up".

Since we print all viewpoints, we thought we'd give you a sample of this one.

After quoting a letter from the "Mothers' Crusade Inc. for Victory Over Communism. Mesa, Arizona", about the disastrous results of sex education - which as we all know is communist inspired - the pamphlet continues: "We are a nation gone mad...., death penalty abolished...child rapists and killers live...sodomy is legal...sex taught in our schools...with mongrelisation advocated...and all because a handful of M.P.'s and Bishops have forced these abominable laws upon the decent people of Great Britain. For the sake and safety of our children we must throw out these wretched warped creatures of all parties who have forced God-forbidden laws upon the decent people of Britain. These Humanist wreckers in our Parliaments, not content with passing laws permitting child killers and murderers-in-general to live, have legalised sodomy and do murder innocence."

And that's just the beginning.

The end goes: "Wake up...Mothers of a Britain gone mad...for if we who are responsible are to ensure the safety and decency of a truly Christian heritage...then we must discriminate...give greater attention to the religious and national origins of all future candidates for Government...and...refuse your vote to supporters of these God-dishonouring laws which appal the vast majority of decent men and women of Great Britain...Crv... Shame to all men in Church and Government who degrade Britain through the Act of Sodomy."



Smelt Out

Latest mammoth undertaking of the Alcan whizz kids is the purchase, at an estimated cost in excess of £1 million, of 5,500 acres of farmland surrounding their smelter plant at Lynemouth, Northumberland, to "demonstrate its faith in its fume control system by carrying on a normal farming operation as a profitable business venture".

It is difficult to believe that a company with an annual turnover of several millions should take an interest in getting back to the land.

One wonders if this action is unconnected with a strong lobby from Northumbria Farms Ltd. (part of a Swiss based consortium) who claim that pollution and fumes will effect crops and livestock within a 10 mile radius and would be "particularly harmful to children".

Could it be that the directors of Alcan were not spurred on by a desire to walk furrow and field but that they just didn't want people to know when the cows, sheep, rabbits, etc. begin to snuff it in a horrible and lingering manner - makes ya think. Alcan Home For Old Animals Pie Company perhaps?

All In Favour

After fighting two local elections and canvassing for the Liberals since I was 18, (I am an old man of 31 now) I began to see the pointless side of politics with all sides saying the same things to toady to the voters. When I was asked again to stand, at a committee meeting of the Durham Liberals, I said I would only do so if I could put in my election literature that I was a member of the Gay Liberation Front.

There was a silence that seemed like two hours when a retired spinster head mistress said: "I think Sam should stand because he lives in the ward."

So off I set - Liberal candidate for the true blue Crossgate Ward, Durham City. A Northern Echo reporter lives in the ward and shortly after unknowingly putting a leaflet through his door the telephone rang. The following day the story appeared headlined "Candidate is a member of Gay Organisation".

So off my Independent oppon-

ent set, complete with a copy of the Northern Echo. People were too embarrassed to tell me exactly what he said but I gathered his patter was something like this: "I am Norman Williamson and have been your councillor for 18 years." If this was not greeted with the appropriate respect this real-life butcher would add "My opponent is one of those." If the stereo-type reaction did not follow he would then sound off about 'nancy boys', 'puffs', and 'the corruption of youth'.

As I said I was fighting on real issues (whatever they are) I ignored the Gay tag unless someone asked me a question about it (e.g. "Are you active?") "Yes I go to a lot of their meetings"; "What role do you play?" "Oh I am one of the troops not the generals".

I was rather surprised no-one seemed to mind. The ward is small and has at least five clergy living in it. Four seemed to intimate for various reasons they would vote for me. Little old women were coming to their doors and whispering "I am voting for you. I am a Conservative really. But get HIM out". Two people even said they were praying that I would win.

When the result was announced my vote was 535 and his 397. The ward had been won by a non-right wing candidate for the first time. There were gasps of surprise, followed by some cheers for Liberals, students and tenants association helpers. The beaten Normopath did not shake hands with me, a tradition for the beaten candidate after the count, snubbed my mother and refused to make the usual speech from the Town Hall balcony.

What does the result prove? The Gay tag meant nothing other than in the privacy of the ballot box people could not care less about stereotyped prejudices. People did not vote for or against me because I was a homosexual. They just could not give a damn.

But it also shows that the silent majority is not as reactionary as is supposed but that the people are looking for a new approach to politics based on Libertarian principles.

Sam Green

Postal Charge

A recent case at Newcastle Crown Court concerned the sending of a package to India. The package, containing a number of hollowed out photographs inside which was a letter and a pound note. The letter in the package was a request for the receiving party to spend the money and score the appropriate amount of dope. Big hassles - the people in India to whom the letter was addressed had recently moved and the parcel was opened by the new occupants who, in good faith, resealed the package and returned it intact to the supposed senders address. However, when the parcel arrived back at the supposed senders address, the person who answered the door, not recognising the person to whom the parcel was addressed, refused to pay the excess charge and the parcel was duly returned to the GPO.

An 'alien' citizen living in the house was told of the strange parcel with the excess postage on it, and after being told the name, recognised the person to whom it was addressed as being a distant friend of his. Presuming his address was being used as a forwarding station, he then decided to go to the GPO and enquire as to where the parcel was. The GPO, however, said that the parcel at that time could not be found, but that when it did eventually

turn up, they would be in touch as to its collection arrangements the GPO contacted him and asked him if he could go down to the post office and claim the package which had now reappeared again, and could he possibly let them know exactly what time he would be going down to pick it up. He, not knowing the parcels contents, took this to be so that the GPO could have the parcel available for him this time. When he did arrive at the post office he was intercepted by one of her majesty's officers who busted him for "attempting to procure". When the case eventually reached Newcastle Crown Court after numerous delays, the judge and jury seemed to believe that the name on the parcel was of a fictitious nature, and that he had been the one who had initiated and was meant to receive the parcel, whereby the jury found him guilty. (After a whole five hours of haggling during which time one member of the jury nodded off!) After this decision was reached the prosecuting barrister did not seem to think that he had exercised his rhetoric to the full effect and proceeded to mumble about the possibilities of the alien citizen being deported. Fortunately the judge did not seem to think that such great steps were necessary, although as he stressed a great many times, this indeed was a very serious matter. The good-hearted (sic) judge decided to impose upon the now guilty defendant, a two year probation order.

One thing that struck MG while watching proceedings was the fact that the jury were all seemingly fed up and pretty freaked by having to sit on a drug case. The impression, I believe the jury had on cannabis was that it was an extremely dangerous drug which was slowly gripping our fair nation by the short and curlies and turning the next generation into.....

Barricade

Remember Mrs Neary - the one person whose house still stands in the way of Newcastle's Motorway development plans?

Her house is now surrounded by deep excavations, although the Fire Department has insisted that her access road remains open.

The latest news is that the Council have now got a writ for compulsory purchase of her house that will come into effect if accepted by the Planning Committee (Thursday June 18th) in 14 days.

She is still not giving in, and intends to bar herself in with a few friends - others it is hoped will remain outside.

Anyone interested in helping phone Alan Brown (SOC'EM) at Newcastle 81925.

Flat Refusal

A large number of tenants will be evicted from their rented bed-sits in Jesmond, Newcastle, within the next few weeks.

The evictions will take place as a result of Newcastle City Council's new 'get tough' policy over multi-occupied houses.

The council dragged out and dusted an old bye-law stating that multi-occupied houses - with more than one tenant per floor - should have received planning permission before being let.

So all landlords of multi-occupied houses in the city have been asked to register with the city health depart-

ent by mid-June and are being ordered to carry out repairs to their property.

At 36, Cavendish Place, Jesmond, for instance, the landlord, Mr A.F. Short, has been told to put sink units into each of the rooms occupied by his five tenants.

He has also been told to put a fire escape at the back of the house and to reline the doors, presumably to stop smoke seeping from one room to another in event of fire.

He says the repairs will cost £1,200. He has served notice to quit on all his tenants because the repairs will entail cutting off the water and electricity supplies.

However, three of his tenants have applied to the Rent Tribunal for security of tenure and it will be interesting to see whether the city health department can still order these repairs to be done if the tenants win six months security.

At 5, Ripon Gardens, Jesmond, the five tenants, all Newcastle University students and the landlord, received a joint letter from the City Council, telling them multi-occupation must cease.

In other words, the tenants have to get out but in fact the axe will not fall at this house until the end of the summer term when most of the students go home.

The student representative council of Newcastle University are in close liason with the City Council over which houses containing students will become subject to an enforcement order during the summer.

The SRC's biggest fear is that rents will go up considerably in these houses after revitalisation.

This is almost a certainty since the landlords will be laying out quite a bit on each house to comply with the council order.

But the SRC has the resources to launch a major campaign through the Rent Tribunal if necessary to keep the increases within reach of student pockets.

The real losers, as always will be the low-income working tenants or those on the dole who are often ignorant of the procedure needed to fight the rises.

It has yet to be seen whether private tenants will be covered in the Housing Finance Bill now working its tortuous way through Parliament. If not then the net result of all this will be to decrease the bed-sit market for low wage earners in Newcastle very seriously indeed.

Jerry



Dear Ma,

Non Violence

Dear Muther Grumble, I have not yet had time to fully read Muther Grumble, but I am most impressed with it. I would go as far as to say that it seems at first sight the best Underground publication I have yet seen in terms of content and value for money. Lots of news of people doing things, practical ideas and exposes of the machine. Fantastic. My subscription is enclosed.

If I may offer a small piece of advice, I think you have worked wonders with what appears to be very limited print techniques, but the effect is still one of a sea of print on some pages, which I think people find very off-putting (I know I do).

Sorry you are having a tough time, but that is inevitable once you stand out against the machine. The only answers are the certain knowledge that we are on the side which must win in the end, even if not in our life-time (encourage, encourage!) and we just have to be very determined and draw our strength from one another. The nearer we get to success the nastier it is going to be because once the machine begins to suspect it is dying the death throws will get very violent indeed. In view of which my total commitment to non-violence might seem very odd. But I don't believe you can win with oppressive methods.

You have to show up the methods for what they are and get people to believe in alternatives. And it is happening. When you are 38 like me it will take more than a few minor tangles with the fuzz to beat you down - or you will have long since been sucked into the system never to re-emerge.

Stay with it.
Love Graham Jay.

Survival

Dear Muther Grumble, Thank you for the four copies of Muther Grumble which I have just received. I was extremely impressed with them. The survival articles are better than I have seen in any other paper. The 'New Scientist' made a passing reference and a few comments on 'Blue Print for Survival' and mentioned the Club of Rome but did not summarise either.

The press realises that the public takes a long time to rouse. A 'Daily Worker' editorial comrade told me that it was necessary to keep the pot boiling on any campaign for 3 weeks before the members of the party took note and took action. This was before world war 2 when the C.P. really was active campaigning and one of the main centres of progress in Britain; when they were out on the streets organising demonstrations and strikes, leading the unions out of their lethargy and generally acting as spear head of the working class.

You have raised the most important questions of the day in Muther Grumble - survival and your explanation of exponential growth in such simple and telling language is just what is required. But it would appear to me that unless the pressure is kept up, it will remain just an article. May I make a suggestion. Would it be possible to work it into most of the other articles by relating it to the problem in question? I know this is not easy but I feel sure you could do it and do it well. Only in this way will you really impress it onto people. As Survival is a new concept, it is difficult to get it off the ground.

What is worse is that the conclusions are so frightening that most people

want to forget it as quickly as possible. To make it even worse, it cuts across everybody's aspirations which are all based on expansion - employers, unions and private people alike. Even the C.P. is taking a hell of a lot of rousing but I think as a result of letters to the 'Morning Star' they are now publishing quite a bit about pollution and they even accepted and printed a long letter from me showing how survival politics will entail a re-writing of their almost sacred programme 'The Socialist Road for Britain'. They are actually showing a quicker adaptability than my own party (Labour). Labour is taking it up - a few here and there but it has not reached popular policy statements yet.

The Conservative M.P. for Boulton East is really taking it up and is organising a survey of pollution in his constituency together with a campaign against it. So it looks as though Survival politics is going to cut across party barriers and break down existing demarcations - but this is in its infancy. Incidentally I converted three Conservatives to Survival politics while taking the polling numbers in the local elections.

What I find so remarkable about Muther Grumble is its presentation. Educated people speak a different language with different concepts from the masses. When they start a progressive paper, it is written for and to the educated. So it does not cotton on to the masses. Muther Grumble has broken away from this approach and could therefore become a National Newspaper in time.

Just one criticism I would like if I may. That is, that it is like grapes. It takes a lot of swipes at a lot of things but there is no central target, no general line with a single clear object. If you could make environmental politics your central object, I think you would achieve a definite purpose. Actually environmental politics is far more revolutionary than socialism and communism and embraces many of the good points of both. It is the most urgent of all problems and has the advantage of being able to appeal to all parties and classes.

How about a summary of Ehrlich's 2 paperbacks (Pan Books) in future issues - 'How to be a Survivor: A plan to Save Spaceship Earth' and 'The Population Bomb' - also Barry Commoner's 'Closing Circle' and W and P Paddock 'Famine 1975'?

I note you have appeared for information on many topics in 'Whole



Earth Catalogue'. I will ask if an account of how to make your own artists materials is any use to Roger Booth.

Please find a donation to your newspaper. Sorry it is small: I am an O.A.P.

S Jacoby.

Redcaravans

Dear Muther Grumble, What will the bloody planners and 'developers' do next?

The Tourist Board tells us Redcar is one of the North's most beautiful resorts with 6 miles of beautiful Golden Beaches. O.K., if you don't look at the dilapidated houses on the sea-front, I.C.I. city in the distance pouring out enough smoke to cover the sun and fumes to cover the traditional seaside smells of chips, vinegar, fish and lubricating oil from the 'Fun' 'Palaces'.

As for the beach if you can pick your way over the plastic bags, broken glass, dead fish and other washed up debris too revolting to mention, and go down towards the Tees estuary you will eventually come to the most beautiful part of Redcar beach, the sand-dunes, these stretch for a couple of miles with a Golf Course on one side which puts a barrier between the dunes and the 'works', on the other side is the less polluted part of the 'Golden' beach.

However the planners seem to have thought of a really good way to get rid of this remaining beauty spot, put a caravan site along there and use the excuse of providing a facility to attract tourists. So now we have the prospect of an over polluted sea on one side and rows of caravans on the other with a strip of broken glass and plastic down the middle!

Tees-side Council are thinking of spending a helluva lot of bread on turning Redcar into a Conference centre, why don't they use some of it to turn somewhere else into a site e.g. Part of Redcar

called Warrenby which is being slowly pulled down and at the moment consists of rows of derelict houses and wasteground. This place is near the sea and the Town centre, has marshland on one side, and the golf course leading to the dunes and beach on the other. It is also out of the way enough not to be an eyesore.

Why don't they use their heads? Most people come here for the beach and sea, so soon they'll have a big caravan site, but no beach or holidaymakers.

Yours Beachcomber Pete.

P.S. I have nothing against caravan dwellers, I live in one myself carefully situated in our back yard.

Protest

Dear Grumble,

While sympathizing with Mike for his unfortunate incidents with the police, your editorial (April issue) read more like a boast than a genuine alert. Why are the police always made out to be silent, alien forces sent from another planet? You play on the traditional phobia of every self-respecting head and think that is enough. Freedom of speech for us, fine, but I suppose 'they' are not allowed this right? It really amounts to little more than an ego-trip - all too easy for those who are in it just for that sort of thing. But it's strange to see it in a magazine that generally refuses to recognize these unnatural barriers between people and is not content with anything less than the whole issue. If you think the problem with the police is of sufficient importance, why not write an article about it, taking it from both sides, perhaps with a word or two from that No 1. nasty, Chief Inspector Organ. Freedom of Speech is for everyone, after all. In the meantime, let them be, and they'll soon realize they're wasting their time.

Barriers grow through misunderstanding.

Mark

RECIPE

1 cup lentils or split peas (yellow)
1 small onion - chopped finely
1 clove garlic - crushed
1/2 teaspoon curry powder
Bay leaf, salt and pepper, oil.

Soak the lentils/split peas overnight in twice the amount of water (2 cups). Next day wash thoroughly and place in oven-proof dish with enough water to cover. Cook in a slow oven until lentils/peas have turned into a thick paste. Takes about two hours at a low temperature. The longer and slower they cook the better. Stir occasionally and add more water if necessary. When the lentils are ready fry the onions (and garlic) in oil for five minutes then add the curry powder, salt and pepper and a little water. Cook for a few minutes then mix well into the lentils and return to the oven for a further 15 minutes. If you like spicy foods try adding a few kardomans to the lentils while they are cooking. Cost - about 6p per person.



Sadly, and almost predictably, the day the street theatre moved back into Newcastle, the fuzz moved in.

About 20 people, dressed variously as monks, Long John Silver, gurus, and just plain freaks gathered on the steps of the Boer War memorial in the Haymarket. We played music, sang, danced and chanted on the lawns of the Church of St. Thomas the Martyr on a warm sunny afternoon.

Judy was really into the flute, helped by bongo drums, tambourines and a Jew's harp.

Little children from the city

were in on it right from the start, blasting away on whistles, tambourines and drums. Some painted their faces or wore stars while others chased away the musicians.

An attempt was made to levitate the grotesque Civic Centre itself but unfortunately the vibes weren't strong enough on that particular day.

However a fairly big crowd soon gathered, not having seen anything quite like this in Newcastle before, and judging by the smiles and laughter, they were getting into it too.

The music lilted and swayed, quickening in tempo until the atmosphere was a bit like a New Guinea war dance. People were really letting themselves and their friends know that they were alive.

But just then, the blue meanies arrived and insisted that the Civic Centre was private property.

One fuzz maintained that someone in the building had complained about the music, and insisted that if we did not move, some of his friends down at the station would help us on our way.

Strange - only caretakers are in the building on a Saturday as a rule unless a visiting party is being shown round.

So that was that. One man looked as though he was going to throw a fit. "Hippies, students, scrongers, queers," he seemed to be saying.

He was old, dirty, and quite alone.

Street theatre will attempt to amuse themselves and hopefully others every Saturday afternoon in the general vicinity of the Civic Centre and St. Thomas' Church.

Mentioned in the last edition of MG was a petition being organised by young people in Durham who are demanding action from the City Council concerning the provision of a new Youth Centre. That petition has now been completed and 5000 signatures have been handed over to the Council via the new Mayor, Mr. C. Mitchell. Thus the first stage in a new and long-term campaign has been completed. The next stage will depend on the Council's reaction to the petition.

Though there are a number of youth clubs in Durham they cater mainly for younger teenagers and the more middle-class of the older ones. This leaves a large group of young people uncatered for, consisting mostly of those who have left school at the earliest opportunity and are thus the 'least educated'. The jobs which are available to them are usually divorced from the rest of their lives and provide only a financial link with their leisure activities which they see as more important than any job. Their isolation from society is completed by the lack of acceptable leisure facilities in the community.

To these young people society is a blank face and they cannot get behind the face because they are not equipped with the means (which 'education' has given some of us) to adjust to the demands made upon them for fitting into that society. Thus they live on the fringe of society, evading

it, colliding with it and frustrated by it.

The result is often some kind of group identification in an attempt to find some sense of belonging, an example of this being the skinhead phenomenon. Violence becomes the only means of expression available to such groups and arises out of the boredom and frustration to which they are subjected. It is for these young people at least that some immediate provision is vital and the first step should be the Youth Centre.

It is vital that the Youth Centre is self-contained and wholly for the use of young people. This is because they need a sense of belonging and the building should be the context for that as they adapt it for themselves and come and go at will. The minimum amenities required would seem to be a coffee-bar, a lounge, and a large hall available for regular discos and dances. Several smaller adaptable rooms where young people could simply meet or carry out group activities would also be desirable.

Above all the Youth Centre should be somewhere where young people can simply BE, without any compulsion to DO anything. Any leadership on the premises

should be as non-directive as possible, while seeking at the same time to open new possibilities to the young people. It is vital that the latter be involved in the planning and running of the Centre right from the beginning.

It is also important that entry to the building should be free of charge, thus avoiding any discrimination. Running costs could be covered by sales of refreshments, dance tickets etc. Also in order to minimise dangers of damage to the building it should be designed as functionally as possible and not turn out to be fragile - a glass showpiece only useful for looking at.

The petition was launched by a small group of young people whose common link was simply a desire to get action from the authorities concerning the lack of youth facilities in the city, and who have sought to remain fairly anonymous throughout the project. Their assumption that a petition concerning the Youth Centre would receive a great deal of public support has been overwhelmingly confirmed.

The collecting of signatures has given a large numbers of young people the chance to work together constructively at a

cause which previously they could only moan about. And it has given the general public the chance to express themselves on a topic about which they have never been consulted. The support from old as well as young people has been very gratifying, and much time was spent talking to older people during the campaign for signatures. Such discussion was of itself very valuable and often led to some eye-opening revelations. For instance one old man told how he had fought unsuccessfully for a similar cause in Durham back in 1926!

The completed petition, along with some ideas about the Youth Centre, was presented to the Mayor on the last day of May. Present on the occasion were the massed cameras, eager microphones and poised pens of the media. The man who said least and seemed the most disinterested was the Mayor himself. He did not even pretend to be curious about the great wad of 5,000 signatures which was handed to him, let alone grateful that people were actually trying to uncover and meet needs in his community. And all he was heard to mutter to the press was that though in sympathy with 'the boys' the problem was that the Council really had not been able to find a site for the Youth Centre. You would think that with a change of Mayor the old excuses would get a change too!

Steve.

YOUTH CENTRE

Progressive Education

Until recently this part of the country has been totally devoid of any radical developments in the sphere of education: the tone of the area being firmly set by the Royal Grammar at Newcastle and the University of Durham - the former having only now caught on to the fashionable 'sport of enforced haircutting'!

These two pillars of society are supported by a whole host of schools, colleges and individuals, who emulate the type of education designed over a century ago, and condemned for the past fifty years (see Dewey, Neill, Reich, et al.). The North's 'regional problem' thus extends into the field of education, which is as behind other parts of the country as it is in industrial growth and employment.

A look at the distribution of independent 'progressive' schools in the British Isles, makes the North stand out like a boil on the bum - the two nearest being at Wetherby and Castle Douglas - while the South and South-East possess both the 'traditional' progressive schools (Summerhill, Monkton Wyld) and the more recent attempts at community 'education' (Kirkdale in London).

Justification of the retention of nineteenth century methods and attitudes is nowhere valid; State schools in the North achieving less success than most other areas. G.C.E. results are well below those for the nation as a whole (won't bore you with

statistics - get these from Dept. of Education and Science if you must!); schools and colleges have the lowest number of graduate teachers in England and Wales; there are fewer grammar school places and facilities available, and the region has the lowest percentage of teachers with specialist qualifications in its specialist schools. On top of all this (just a fraction of the anomalies) is the fact that the kids in the north-east have to compete with virtually all the minus factors of education - those disadvantages which accompany every depressed area (unemployment, huge families, no cash, Bingo mams etc.)

Consequently, it is interesting to note the panic which has shot through the bowels of the above mentioned pillars over the past few months, accompanying the first signs of unrest and dissatisfaction in the area.

Attempts to establish an S.A.U. in the area were quickly squashed through the rapid expulsion of its initiators from training college. Each unofficial (and official!) report which hinted at something amiss in the North was immediately met by a barrage of disdain, shock and horror. Even Sir Alec Clegg - education officer for the West Riding - was met with a tidal wave of opposition when he dared to throw a pebble into the stagnant waters of Northern Education, suggesting that "Bournemouth and Barnsley" were "worlds apart in terms of educational oppor-

tunity." Student evidence of a drug problem in Sunderland schools last summer instigated a warning by return post from the Local Education Authority that no such problem existed and further pursuance of such investigations would result in expulsion. Four months later the percentage of Sunderland pupils taking drugs reached such a height (literally!) that it hit the headlines of the local press. Recurring threats by various headmasters said that if pupils did not improve their appearance, attendance etc., action would be taken, were met with sympathy rather than outcry from the local press and populace. For suggesting in a newspaper article in the 'Sunderland Echo' that the curriculum of schools was irrelevant for life outside, and that there should be more time devoted to sex education and social problems, the writer was attacked (physically!) by a bespectacled, fur-clad lady in the public library, who had suffered the "gross embarrassment" of having to explain to her seventeen year old son the meaning of "contraceptive"! The recent pupil demonstrations in London were also met with disdain, "the Journal" demanding that they return to school and "behave themselves", and there be "cured of silly habits like shouting slogans about school power and headmasters' dictatorship." And so the story goes on.

However, over the last few months some developments have been made, and although pretty insignificant by standards elsewhere, it is a start.

Although not strictly of concern to this area (the N.E.) the success of the Scotland Road Free School in Liverpool, and other community developments in

Manchester, Leeds and Hull, are at least knocking on our front door, which has remained untouched for so long that even this effect has taken some time to raise the residents. Recent unrest at Lancaster University is again nearer to home than the L.S.E., while the S.A.U. is rapidly gaining influence in Liverpool and elsewhere.

Meetings to discuss the Newcastle Free School, while not yet having resulted in anything positive, are an indication of the interest in community projects of this type, and were saved for hassles by police which have accompanied such attempts elsewhere. Both John Orrd of Scotland Rd. and a speaker from the Manchester Free School have given talks to interested parties. May saw the arrival of Michael Duane (ex-headmaster of Rivinghill School, and co-editor of "Children's Rights") at Sunderland Polytechnic, in the first of what looks like being an interesting series of meetings and talks on the subject of "progressive education", - (size of audience was most untypical of Sunderland response to this kind of thing - replete with two nuns!). Other developments have taken place and were at least an improvement on the totally dead scene of last year. How long this will last no-one knows, but at least groups of people are coming together to discuss (if not yet practice) ideas and aims. "M.G." has helped (not a plug!) in providing a focal point for such activities, and should continue to do so, providing people don't just sit and ponder over their Brown Ale only to lose any inspiration down the urinator with other good things.

Malcolm Gerrie

Jarrow Schools

Jarrow schools are to go comprehensive! Despite a Labour controlled council, they have retained the eleven plus up until this year, and it has become increasingly obvious that abolishing the formal examination is the only gesture that will be made towards comprehensive education.

At the moment the town has a grammar school, a secondary modern school, and assorted junior and infant schools, as well as exclusively Catholic

schools that cover the age range from 5 - 18 years. Most of the schools are already co-educational.

To Jarrow school kids, comprehensive will mean virtually nothing. The younger kids will go to their existing schools, while the secondary age range will be streamed yearly on their teachers' recommendations. The higher streams will attend the present grammar school, those that are assessed as less able will go to the present secondary moderns. Then, as now, admittance to more specialised technical courses will be a long, hard fight, that few will bother to attempt as it seldom occurs to eleven year olds or to their parents that because he or she loves meccano but has difficulty in reading they may still have talent that only needs an opportunity to show itself. (Yet the High Level bridge over the Tyne can only have been

designed by someone with a passion for meccano.)

With very few exceptions this 'radical change in education' will mean that the only difference to the school kids will be the removal of the examination called the eleven plus, which will be replaced by annual tests. The council's proud boast is that they are making the change to comprehensive schools with the least possible disruption to the children - only a handful of whom will have to change schools. There is a lot of bad feeling about this amongst teachers, parents, and some of the kids.

The teachers and kids had seen it as an opportunity to brighten up their present dreary lives a bit, and a chance to be able to do more things that they wanted to do.

The parents' annoyance is mainly centred on the fact that they distrust the teachers'

assessment of their children even more than they did the eleven plus.

There is also a lot of discontent over the fact that the Catholic schools will now be brought at least nominally into the system, and the predominance of Catholic children in the town will leave the rest outnumbered. I'm not sure myself how big a problem this really is, but some of the mothers I have discussed the changeover plans with, see this as the biggest threat to their children.

The kids themselves seem to be mainly uninterested in something that should effect their lives greatly. A school is a school, is the general attitude. Call it what you like, it's still the same.

As far as Jarrow is concerned they are depressingly right.

Alison

Drowning In The Bath

The builders are putting in a bath. I am hoping that before the coal runs out the builders will have joined, plumbed and plastered a complete bathroom, with a bath in which I can immerse my cold body in calm, warm waters.

Is that quite straight? It is a work of reconstruction I am undergoing in these coming cold times with coal running out. Let me put you straight straightaway: into the picture. Here is my house in which I live;

and a part of this house is taken away, like sometimes your breath is taken away.

Excuse me, with all this banging and hammering and upset in my house I am not thinking straight. Is difficult to sort things out, what with all the banging and hammering. Is no place for thinking.

As I was saying, can you imagine a man with a hole in his head? Because like this is my house now the builders are here. A part is put out of action, is no useful any more. Is part of the house rooted out and thrown in a jumble of pipes, bricks and metal, rubble and suchlike, out in the backyard. Is pulled out and slung down splat, clatter! Is heap of rubble in the backyard.

Well now, scratch the plumbers head!...is his head is

having the hole in it? No. Let us leave the scratching of heads, for the hole will be filled in this reconstruction works. And all will be well enough when in the bath like paradise I can lay in calm waters when the fires have gone out.

(This banging!)

No! course not, course a man can't have a hole in his head. That was like analogy: bit taken out of house like bit taken out of head, would be the same. Is part of something and no use to be made of it. One lugged lump slopped in heap in the back-yard.

Now is this banging pulverising my head. Will ever I be in paradise waters, laying immersed in calm waters when the coal is run out?

Now is jarring and banging and pulverising me thinking crooked. Is that I cannot be

thinking and thinking and straight. Is like questions and problems are to me like hammers. What! and When! and suchlike is like hammers on my head. Is no use. Is no use me thinking of waters lapping 'gainst side of bath.

There aren't no straight lines. All this banging at my head till it is no use. Use it isn't at all. Like only a jumble of thinkings and crookednesses fit to be slopped in heap in back-yard.

The builders will be coming and measuring the hole in my head for right size stanchions and crossbeams and suchlike. Would have me fixed up in no time. I would be sinking like a stone the way the hole in my head is filled.

Guylum Jupe

Rights On!

A judge recently ordered that the Home Secretary be informed of the case of Errol Folkes, an 18 year old black man, who was held in Ashford Remand Centre and Latchmere House Detention Centre for 6 months, although he had been granted bail. He was finally released in February as a result of efforts by a black community welfare organisation called Harambee. Two months later he was found not guilty as charged by the Inner London Crown Court.

Errol's solicitors are now going to sue the Home Office for wrongful imprisonment, and his former solicitors for allowing him to remain locked up for so long. David Howard of Harambee does not think that the fact that Errol is black had anything to do with his misfortunes. He said:- "Any underprivileged (!) poorly-informed person is at risk in a similar situation."

In other words, if you're black or not, if you're poor enough and don't have the right contacts, this could happen to you.

natives in everyday life. The approach is basically practical, with ideas for everyone who has got beyond saying "not me, mate."

Protest! is not underground but it is certainly not straight either. It's very professional, in material and presentation. It's expensive at 20p - due to the usual distribution rip-offs if you want to get on bookstalls etc. - but there is a pass-it-round scheme that makes it available for 5p to each reader, plus a free copy of the next issue. That's apart from saving paper and trees!

Protest! needs sellers and trade outlets - both get a generous cut. For copies (20p) or offers to sell, articles, pics., etc. etc. contact Graham Jay, BCM-818, London W.C.1.

Mein Kampf

Sir Keith Joseph, head of the SS, told Parliament this month that the first annual uprating of pensions was the culmination of many years of campaigning by pensioners - thus admitting that if you want a living income, or even an existence level income from the SS, then you've really got to fight for it.

Union Overboard

Recently the South Shields Trades Council expelled the local branch of the National Union of Seamen (which is one of the biggest in the country) for registering under the Industrial Relations Act. This caused considerable panic at Union Headquarters. What would happen if all Trades Councils followed this lead?

Commercial

Upon being asked to appear on a recent TV commercial for the Evening Standard, Mr. Richard Neville (travel correspondent for a prominent young persons newspaper) enquired "How much bread man". "none" came the reply. Mr. Neville will not be appearing.

I.S. and G.L.F.

On 25th February, 1972, a review of the Gay Liberation Front Manifesto was submitted to the Socialist Worker. The editorial board rejected this first draft on the 10th March. A second draft which was somewhat shorter, was duly submitted on the 12th March. Numerous alterations had been made, notably that the first five paragraphs had been deleted because the editorial board objected to them as being 'irrelevant and wrong'.

Briefly, this section (which we have read) said such things as "we think it is important to fight for socialism on all fronts". The main point raised was that although the struggles of the working class are of main importance, the ideas of Capitalism must be attacked. A mass movement "will only be revolutionary if it rejects the basic ideas of Capitalist society" - right on. It goes on to say "Socialism cannot be achieved without overthrowing racism, the oppression of women and homosexuals of both sexes".

Obviously, Socialist Worker doesn't agree because the second draft (without these paragraphs) was accepted on 15th March, but not published until 13th May. What happened to solidarity?

We acknowledge that we are repeatedly nasty about the Internation-

al Socialists. But while they continue to have an inane centralist policy and to consistently patronise, discriminate and generally look down on Alternative groups (e.g. G.L.F.), we feel that what we say is fair comment.

Inside Out?

The recent scandal over people in mental homes who should not be there is an amazing example of the way people become submerged in numbers and institutions. The National Association for Mental Health reckons that 40% of patients in mental institutions could be discharged - that is about 25000 people!! There are two main problems. The first is that many of them have nowhere to go, and need to go somewhere definite as the first stage in being allowed and able to lead normal lives again. The second is that many of them have been in institutions for so long that although they are no longer classified as mentally sick, they are suffering from 'institutional neurosis'. In other words they have been so long in restrictive institutions that they are no longer capable of thinking or doing for themselves. Maybe the commission set up to investigate these cases of people who are interned for long periods with no due cause should also consider whether mental institutions as they are at the moment are not more harmful to most of their inmates, than some other more enlightened possibilities for psychological care. Maybe we should go deeper and see if the society that calls these people mentally sick should not itself undergo radical change so that fewer people are unable to live in it as useful members of society. Who's really mad?

Released

Had Release not suffered "The Great Fire", they may have had difficulties carrying on at their old Princesdale Road address anyway. Apparently the local council had refused planning permission for them to use the building for business purposes, saying that the space thus occupied could be better utilised to house two or three families in a very overcrowded area.

Shucks!

A Japanese factory making a chemical to prevent water pollution has suspended operations after it was accused of causing air pollution.
(from the Guardian)

No Black Looks

Ted Heath: "A funny thing happened on the way to the Commons. I was walking down the street and bumped into Enoch - and he smiled at me."

Clean Smells

Some cardboard tubes that had contained incense, from Bombay, when pulled apart turned out to be old Surf and Daz washing powder packets. Still it's nice to see a bit of recycling of waste paper 'n' it.

Oops!

"The Limits to Growth" (see MG5 page 8) is published by Earth Island, at £1, and written by Meadows, Meadows, Randers and Behrens. (sorry to have left it out last time!).

Sorry - last issue we forgot to carry the address of POSSE (see MG5 page 9). It is 16, Saint Saviourgate, York - tel. 28723).

Corny Old Story

MARCH 27th 1801

A tumult took place in the cornmarket at Sunderland, in consequence of the price of wheat, 40s. being demanded by one of the dealers for a boll of that grain. The populace immediately raked the kennels for dirt, with which they besmeared the farmer, who was glad to retreat to the Fountain Inn, the windows of which house were assailed with stones and brick-bats, as were also those of the Half Moon and Queen's Head. Besides the damage sustained in the brittle materials of the houses attached, a quantity of corn was trodden under foot, and several of the farmers' carts were hurried into the Wear, one of which was seen floating to the sea next morning. A justice of the peace, with a few constables, seized upon one of the insurgents, and committed him to the Cape, but he was soon liberated by a body of rioters. Things continued thus till about nine o'clock, when the justice, with an increased body of constables, again made their appearance, and read the riot act on the steps of the George Inn, by candle-light, but with so little success, that it was deemed prudent to plant a military guard round his house during the night. In the midst of the affray, a party of the Lancashire militia was called out; they loaded their muskets, but received no orders to fire.



Angela

Angela Davis was acquitted and once again the U.S. Government have wasted an incredible amount of money trying to suppress Black people. Coupled with the fact that the two remaining Solidad Brothers were acquitted as well, it seems to indicate that the U.S. Government is clutching at straws.

Protest!

Protest! is a new national magazine for radical change without violence. The initial effort and bread came from one man who "screwed it out of the system while working too long as a straight journalist."

Protest! takes up the causes of exploited environment, people and animals. The idea is for more people to take over control of their own lives - by putting pressure on industries and authorities and by exploring the real alter-

Petition

The following petition has been started here in Durham. It is hoped that support for it will be widespread. If you would like to help collect signatures, write or even better come to see us at Durham Claimants' Union, 13 Silver Street, Durham City - or go to your local C.U. How about collecting signatures yourself and sending them to us?

We the undersigned demand that the 'A' code (the secret rules by which the Social Security operate under the blanket of the Official Secrets Act) be made public. That long-term allowances should not be deducted from extra benefits. That all claimants be given their heating allowance without having to ask for it each winter. That all pensioners etc. have their rise back-dated, with a statement saying it will not affect their legal allowances or benefits. That all claimants should be given a refusal in writing about any claims that they are refused. That the practise of sending special investigators to spy on unsupported mothers etc. be stopped.

Also that all Social Security offices should have properly sound-proofed cubicles. That waiting rooms should have toilets for claimants, facilities for children, public telephones and that the address of the local Claimants Union be on view to all claimants.

A message to those people who went to the Festival of Light Rally at the City Hall in order to see Gay Lib and Street Theatre shout and scream and make fools of themselves: sorry to disappoint you all, but I'm afraid we had no intention of doing anything of the sort. We were tempted, how we were tempted, many tactics were discussed in the weeks before, but we managed to ignore the emotional aspects and look at the realities of the situation. It is a fact that the events at these meetings are of no importance to the organisers of the Festival of Light except that the hall is filled, and the numbers attending can be quoted as 'supporters' to pressurise politicians into changing the law.

As the main aims of these meetings are to attract as many people and as much publicity as possible, and 'Operation Rupert' tactics would be added attractions both to the uncommitted public and the sensationalist press. It is up to us to give as little publicity to this and show the whole thing up to be a boring, petty farce.

Make no mistake, the Rally at the City Hall was a farce; the first speaker Peter Hill and the main speaker Arthur 'Jesus' Blessit, made statements in complete opposition to each other apparently without the audience noticing. Arthur Blessit was using the Festival to lay down his ultra heavy Jesus trip and in turn was being used to fill the City Hall (and the adjacent St. James' Church on closed circuit T.V.). The whole evening was a masterpiece of hysteria and nonsense. Peter Hill waffled on about sending bibles out to the heathen Blacks and communists, everybody sang "This little light of mine" and clapped their hands for Jesus, and at the right moment Arthur Blessit swept on to the stage like the epitome of Jesus Christ Superstar.

He was an expert at controlling the audi-

ence's thought and emotions; first he was both Morecambe AND Wise, joking, laughing, shouting fooling about; then he was Jerry Rubin, spaced out, revolutionary, anarchistic, recommending people to put his 'Jesus Loves You' stickers into business reply-paid envelopes (careful Arthur, that's illegal you know), then he was Billy Graham, telling everyone you only need Jesus, not dope, acid, smack, or any of that shit, just Jesus - and almost said you don't

need law, just Jesus; and Peter Hill, sitting just in front of us behind the stage muttered something about poor Arthur shutting up, though it may have been a remark about the weather.

He carried on looking uncomfortable and constipated - as did several of the dog-collars in the audience - as Arthur moved further and further from the subject of the meeting onto his own trip, taking the audience along with him with his dazzling, speed freak chatter, as full of catch phrases and over exuberance as a cornflakes commercial, Arthur became the centre of the universe, grew deathly serious and led them into a heavy prayer, and asked for 'those who wished to receive Jesus into their hearts' to come to the front.

About 150 came forward, mostly pubescent trendily dressed schoolgirls (so now Arthur is Mick Jagger as well - truly a man of many talents). They were taken below the stage by an army of grey-suited 'personal councillors' to be told the truth about Jesus. We followed, frightened a few people when the significance of Gay Lib badges was realised, involved ourselves in a few pointless arguments and then went home.

That was about it really, not a very worthwhile night out for anybody, and far more people were in the Bingo Halls than in the City Hall, and we're not convinced that this is by any means a 'majority' movement. The best way of fighting this sort of irrational anti-pornography movement is to show how unimportant pornography is in relation to the more serious problems that people have to deal with. We find it more important that people should have enough to eat, and a place to live, rather than how 'moral' their life is - something these Christians don't seem to be able to realise.

Arol.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT



Stoke Newington 8

In August last year, police took 6 people from a flat in Stoke Newington, London. They were charged with "conspiracy to cause explosions" and possession of guns and explosives. Two more people from North London are now also on the "conspiracy charge. Three of the 8 were put on bail and the rest were in prison for 9 months before their trial came up on June 1st. In prison 9 months WITHOUT TRIAL! Remember Jake Prescott and Ian Purdie? They were tried last November on the same type of charge. The police didn't manage to set up Purdie, but they got Prescott convicted on hardly any evidence...he's now doing 15 years for nothing!

But what is this "conspiracy" crime they have all been charged under? In criminal law, a conspiracy is an agreement between two or more persons to do something lawful by unlawful means or to do something unlawful. For the crime to be complete nothing has to be put into effect since it is the agreement itself which is the crime. Although two persons at least must obviously be involved, the second or others need not be brought before a court, since they may be deemed to be "unknown". It isn't even necessary for the prosecution to prove that the defendants know one another.

It is an easy charge to prove since a) the jury need only infer guilt from the evidence before them. and b) because of the laws of evidence peculiar to conspiracy, whereby the prosecution is able to put forward a whole mass of material that would otherwise be inadmissible in a criminal court.

Originally, when conspiracy was introduced in the 13th Century, it was a remedy against those who made false accusations in court. By the 17th Century it had been expanded to the extent that it was itself a crime. It quickly developed to become a favourite legal weapon in the state's arsenal since, in addition to the above reasons, as it is a common law offence, it can be brought for anything - even for an offence established neither by Parliament nor in law.

Its use has developed with particular historical epochs. In the 17th Century, it



I was hungry and you blamed it on
the communists,
I was hungry and you circled the
moon,
I was hungry and you told me to
wait,
I was hungry and you set up a
board of inquiry,
I was hungry and you said "so
were my ancestors,"
I was hungry and you said "we
don't employ men over 45,"
I was hungry and you said "God
helps those who....."
I was hungry and you told me I
shouldn't be,
I was hungry and you told me
machines do that work now,
I was hungry and you had to pay
your defence budget,
I was hungry and you said "The
poor are always with us,
Lord,
When did we see you hungry?"

Matthew 25 - 37

was used extensively against the political enemies of the monarchy, and in the 19th, it became a key weapon against workers actively engaged in class struggle. Today, it is used more extensively than ever. The police have understood what the state has always known, namely, that in a situation where it is impossible to prove the commission of an actual crime, it is possible to "prove" conspiracy. And since the sentence is unlimited (except where it is determined by statute) it can therefore often be greater than for the substantive offence, which suits them fine.

The trial of the Stoke Newington 8, has a history very similar to the political trials of the right wing/fascist dictatorships of Spain and some Latin American countries. For months before the trial, the defence has been hampered and hindered from being as effective as it could be, by the Home Office and unsympathetic lawyers. Two months ago, 20

Queens Councillors were approached concerning the defence of 7 or the 8 accused. One of the accused had managed to find a Q.C. All of these Q.C.'s said they were too busy to do it. That not one of these offered his services to the defense is very, very unusual, and a lot can be read into it. With no professional people willing to defend them, the load fell onto friends and supporters, who offered their help as McKensies Advisors (unqualified representatives). But then the Home Office refused permission to allow these representatives to see the defendants in prison, even though the Law Society (representative body of the legal profession) said they should be allowed to. So now, not only does the defense have next to no qualified help, but the unqualified helpers are being hindered. The prosecution, of course, has none of these problems. It has all the legal expertise it needs. Over the period of the trial, we are all going to be subjected to the political bias of the mass media - making comments on the accusations levelled at the defendants. The 8 have already been presumed guilty by the more sensational and widely read newspapers. The heinous crime that they are being accused of - that of destroying property - is one that strikes right at the roots of reaction amongst those who believe in wealth.

How To Eat Cheaply And Live Like A God

One of the cheapest and healthiest ways to eat is macrobiotic - a food system with whole grains as its basis - rice, wheat, barley, maize, millet, rye and buckwheat, and vegetables.

The writer of this is a vegetarian. This is also about vegetarianism.

There are many reasons why people are vegetarian. One of the reasons is economic - meat is expensive. Meat is also dead animal brothers and sisters. Trapped and exploited. Pumped with chemical foods and hormones. Slaughtered in their millions so that the more affluent members of this planet can have their roast cow for Sunday lunch, their pig and eggs for breakfast, The raising and killing of animals for human consumption is not only anti-life, it is also something that practically we cannot afford to keep on doing. It takes nine times as much land to produce 1lb. of animal protein as it does to produce 1 lb. of equivalent vegetable protein. You don't need to eat meat. Whole civilisations have been and still are vegetarian. If you're worried about protein (which is a scientific/nutritional myth, but that's another story.) then vegetables, whole grains, nuts and dairy produce all contain 'proteins'.

Thinking about eating is thinking about what you build your body with, what food you are giving your cells. If you eat well and simply you soon find that your whole being improves. Health and consciousness. Simple and cheap.

One of the best ways to

reduce the amount of money you spend on food is to get together with other people and buy such things as sugar, coffee, flour, grains, vegetables in bulk. You then pay wholesale prices. Because we live inside a consumer/capitalist framework, every time a commodity changes hands for resale purposes, the price goes up. Cut out all the stages in between and the price you pay for food drops, (and the need for consumer-oriented shops vanishes as well. Co-operative living.) It would be good if somebody could get a food cooperative going in this area. Buy food in bulk and sell it at cost price.

One of the main problems with food bought in shops is that most fruit, vegetables and meat is produced using chemical fertilisers sprays hormones you name it, they use it. Fish is not much safer as the sea is rapidly becoming poisoned. Food grown using chemical fertilisers does not contain the same amount of nutrients as organically grown food (it also contains some pretty unpleasant poisons). Ever tasted a naturally grown carrot and compared it with those orange things they sell in shops?

(Basically what I am saying is that if you want good, cheap food it's best to grow your own. It's far cheaper and it's amazing what a variety of vegetables and fruit you can grow: from gooseberries to parsnips).

Fortunately more and more farmers (certainly in the States and to some extent in Britain) are beginning to realise that growing food organically is in the long

run cheaper - mainly because the more fertilisers and sprays you use, the worse your soil gets. If you keep pouring water into blotting paper without renewing the blotting paper, eventually the blotting paper falls to pieces. Chemical sprays have also been responsible for wide-scale damage to the ecosystem, and some of their side-effects may only become visible in the future. The price we may eventually have to pay for our disregard for the natural laws of growth, could be a planet whose soil cannot grow anything at all.

Eating cheap

Try eating nothing but brown rice for three days or if your feeling really together, ten days. It cleans out the system completely and gives you lots of energy.

Fruit and vegetables can be bought cheaply from markets late in the afternoon just before they close. Often they'll give you bruised fruit and battered vegetables. If you get given a lot of fruit you can always turn it into wine, chutney or jam.

A lot of so called 'weeds' that grow in this country are in fact very good to eat. For example: Dandelion: flowers can be used to make wine; roots can be washed, dried and make coffee. (if you do this be sure to use roots of dandelions growing far from motorways or heavy traffic roads. Lead vapour in car fumes is absorbed by dandelions and stored in roots. Lead is a cumulative poison - your body can't

get rid of it. Another glittering star in the epic story of the motor car). Fresh young leaves can be used in salad or cooked like spinach.

For lots of information on what 'weeds' are good to eat see "Get to know your Weeds". I know they have a copy in Newcastle City Library.

Bean sprouts:- Nearly all beans can be sprouted and eaten. High in vitamin A and C. Taste good too. Buy 11 lb of small green beans from Chinese or Indian grocer (about 20p a pound, but one pound beans....six pounds sprouts). Soak a cupful in water overnight. Put them in a flower pot and cover with a damp cloth. Leave in a warm dark place. Run water through the beans three times a day. The beans must be kept moist, dark and warm to grow. Within four to five days you will have a flower pot bursting full of bean sprouts. The bean sprouts can be eaten raw, steamed for ten minutes, or fried in a little oil.

Peace, Joy and Liberation to all beings.

For the next issue I am getting a list of addresses together of places that sell wholesale/cheap food. Any ideas or addresses to Gordon, 51 Larkspur Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle 2.

Gordon

Gordon's recipe for Maysies Dahl (enough for two people) is on Page 6.

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CLAIMANTS UNITE

Resisting

The Social Security is a part of the Welfare State. Whose welfare? They have used many and varied euphemisms in the past also, but always to the same purpose:- the prevention of riot and revolution amongst the dispossessed.

People in work are kept under control by the threat of dole queues, immigrants, women, who will seize their jobs if they misbehave themselves. Their pay is sufficient to keep up a demand for production - and thus profits for the bosses.

People non-employed must also be kept in check; so they are given welfare benefits which ensure that they stay alive (in case capitalism should need them in the future) and have just enough spending power to keep the economy (profits) in motion. Controls are applied by propaganda, which attempts to make the claimant feel demoralised for not having the 'right to work' (right to be exploited), and by the general sadistic humiliation techniques employed by the agents of the State administering the benefits. Claimants have greatest value to the ruling class in that they are a visible deterrent (a means to depress wages) to those in work who might otherwise agitate too fiercely for the State's equilibrium.

Despite differences in the faces of the agents of oppression, then, employed and non-employed are being used to the same ends. The apparent divisions are fostered by the capitalist machine in order to avoid a united working class.

By destroying the controls the State has on claimants, the Claimants' Unions are simultaneously weakening the bosses' hold on those in work.

But it's not that easy to destroy centuries old techniques of oppression: given the wages around here, many people, particularly with families, who overcome fascistic 'Right to Work' propaganda etc. may well consider themselves better off on the dole - until they try it.

Under the Social Security Acts, you've got no real rights at all - even your basic benefits can be withheld if the S.S. are feeling particularly spiteful and you feel powerless. And you haven't got the minor concessions wrung out of the bosses' men in the average workplace by the relative strength of the unions. Unless you contribute to making it so.

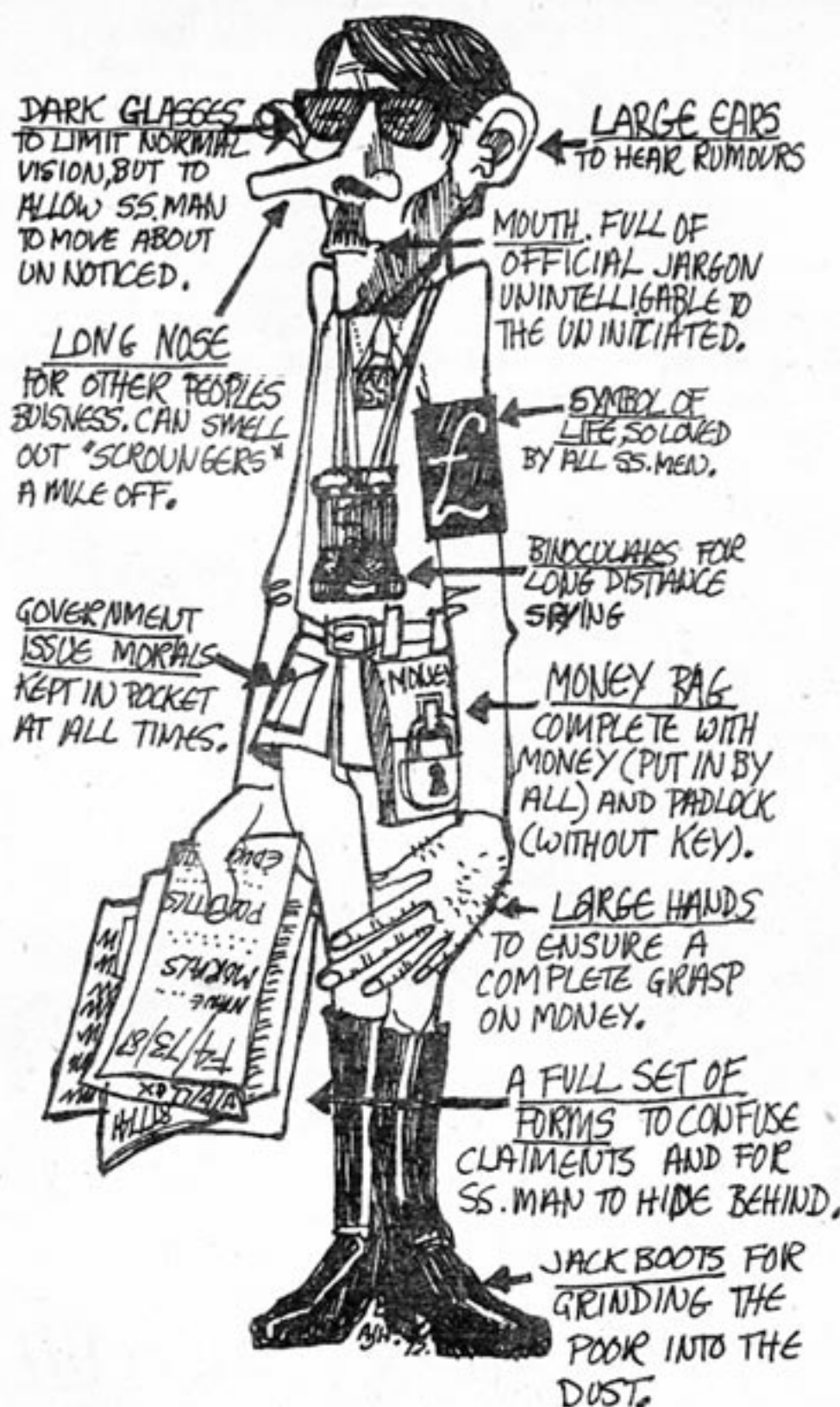
The Claimants' Unions are out to gain as many reforms in the treatment of claimants as possible - like any Trade Union would, though the methods and motivation are different; but this is merely as a practice in the resistance techniques of mutual aid, self management, the making of collective demands (NOT bargaining!), grass roots direct action, and so on.

Ultimately the C.U.'s are a revolutionary movement. Claimants who hope to win control over their own lives by piecemeal attacks on the S.S.'s worst excesses soon see that it's not the Social Security that oppresses, but the ruling class that creates and nurtures such a system. And they have only to look at their neighbours in work to see that their oppression stems from the same source. At work, the bosses and the profits can be seen more directly.

Direct confrontation with the State in its S.S. guise is only going to smash it when there are simultaneous attacks on all its other fronts.

Wearing away one facet of the system is an effective form of resistance; but only the combined weight of an angry united working class can totally take the offensive and abolish our oppressors. Meanwhile the Claimants' Unions keep chipping away....

THE COMPLETE SOCIAL SECURITY MAN.



breaking down the S.S.'s defenses on numerous issues.

All this has immense immediate value for the claimants involved - by organising and acting collectively, recognising the mutual interests, the essential oneness of the working class whose direct struggle is with the D.H.S.S. rather than the employers (tho' the S.S. is no more than the employers' buffer against the non-employed), making united demands and never facing the State Machine alone - all this has an immediate effect on the claimants relationship with the S.S. Intimidation and harassment lose their power and can be deflected back on the bureaucrats; there are material financial gains to be made, and when you are subsisting on the breadline these are important.

But more vital than these lessening of the pressures of everyday life of the claimants is the experience it gives the people involved in self-management and identification of interest. The confrontation in the S.S. office, controlled not by the clerks as in the case when an individual goes alone, but by the claimants, shows up the relationship of the individual to the S State in sharp clarity. The experience gained by the claimants can be utilised in other fields of action.

On a larger scale, the millions of claimants across the country acting aggressively in unison to smash the state would be a force that the State has not allowed for and couldn't handle. The whole rotten system could fall!

The Claimants' Unions are collectives of militant people seeking to chip away at the system until such time as the working class as a whole realises its power to destroy the whole edifice. They go on the offensive to escalate the conflict rather than shielding people from it: welfare workers and such like, act as a barrier between the people and the struggle, thus obscuring the issues and preventing people from gaining practice in the control of their own lives. The C.U.'s are totally opposed to the welfare approach. They are not advice centres:- anyone wanting advice on 'rights' under the National Insurance or S.S. Acts can go to the local Citizens Advice Bureaux where they will find staff prepared to devote a considerable amount of time and effort unravelling the intricacies of legal entitlements.

The C.U.'s need people whose aim is to gain control of their lives; who wish to resist the fascism of bureaucracy; to fight the S.S. in every way possible; claimants who have experienced conflict in the S.S. office and want to direct hostility and anger back at the State. You don't have to be clued up about the law - you acquire that knowledge in practice anyway. You just need to feel angry!

There are a few existing Claimants' Unions in the North-East (see graffiti page for details); if you are a claimant and want to fight back, don't dissipate your anger by trying to go it alone; unite with others who feel as you do and join your nearest C.U.

If there isn't one near you, form one! You only need a handful of people to start off with: there's a lot of militancy about and you just need to make yourself known for lots of people to come forward wanting to utilise their experiences and hatred of the system in a positive way. Muther Grumble can arrange discussions with South Shields and Durham C.U. activists for any claimants who'd like to talk about the practicalities involved in getting a C.U. off the ground in a new area. Write or ring MG if you're interested.

Organising

The only way to fight the S.S. is by combined aggression. The bureaucrats putting the law into practice - or more frequently completely ignoring the law as they play out the fantasies of their means-tested little minds - can cope (up to a point) with individual acts of hostility by threatening the claimant with economic penalties, the police, the welfare, etc. They can't do this to a group of people backing each other up. And they can't cope at all with united angry claimants who know when the S.S. are overstepping even their wide legal limits (which they are doing most of the time): they have to back down. And while they are on the run claimants can attack again and again on different demands,

Appealing

The claimant who kicks up a fuss about S.S. decisions to withhold benefits, refuses special grants and other tactics of the S.S. intimidation by economic sanctions will, after much pointless arguing with local bureaucrats ("I'm only doing a job"), get offered a bright white light at the end of the tunnel:- an independent appeals tribunal. "If you don't like our decision, you can appeal against it to an independent tribunal who will assess the merits of your case objectively.", says the S.S., flourishing the standard of the British Sense of Fair Play, unbiased justice and kindred hoary myths.

So you decide to appeal to this objective unprejudiced body....and what do you find? If you come from South Shields area you are summoned to an address in Gateshead, re-assuringly independent - until you get there. To discover that it is held in the Masonic Hall. First doubts begin to creep in: the Masons are not renowned for their fraternal dealings towards the lower strata of the working class, yet there could be reason to believe that they feel at one with such dignitaries as S.S. managers and their like. Is it possible that this is the only building on Tyneside available for appeals? Or is there a suspicion of a little wheeling and dealing?

Next you venture to the appointed room for your hearing. You are confronted by a bench of 3 strangers; a clerk; and an S.S. man to put their case. Any resemblance to a court is in your own head. You may feel like the accused; but then British Justice is impartial too, isn't it? The Holy Trinity on the bench (usually 2 prosperously besuited men getting on in years and a lady of a certain age in a vicarage tea party hat) are carefully selected by the Supplementary Benefits Commission for their independence; the chairman is a senior civil servant nominated by the Lord Chancellor; one of the others is a business man or woman nominated by the Chamber of Commerce; and one is a Trade Unionist delegated from a Trades Council.

The odds against you are immediately 2 to 1. But take another look at your fellow worker, the Trade Unionist: rumour has it that anyone delegated for this job from his Trades Council has to be assessed for his lack of bias before acceptance by the S.B.C. - and obviously any feeling of solidarity with the working class man or woman, the claimant, has no place in an 'independent' appeals tribunal. So there's a good chance that 'your' rep will be a bigoted official of some scab union who thinks you are living off the backs of his members. Which kind of puts you in a minority of one.

The S.S. man puts the case for their refus-

al to grant you whatever it is you have claimed; you put your case; the tribunal ask you questions - often mostly impertinent and irrelevant (like "Why don't you get a job?"); the Clerk stays out of the discussion but don't be misled, his moment comes after you have left. His job is to advise the Tribunal on points of law; as the law is a deliberately ambiguous one which states more or less that the local S.S. Manager's judgement is paramount, you can imagine what sort of advice he gives.

A few days later you get a letter in the post with the independent decision, which is usually indistinguishable from the original (dependent) decision of the S.S. against which you were appealing. There is no further redress within the system.

O.K., so why bother to appeal?

Well, for a start you can win appeals, with a lot of planning and a little luck. The S.S. officials have become so used to stomping all over claimants, that they regularly indulge in overtly 'illegal' activities. A reasoned argument put to even the most biased appeal tribunal is frequently enough to expose these jack boot tactics, resulting in S.S. decisions being reversed. There is no sense in letting them always get away with it.

But there's another good reason for appealing even if you suspect that there is a very little chance of winning: if you don't like the S.S. very much, it is an excellent way of putting them to a great deal of inconvenience, hassle and expense - just the tactics they use on the claimants all the time.

It costs them a lot of time to prepare the documents for the hearing; they then have to set up the tribunal and send one of their top bureaucrats to do the prosecution bit; and they have to pay the expenses of everyone involved.. This includes the fares of the claimant and his representatives and any wages they lose as a result of attendance. Consequently, even if your case hasn't a leg to stand on it is worth while to attend along with your permitted two reps. just so that they have to pay you all for the privilege of witnessing the charade.

There is another important aspect in the Trade Unionist: some are pretty good and prepared to demonstrate their sympathy for the claimant. Pressure should be brought to bear on all the T.U. tribunalists to stand firm on the people's side of the fence, and to understand the nature of the S.S. system and the role it tries to force the claimant to play. It won't make system any fairer, but the Trade Unionists ought to understand that they and the claimants are 'the same people only wearing different hats by the accident of whether they are employed or not.



Those who do accept this not very obscure concept should be prepared to demonstrate it in practice. Those who don't should not be delegated from Trades Councils to judge claimants - they can be shown up for what they are at a tribunal and a campaign can be mounted accordingly.

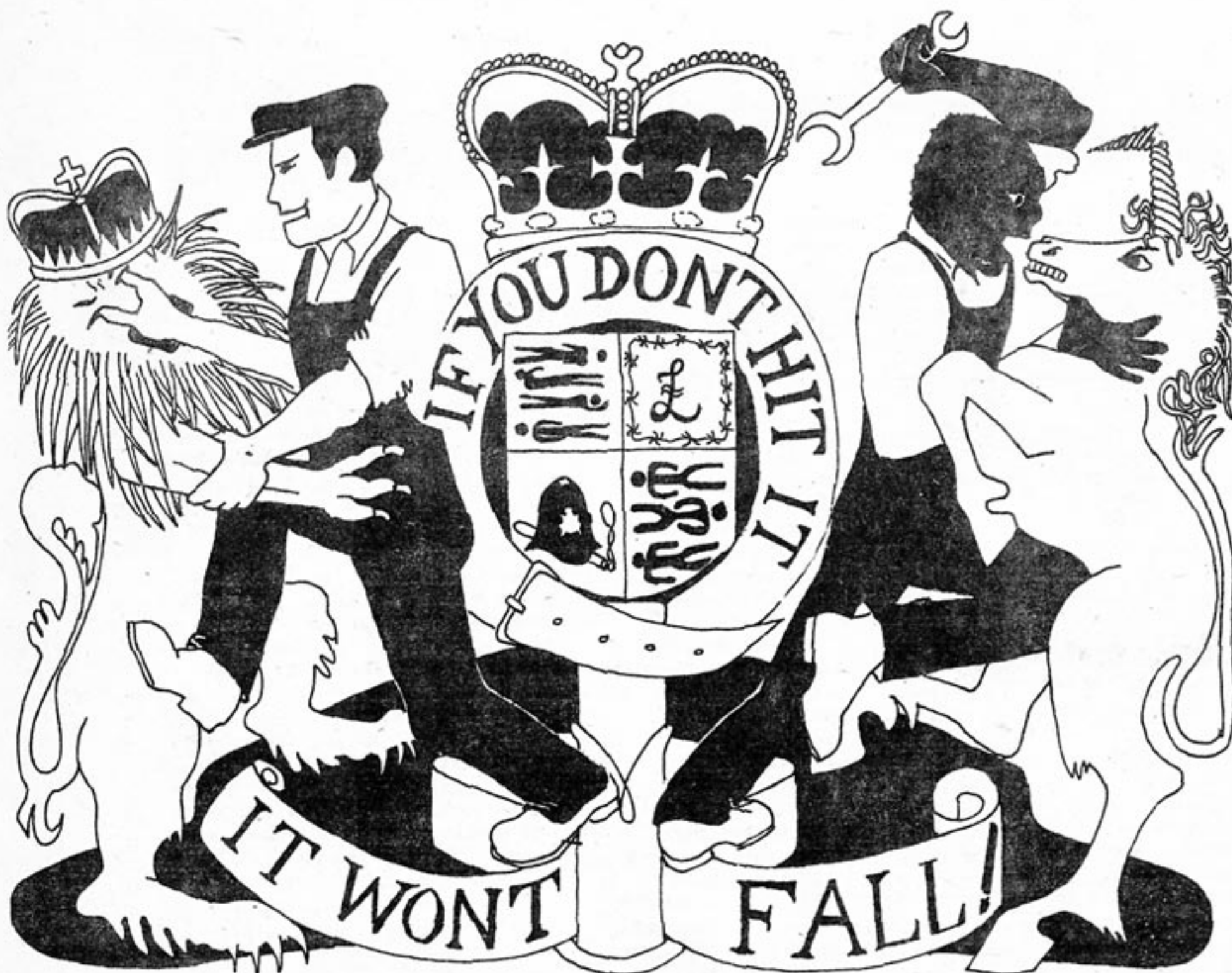
So how to win an appeal?

If you are in a C.U. your union will have a wealth of experience in this respect to draw on and can arrange representation and so on. For claimants not organised, the best advice is to form a union, for it is only by united action and solidarity that anything can be achieved. Some points that have proved effective and may help a non-unionised claimant to present a 'successful' case (of course you never really succeed under this system):-

- Ask for an appeal form from the S.S. rather than writing out your own. Sometimes, if they know you seriously intend to appeal and they suspect you may win, they back down before letting it get that far, which saves you a lot of time and effort.
- Write as little as possible on the appeal form as to your reasons for being dissatisfied with the S.S. decision. They have to let you know their full case, but there's no sense in your forewarning them of your best points. Better spring them on them.
- Go through your case thoroughly with your reps (maximum of 2), making sure you can answer the S.S.'s case and can go on the offensive without apparently contradicting each other.
- Refuse to attend the tribunal if it consists of less than 3 people; you can guess which one will be 'unavoidably detained' if you agree to less than a full hearing.
- Prepare a written statement of the major points of your case and criticisms of the S.S.'s statements. This prevents them distorting your arguments and assists the sympathetic member of the tribunal (if any) to argue on your behalf after you have left. Do enough copies for one each for the 3 tribunal members, the S.S. man, and you and your reps. it looks more scary to the bench if it's typed.
- Be aggressive throughout. If your appeal fails, there's nothing much within the S.S. system

that you can do. You can publicly kick up a stink in the upper echelons of the S.B.C., which may help the next person even if it does nothing for you. It's often better to do this before the hearing though, if you need the bread badly and fear you might be refused.

As the effectiveness of Claimants' Unions grows, so does the extent of the conflict. Repression follows fast on any suspicion that the C.U.'s are fermenting discontent and actively expressing it. Over the past two or three years, considerable numbers of C.U. activists all over the country have been harassed by the police, their places searched and possessions taken away, on all sorts of flimsy pretexts. Many have ended up inside as political prisoners - 3 of the Stoke Newington 8 are C.U. members.



In Winterton Hospital, Sedgefield, there are few wards - one female, one male and two mixed - where relatively normal people are kept as in-patients. They may be depressed, or hysterical, or nervous - and all have some mental problem; but they are in no sense of the word insane. Many have had treatment as out-patients before they were finally committed to hospital.

In this sense, the wards represent a failure on the doctor's part to help people, in that they have been forced to take normal people out of their normal environment and place them in an asylum built for lunatics.

While not suggesting that Winterton is totally ineffective where the insane are concerned, the central failure of the system lies in this: all the sane patients are very sensitive people, people who are liable to be hurt more easily by the strains and tensions of ordinary life, and to one who has actually been a patient it is obvious that Winterton, rather than removing the strains, substitutes others of its own. To the sensitive, it is often an ordeal to have to meet and deal with the mentally sub-normal who are allowed out into the grounds of the hospital; to married men and women of middle age it is humiliating to have to ask the permission of a young girl nurse before they can even go out to buy a packet of cigarettes; frequently the patients in one ward have nothing in common with each other but their depression, and conversation becomes morbid, leading the patients to brood more and more on their individual difficulties. Many are left with no idea of how long they will be in, and they are frightened and frustrated by the feeling of being caught up in an impersonal machine over which they have no control.

Unfreedom

The lay-out of the female ward consists of a dormitory, a room containing few beds, several single rooms, a lounge-cum-dining-room, plus toilets and bathrooms etc. Some of the toilets have no locks on them. The decoration is bright and cheerful, and many improvements have been made in the last two years. But the atmosphere is inevitably one of an institution. Meal times, times of getting up and going to bed are rigidly regulated, and the patients are expected to help with ward duties which are sometimes distasteful. One patient, told to clean out the toilets, was angry and distressed. Under-staffed as Winterton is, restric-

Winterton Hospital is for some a home, for others a prison and for a small minority a hospital where they can receive the treatment they need in order to return to the outside world. Most of the patients in Winterton receive tablets or capsules in one form or another, which in many instances are either dropped down the toilet or simply dropped on the floor by patients who pretend they have taken them.

Most of these patients, I believe, could be discharged if first of all they had relations or friends who could look after them. These are the long term patients who know the ins and outs of the place from the tea room to the betting shop; most of them having been in Winterton and other hospitals for as long as they can remember.

It's a home for these, and when one mentions going into a hostel they refuse, saying if they are moved they will commit suicide or run away. They have

Two Views On A Mental Hospital

tions on freedom are inevitable; but it can seriously be doubted whether the three nurses on duty should have to look after so many patients at once.

But then the question arises - what can Winterton do to help? So many of the patients have been in these wards for periods of years, and so many speak of having to come back inside time and again, that the system must be defective somewhere. Treatment basically consists of prescribed tablets for all, electroconvulsive therapy for most - out patients can also have these - and occupational therapy for those who choose it. All are encouraged to take part in the latter, and its main value lies in teaching patients a hobby for when they come out. The women can learn crocheting, knitting, sewing, basket-weaving and other things. Some, of course, don't enjoy handicrafts; nothing is provided for them except the hospital library.

But all this treatment seems to be basically inadequate for perhaps the majority. One has to discount, of course, the overload of geriatric patients who simply cannot look after themselves and are in hospital because there's nowhere else for them to go. This is a problem that the National Health Service is in no position to solve, purely because of the lack of trained staff. If there were more nurses, geriatric patients could go into a geriatric ward or hospital, and leave the beds in mental hospitals for mental patients. If, of course, it is worth calling the sane mental patients.

Apathy

The atmosphere in the ward is generally one of apathy. People sit smoking and staring about.

grown up in the place, know what goes on, where and when, everything they need is taken care of. In a sense, I don't blame them for refusing to budge - if you have lived in a house all your life how would you like to be moved on into a strange place. The hospital league of friends do a great job in that they see all patients are visited at least once a year as well as raising funds for the many activities they carry out. It's heartbreaking to know that the relatives and friends of these patients could do so much if they bothered and thought of others once in a while instead of themselves. For too long people have been saying "I'm all right Jack, look after yourself" and then going to the bingo, for a pint and even to church.

I can remember one instance of a minister asking for volunteers to visit Winterton, and of a congregation of over 50 at morning and evening service he



There is not much conversation - markedly not amongst the middle-aged people. One feels that the patients, by the very fact of having nothing to do, are losing what capabilities for normal life they may have. Certainly the number of long-term patients and the number who regularly return, seem to point in that direction.

Why no group therapy? The mornings are unoccupied, and so are the evenings unless visitors come. Why not get the patients out of their easy chairs and start them talking? Possibly because it is felt that a trained psychologist or psychiatrist should be in charge, and they are simply not available for more work. But purely for the sake of stopping vegetation it might at least be worth trying with one of the nursing staff in charge; some patients might be uneasy about revealing their private thoughts, but most will certainly talk if only someone will take the trouble to set the ball rolling. And at least it will make them use their minds.

Understaffed as Winterton may be, the nurses are not always as sympathetic as might be expected. One non-Christian patient who refused to join in singing grace was severely rated and the nasty little scene which ensued did nothing to keep other patients happy. Another girl, a student, was suddenly told to take a largactil tablet, which sent her to sleep, and she was very worried what effect this would have on her exams she was taking at the time, until another nurse was kind enough to explain that the tablets were not to be taken regularly. On the whole, shutting someone up in a hospital may stop them from committing suicide, but apparently it doesn't stop many from wanting to. So many times the words are heard "This place makes you worse not better" - and isn't the very

got one. And then we call ourselves human. The birds of the air and wild animals have more respect for each other.

For the short term patient, Winterton is just another hospital where tests are carried out and treatment given. For those receiving the electric shock treatment, a maximum of eight is given but some get six. No-one I have met likes this sort of treatment as it destroys the memory. After each shock it takes a good while for one's memory to return, and even then, I know of people whose memory of things is not as good as before the treatment many having to return for a further six to eight shocks.

This, however, is something which I cannot write about much as I haven't had the shocks myself and if I'd been asked to have them I would probably have refused. The shocks are given twice a week and if the patient has to have the full treatment

fact of being shoved into a mental hospital enough to make anyone miserable and upset? An actual cure I have heard of is that of one patient who was so terrified by the atmosphere of Winterton that she discharged herself and resolved to suffer anything rather than go to a doctor and be put back in. In her case, it worked; but one wonders how many patients have left such wards and at last quietly committed suicide out of sheer inability to believe that the medical profession had any more help for them.

Society

And who should help them? This is the whole crux of the matter. The reason why depressed and nervous people are sent to Winterton is because they are not accepted in normal life. People will sympathise with a broken leg, but not with fits of crying and unhappiness. So you have to go into a mental hospital, and when - or if - you come out, you are labelled a neurotic and frequently treated with contempt, even by intelligent people who should know better. The mental hospital cannot treat you. It can treat your symptoms, but it just hasn't time to psychoanalyse every sane patient and get to the cause of your symptoms; even if it does, it can only diagnose the cause, not get down to doing something about it. If a person is depressed because he is shy and lonely, for instance, busy doctors can't provide him with the companionship he needs.

The answer to the problem lies with every one of you who are reading this. Human beings are made to come into contact with each other, and in a proper society everyone will help the next person, not just dismiss them as nuisances. All of us have problems, and all of us can help. If you know somebody who develops a serious problem, don't wash your hands of them; local G.P.'s can prescribe to reduce depression and other sufferings, but it is only those who are willing to give their own time freely to unhappy people who can genuinely help and lighten the burden of sane cases on our mental hospitals. In the final analysis, Winterton cannot be blamed for its many failures to help the sane; psychiatric medicine is still far from being fully developed, and no doctor or nurse has the time fully to sympathise with and help and individual one of their patients. It is the apathy of society which has put sane people in mental hospitals; the blame rests with society, and society must do something about it. Whether it will or not is, of course, doubtful.

this will mean at least a month in hospital. After the last shock he will probably be discharged and become an out-patient.

If anyone would like to help patients in Winterton hospital, they can help in the following ways - by joining the league of friends who do a fantastic job in visiting and helping patients, or by sending donations which can be used for a variety of things such as improvements to the wards, books for the library, coach trips to the coast - to name just a few. But for many, a smile is better than a packet of smokes and to know someone cares. This is enough to help a patient get out of the shell he has put himself in and to regain his confidence. Both regular visits and donations are important. This, however, is only my view and I have no experience in any part of the medical field. I'm writing as an ex-patient and visitor.

BOOKS

TAROT cards come in different editions and at different prices. There are many cheap imitations, often incomplete. The Marseilles edition by Waddingtons is £2.65 which includes two decks of cards and a 49 page instruction manual. The Rider set by A.E.Waite is £2.25, now available for the first time since 1940. We also have at 30p S.I.MacGregor Mather's book on the Tarot. A.E.Waite's Key to the Tarot is 60p. There is also his Pictorial Key of the Tarot illustrating all cards at £1.95.

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WHITLEY BAY FESTIVAL 1972

JULY 15-22

Whitley Bay Festival is organised jointly by Whitley Bay Sports Council and Spectro Arts Workshop, and sponsored by Whitley Bay Council. If you want to know more, phone the Festival office at Spectro (Whitley Bay 22336) anytime. Tickets and full programmes also from the Festival office.

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Five times upon a time there was a Whitley Bay Sports Festival, and a coloured multitude of horses cantered gladly among ladies hats, sand-encrusted ice creams and wee little flags declaring that this was the land of Great Britain, Wales and Scotland. Some of the horses had been designed to hunt foxes - the sadness of the affair - their task was to jump over pieces of wood. All this to the accompaniment of deliciously strapping athletes not only showing their prowess, but proving it before ecstatic mums and girl-friends. They all knew just why they hadn't won. Still, there was always the chance that tenpin bowling might be their true forte, and it's so much more sociable.

From behind the well-drilled ranks of several juvenile jazz

bands (that's jazz bands for juveniles), the sleek, finely trained minds of Spectro Arts Workshop appeared. Would they be sponsoring the one hundred and fifty-first whippet in the North British Whippet Racing Championship for the Whitley Bay Sports Festival Challenge Trophy? The cat just didn't have that edge of speed - charm and manoeuvrability was all it could offer.

Sliding firmly but gently towards the Whitley Bay Sports Council, Spectro managed to persuade them that a little honey could be spread on the bread. The slower faction was to be catered for with an exhibition from Northern Printmakers, Print '72, at Spectro itself; photographs shown in local pubs and restaurants, and children's

art at the library. Sculpture will appear in public places; inflatables may grow in Whitley Park, or elsewhere even.

Don't forget the sillies! A near ridiculous pushball competition on the beach on Sunday 16th July could well be interrupted by a dragon of no fixed abode, Larkspur Terrace, Jesmond.

Nor the muzak people. We're still trying for an open air pop concert somewhere on Sat. 22nd July with Illicit Still, Blood Lump, Badge and sunshine and hope and no rain and won't you please come along. If you miss that, then try coming along a week earlier on Saturday 15th; Muther Grumble's promoting something nice in the Priory Theatre at 7.30pm. with Maiden Law and Ahimsa. Efficta play modern jazz somewhere on Wed.

Peter Finch and Bob Cobbing from Liverpool are on on Thurs. at 7.30pm. at Whitley Bay Library. Folk artists Pete Scott, Rob Tomlinson, Ian Mills and the JSD band are at the Priory Theatre on Sat. 22nd July at 7.00pm. If you feel really old, you could join in a Medi-evil Evening, complete with barbecue, courtesy of the Briardene Townswomens Guild. The Monkseaton Morris Men and the Pasquini Trio. At the Briar Dene Whitley Bay on Mon. July 17th 7.30pm. on and on.....

Beware of an inflatable whippets jazz band (boom boom) leaping to victory (leap leap) in the 400 metres. Expansion has occurred - will kick off with a carnival through the streets.

SPECTRO ARTS WORKSHOP

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Spectro Arts Workshop is an open workshop up to and including the festival. So you can come along and use our facilities FREE if you want to do or make anything for the festival. We've got facilities for photo-printing in black and white and colour, screen-printing, sound recording, and access to equipment for making inflatables. Plus tools and studio space.

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At present Spectro is a self-governing organisation - that is the people who use the place decide what happens. Fully democratic. No closed meetings. Spectro functions both as a creative arts centre and as a community arts centre.

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EVERYBODY'S BABY

Although the magnitude of the population problem is widely recognised, most people have come to accept it as a fact of life, and have largely ceased to think about it. That is why constant reminders of the situation are necessary and I hope this mention serves towards that end.

There are many different aspects to this problem, such as the nature of growth of world population, the relationship of population growth and food supplies and the economic and social implications among others. But in this article, I will deal with contraception because when it comes to the crux of the matter, it is whether we are not going to limit our families which will dictate future population figures.

Take a look at the graph and ask yourself if we can afford to allow these figures to continue rising indefinitely. We all have a part to play in this matter and action must come now. We must not think of ourselves, but of future generations. When considering the actual methods of contraception available today, it is important to realise that no single method is yet suitable for every couple or situation. New methods are needed, especially for the male. An alternation of method between husband and wife would prevent or reduce long term hazards of contraceptive methods to either one of them.

The ideal contraceptive must be safe, acceptable, remote from intercourse, easy to use, cheap and readily available. Present day methods meet some of these requirements, but even the ideal contraceptive will require motivation on the part of the user. Set out in the table are the most widely used and readily available contraceptives. But as can be seen in the table, contraception is mostly left to the woman.

A contraceptive pill for men is possible, in the sense that researchers know what chemicals should be in one, but no-one has been given a clinical trial. The male contraceptive Pill would work by stopping the development of the spermatozoa. But researchers are having difficulty in developing a suitable pill for men. They cannot seem to get the hormone content correct, plus all the synthetic male hormones that would work have the disadvantage of being poisonous and there is no chance of getting a vast supply of natural human masculine hormone. Another problem has been reported following a test in Australia. Men who took the Pill went bald. It is a complicated problem. The tendency to baldness in men is inherited and therefore the genetic tendency may be activated by the male hormones that any male Pill must contain. Also there is no financial incentive for manufacturing a male Pill. The drug companies can see no good reason for working on the male Pill because

they realise that only half the population has to do anything about contraception.

For every man who took the contraceptive Pill, there would be one less woman taking hers. It looks as though the male contraceptive Pill will stay at its present state, awaiting research and clinical trials. If you are in need of further information, contact your doctor, local public health department, or family planning clinic.

At this stage let us look at various family Limitation Programmes which have been set up in various parts of the world.

INDIA

The Programmes in India started in 1951, and have continued since in five year plans. In the first ten years, progress was barely perceptible; the total population increased from 360,000,000 to 439,000,000 and the number of births each year increased steadily. The budget allocated to the third five year plan was ten times as much as in the previous five year plan. Apart from sterilisation, the main plank of the programme was the use of condoms.

The arrival of intra-uterine devices (IUD's) on the scene in 1965 changed matters considerably.

Because of the great clinical and administrative advantages of this method over sterilisation, an effective mass programme was now feasible. In the fourth five year plan, the budget was stepped up to 200,000 U.S. dollars. Over the five years 1966-71, 20,000,000 IUD insertions were planned, 5,000,000 vasectomies, and it was hoped to have 10,000,000 effective users of traditional contraceptives. It is hoped by continuing these methods, to reduce the birth rate from about 40 per thousand total population to 25 per thousand by the year 1975, which will mean by then, a reduction of about 9,000,000

Contraception is the best way of preventing an unwanted baby.

It's very important to choose the method that suits you best.

	What is it?	How it works.	Advantages.	Disadvantages.	Where can you get or buy it?
French letter. (or condom)	A thin covering of rubber which is fitted over penis.	Sperms prevented from reaching womb.	Easy to obtain. Easy to use. Both partners will know a contraceptive is being used. Offers some protection against V.D. infection.	Has been known to slip off.	Most chemists; barbers' shops; or by mail. Or your local family planning clinic.
Pill.	Pills containing oestrogen and progesterone.	Pills taken daily prevent woman from producing her monthly egg cell. (Ovulation.)	Easy to use.	Needs prescription. Sometimes unpleasant side effects.	Requires a prescription from family doctor or family planning clinic doctor.
Cap. (Together with spermicidal cream or jelly)	Rubber cap which fits over entrance to womb.	Prevents male sperm from entering womb.	No interference with enjoyment.	Must be inserted before intercourse.	Has to be fitted initially by a family doctor or family planning clinic doctor.
Coil or Loop. Intra Uterine Devices (IUD)	A small flexible coil or loop which is inserted into the uterus.	Presence of device in womb stops fertilized monthly egg cells from being implanted.	Once inserted can be forgotten until time for once a year check-up.	Temporary discomfort. Not advised before woman has had a pregnancy.	Family planning clinic or family doctor. Must be inserted by a doctor.
Contraceptive Chemical Barriers.					
(1) Aerosol Contraceptive Foam (Only chemical barrier recommended for use on its own)	Foaming cream in aerosol can.	Foam sprayed into vagina to form a chemical barrier through which sperms cannot move.	Easy to obtain. No prescription necessary.	Must be used before intercourse. Bit messy.	Family planning clinics and chemists.
(2) Creams, jellies, pastes, soluble tablets and pessaries. (Only recommended for use with cap or french letter)	Chemicals which are inserted into vagina.	The chemical immobilizes sperms or kills them in the vagina.	Cheap. No prescription necessary.	Should only be used with a cap or french letter.	Family planning clinics and chemists.
Sterilization.	Surgical Operation. (Known as vasectomy for men.)	Makes it impossible for male to produce sperm and for a woman to produce egg cell.	A simple operation. The most effective permanent method. Need not worry about any other birth control precaution. Does not interfere with sex life.	You can't change your mind about having no more children.	Your family doctor will advise.
Rhythm method. 'Safe period'	Time of ovulation is calculated by keeping notes of period dates and temperature charts.	Couple only have intercourse during woman's infertile period.	Only method approved by R.C. Church.	Lengthy calculations required. Not very reliable for women with irregular periods.	Thermometer and temperature charts from chemists and family planning clinics.
Withdrawal.		Man withdraws penis before orgasm.	No cost.	Unreliable.	
Douche. 'Washing out' (NOT RECOMMENDED)	Syringe.	Woman flushes out semen after intercourse.	None.	Dangerous (can cause pelvic infection), and unreliable.	Chemists and 'Surgical' shops.

NOTE: The contraceptives on this page are not listed in order of effectiveness.



-births per year (birth in Britain is 16 per thousand total population).

The impact of this programme on the national birth rate is as yet, fairly small, but in certain areas cuts in the birth rate of between 10 and 20 per cent have been reported, and it has been officially estimated that about 1,200,000 births were prevented in 1967.

MAINLAND CHINA

Estimations of China's population are around 700,000,000, so its importance in world population is obvious. Information on population statistics, policy and family planning, is not readily available. Premier Chou En-Lai is reported to have said in 1964, "We do believe in planned parenthood, but it is not easy to introduce all at once in China, and it is more difficult to achieve in rural areas, where most of our people live, than in the cities. The first thing is to encourage late marriages."

The Chinese press has advised late marriages for couples and suggested that families be limited to 2 or 3 children. In view of the effectiveness of the propaganda media in China, who can doubt that these recommendations will be followed? If they are followed successfully, this should prevent any catastrophic increase in numbers. Even so, it is still estimated that the population will exceed 1,000,000,000 by the end of the present century.

TURKEY

For many years, Turkey had an anti-contraceptive law; but in spite of this, the Economic Planning Board began working in the early 1960's towards legislative changes and programme planning. This saved valuable time when, in 1965, Turkey repealed the old laws forbidding a abortion, sterilisation, and the importation and sale of contraceptives. A national programme was started through the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance with co-operation from other Government agencies. But it is still too early to look for evidence of progress in terms of reductions of birth.

AFRICA

In 1964, Tunisia became the first N. African country to declare a national family planning programme. The target announced is for one IUD insertion a year for every 12 women of child bearing age, in the hope of reducing the birth-rate by a quarter in five years. A law has been passed permitting women with more than four children to have an abortion.

In the United Arab Republic a nation of 30,000,000 people, a family programme has begun under the direction of the Supreme Council for Family Planning created in 1965 by the Government. A large number of clinics offer advice and services, and large scale manufacture of oral pills and IUD's is going ahead within the UAR, and these are distributed free of charge.

In Ghana, independent surveys have already shown public attitudes which are consistent with the regulation of fertility, and it is thought that this is the attitude of other Central African countries, but in none of them has a family planning programme yet been implemented.

itudes which are consistent with the regulation of fertility, and it is thought that this is the attitude of other Central African countries, but in none of them has a family planning programme yet been implemented.

LATIN AMERICA

This is another region sadly lacking in family planning. With a combined total population of over 250,000,000, increasing at about 3 per cent per year, there is no advanced programmes for family planning. It is estimated that 2,000,000 women are at present using oral contraceptives, notably in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. But this only makes a slight impact on figures. In Chile, a voluntary National Committee is backed by the National Health Service which gives the help of doctors, nurses and midwives. There is a high rate of illegal abortions in Latin America, and although they aren't influencing the birth rate, the adverse effects provided an important stimulus towards increasing contraceptive methods.

DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

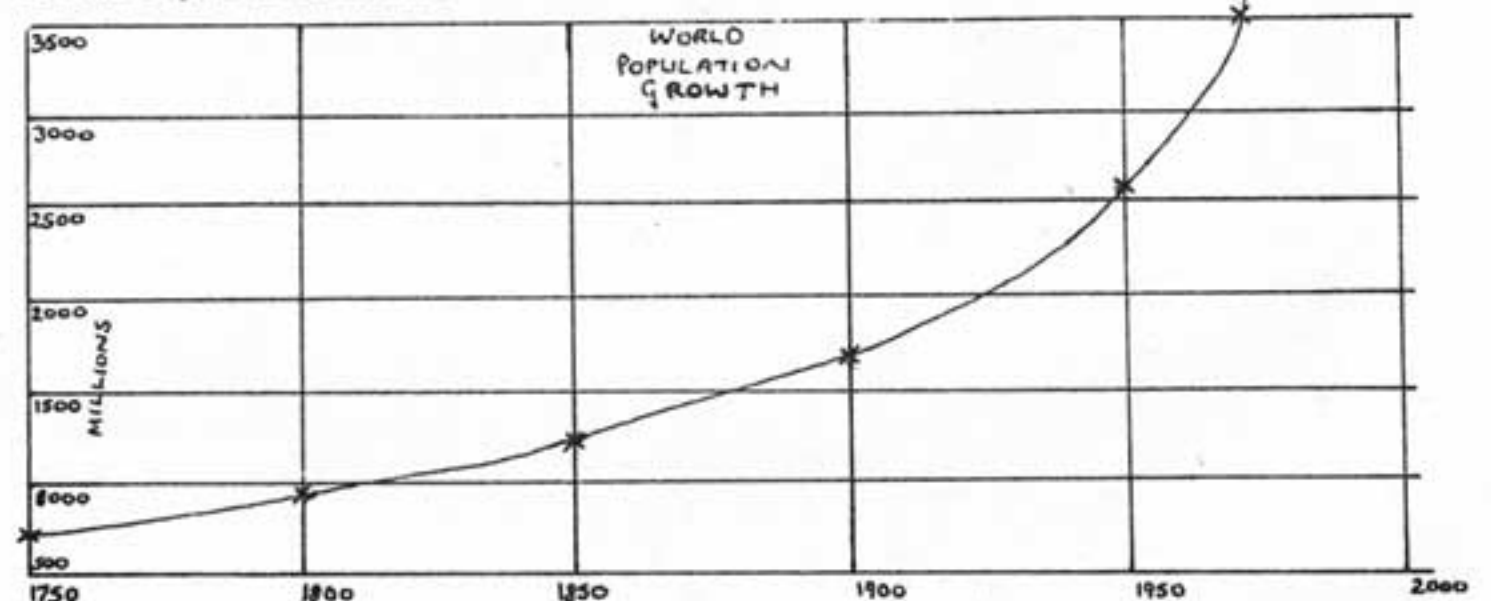
Generally, the average family size and the rate of population increase have fallen to acceptable levels as a result of the voluntary limitation of families by a large proportion of the population, but this shouldn't be allowed to encourage complacency and reminders of the present situation are always welcome. For people who are interested and would like to know more about the world population problem there are books on the subject.

THE POPULATION BOMB - Paul Ehrlich
Pan Books 30p.

POPULATION CONTROL - Anthony Allison.
Penguin Books 35p.

Also Eco Publications are trying to make people more aware of the problem and other problems of the environment and they have published a book and various posters on the matter. Their address is 6, Cavendish Avenue, Cambridge,

Ken



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For information about clinics see local telephone directories or telephone local Branch Administrators at Newcastle 27929 or Stockton 69902.

Clinics on Teeside and in Darlington

are now run by local Health Departments - for details telephone Middlesbro 43832 or Darlington 65218.

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SEX EDUCATION

AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. MARTIN COLE

During the second week of May Durham students were treated to a showing of 'Growing Up', the controversial sex education film by Dr Martin Cole. Over 500 of Durham's 3000 students turned up to the two showings, an exceptionally good attendance. About a fifth of this number stayed behind to discuss their reactions to the film. It was the masturbation and love making scenes, which caused the great controversy when the film was released. As a result of reactionary pressures Jennifer Muscott, who had taken part in the female masturbation scene, was discharged from the teaching position which she had held at the time. 2 weeks after the showing of 'Growing Up' in Durham Dr Cole gave the following interview to Muther Grumble.

Growing Up

M.G:- Do you think you could say basically what the aims of the film were at the time...when was it produced...it was five years..

Dr Cole:- If I remember rightly I wrote the commentary in 67/68. It was initiated by the observation that all the films which were currently being used in schools were terribly sort of middle class, patronizing, patriarchal. All the time they were trying to avoid the subject which they were supposed to be talking about; namely sex. They were completely de-sexualized, there were no photographs, even the drawings were edited so that they weren't erotic at all. Terribly middle class, you tend to start off with a middle class mum holding a baby and end up with a middle class mum holding a baby, you know, the implication is that reproductive sex is good and anything else is bad... and of course this is not the message that you want to give to young people. For young people it's essential that they can learn to accept their own sexuality for it's own sake... and so we made that film using photographic sequences, which after all is the logical way of going about it, really to do two things. Firstly, to provide information, which I think is important, I mean this is what the younger generation wants, they don't want values of an older generation. They want facts so that they can work out their own ideas which relate to their personalities in the context of whatever environment they happen to find themselves. And secondly, and probably more important, was this function of trying to normalize all forms of sexual activity. In other words one wasn't taking up a particularly partisan point of view, one was simply saying you must expect to be sexual, you mustn't be surprised if you are sexual, and in this way the ultimate pragmatic objective was...would be to allow people to contracept before they got pregnant rather than afterwards, in other words all the advice from the Pregnancy Advisory Service and the council-

lor nursing home, you know, the abortion unit here, is that when you ask the girls, the unmarried girls, about their contraceptive history about 80% of them weren't using contraceptives, nor their boyfriends, on the occasion that led to this pregnancy which they want to terminate. And if you ask them when they'd ever used any contraceptives rather less than one half had ever used anything. So it's not a matter of failure of contraceptives, it's a matter of failure to contracept. And the reason for this is this over romanticized idea of sex, the fact that the men happen to be living in a kind of dream world which arises out of a sense of shame which they have about their own sexual selves. They're unable to grow up. You know, if one was uptight about food, one wouldn't take indigestion tablets, one would feel guilty, and really it was a matter of opening up the subject and to initiate a dialogue ...you know, we had a large number of abortions last year. 126,000 legal abortions in this country. About half of those weren't married and about two thirds of that half could have been avoided by simple contraceptive measures.

M.G:- When the film was shown in Durham there was a great deal of discussion and a number of points came out. One of the points was that women in the audience considered that the film was...well not the majority of women...the feeling that males are superior came across to them. Would you subscribe to that idea, the idea that males are superior?

Dr Cole:- No, no, obviously, because the word superior is itself a value judgement...Each sex has its own special areas of competence. No, I think that start was no more than simple, unalloyed prejudice on my part which came out in 1967 just as I felt. You see I came from a very ordinary, middle class, patriarchal home and it's taken me a bloody long time to throw this off, so I don't excuse it, I'm really ashamed of that. It wasn't put in intentionally, just as we left out any mention of homosexuality, this again was an expression of my own prejudice and this again...these are mistakes that one makes. So there is no excuse. The only...the strange thing that arises out of this of course is that depending upon the audience to which you show the film, if it's a young audience they're very conscious of that start, but if you show it to an audience over thirty it's the only sane thing in the film. In other words, it highlights the generation difference, when I showed it for example, to the National Association of Head Teachers they were horrified at the film, but what upset them of course was the masturbation sequences, which they saw as something basically perverse and inevitably, you know, evil. So my advantage, and disadvantage, is that I don't belong anywhere, I'm in the middle. I'm neither old nor young, I'm very square by tradition, by my social conditioning but I'm

also rebellious because, of course, in Freudian terms I couldn't accept my father. So marrying up all these different forces has enabled me to have an intro', so to speak, into the establishment. I look like an establishment figure but on the other hand this is a camouflage for a basic resentment and anger, you know, at the way society has treated, not only my self when I was young, but of course many other people. So it's partly a personal statement that film and being a personal statement inevitably it is full of contradictions.

Male Brothel

M.G:- I noticed in the Sunday Times the other week it said there are plans to start a brothel with male prostitutes in Hamburg. Womens' Lib are supporting this because they believe it's a move for equality. Would you...

Dr Cole:- Yes I would agree in principle that this would be a very good idea but in practice of course, it's rather more complicated than that. You see, we've had a lot of publicity recently about the use of women in therapeutic clinics to help men who can't perform sexually, and this isn't really a charitable brothel where men can come along and jump on a bird and suddenly find all their problems going away, it's obviously much more complicated than that, one has to talk out the problem and it's only at the end that one may use this technique to enable them to perform in a practical sense. Of the letters we've had, we've seen several patients some have been helped and of course some haven't, it's too early to find out the answers, but for every man who comes to us there is at least another woman who is also sexually inadequate, is not getting orgasms for one reason or another, is unable to perform sexually. But as yet culture has so severely conned women into believing that they're not sexual, you know, our western society has done this for a number of reasons, that women have not yet begun to think that they are losing out.... But in about ten years these women will begin to realize that they are losing out and then such a clinic, or of course, a male brothel, such a clinic where there will be male therapists to help these women to relate sexually to somebody of the opposite sex, or somebody of the same sex for that matter.

M.G:- Seems to me that there's a great deal of difference between the clinic idea where people are doing something for a human reason, you know, consideration for the particular person who comes to them, rather than the commercial thing about a brothel where the people who go there are very much an object to each other. You're still distanced, mentally distanced and the money thing comes....

Dr Cole:- Yer, yer. On the other hand of course, if you buy sex this helps some people because you have a contract therefore you're psychologically free. You see, many men can't relate to women and one of the reasons why they can't relate to women is because they feel threatened by them; they're very, very frightened. If you pay money you're the boss, you buy so much time, you buy so much expertise or whatever, and then the contract ends. You can escape, where as even in a clinic situation, you're making much greater demands on the individual.... The trouble is that the number of people who really sort of climb out of their problems as a result of using prostitutes as a learning situation is very small, because the prostitute herself is very uptight, she is very sexually inadequate, her hostility to males is so great, greater than the males hostility to women.

Sex Is Good

M.G:- It was said that the film was too mechanical and didn't deal with the problems of relationships. It told kids that masturbation and sex before marriage were quite all right without facing the fact that the upbringing which most kids get tells them something quite different. Well in a sense you've answered that - was any additional info' intended to accompany the film and of course it was. But would you accept this, that you're transcending the stage were you are giving technical information, you're also giving values.

Dr Cole:- Oh, inevitably. You can not communicate in an ethical vacuum, you've got to have a point of view. However.... all the time if you read any sex education book there is always the insidious judgement made, masturbation is alright der, der, der, don't worry, perfectly alright - der, der, der, however if you do it to excess....this kind of innuendo which creeps in and undoes all the....I mean, what is excess? The average reader will think that perhaps he's masturbating excessively, is excessive once a week, once a day or 10 times a day? Nobody knows. So one simply makes a sort of straightforward statement - it is important, it is good, it is essential and any boy who doesn't masturbate is in trouble. You can say this for boys of course and almost get away with it but when you say it for a girl you're that much further behind because although there is very little biological difference between the sexes in this respect, culturally there's a big difference....So..that was really what we were trying to do. We didn't talk about relationships simply because it wasn't a film about relationships. I mean, it wasn't a film about positions of intercourse, it wasn't a film

about contraception or venereal disease; it was a film about growing up in a biological context. But this is the information which has been neglected, if you listen to the average sex educationalist he's always talking about relationships which really means, quote: "My kind of ethic". You know, respect your girlfriend, don't do anything till you know you love each other kind of thing which of course is so nauseous in its implications, it's really a very evil indoctrination.... With the growth of nursery schools and creches the children won't be traumatized as we're led to believe, it will be an alternative society, if you like, an alternative way of surviving and coping with one's drive. You see, the trouble is the adult wants two irreconcilable things: he or she wants to be wanted and wants to be loved, wants to have an exclusive relationship, wants to be demanding, wants to possess, wants to be possessed, but they also want to be free.... there is an element of irresolvability in the very nature of things. And this in itself is unacceptable to some people all the time, they can't bare to think that there isn't some kind of utopia, or idiation, or explanation so that you can write everything down - this is how things should be. You know, psychoanalysis, for instance, works on this principle; they have this concept of maturity. The mature person is one who, you know, went through all the Freudian stages perfectly normally, identified with the father and eventually kissed the girlfriend and they married and remained monogamous and they had synchronous orgasms and they had 2 kids, you know. And of course life is not like that.

M.G.:— Recently it was stated that there are over 10,000 men waiting for vasectomy operations, male sterilizations; is enough being done to persuade men to take equal responsibility with women in matters of contraception, sterilization...?

Dr Cole:— No, because it is a patriarchal society, as you know and clearly they are going to foster scientific research into contraceptive pills for women and not for men and I'm sure, even though it may be subconscious, the decision of pharmaceutical companies to invest n million f's into research is going to be for female contraceptive pills and not for men. But in fact we have seen a great upsurge in demand for vasectomy. At the Calthorp Nursing Home we run a clinic 3 nights a week, and we have a long waiting list, although in fact it makes no difference to one's libido it's very close to one's penis and therefore for somebody who's psychologically insecure they must be absolutely confident of their hetrosexuality in order to go for the operation. So we all contraceptives of course, this is what should happen, all contraceptives must be on the National Health Service if you're going to cope with this problem.

Happy Families

M.G.:— What is your attitude to other forms of family life other than the nuclea family i.e. communes, the extended family, polygamy?

Dr Cole:— Communes, polygamy, extended family... Well I think this is partly answered by what I said before; this is Man's attempt to be what we might call situational. He is trying to allow himself room to move, trying to work out the best solution for

himself and clearly in any, I don't like using the word liberated society, but in any sophisticated society such experiments like this must be fostered and allowed to flourish because it's only in this way that you'll get social stability. You see in my view the most unstable society is the totalitarian one because there you're relying solely on the rule of law.... An Open society is generally much more stable because the components of that society are being themselves.... The only problem here in our society is that we don't really know enough about children and how they will benefit, I mean in a kibbutz where although we've got information, and the information tends to say that the child will be less neurotic but also less obsessional, we just don't know what kind of children we're going to produce. You know, you do need an element of obsessional behaviour unfortunately. You need an element of unresolved conflict in order to go on and be creative But I somehow feel we're always going to have enough obsessional behaviour to c.... You know, I'm not really an intellectual, I tend to adopt a somewhat simplistic philosophy. My concern is simply to cope with the social problems which confront Man in 1972. I'm not terribly certain what's going to happen to homo sapiens in the next century.... You know, there is a great risk that you simply defer action because one is unsure. Now I think for the next twenty or thirty years we have so many things to do without really worrying too much about long term repercussions - perhaps ultimately it's up to someone other than myself to try and become, you know, and ideologist, to try and work out the long term implications.

M.G.:— I doubt really whether it's fair to ask the question but somebody said to me when they knew I was coming to see you that since you've been married 3 times are you a good person to advise other people about relationships.

Dr Cole:— Well I m glad you asked it because I think it is very relevant. You see I was brought up in a very strict way and so therefore I am basically a puritan and I'm adopting my attitude not out of a basic biological need for myself but simply as a reaction, you know, against the intransigence and the... you know it's almost an angry reaction against the blindness and heavy handedness of a society which was trying to bully and dominate and suppress the sexuality of youth and myself impartial. So in one sense, having gone through these crises myself, having taken a long time to grow up, I would simply say that one is in a position to have a great sense of empathy with other people who are also confronted with these problems. But even then, if that wasn't admissable as evidence so to speak, I would say that you don't really judge people by their psycho-dynamic which makes them do such and such a thing, you measure them by what they do and it's as simple as that and in Birmingham at least, we've had a measure of success with the Brook Advisory Centre, the Counciller Nursing Home, and the Pregnancy Advisory Service in the Institute, and these are simply institutions which have been set up to do a job. And where as I'm quite happy to talk about my marital history and so on, in one sense it's not really relevant. But certainly I believe that one has to go through a problem... somebody once said... was it Shaw... somebody once said - you have to get your hands dirty before you can understand.

Sex Institute

M.G.:— Could you say more about these institutions that you are involved in?

Dr Cole:— Yer. Well, when I first came to Birmingham I set up the Abortion Law Reform Association in Birmingham and eventually was elected onto the executive committee of the London group and as you know, as a result of our activities the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill became the Abortion Act in 1967. On the first day the Act came into operation we opened the Birmingham Pregnancy Advisory Service which was simply concerned to refer patients who were unwilling to be pregnant onto the National Health Service or a private nursing home depending on, you know, how much money they had whether they could be accepted. Out of this grew the Calthorp Nursing Home which is the abortion unit in Birmingham, meanwhile we'd opened the Birmingham Brook Advisory Centre which was a contraception clinic exclusively for the unmarried, finally the Institute for Sex Education and Research which made the film "Growing Up", which has made another film since then and we're doing some research. In other words, it's essentially information, education, research and therapy.

M.G.:— Was there much opposition to your suggestion to vaccinate all kids against V.D.?

Dr Cole:— Well a lot of nonsense is talked about V.D. of course, it's not very serious, syphillis is so rare that most human beings have never seen a case, gnonerrea is admittedly growing very rapidly but, you know, having had non-specific ureathritis and larengitus, then I would much sooner get N.S.U., or gnonerrea if it is the same thing and I think it is, than larengitus. You can be ill for a week if its a severe case. In other words, because it's a sexual disease we've gone all uptight, we've been able to illiminate whooping cough more or less, measles, polio, simply by devising vaccines and although it's immunologically rather more difficult to devise a vaccine against gnonerrea, we are reading now that in Canada and America they are making great steps forward. This is the only way to control the problem. In other words, society in this country, medical society, the medical establishment, have not used the normal

methods of preventitive medicine to control the disease, which are open to them, simply because it's a sexual disease. And although it would be denied most strenuously consultant veneriologists unconsciously want gnonerrea because of course this is the last deterrent to sexual freedom, or they look upon it this way, and they've got to have it otherwise, you know, the floodgates are open....

Wake Up!

M.G.:— Are you very aware of all the political shockwaves the film has generated?

Dr Cole:— Probably not, no. I know the Director of Public Prosecutions took 3 months to decide whether to take legal proceedings or not, and in the end he wrote and said, in a very sort of ponderous way, I have decided not to take legal proceedings against you under the Obscene Publications Act; however, should it come to my notice that this film is shown to school children I will have to reconsider my decision. Well, I mean it's so laughable that he or his advisers should take himself so seriously and regard that film as being politically dangerous... I really don't believe... Perhaps that was the success of the film, it was just respectable enough to survive; if it had been a little bit more extreme then they would have got me, rightly or wrongly, I mean I'm sure I would have been acquitted in any court, but none-the-less it could have been a bit difficult, but it was just respectable enough, it was walking on a tight-rope. This was its success but it was also its failure and it is once again this compromise, which, you know, dictates what one must do. Also I think my motive was pretty obvious, you know, I wasn't concerned with trying to overthrow society, I was simply concerned to put a stick of dynamite up its arse. It isn't quite the same thing.

(This interview has been edited because of lack of space - Alan)



Birmingham Pregnancy Consultation Service

This non-profit making organisation will function to provide advice and practical help for those who are distressed as a result of becoming unwisely pregnant. As always every effort will be made to obtain help in the N.H.S. but if this is impossible then the patient will be referred to the most conveniently placed nursing home for medical advice. Naturally for those patients living in the West Midlands this will almost certainly be the Calthorp Nursing Home where a termination of pregnancy is available for £56.

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Our daily lives are becoming more and more involved with the law. The law is covering all aspects of our lives both private and public. This complicates matters so that we are no longer aware of what rights we have. The Establishment thrives on the individual's ignorance of the law or much more basically one's rights. "There is a sense in which all law is nothing more nor less than a gigantic confidence trick". The problem lies in not necessarily knowing the intricacies but in how to find them out. Justice is an expensive commodity that few of us can afford. This is not wholly true. The Legal Aid Scheme, run by the Law Society, is to enable everyone to be legally represented in court without regard to their financial status. There are two ways to obtain this - either through the Legal Aid Panel which entails a means test or under the Voluntary Scheme that entails paying a fee of £1 for a half hour consultation with a solicitor who will then tell you how much if anything you are required to contribute.

CIVIL CASES

Anyone over 16 years can get legal advice from a solicitor on the Legal Aid Panel, a list which is available from any Citizens' Advice Bureau or Court Office. If you are on Supplementary Benefit and do not have more than £125 capital you'll be able to get free advice. Otherwise for 12½p you may get up to 1½ hours free consultation with a solicitor.

If you are employed you may get advice also for 12½p if -

(a) You have less than £125 capital.

(b) Your income in the last 7 days up to and including the day on which you apply is less than £9.50.

To arrive at these sums you must if married, take into account your wife's income and capital, unless you live separately or if

the matter is against her interests.

DEDUCTIONS

(a) With regard to assessing your capital you may leave out the value of your house, its contents, and your clothes and tools for work.

(b) If your wife is living with you or you maintain her take off £3.05p.

(c) For children deduct as follows:-

Under 5 years	£1.40p.
Under 11 years	£1.65p.
Under 13 years	£2.05p.
Under 16 years	£2.20p.

For any other adult maintained by you deduct £3.05p.

(d) Any Income Tax, National Insurance, Industrial Injuries, or National Health Contributions paid or payable to you OR your wife during the week immediately prior to taking legal advice.

After advice if it is necessary for the matter to be taken to court legal aid, if it is granted, will be available in the County and High Courts, and the Court of Appeal for most cases except those wholly or partially concerned with Libel or Slander. In the House of Lords for all appeals. In the Magistrates Court for many civil

actions. In the Industrial Relations Court but not for the Industrial Relations Tribunals. Also in the Lands Tribunal for instance in cases of compulsory purchasing orders and rate appeals.

CRIMINAL CASES

You should get legal advice immediately in such a situation. Again the system of finding out your means exists. However the Law Society decide whether or not your claim is worthwhile and are keen not to waste public money.

or in the cells.

The solicitor would question those in custody if wanted, "about the charges against him, his family situation, employment and previous criminal record. Other factors, such as whether the defendant intended to plead guilty, whether he wanted bail, and, if so, what sureties he could provide, and how to obtain legal aid, often needed to be discussed at greater length and it was in those areas that the solicitor was best able to be of use.

The 'duty' solicitor then completed a form containing all the information he had ascertained together with the recommendations on what action should be taken by the magistrates."

The main drawback to the scheme was that the solicitor was not empowered to represent the defendants in court but despite this the experiment can be viewed in the light that "there exists a real need for such a service, particularly for defendants in custody. The inarticulate represented defendant particularly was not at such a disadvantage as he would have been without the scheme" (Times. 31/5/72.). In Cardiff this month a similar scheme is working. It differs only in that here the solicitor will be able to represent the defendant in court. Perhaps this will soon become the natural course of events throughout the country.

Generally speaking as soon as you have any problems be it payment of bills or simply the writing of a letter do not hesitate but go and make an appointment with a solicitor. If you can't go yourself you can send a friend or relative on your behalf. Do not worry if you are not earning under £9.50 after the deductions because they will assess your means and ask you to make a contribution. Then you can decide whether to accept legal aid or not.

By the next edition we hope to have in the office a fairly comprehensive list of solicitors in the North-East who give legal advice under the Legal Aid Scheme.

Rich.



This could result in a dangerous situation of the Law Society acting as a judge on the case before providing money for what should be a natural right to be represented.

Certain efforts have been made to get round the formalities that Legal Aid requires by setting up Law Clinics, such as the Kensington Law Centre. Such centres provide free legal advice, for everybody immaterial of financial means, and is given by solicitors. Another experiment which ended last week in Bristol where a solicitor has been, for one month, on hand to give advice to defendants whether in the waiting room

Just as the body has veins and flowing life-force, so has any land. Through the North-East flow subtle currents of energy in five dimensions - length, height, width, past/present/future, and multi-dimensionality. The current is the dragon pulse, the serpent power reflected in the legends of the Lambton Worm, Sockburn Worm and Roxburghshire's Linton Dragon.

The vision of Albion as being criss-crossed by a subtle web came to a Herefordshire man, Alfred Watkins, in 1921. He did sterling work by cataloguing the validity of prehistoric sites, and early Christian ones taking their place, lying on exactly straight alignments. He postulated the notion that these marked prehistoric tracks - the old straight track. However, he also noted that the alignments often marked special sunrise days, such as midsummer, and subsequent researchers linked the lines with a theory of subtle earth energies known and utilised in ages not so dark.

By the 1960's, evidence was accumulating to establish connections between ancient sites and the alignments with electromagnetic energy flow, and also, it was found that the pattern of leys - as the lines became known - uncannily reflected the aerial routes of flying saucers. There is now a basis for claiming that not only is the energy a reality, but is an

Mystic Northumbria



amalgam of the electromagnetism of our earthly plane and the spiritual power of cosmic consciousness.

Man has his base physical form, and most would agree that in some form he has a spiritual reality. There exists across Britain a web of subtle energy which has resulted in influencing the population, especially in the sphere of the siting of religious establishments.

Before moving to specific examples of magical centres, there is another angle to the present interest in speculative "live" archaeology. Perhaps the reader will have heard of the claim that great zodiacal figures lie in Somerset around Glastonbury. However, County Durham has three such zodiacs at least: one centred upon Stanley; another centred upon Fleet Shot Hill, near Hart; another on Teeside, with Eaglescliffe, Egglecliffe and Yarm in the Aquarius sector.

Yarm has, in fact, the North-

East's greatest focus of leys (six in all) and is full of interest. The ancient town has played a major role in Northumbria's past and has no doubt a greater destiny as we embrace the Age of Aquarius. The gypsies do not congregate for their annual fair there for nought.

Other sites of great significance include Kelloe Church, where two leys meet at 23½ degrees, the angle of the Earth's tilt; inevitably Durham City; Hart with a large stone which at times is strongly active, and many will vouch with me that it creates a pins and needles sensation; Castle Hill, Bishopton, where three leys cross; and nearby Redmarshall Church and West Newbiggin moat, both having three leys crossing; and of course the zodiacs. The presence of an integrated system of marking the passageways of ley power during prehistoric times, along with the astronomical function of stone circles, is a pointer to the obvious conclusion that our ancestors were not skin

clad, warring, woad-painted savages, but were civilised folk with a technological expertise equal to today's scientific hierarchy.

The complete meaning to the ley system still eludes researchers, though it is now realised that it is very much a vital force in mankind's universe. Leys act as a matrix for the physical plane, and the power functions largely in another dimension. The leys are the fairy paths of folk lore, where if one's perception is changed one may glimpse at the edge of higher consciousness a gnome or other elemental, existing on the etheric plane.

Leys are also referred to as lines of inspiration, where the spirit transcends the physical to glimpse greater realities of life and existence. The pagan rituals are still performed on the lines and the holy ghost manifests yet in the death watch beetle parish churches when the solar spark is invoked through the spire to solid Earth.

The axis of Britain is pivoted at Arbor Low in Derbyshire; with Stonehenge being its southern power centre and Lindisfarne its northern polarity. Traditionally, the north-east is the most important compass bearing with regard to sun worship, and Scotland's Aberdeenshire corresponds in its fertile psychism with England's Northumbria.

Paul Screeton

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Last month saw the coming of Britain's new Big Business boom in the form of two pop festivals (Bickershaw and Lincoln) which were unprecedented in their advertising, security precautions, superstar billings, high prices and even higher fences. It is a great shame that the innocence and spontaneity of past festivals have been smothered by groups of big businessmen cashing in to the full on people's enjoyment. Bath and the Isle of Wight may have been surrounded by hype, but not to that extent.

Most of the people who went enjoyed themselves and the bands gave a high standard of music. In fact it is not the event that is to be criticised so much as the organisations and the principles behind them.

We can have a free festival as good as Glastonbury last year, which was an amazing success, and even had free, or at least cheap food. Then there's the Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, Blind Faith free concerts in Hyde Park. So why do we pay £5 to go to Lincoln?

Joe's Cafe, present at both Bickershaw and Lincoln, was selling cheap and reasonable food (12p a meal) but at Lincoln they weren't even on the site.

Although in the organisers'

minds Bickershaw was a flop, I think Lincoln proved that a properly organised event can be a success for the organisers. But the people who went would certainly have enjoyed it much more if it hadn't cost them a hell of a lot of bread and don't forget those who couldn't go 'cos they couldn't afford it.

Bickershaw Festival

The site, near Wigan, can only be described as a mud bath. O.K. so the organisers couldn't control the rain, but what about the pond in the middle of the site which they said would be fenced off and never was? Still, mud and rain soon dries and washes off and I think that's the way most other people thought about it.

Anyway, the music was good all weekend - and so were Joe's lights, notably during Hawkwind's set on Friday. There were good performances from 'Captain Beefheart', 'Dr. John' and 'Country Joe' who put life back into the crowd with nice music and a long 'fuck Nixon' chant. He was followed by a nice set from 'New Riders of Purple Sage' and then along

came 'The Grateful Dead' who played really excellent sounds for 5½ hours that I can only describe as Far Out!

A good firework display was put on as the 'Dead' played. Other big commercial attractions were the giant video screens each side of the stage, circus acts and an aerial display no less. The screens were certainly welcome as they meant that people could at least see the stage without getting squashed at the front. It's a shame they don't work during the day. There were also video screens at Lincoln. The circus acts, although good, were obviously an extravagant extra. I would like to add that 'Time Out' did a good job with their information points at both festivals.

The organisers have since complained that they lost money due to the large amount of people who got in for nothing. Shucks!

Lincoln

This festival was at Bardney, and the groups that played were more 'commercial' than at Bickershaw, and the audience seemed to be in a slightly younger age group. The site is on very flat land and had good natural drainage, which is very fortunate, as there was

really heavy rain on the Friday night and Saturday wasn't much better. Gale force winds destroyed two big marquees which were for folk music, in one, and lesser known rock bands in the other. Sunday and Monday didn't suffer so much from the elements. The only thing to do when it rained was to count oinkies!

On the main stage the 'star' attractions, 'The Faces' on Saturday and 'Joe Cocker' at the end on Monday, were not up to standard. Cocker seemed to have lost his drive and didn't go down well having followed Sha Na Na who, for many, were the best band to play. Other bands who were good were Lindisfarne, Stone the Crows, The Incredible String Band, Beach Boys, Humble Pie and Slade.

As I said before, this was an extremely well organised festival and as far as music goes cannot come in for much criticism. However, if, as rumoured, Great Western Festivals organise another festival in August with the Rolling Stones, I hope they attempt to keep prices down and allow people who are willing to do cheap food onto the site. We mustn't forget that bands seem to want phenomenal fees nowadays which doesn't help to make admission prices cheaper. Don

DONOVAN

INTERVIEW

After a lay-off of almost two years, "Minstrel" Donovan Leitch is back with us again, with a new series of concerts and a promised new album. He made his debut at a UCS benefit gig at Glasgow's Greens Playhouse, backed by a brand new Irish band and his long standing friend Derrol Adams, the legendary bangoist.

At a press conference of one, Donovan told Black Box, "it was not really a political motivation doing this gig, it was the thought

that I could really help some people of the street, after all it wasn't me who made any sacrifice, it was the audience, they paid the money to get in."

B.B: Do you think it is a good thing that many artists are now giving their services free in order to help certain groups of people?

Donovan: Yeah, it's great, but the problems develop afterwards. Look at the Aberfan Disaster Fund for instance. They are still fighting over the distribution of the money. But it really is great seeing musicians and actors lending their names to fund raising sch-

emes, for it's only when we recognise in ourselves that we all belong to the human race that things can start to happen, but the problem is in recognising it in ourselves.

B.B: How much of an obligation should an artist have towards his audience?

Donovan: I don't really think he has any. They should act as one for you can't have one without the other. Personally I only enjoy performing if I think the audience is enjoying the music. I like to do songs which I think the audience would like to hear and which will, maybe, touch their emotions. Just now, I am adding

songs which the audience can join in. I suppose it's just my folk upbringing. Anyway, I really enjoy the type of gig where we can all relax. I try to be as relaxed as possible so that the audience can relax too. I think that only human emotions can reach a person's soul, and if a song can reach out and touch that soul, the singer is only the means of communicating it to the other people.

B.B: Do you think that music itself can become a religion?

Donovan: Yeah, this happens. But if you go above the level of hero worship it comes back to the
contd on next page.

reviews

David Bowie



The first part of the show features the J.S.D. Band, a Glasgow group who play mainly traditional reels and jigs. It's very happy music with variations in tempo to folk songs, and in instruments to flute, violin, banjo and cello. The band appear to enjoy playing and are popular with the City Hall audience.

After the interval, David Bowie makes the expected striking entrance and his complete act is mounted with the professionalism of the Royal Festival Ballet, inclusive of choreography and costuming. Full advantage is taken to combine spectacular visuals with precise music. In his performance the physical effect of, for example, Bowie, pale complexion silky auburn hair, quilted cotton suit in primary colours, accentuated by his backing musicians in similar style suits and kid boots but in subtler pink, powder blue, fuscine and pale gold, is secondary but only just, to music which is slightly cynical, rather harsh and very clever.

Bowie doesn't sweat and he doesn't jam either. The overall impression is slightly menacing - rather the Faces engineered by Andy Warhol. This influence is reflected in two Lou Reed numbers "White Light White Heat" and "I'm waiting for my man". The camp Bowie image is well known but it is erotic rather than sexy, cool, asexual and totally overpowering.

He is backed by competent musicians, all physically attractive, and a lead guitarist, Mick Ranson, almost as exquisite as Bowie himself. The first few numbers include a couple of tracks from the forthcoming LP "The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars".

A carefully colour-matched pianist joins the group for Bowie's current single "Starman" and (a mimed) "Changes" from "Hunky Dory". The stage lighting until now brilliantly white drops to menacing futuristic reds to fit the ecology theme of the next number.

Bowie and Ronson are now left

on stage; he makes a few jokes, delightedly acknowledges a wolf whistle, poses for photographers, and then sings "Space Odyssey" under moon-blue light, followed by a comment on image and his number on Andy Warhol.

Ronson also splits and Bowie alone on stage, now gives us Brel's "Port of Amsterdam" hauntingly; - no camp.

The others return in sequin tops, plain matching trousers, calf length boots and all rock into the Cream standard "I feel free". Bowie's rapport with the audience, always good, is now total. He changes to "White Satin" for a slower number and then flashes into "White Light White Heat".

The number following is intended to be the finale but Bowie returns, this time elegantly casual in quilted cotton print pyjamas lightly scattered with sequins, barefooted for an encore of "I'm waiting for my man".

Linden

Beach Boys



The first of two shows was only about three quarters full which maybe explains why the Beachboys didn't really seem to hit it off with the audience until the very end of the set. The crowd were made up of the older Beachboy freaks who remembered well such numbers as "I get around", "Help me Ronda" and "Surfing", and a younger section who had presumably heard of the Beachboys but associated them more with the new LP "Surfs Up". The music and lyrics have definitely changed as have the Beachboys (head wise) over the last few years with their music now a lot heavier and fuller and the lyrics being a lot deeper, than in their early days.

At one time there were up to nine members of the Beachboys Roadshow on stage, harmonising, playing tambourines, drumming, or taking part in the Rhythm sec-

tion of the band. Ricky Fataar has now taken over on drums from Denis Wilson after the hand accident that Denis had, forcing him to retire from drumming. Another new addition to the band is Blondie Chaplin who comes in on bass guitar which he seems to be in complete control of, moving and weaving with his music. The band's harmonies are very good but sometimes seemed to be a little loud and drowned the rest of the sound except for the heavy bass.

The Beachboys first show was split by a short interval and seemed to progress from their older material onto the more recent material, unrecorded material and new single "You need a mess of help to stand alone". In the first half of the show we were given sounds like "Sloop John B", "Do it again", "Wouldn't

it be nice" and "God only knows" to mention but a few. After the interval the new material came numbers like "Let the wind blow" - Brian Wilson's prayer set to music, "Surfs up" - from the LP of the same name, and the new single. To finish the set the city Hall pipe organ was used on "Good vibrations", and it seemed now that the Beachboys had found the audience, warmed up and were getting into having a good time themselves.

As the first house spilled into the road outside, it was obvious by the long snaking queue and people hassling to buy spare tickets that the second house was going to be a lot fuller and a lot more full than the first performance.

Andy

5 Easy Pieces



I really enjoyed this film but then I identified with the main character so I'm being self indulgent (as always). Robert Dupes is a straight looking drop-out who has rejected the society which he had been brought up to be a part of. He came from a musical background, the members of the family being very artistic and cultural. But Bobbie chose to live in plainer company. Of course he could never become completely "one of the lads". Basically he was a loner without roots.

There's some really nice animal scenes (not Walt Disney,

sex I mean) and Bobbie's unconventional behaviour in constipated social situations raises some bloody good laughs. My favourite scene is where he plays "Moonlight Sonata" when Catherine asks him to play something for her; Catherine is a young lady who lives for music and artistic appreciation oozes out of her.

Whilst Bobby plays, the camera really works to get the audience involved by performing minor key tracking over Catherine's profile, a vase of flowers and some old family photos. When the music stops Catherine is dither-

ing with motions and tells Bobbie how she was nearly turned on by the feeling he put in the music. Bobbie replies that he didn't feel anything, he was just playing the easiest piece he knew. Catherine storms up to her bedroom followed by Bobbie who, totally ignoring her hurt feelings, performs a sexual act on her in the key of G. The film gets a bit predictable at times but it's good meaty stuff and worth a viewing. Directed by Bob Rafelson. Bobbie - Jack Nicholson.

Alan

Donovan Cont.

people associating certain songs with specific events. Ideally, I would like to have a song for every individual at one of my shows. You know musicians are really indirectly very religious people, for through their music they can reach out to several generations of people and touch their hearts, although they should never use their positions to push their beliefs on people. They should only try and help both spiritually and materialistically.

B.B: Like George Harrison and

the Radha Krishna Temple?

Donovan: Yeah, George is telling people about his beliefs in an indirect fashion, whereas John (Lennon) tries to help people in a more physical way. I have my own ideas on things like meditation but I would never try to tell people that they are wrong and I am right. Primarily I am just an entertainer, although I would like to be considered more a friend of the audience rather than a guy standing on stage singing.

B.B: Do you find it hard striking a balance between being labelled a "superstar" and being yourself?

Donovan: Yes very. On the one hand I love my wife and son and on the other hand I like travelling around and singing to people and making albums. I really have to work at it twenty four hours a day. But living up in Skye helps a lot. We are really beginning to get things together now. The difficulties are mainly physical, like getting builders, etc. and when I am down south I live outside in the country so it's not so bad. I am learning from past experience.

B.B: In what respect?

Donovan: Like being the first

rock star to be bust on drugs, so I did a sleeve note on "Gift from a Flower to a Garden" asking kids to try and give up the use of synthetic drugs.

B.B: Is there a difference in your mind?

Donovan: Of course; pot, for example, is a gift from nature and should be used, not only for getting high but for medicinal purposes, as opium is. You know there is even a natural form of aspirin, but I can't remember what it is.

Thanks to Black Box for this interview.



HELP ADVICE INFO

CLAIMANTS UNIONS
 Durham 13 Silver St.
 Durham City.
 (tel:-61242)
 Newcastle Larry Carter
 Flat A Thornton Hse.,
 Beechgrove Rd., Elswick.
 Action Centre. (39767)
 South Shields Meetings
 for all claimants every
 Wed. 1.30pm. at 143,
 Westoe Rd., S.Shields.
 In cases of urgency
 contact through S.Shields
 62213.

WANT TO TALK TO SOMEONE?
 We will try and help you
 in any way we can. Day-
 time call in or phone
 Muther Grumble Durham
 61242, or any time day
 or night, call Andy
 Don or Linden - 10 Ashleigh
 Grove N/cle 12 (668498)

STOCKTON HELP
 20 Lawrence St Stockton-
 on-Tees. (tel 66667)
 24 hour service.
 (can you help?)
 For details contact
 Stuart H.Smith 14,
 Middleham Rd Stockton.

**NEWCASTLE WEST END
 TENANTS ASSOCIATION**
 At Elswick Action Centre
 Elswick Rd., N/cle
 (tel:-39767)

WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING?
 Info and help from 'OFF
 THE RECORD'. Mon-Fri
 7.00-9.00pm. at 5, Char-
 lotte Sq., N/cle or
 phone 22385.

CYRENIANS:- Newcastle
 c/o Chaplaincy N/cle
 University.
 Durham c/o David Const-
 antine 6 Kepier Terr.

GROUPS

SOC'EM (Save our city
 from environmental mess)
 79 Roseberry Cresc.
 N/cle 2.

**TYNESIDE ENVIRONMENTAL
 CONCERN.**Contact Colin
 Marsh, 62 beatty Ave,
 Jesmond, N/cle. Tel.
 856214: daytime 28511
 ext.2419.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH.
 Meetings alt.Fridays
 starting June 9th at
 2nd.Floor, Eldon Grill,
 Grey St. N/cle. 7.00p.m.
 Or contact Colin Clews
 45, The Oval, Ouston,
 Chester-le-Street. Co.
 Durham.

THIRD WORLD FIRST
 Groups at.....
 Alnwick Rob and Daph,
 3W1 Alnwick College
 of Education.
 Darlington Kev Buckle
 3W1 Ashrove Hall,
 D/ton Coll. of Educ.
 Durham Jill Halsey
 25 Hallgarth St Durham.
 Middlesbro Ann Pike
 3W1 78 Southfield Rd
 M/bro.
 Northumb. Helen Mallet
 3W1 Northumberland Coll.
 of Education Ponteland,
 Northumberland.
 Newcastle 3W1 Cullercoats
 YMCA Mast Lane Tynemouth
 Sunderland Dave Carter
 3W1 S/land Coll. of Educ.
 Ryhope Rd., S/land.

ANTI-BLOOD SPORTS
 Tyneside Dave Hutton
 45 Woodbine Rd. N/cle 3
 (tel:-855910)

SAMARITANS
 Newcastle 27272
 Durham 63737
 Sunderland 77177
 Darlington 4444
 Middlesbro 86777
 Hartlepool 2929

POSSE
 Help and info. about York.
 16 St.Saviourgate York.
 (tel:-28723)

OUTSIDER
 Phone Outsider with your
 legal, medical, social
 and personal problems.
 24 hour phone service
 (Hull 20222) or call at
 9 Leonard St., Hull
 between 10 am. and 12pm.

BIT INFO SERVICE
 24 hour free info and
 help service for young
 people and those trying
 to create an alternative
 to present society. We're
 interested in what you
 are doing and what hap-
 pens in your area-so
 please let us know.
 141 Westbourne Park Rd.,
 London W11 (01-229 8219)

**NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
 CIVIL LIBERTIES:** helps
 people defend their
 rights and investigates
 violations of those rig-
 hts.
 152 Camden High St.,
 London N.W.1. (01-485
 9497)

RELEASE
 New address:- 1 Elgin Ave
 London W.9.
 (tel:- 01-603 8654)
 24 hour emergency-
 01-289 1123)

Teesside Pam Duncan
 37 Mandale Rd. Acklam
 M/bro (tel:-89135)

Anyone interested in
 forming (or who already
 belongs to) a **WOMENS LIB**
 Group, please contact:-
 Alison 107 StPaul's Rd.
 Jarrow.

GAY LIBERATION FRONT
 Durham Chris c/o MG
 13 Silver St., Durham.
 Newcastle phone N/cle
 668498 for details.
 London 5 Caledonian Rd.,
 N.1. (01-837 7174)

CHE c/o Frank H.Smith
 52 Belmont Ave. Billing-
 ham Teesside.
 (Campaign for Homo-
 sexual Equality.)

YOUNG VOLUNTEER FORCE
 c/o College of Further
 Educ. Bath Lane, NE4
 5TQ. Tel. N/cle 21371.

DURHAM I.S.
 In the Buffalo Head
 Mondays at 7.30 pm.

HARTLEPOOL I.S.
 Public meetings held
 alternate Tuesdays at
 North Eastern Hotel,
 Lynn St. Hartlepool

BISHOP AUCKLAND I.S.
 Meetings held in Aclret
 Hotel. Contact John Lova,
 4 Abbey Road, B.A.

SUNDERLAND I.S.
 Every Thurs. Londonderry
 Hotel, High St. S/land 8.00.

DWARFS: Harry and Phil
 49, Popplewell Gdns,
 Low Fell, Gtshd.

COMMUNITY

Anyone interested in
 helping to organise or
 joining an **ALTERNATIVE
 WORK AGENCY** (to do al-
 most anything from rem-
 ovals and plumbing to
 typing and baby sitting)
 in the North-East, please
 contact Don (N/cle 668498
 or MGHQ in Durham.

PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION
 (see page 8) contact:
 Malcolm Gerrie 132 Hat-
 field Place, Peterlee,
 Co.Durham.

DIVINE LIGHT MISSION
 18 Holly Ave Jesmond
 N/cle 2.

STREET THEATRE c/o Gordon
 (tel:- N/cle 811876)

GROUP MEDITATION
 (Mike and Sheila)
 Wed. 7.30. 3 Moorfield
 N/cle.3.

ONE LIFE COOPERATIVE Phase
 2. We now have the use of
 two domes which we hope to
 erect in N/cle within the
 next few weeks. At present
 we are persuading the Coun-
 cil to give us space to
 put them up and if you are
 interested in using them
 as:-Crafts centre, Arts
 workshop, Info centre, per-
 formance space, then please
 contact us as soon as poss.
 51 Larkspur Terr. N/cle 2
 (tel:- 811876)

CHILDRENS THEATRE A dragon
 masks and music. In the
 streets. Tel:-N/cle 811876

We are getting a book about
VEGETARIANISM together -
 covering all aspects from
 the social/economic to the
 mystical. If you have any
 ideas for such a book, any
 info., quotations, poems,
 drawings, etc that you
 think would fit in, then
 let us know. Gordon and
 Judy, 51 Larkspur Terr.
 N/cle 2 (811876)

CLASSIFIED



BACK NUMBERS OF MG
 From 13 Silver St.
 Durham.

MIRAGE Alan and Doug
 are at 64 Westoe Rd.,
 S.Shields, stocking
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 blouses etc. Also Ind-
 ian perfumes, MG and
 Frendz. Go see for your-
 self - they're cheap.

A guy wot makes **TROUSERS**
 (£2) and other clothes.
 Contact Simon, 1 Salisbury
 Gdns. N/cle 2. 6.30 -
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 afternoons.

Handmade **LEATHER HATS**
 and other things - also
 super clothes to order.
 Hester 3, Windsor Court,
 Gt. North Rd., (corner
 of Windsor Terr.) N/CLE2.

Life is like a tin of sard-
 ines - there's always the
 bit in the corner you can't
 get out.

STUART AND EILEEN'S STALL
 Bigg Market N/cle.
 Candles, incense, Indian
 perfumes, leather goods,
 and big skins.

STUFFED MERMAIDS WANTED
 and for sale. Will buy
 mermaids ready for stuf-
 fing - also all sorts of
 weird things. Richard's
 Curio stall N/cle Bigg
 Market opposite Freemans.
 Open Tue., Thur., Sat.

LYNN MAKES CLOTHES CHEAPLY
 Ring N/cle 810159 or call
 at 31 Osborne Rd. Jesmond.

KARD BAR prints and reproductions new shop now open.
 KARD BAR poster prices are down in Arcadia.
 KARD BAR has the largest range of posters in the
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 KARD BAR has Snoopy books and pennants
 KARD BAR is open 10 to 5.30 six days
 KARD BAR is in Arcadia Percy St. Newcastle

ARTS MUSIC POETRY

STARTING A MAG?
 Contact APIS (Alt. Press
 Info Service). 187 Purves
 Rd., London N.W.10.

ATARAXIA:Poetry
 Poet with free photo copy
 equipment is willing to
 print other poets in book-
 let. Anyone interested
 (and there must be!) con-
 tact:-Dave, Whickam 882634

SPECTRO ARTS WORKSHOP
 Station Rd. Whitley Bay.
 (tel:-22336)

OSTRICH is a poetry
 paper. Comes out four
 times a year. 10p.
 Issued by Erdesdun pomes
 10 Greenhaugh Rd. South
 Wellfield, Whitley Bay,
 Northumberland.
 Contributions from MG
 readers very welcome.

SPINDRIFT 2 guys play
 folk - own songs, Inc.
 String Band etc.
 (tel:- Peterlee 3247)

ELEPHANT ROCK Poetry/Jazz
 club. Alex Hand sextet.
 Nursery Inn, Hart Lane,
 Hartlepool. Every Thur.
 7.30 pm. Free.

**WANTED VOCALIST/LYRICIST
 AND ORGANIST** for pro band.
 Original material (Hirudin)
 Tel:- N/cle 811127

DURHAM BOOK CENTRE WANTS BOOKS
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 without violence. Very
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RIP-OFF RECORDS will
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 led and tested alterna-
 tive sounds to MG read-
 ers. Contact through MG.
 Satisfaction guaranteed
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 At present we are selling
 tapes at less than half the
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 make less profit on each
 tape and because it's direct
 from the factory; for a
 full price list write to:
 Broadsound Electronics
 10 Holywell Ave. Whitley
 Bay.

FOUR KITTENS
 In search of good homes
 Collect after June 26th
 from 3 St. Georges Ter.
 Jesmond N/cle 2.
 (C.L.F. N/cle).

WANTED: ALL OLD STAMPS
 and any **OLD SPECTACLES**
 Worth money to us and
 glasses used for refugees

ULTIMA THULE
crowley - ohen - burroughs - dylan - genat -
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 22 Arcadia Percy Street Newcastle
 (tel:-23679)

HEAVY ROCK - SOFT STONE

 enquiries to Mike Mogie
 MG office.

BRIEF ENCOUNTER for tra-
 ditional/contemporary
 folk. Write to 5 Albert
 St., Western Hill, Dur-
 ham City. or tel:- 3504
 between 6pm and 9pm.

If you are interested in
 playing simple **MEDITATIONAL
 /IMPROVISATIONAL MUSIC**
 with other people please
 contact Gordon and Judy
 51 Larkspur Terr. N/cle
 (811876)

**VERY GOOD LEAD GUITARIST
 AND DRUMMER** looking for a
 good group. We have good
 gear and 100w. P.A. Pro-
 or semi.
 Tel:-Durham 62161 (after 6)
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Anyone interested in
 forming a **COSMIC ROCK
 BAND** to play benefits
 and just to play to the
 people. Can you dig it?
 No bread heads - Rock &
 Rollers only. Contact
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SLOW DIVE DANCER (rock)
 Keep on cruising...
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WANTED (cheap) copies of
 any of **GEORGE BORROW**'s
 books. Not "The Bible in
 Spain" or "Lavengro" or
 "Romany Rye".
 Contact through MG

SHAKESPEARE ETC Jesmond
 N/cle. Posters, second
 hand books and records
 for sale.

THOMAS MCKENNA BOOKSHOP
 11 Arcadia Percy St N/cle
 SECOND HAND BOOKS

REVOLUTION in Morpeth
 stocks MG. Also sells
 clothes.

BIT INFO SERVICE
**OVERLAND TO INDIA AND
 BEYOND** - new BIT pub-
 lication with detailed
 info for every inch of
 the route from Istanbul
 to Indonesia, plus BIT's
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 141 Westbourne Park Rd.,
 London W.11.

THE LEY HUNTER
 Mag. that covers UFO's,
 cosmic power, prehistoric
 monuments, psychism, etc.
 Available from Paul Screeton
 5 Egton Drive Seaton Carew,
 Hartlepool. 10p per copy
 (inc. postage). 60p - 6
 months sub., £1.20p p.a.



ROCK

CITY HALL, NEWCASTLE
June 24 T. Rex 6.00pm.
and 8.30pm.

REDGAR JAZZ CLUB
11 June Ian Matthews -
Plain Song - and Andy
Roberts.
June 18 Quiver.
June 25 Vinegar Joe.
July 2 Quintessence.
July 9 Man.

**DARLINGTON CIVIC
THEATRE**
June 25 Groundhogs and
Fettlers. 8.00pm.

**DURHAM TECHNICAL
COLLEGE**
June 23 Concert with
Bob Lawson, support
bands, disco, folk
singers and poets;
in College canteen
20p.

MUSIC

**MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**
Michael Garrick Trio.
Students Union 8.00pm.
June 15.

**SUNDERLAND
BISHOPWEARMOUTH
PARISH CHURCH**
Ceolfrith summer
concert with Alfred
Deller and Desmond
Dupre. 8.30pm. June 15.

**BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN
HALL**
Felling Male Voice Choir
7.00pm. June 17.

**BRAMPTON LANERCOST
PRIORY**
St Andrew's University
Madrigal Group. 7.00pm.
June 17. **HEXHAM ABBEY**
3.00pm. June 18.

**CARLISLE
COLLEGE OF THEATRE AND
DESIGN**
How to Succeed in
Business without Really
Trying. June 19 to June
24. 7.15pm.
**CITY HALL. BALLET FOR
ALL.** June 13. 7.30pm.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL
Organ Recital. 8.15pm.
June 28.

**DURHAM UNIVERSITY LIGHT
OPERA GROUP
ASSEMBLY ROOMS**
North Bailey
Princess Ida June 19
to June 22. 8.15pm.

**GATESHEAD
ST GEORGE'S CHURCH,**
Durham Rd. Organ
recital 18 Cent. &
modern works. June 12

FILMS

**WHITEHAVEN (JUNE
FESTIVAL)**
26 & 27 June Gilbert
and Sullivan films.
Mon. Mikado and H.M.S.
Pinafore.
Tues. Pirates of
Penzance and Yeoman of
the Guard. 7.30pm.

**TEESIDE FILM THEATRE
LITTLE THEATRE**
25 June Ivan the
Terrible (AA). (Parts
1 and 2). Einstein's
Masterpiece 7.30pm.
26 June to 30 June
Sunday Bloody Sunday
(X). Support Your
Local Sheriff (U).
7.00pm.

**BILLINGHAM FORUM
THEATRE**
12 June to 17 June
Gilbert and Sullivan
films.
Mon. Wed. & Fri.
The Pirates of Penzance
Yeoman of the Guard.
Tues. Thurs. & Sat.
Mikado and H.M.S.
Pinafore.
7.30pm. Sat. 2.30pm.

**DOVECOTE ARTS CENTRE
STOCKTON**
11 June I'm no Angel
(Mae West/Cary Grant)
7.30pm.
18 June Desire (Marlene
Dietrich/Gary Cooper)
7.30pm.
25 June Queen Christina
(Greta Garbo) 7.30pm.

**TYNESIDE FILM THEATRE
CINEMA 1**
16 June Dunwich Horror
(X). Oblong Box (X).
11.00pm.
23 June Planet of the
Vampires (X). Plague
of the Zombies (X).
11.00pm.
30 June Return of the
Fly (X). The Terror (X).
11.00pm.

CINEMA 2
18 June A Tribute to
John Grierson. 7.30pm.

**DURHAM UNIVERSITY FILM
SOCIETY**
June 14 More (startling
drugs film with famous
Pink Floyd sound track).
June 21 Sweet Charity.
8.15pm. Appleby Theatre.

THEATRE

**THEATRE ROYAL,
NEWCASTLE**
12 June to 17 June
Relative Values (Noel
Coward). Mon to Fri
7.30pm. Sat 5.00pm. &
8.00pm.
19 June to 24 June
A Chorus of Murder
(Irene Handl). times
as above.

**NEWCASTLE PEOPLE'S
THEATRE ARTS GROUP**
26 June to July 1
Hedda Gabler (Ibsen).
Mon and Tues 7.30pm.
Wed to Sat 7.00pm.

**GATESHEAD LITTLE
THEATRE Saltwell View.**
20 to 24 June The Odd
Couple. 7.15pm.

**UNIVERSITY THEATRE
NEWCASTLE**
15 June to July 1
Under Milk Wood
(Dylan Thomas) 7.30pm.
Sat. 8.00pm.

**DARLINGTON CIVIC
THEATRE**
June 14 to June 17
Bonaventure. 7.30pm.
June 29 to July 1
Hotel Paradise (Feydeau)
7.30pm.

**BILLINGHAM FORUM
THEATRE**
June 21 to July 1
Never Say Die 7.30pm.

JAZZ

MONDAYS
Park Hotel, Tynemouth.
Bobby Carr Band.

TUESDAYS
Highland Lad Hotel, Harton
8.30pm.
Traveller's Rest, Sunnyside
River City Jazzmen
Barnes Hotel, Sunderland

WEDNESDAYS
Balmbras, Cloth Market,
N/cle - Barry Soulsby's
Saratoga Jazzmen - FREE

THURSDAYS
Diamond Inn, Ponteland -
Vieux Carre Jazzmen
Wheatshaf, New York -
Jam session

SUNDAYS
Hardwick Hall Hotel,
Sedgefield.

FOLK

WHITEHAVEN FESTIVAL
Sunday 11 June. Tim Hol-
lier. Civic Hall. 7.30pm.

MONDAYS
Bay Hotel, Cullercoats.
Royal Hotel Ballroom
Hexham.
Ye Old Black Bull Inn,
Wylam.
Catholic Club, Cecil St.
N. Shields (7.-7.30pm.)
Folk and C/V
Balmbras, Cloth Market
N/cle 8.00pm.
Sun Inn, Knowles St. Stkn.

TUESDAYS
Golden Cock Hotel, Dltm.
Newton Hall Hotel, Fram-
wallgate Moor.
Cannon Inn, Court Road,
N. Shields. 7.30pm.
King's Head, Shotley Bridge.
Prudhoe Folk Song Club,
8.00pm.
Robbie Burns Hotel,
Houghton-le-Spring.
Dun Cow Inn, Seaham.
Fercy Arms, Tynemouth.
Bridge Hotel, St Nich-
olas Str. N/cle.
Corner House Hotel, Steph-
enson Rd. Heston. 7.00pm.
Marquis of Blandford,
Westgate Rd, N/cle.

New Darnell Traditional
Club, off Barrack Rd. N/cle
8.00pm.
Balmbras, Cloth Market,
FREE C/W night.
Columba, C.I.U. Club, Fell-
ing.
New Darnley Hotel, N/cle.
Three Tuns Hotel, Birtley.
Boot and Shoe Hotel, Mark-
et Place, Darlington.
Zetland Hotel, Marske,
7.30pm.

WEDNESDAYS
Beaconsfield Arms, Barnard
Castle.
Three Tuns Hotel, Birtley.
Blackbird Inn, Ponteland.
Cleveland Bay, Eston.
West Wylan Inn, Prudhoe.
George and Dragon, S/land.
Bay Hotel, Whitburn. S/land
C/W.

Seven Stars, Ponteland
7.15pm.
Honeybuckle, Coatsworth Rd
Gateshead. 8.15pm. Blues.
Newcastle Morris Men, West
Jesmond Primary School,
Forsyth Rd, N/cle 2. 7pm.
Dancers and Musicians w
wanted.
Change Is, Bath Lane, N/cle
Gretna Green Wedding Inn
Newton Aycliffe. 8pm.
Studley Royal Hotel, Ripon.
Ladle Hotel, M/brough.

THURSDAYS
Plough, Ellington.
Merchant Navy Club, S/land.
Victoria Hotel, Whitley
Bay.
Black Bush, Village Lane,
Washington.
Northumberland Coll of
Educ, Ponteland.
Chillingham Hotel, Chill-
ingham Rd, N/cle. 7.30pm.
Bridge Hotel, St Nicholas
St.
New Cannon Inn, Low Fell,
8.00pm. - folk, blues and
contemporary.

FRIDAYS
New Cannon Inn, Durham.
Road, Low Fell.
Station Inn, Amble.
Ship Hotel, Wylam.
Lampglass Club, Ashington,
7.30pm.
Londonderry Hotel, S/land.
George and Dragon, S/land.
Red Lion Inn, Trimdon
Village,
Viking Inn, Jarrow.

South Tyne Folk and
Blues, Station Hotel
South Shields
Railway Institute,
Shildon. Country &
Western.
Globe Hotel, Guisbro.
The Keep Folk Club, Eston
Sports Centre, Eston. 8pm.
Hardwick Hall. Resident
group..the Crofters.

SATURDAYS
Victoria and Comet, Nevi-
lle St. N/cle.
Golden Cock Hotel, Mark-
et Place, Darlington.

SUNDAYS
Dun Cow Inn, Seaham.
Marsden Inn, S. Shields.
Victoria Hotel, Whitley
Bay. 7.30 - 10.30pm.
Gosforth Hotel, Salters
Rd. Gosforth.
Hope and Anchor, Alnmouth.
Y.M.C.A. Dovecote Arts
Centre, Dovecote St. Sto-
ckton.
Albert Social Club, M/bro.
Blacksmith's Arms, Swainby.

MEETS.

**TYNESIDE ENVIRONMENTAL
CONCERN**
Bainbridge Hall, Percy
St. N/cle. (opp. Thorne.)
**KEN GALLEY, City Planning
Officer, on redevelopm-
ent and motorway. Should
be fierce discussion.**

ANTI-INTERNMENT LEAGUE
Tyneside Branch. Public
meeting with BERNADETTE
DEVLIN IN HEBBURN or
JARROW. Fri. 16th June.
For further details
phone Pete Kelly at
N/cle. 661649.

PEOPLE OF NEWCASTLE
Walk with us from Exhib-
ition)Park Bandstand, to
Leazes Park Pond.
STOP THE MOTORWAY
Sat. 24th June at 2pm.
**THE MOTORWAYS WILL
KILL YOUR CITY!!!**

EXHIBS

**CEOLFRITH GALLERY
EXHIBITION**
Alistair Park. Ceol-
frith Bookshop Gallery.
June 16th - July 3rd.

D.L.I. MUSEUM
June 6th - July 16th
Landscapes of the
North - exhibition.

**HARTLEPOOL
Gray Art Gallery**
Annual Exhibition of the
Hartlepool Photographic
Society.
Till Sun. 18th.
10.00am. - 5.30pm.
3 - 5.00pm. (Sun).
Sat. 24th - July 3rd.
Paintings by J.E. Wig-
stone. Times as above.

**DARLINGTON
Mon. 26th - July 8th.**
Art Gallery.
Exhibition by the D/ton
Coll. of Education.
10 am.-8 pm.
10 am.-7 pm. (Sat).

**DARLINGTON
June 1st. - 30th.**
Art Gallery. Painter of
the month: Mrs. D. Til-
burn.
10 am.-8 pm.
10 am.-7 pm (SAT).

FAIR

ALNWICK FAIR
A revival of Alnwick's
ancient fair.
June 25th - July 2nd.
Morris dancers, folk
singers, costume ball,
stocks and pillories,
Northumbrian pipers,
local traders in trad-
itional costume.

AND...

**TREVELYAN COLLEGE
DURHAM**
Arthur Brown's Kingdom
Come. June 22nd. 8.15pm.
40p.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
FORMAL 20th June.
Michael Chapman, Pigsby
Hill Light Orchestra.
Tickets from John's.

**GAY LIBERATION FRONT-
DANCE**
Coming Soon.....
Watch this space.

**D.L.I. MUSEUM
FILMS**
June 13-18. 2.30 each
day. Teesdale, Wash-
ington, Land of three
rivers.
June 20-25. Hadrian's
Wall, Northumbrian pil-
grimage, Any Man's King-
dom. 2.30 each day.

**D.L.I. MUSEUM
LECTURE**
Wed. June 28th at 7.30.
The Roman Wall - Mr. War-
burton Pope. (History of
the wall.

TYNESIDE FILM THEATRE

Pilgrim St Newcastle Tel 21506

CINEMA ONE

Mon 12th - Fri 16th at 7.00 pm.
Sat continuous from 1.40 pm.
Jack Nicholson and Karen Black in
Five Easy Pieces
Samantha Eggar, Oliver Reed and
John McEnery in
Lady In Car

Mon 26th - Fri 30th at 7.00 pm.
Sat at 2.30 and 7.00 pm.
Paula Pritchett and Milena Dravic in
Adrift (X)
Directed by Jan Kadar
+ Night Of The Living Dead (X)

Mon July 3rd - Fri 7th at 6.45 pm.
Liza Minelli, Ken Howard and
Robert Moore in
**Tell Me That You Love Me,
Junie Moon (X)**
**+ Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau in
The Odd Couple (A)**

Late Night Shows every Fri & Sat at 11.00.

Dean Martin as detective Matt Helm in these
four action-packed thrillers:-

Sat. 17th **The Silencers/Murderers Row**

Sat. 24th **The Wrecking Crew/The Ambushers**

Jean Moreau and Bardot in:-

Sat. 1st **Viva Maria**

CINEMA TWO

Futz
Directed by Tom O'Horgan.
June 12th introduced at 8.00 pm by
Beth Porter who appears in the film.
Tue - Fri 7.30 pm. with
Peeping Tom
Directed by Michael Powell

GROWING UP SEASON
June 19th
Young Aphrodites
Dr. Martin Cole's
Growing Up
Mon - Sat at 6.00 pm. and 8.30 pm.

LAUREL AND HARDY SEASON
June 26th - 28th
Way Out West Flying Duedes
June 29th - July 1st
Fraternally Yours Babes In Toyland
July 3rd - July 5th **Dancing Masters**
A Haunting We Will Go