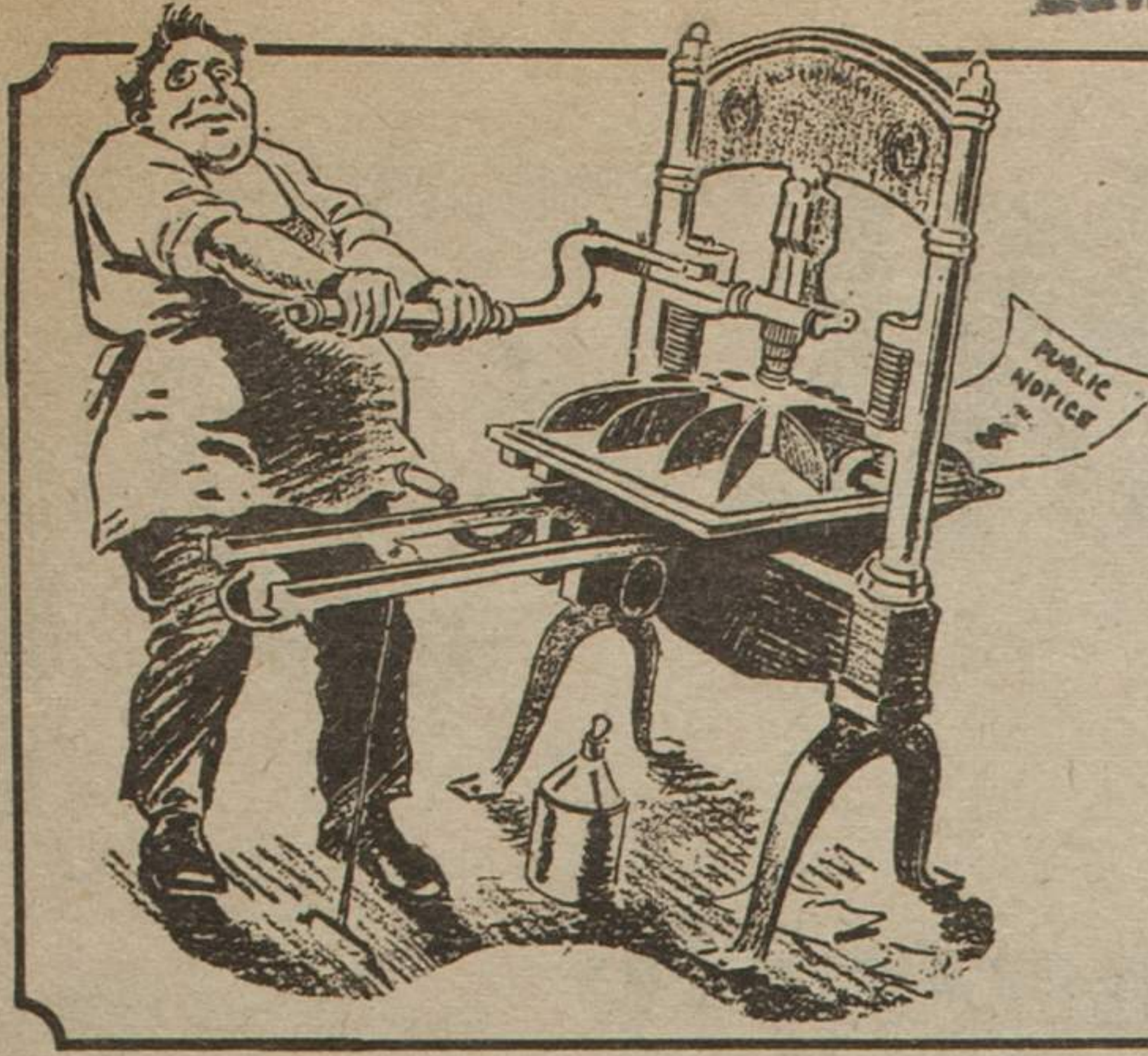


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Vol. II, No. 5 April, 1977 Lawrence, Kansas

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C

APATHY WINS! VOTERS GIVE UP

Lawrence's 1977 election gamut began with the March 8 primary. On that ballot were 12 commission candidates, 13 school board candidates and a question on financing of the Clinton Water Treatment plant.

Voter turnout was low as it has been in the past City elections. Only 23.7 per cent or 7,064 out of nearly 30,000 registered voters, went to the polls.

The School Board campaign was notably lacking in issues. Those candidates who attempted to raise issues such as impasse procedures for teacher negotiations, racial discrimination and corporal punishment, fared poorly.

Roger Pine, a native of Lawrence, ran a "no-axe-to-grind" campaign and was by far the top vote-getter.

Jane Frydman, KU Law student, made a unique attempt to address a broad range of issues including student's rights, and she placed 7th, barely missing the general election run-off.

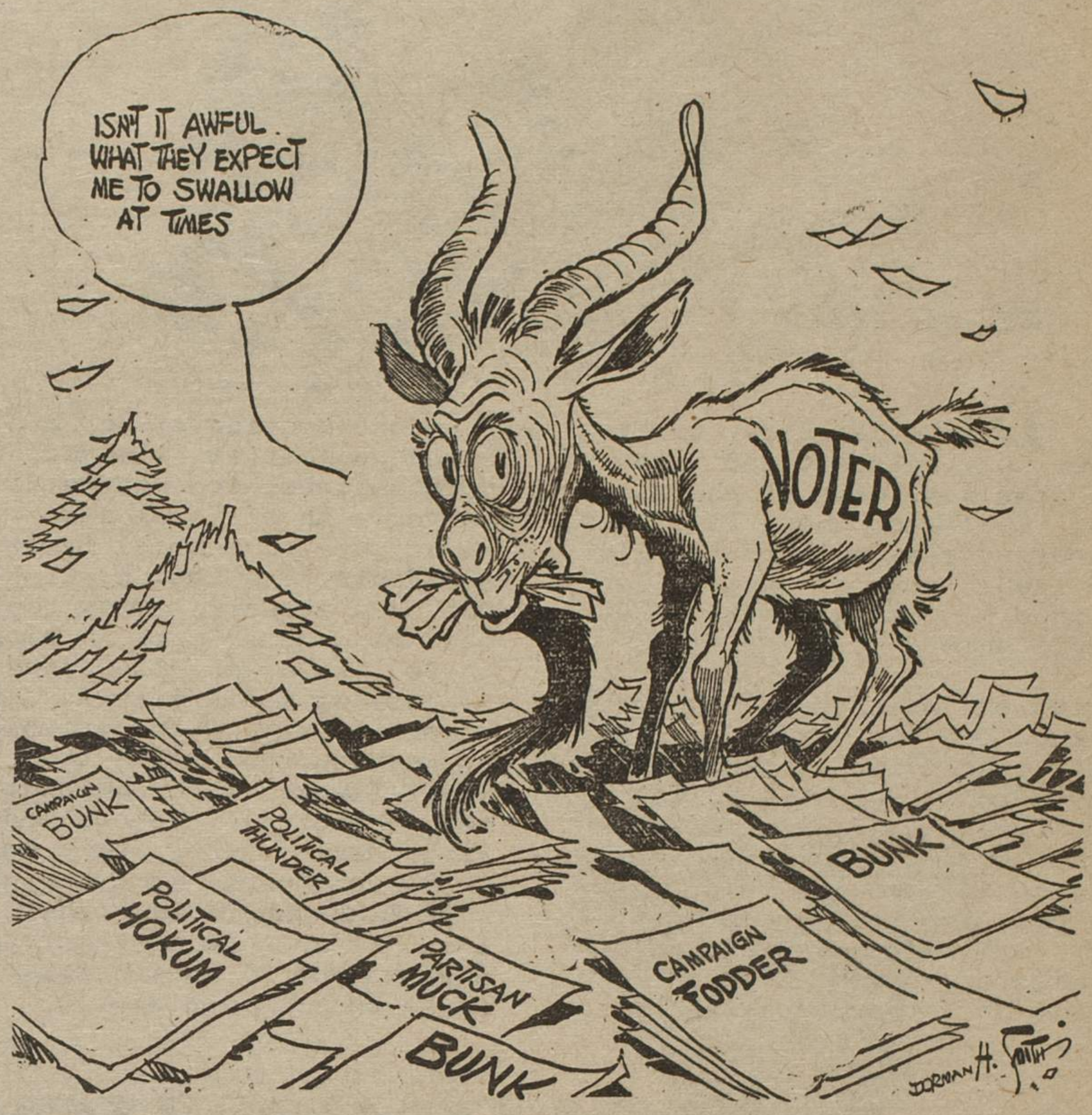
On a hopeful note, Willis Dukelow

who once advocated double doses of corporal punishment both at home and school, finished last.

The Commission race, as usual, pointed out the value of a well-financed campaign. The three top vote getters outspent the rest of the field. They bought more newspaper and radio ads and had more yard signs than the rest of the candidates combined.

The candidates finishing first were Barkley Clark, assistant dean of the KU Law School and incumbent commissioner; Jack Rose, director of KU laboratories and former commissioner; and Ed Carter, district manager of Southwestern Bell. They outdistanced Carl Mibeck, incumbent commissioner; Muriel Paul, the only Black to survive a primary contest in many years; and Jerry Albertson, a Hallmark employe who is making his second attempt to win a commission seat.

The six finalists will be on the general election ballot in April to decide who will be seated on the Commission.



WATER PLANT QUESTION

The water plant question passed by a four to one margin. The landslide vote was surprising for an electorate who have, more often than not, turned down questions of appropriating money.

The key to voter approval was a propaganda campaign by the City. The City sent letters to every household telling voters that they must support the new water plant to insure a water supply for the future of Lawrence. The City's

campaign simplified the issue to one of "Do you want water or not?" Although voters gave strong approval, the question wasn't asking whether the plant should be built. It was merely a choice of financing methods. A "no" vote would have delayed the project for one year.

The City's so-called "educational" campaign didn't stress the 100 per cent increase in water rates scheduled for the next five years to pay for the plant; they didn't

CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN

INSIDE PUBLIC NOTICE

This month, the People's Pages feature information about defending yourself against rape, and collective efforts to stop it. The "Letters" section finds one reader examining the "social disease" element in the new disco craze. See pages 2-3.

Owners of our local gas company have roots deep in Kansas political history. Find out who benefited most by last Winter's freezing temperatures, on page 10.

As Spring gets underway, so do activities in the neighborhoods. Gardens and gardening are the prime topics. See the back page.

Coffee, bananas and Tofu are featured in this month's edition of the COOP NEWS, beginning on page 4...



Loose Talk

Almost everyone has heard something about the current debate about Mayor-Council government in Lawrence. Most of what's been heard from the opposition has amounted to a large heap of half-truths and innuendo. Rather than promoting an open discussion of the pros and cons of both forms of government, opponents have filled the air-ways with a simple "scare" campaign.

Ironically, this is one of the basic complaints of the people advocating a 'yes' vote to change the form of city government here. They charge that City Hall makes more decisions by dictate, than by debate.

At right is a portion of a letter from one of the many larger cities in the mid-west, governed by the Mayor-Council system.

PUBLIC NOTICE hopes this can help to counter some of the "inaccurate" information about the cost, efficiency, and workability of the Mayor-Council system.

CITY OF RAPID CITY
SOUTH DAKOTA 57701
In the Beautiful Black Hills
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
22 MAIN STREET



March 14, 1977

...Our City's population is approximately 48,000 and is divided into five wards. The City Council is made up of 2 Alderpersons from each ward, elected from the ward on staggered two year terms. The Mayor is elected at large for a two year term. The City of Rapid City has in the past years, tried various forms of government, including your type. Our City started with the Mayor-Aldermanic form, changed to the Commission type, then to the City Manager-Aldermanic or City Manager-Commission and then finally in 1957, changed back to the present form of Mayor-Aldermanic.

My opinion, after being directly involved with this present form of government for the past six years, is that it has worked and is working for our City. It has proven to be the most economical, the most representative type of government yet devised. It allows for adequate separation of the legislative and executive authority. The argument that local people would not interrupt their careers to run for office is not substantiated by our experience. Nor is the argument that a districted council would engage in backscratching and special interest politics substantiated by our experience. Quite on the contrary, we find that there has been sufficient candidates and because of the closeness of the alderpeople to the people in their wards, (in other words, truly representative) there is no evidence of backscratching or special interest politics, possibly because in our situation, people do have a direct approach to city government through their alderperson and the Mayor...

Sincerely,
Arthur P. LaCroix
Mayor of Rapid City

P.S. This present form of government carried us through a legislative nightmare in the years since our flood, and has lowered taxes for 1977 without cutting services and still allowing a substantial increase in wages for the city employees.

THE PEOPLES JOURNAL

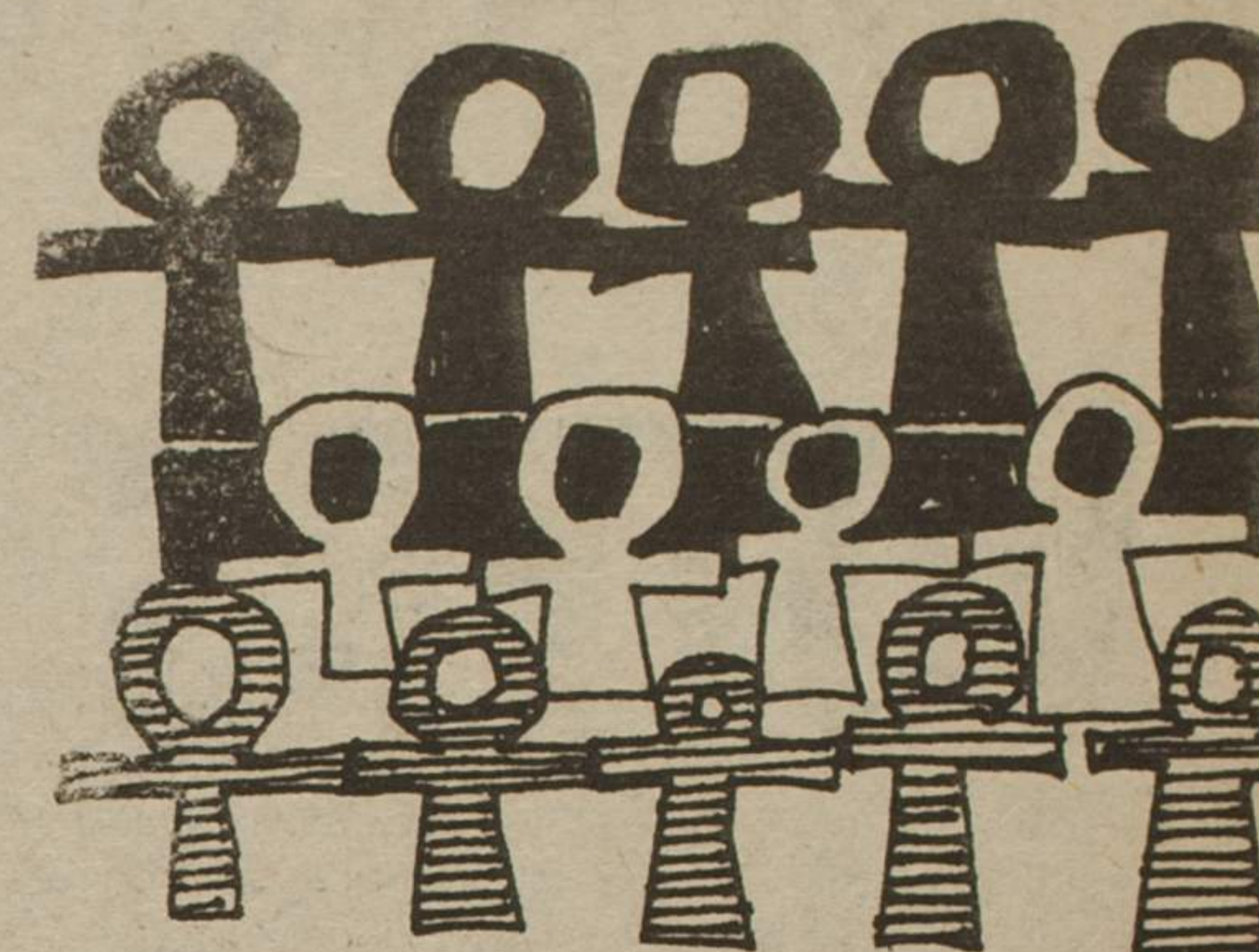


A Sense of Community

BY KATE DUFFY

CLARA has found support from many women and men in the predominantly student area. One woman, Julie Gordon, emphasized that no one was really an expert organizer in the group. They are just

Visitors are welcome at CLARA meetings. Hopefully, they will use the information to start similar programs in their own neighborhood.



During February, several women were attacked and raped in the area just east of the KU campus. Following those incidents, concerned residents of the 1100 and 1200 blocks of Ohio called a neighborhood meeting; about 30 people showed up.

A second meeting a week and a half later was better attended, with more neighborhood men getting involved. An official name was decided on--The Central Lawrence Residents Association, CLARA. The area loosely covers the blocks east of campus, with an emphasis on Louisiana and Ohio Streets. Members of CLARA drew up a fact sheet explaining the group and suggesting rape prevention aids. These flyers are being distributed around the neighborhood. Plans are underway for a poster which can be put in house windows much like the Block Mother system. If someone is in trouble, she can run to an identified house and receive aid.

concerned folks trying to make the neighborhood a better place to live. Working together in CLARA has given them a strong sense of community, and consequently, they hope to influence area landlords to keep their property in better shape.

During the meeting, neighbors got to know one another, set up a buddy system and planned a "keep-your-porch-light-on-at-night" campaign. A petition for additional street lighting was circulated in the neighborhood. The petition was presented to the city commission; subsequently, commissioners came through with \$5,000 of revenue sharing money for new lights in the area.

In dealing with the rape problems, CLARA has had assistance from Douglas County Rape Victim Support Service. RVSS demonstrated self-defense techniques and showed the film, "No Pat Answer", which was written and directed by Polly Pettit of RVSS.

Additional help can be obtained from the RVSS. Members will attend your meetings and show their film. Contact RVSS at 843-8985, or obtain information through the KU Information Center at 864-3506 or Headquarters at 843-2345.

A NEIGHBORHOOD FIGHTS BACK !

Prevent Rape Through Awareness

BY MARTHA COOLEY



-If you are alone on the street, act assertively or possibly rude to any stranger who approaches you. Your manner should thwart his attempts to dominate or frighten you.

-Always let your roommates know where you are going.

-If you are alone at home, do not let a stranger inside your house, unless you have sent for someone, such as a maintenance man. If someone claims he needs to use the phone, make the call yourself while he waits outside.

-Do not hitchhike unless its an emergency or you are with a friend. Even then, hitchhiking can be dangerous for women.

-If someone has maneuvered you into a vulnerable position, demand your way in order to protect yourself.

If you are about to be raped, your best immediate tactic is to attract attention or get away from the rapist. His power over you is not absolute. If he pulls out a weapon, your choices have narrowed, but many women have escaped even under these circumstances. If the situation is aggressively violent, your aim may be to treat him like a human being.

Remember, awareness and sensitivity is not paranoia. Because ultimately, you must rely on yourself.



There is no "right way" to resist a rapist. All methods such as screaming, struggling, physical force, or pleading have worked, even when the assailant has a weapon. But at times, all methods have also failed.

A recently released study on victim resistance completed by the Queen's Bench Foundation in San Francisco has determined that women who have successfully resisted a rape, ultimately tried more methods of resistance than victims.

SELF DEFENSE
is a right.



Contrary to popular assumption, many rapists do not jump out of bushes, but accost their victims casually, even in a friendly manner.

Studies have shown that vulnerable women are perfect targets for potential rapists. A woman may be walking alone, she may be alone in a building, or at a bar or party she may leave alone with someone she has just met. She may place herself under someone's protection; for example, she may trust a friendly stranger who assists with her troubled car.

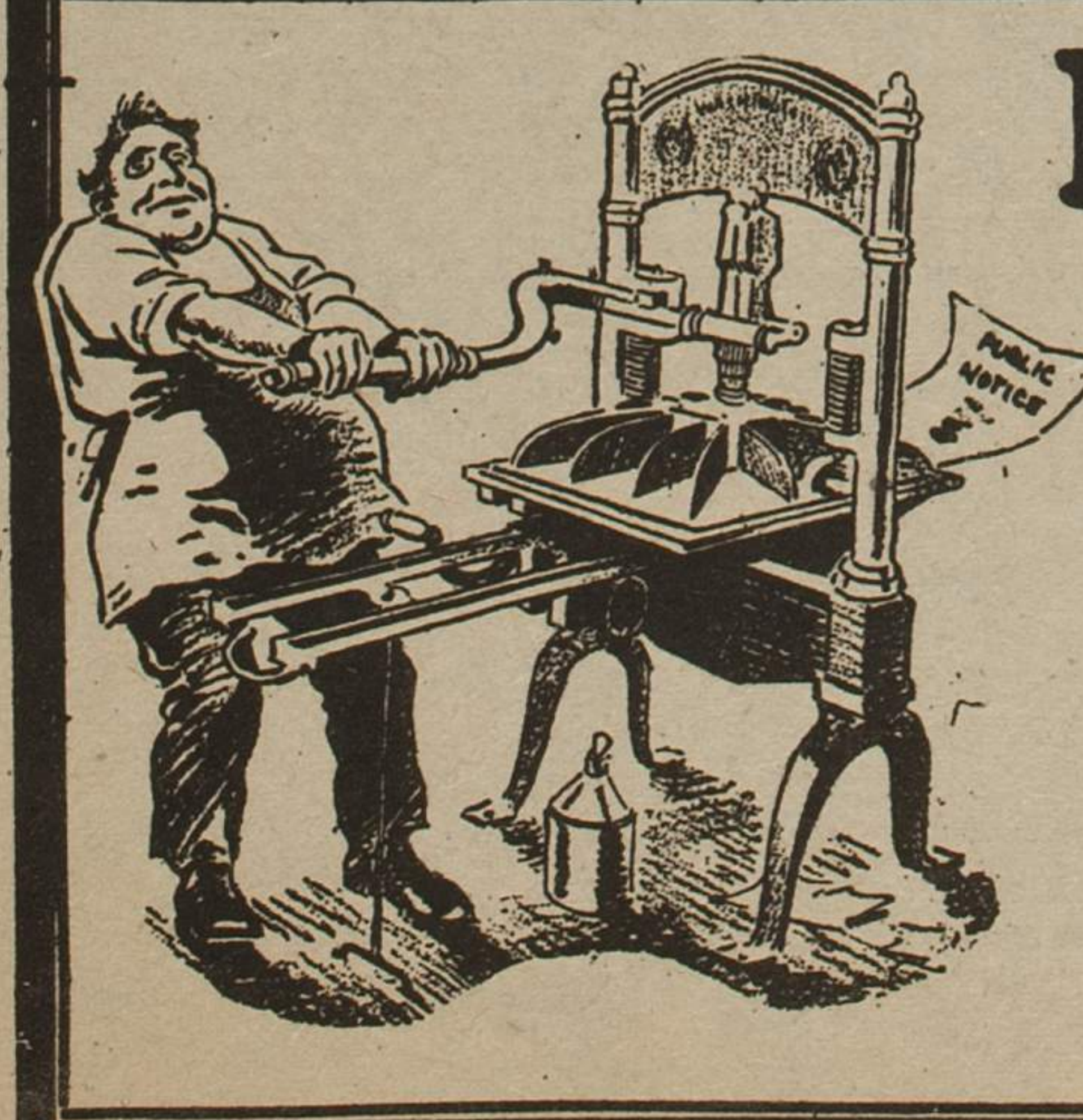
Be constantly aware of your vulnerability and, as they say, drive defensively. Here are a few points to remember:

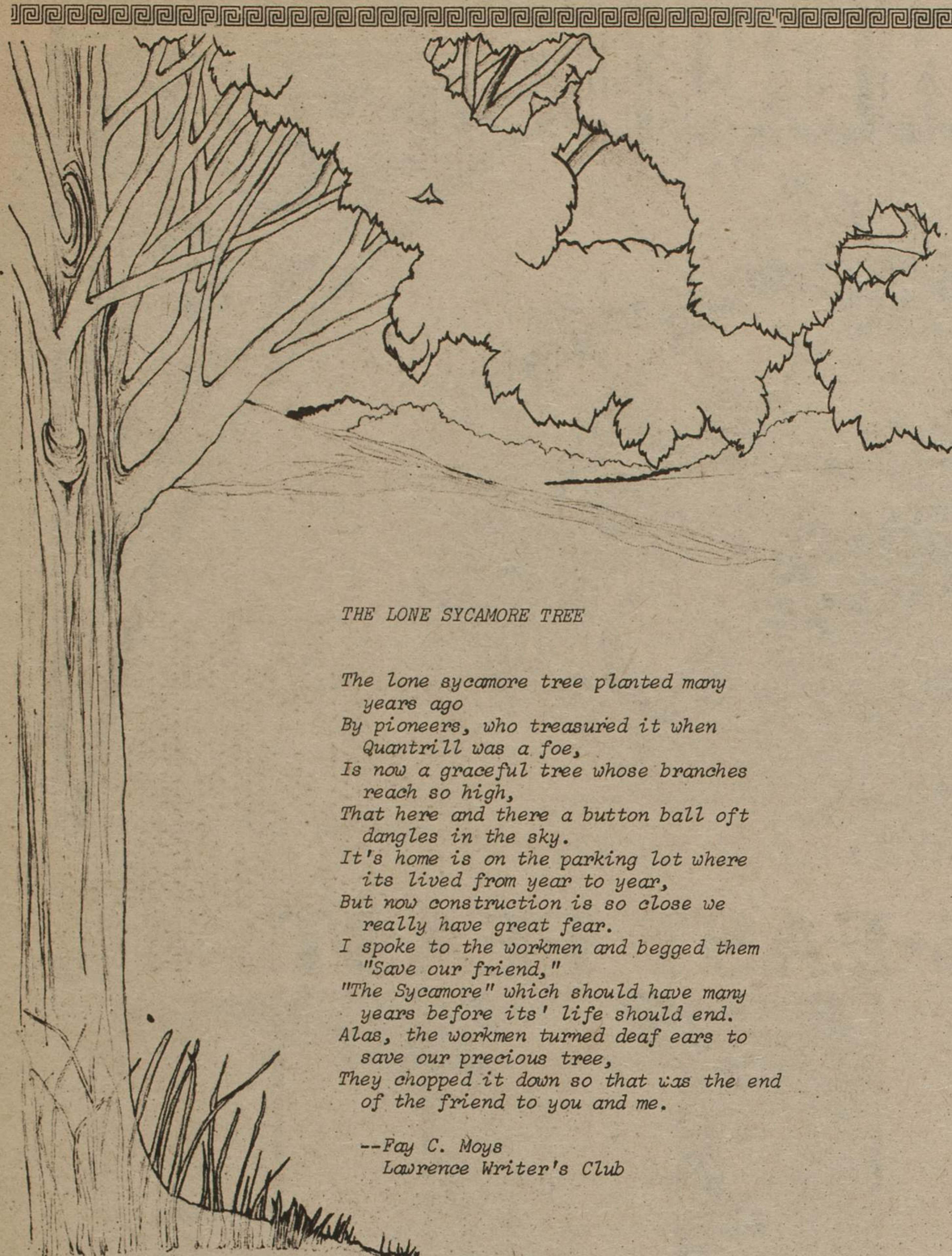
PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PUBLIC NOTICE IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN COOPERATION WITH THE COMMUNITY MERCANTILE FOOD COOPERATIVE AND PEOPLE'S ENERGY PROJECT. OUR OFFICE IS LOCATED ON THE TOP FLOOR OF THE STUBBS BUILDING, 1101 1/2 MASS., LAWRENCE, KANSAS, 66044. CALL 842-5657. PUBLIC MEETINGS ARE HELD EVERY MONDAY EVENING AT 7:30 PM.

PEOPLE CONTRIBUTING TO THIS ISSUE: DIANE LUBER, FRANK ADDINGTON, SUSIE HANNA, PAUL JOHNSON, CHIP JONES, LAURIE SCHWARM, MARK KAPLAN, KATE DUFFY, PAUL HUGHES, PATTI PLAMAN, CHUCK MAGERL, MOLLY VANHEE, STEVE OTTO, DICK DUNHAUPT, JOHN NAUGHTIN, JOLENE BABYAK, MARIANNE OTTO, ANNE BROWNING, DON ZAVELO, HELENE PESCHE, DOROTHY SPRINGER, KELLY O'KEEFE, MARSHA FOSTER, PAM JOHNSTON, RICHARD LINKER, FERRY KEIZER, KATHY CLARK, MARY SHEPARD, P.E.P.

The editing committee of PUBLIC NOTICE reads and discusses all articles and letters submitted for publication. We want to be a reader-writer paper, but due to limited space, we are forced to select what we consider are the most timely, concise, interesting, distinctive, informative and imaginative articles about our community. PUBLIC NOTICE will try to print all letters. Letters must be signed. Names will be withheld from publication if requested. Due to our limited space, lengthy letters may have to be edited. We will make every effort to preserve the substance and style of all articles and letters. Want to help? Join us at PUBLIC NOTICE. 1101 1/2 Mass. or call 842-5657.





THE LONE SYCAMORE TREE

The lone sycamore tree planted many years ago
By pioneers, who treasured it when
Quantrill was a foe,
Is now a graceful tree whose branches
reach so high,
That here and there a button ball oft
dangles in the sky.
It's home is on the parking lot where
its lived from year to year,
But now construction is so close we
really have great fear.
I spoke to the workmen and begged them
"Save our friend,"
"The Sycamore" which should have many
years before its' life should end.
Alas, the workmen turned deaf ears to
save our precious tree,
They chopped it down so that was the end
of the friend to you and me.

--Fay C. Moys
Lawrence Writer's Club

LETTERS

LETTERS



Dear Public Notice:

Disco disease plagues our community, proving again that our town is not immune to such scourge. You might well ask "What is wrong with this?" Well, discos render to art what McDonald's does to our daily bread. Shenanigan's does it all for you, if you catch my drift. Bad enough that our food is processed in such a manner. But, however creative and enriching food can be, it is for sustenance; music, like any art, is for mind, and should not be processed in the manner of the Big Mac.

Folk music, in a broad generic sense, i.e., blues, country, rock, jazz, etc., gives us the aesthetic expression of all that's great and swell about democracy itself. Folk art depends on a healthy relationship between artist and audience for growth. This relationship entails communication of a direct nature--ideally, the audience is critic and incipient artist, the latter quality of folk art.

Disco music is one-dimensional music for a one-dimensional society. Old H. Marcuse couldn't have conjured a more dreadful embodiment. To disco is to dance...and not much of anything else. Now don't get me wrong, dancing is fine and lotsa folks like to do it. Even folk music invites the dance. But what happened to listening, thinking and acting? These are essential to involvement in most folk music, but they are altogether dispensable in the disco. Disco music is simply not to be listened to or thought about--there is nothing in the lyric or the music which encourages such behavior. It's numb and dumb from the word go. So much for the function of the critic, right?

Disco music also denies the role of incipient artist to its audience. Listen to this stuff sometime. Most disco gruel requires access to several highly paid session musicians (lotsa horns and strings), massed choruses and the studio technology requisite to mix such a mess. Where does this leave someone who wishes to "create" in this style? Just plain ol' noplace, Jack! Disco is controlled in production and distribution by a relatively few people. What did I tell you?--Just like McDonald's and Booger King; no Woody Guthrie begatting Bob Dylan begatting Graham Parker. In folk art you can create your own chain of begatting, that's the beauty of it. You too with a modicum of brains, desire, and artistic facility can contribute. Not so with Disco.

Consider the implications if disco should become so pervasive as to gain a veritable popular music hegemony. Why, folk music in the land of the bland would become an endangered species.

Finally, people bring very little of themselves to the experience and receive little in return. I believe that the chief purpose of art, folk or "serious" music is to make us feel more human. If this is so, then disco is the antithesis of art. Furthermore, by denying artist-to-audience communication, which is crucial to the folk art process, disco is the enemy of democracy, too. Remember brothers and sisters--nobody, nowhere can ever "do it all for you" and those who claim they can are the worst kind of serpents.

Steve Wilson



THE SLOTH

WHERE DO WE STAND?

The Natural Resources Defense Council went to court recently to seek a ban on throwaway plastic beverage bottles. "The plastic bottles contaminate beverages with harmful chemicals, degrade into toxic gases when incompletely burned, and constitute a massive waste of oil resources," the group said. FDA records show that bottles add such substances as acrylonitrile (vinyl cyanide) and hydrogen cyanide to beverages. But plastic is treasured in the milk market because the slow "giving up" of the plasticizer into the milk helps preserve lactic liquid for longer shelf life.

In light of these questions about the worth of plastic containers, the Minneapolis (Minn.) City Council voted 9-2 to ban plastic milk bottles in the city from Jan. 1 to June 1 to give the state legislature a chance to decide whether they should be banned permanently in the entire state. This question is yet to reach the attention of most people in Kansas even though it's a matter of public welfare.

KOCH BILL: HR 2998

Representative Edward I. Koch reintroduced the national gay civil rights bill. The bill would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by adding the words "affectional or sexual preference" to each list of human conditions for which people cannot be discriminated against. The bill goes to the subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee. It is hoped that this year Rep. Don Edwards of California can be convinced to hold hearings on the bill. So far the bill has gained 27 co-sponsors. None of the Congress people from Kansas have supported the bill. It is important that people write their Congresspeople urging their support of this bill. This is another step toward ending the oppression of a class of Americans some 10 million strong.

--From Gays on the Hill
Newsletter of the Washington Office, Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Comm. Churches.



Dear Cohorts,

Enclosed is my check for \$10.00 to help publish an issue of Public Notice. Please give Mercantile Co-op credit for the contribution.

Pictures in the magazine indicate there must be a cartoonist. Maybe sometime you could have a picture of one pair of Siamese Twins 1776, otherwise normal children and beside them a grown pair with enormous bellies joined at the sides, 1976. I tried to get the idea offered in 1976 but my economic slavery did not leave time.

I'm sad because our home-owned greatest midwest media, the K.C. Star has gone to a New York owned syndicate.

Sincerely,
Clarence Emery

*Bureaucracy and Plutocracy

Ed Scheurich

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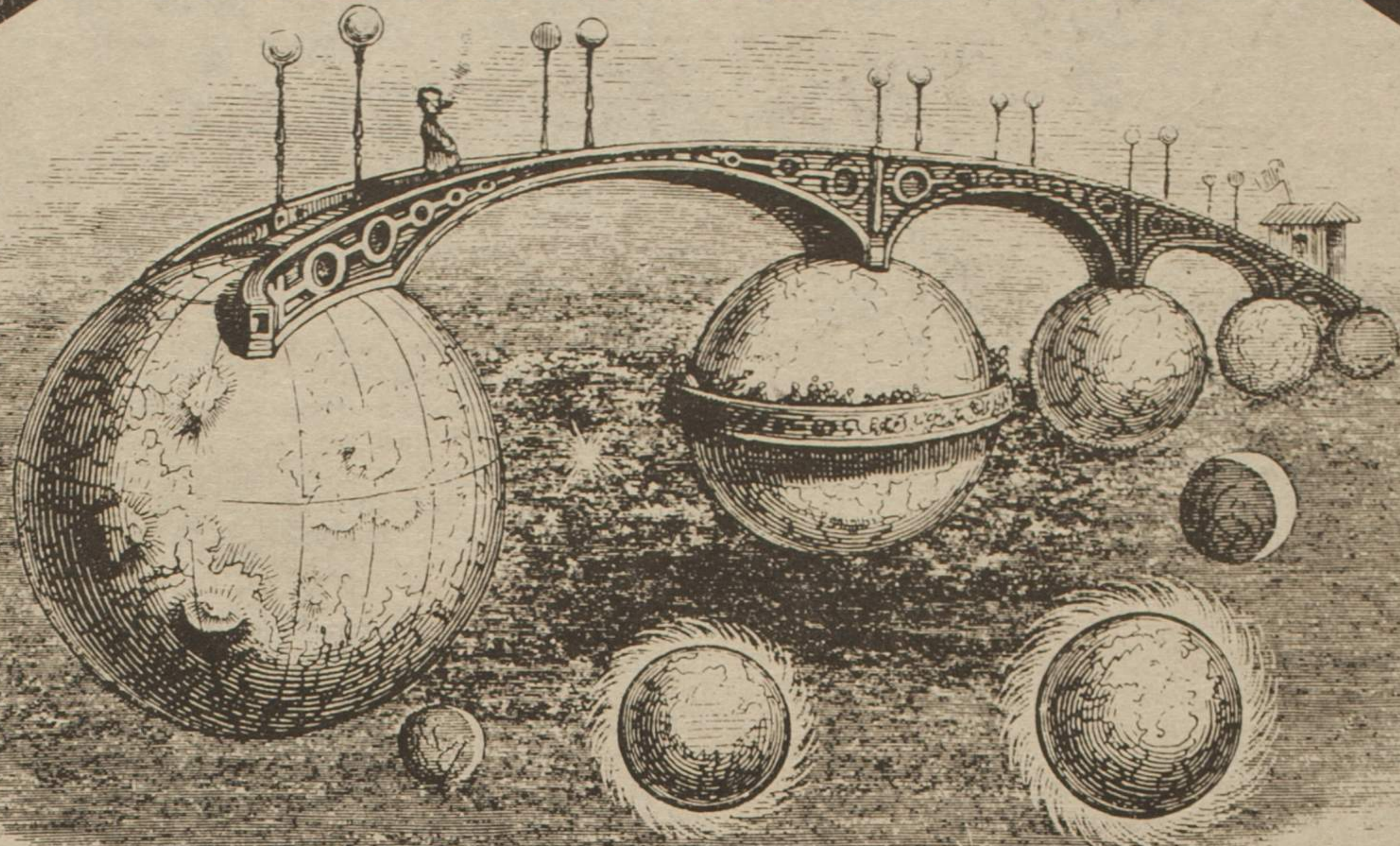
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COOP NEWS



A WEST-MEETS-EAST FEAST

By
Pamela Johnston

The Community Mercantile sponsored a Tofu-Chili Supper on Sunday, February 20, at the Community Building. The evening included a slide show by John Stitz of Fanshen Farm on farming in the People's Republic of China. The whole wheat berries and flour, corn and corn meal, soybeans and soy flour presently carried by the Community Mercantile were produced by Fanshen Farm.

In part, the supper was an attempt to educate people about tofu, a product of soybeans. There was a display table with information about and samples of soybeans and soy products, along with hand-outs of the recipes for items in the menu and instructions for making tofu. Tofu was a major ingredient in several of the recipes: the chili, three kinds of dips, and cakes with frosting. Other items included crackers, celery, carrots, alfalfa sprouts, milk, and herbal teas.

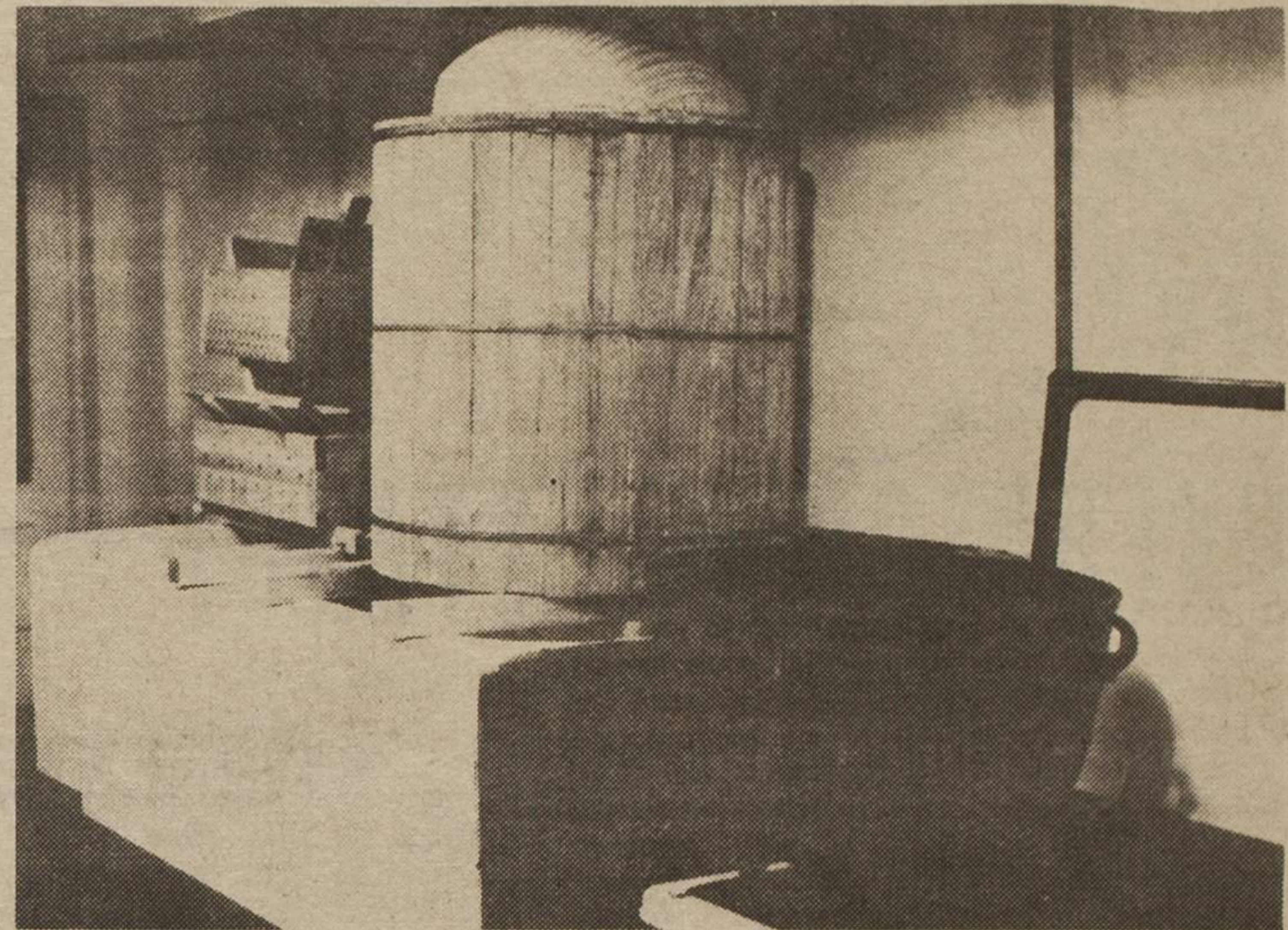
John Stitz of Fanshen Farm gave an interesting talk and slide show of two trips to China he made with a group of Kansas farmers. John explained that the major emphasis in Chinese agriculture is on increased production. Through extensive irrigation of dry areas and drainage of low, boggy areas, the Chinese are making more and more land available for food production. In a span of one growing season, a field yields two and sometimes even three crops (double and

triple cropping). This is made possible by starting the seeds in greenhouses and later transferring the tiny plants by hand into the field. Hybrids also have made possible higher yields. For example, the Chinese are experimenting with a cross between milo and wheat. The very sturdy stalk of the milo plant can support a heavier and fuller head of wheat without toppling over and losing much of the yield.

John believes that to understand the Chinese Revolution one must understand Chinese agriculture. The revolution began in the hearts of the farmers. The Fanshen Farm people - Betsy and Duane Evans, and John - named their farm for the Chinese word meaning "roots up," an agricultural term for the practice of turning over the roots in the soil to dry in the sun and kill the weeds. John applies this term to the agricultural revolution in China and believes that we must do the same in America - kill the weeds in our agricultural system.

Approximately 150 people attended the Tofu-Chili Supper. The majority were old faces familiar to co-op members, but there were several new faces, too.

The Mercantile donated the leftover food to Sister Kettle Cafe. Whatever money is left after expenses will go either to the co-op's educational or building fund, or to Sister Kettle.



Tofu-making equipment on display in a Tofu Shop in Fayetteville, Arkansas where Thom Leonard, the Co-op's first tofu maker, presently carries on his craft.

A LOOK AT CO-OP BOOKS

by Annabelle Nelson and Bob Burford

The Co-op is now stocking a variety of cookbooks. The following comments may guide you in selecting the best book to fit your needs and interests.

Deaf Smith Country Cookbook: This cookbook has a good cross section of simple to follow recipes. It is excellent for people just getting started in natural foods and those becoming vegetarians. The recipes cover a whole range of breads, soups, desserts, main dishes, and children's foods. In addition, there's a section on southwestern recipes. The charts on how much water and time is needed to cook beans and grains with or without a pressure cooker are invaluable.

New Age Vegetarian Cookbook: This is an encyclopedia of healthy foods with an exhaustive supply of recipes. It contains menu suggestions, information about herbs, tables listing food value information, narratives on proteins and vitamins, conversion tables, information on canning--need we say more. Some doubt the quality of all of the recipes, but the information contained in the cookbook is very functional for those trying to learn about healthy, meatless diets.

The Vegetarian Epicure: This cookbook is designed for vegetarians who'd like to try out some high class recipes--from creamed black mushroom sauce to mushrooms newburg. The recipes are excellent and can serve to teach you some basic cooking techniques, like salting eggplant, letting it stand, and then rinsing it to remove the bitterness. Careful

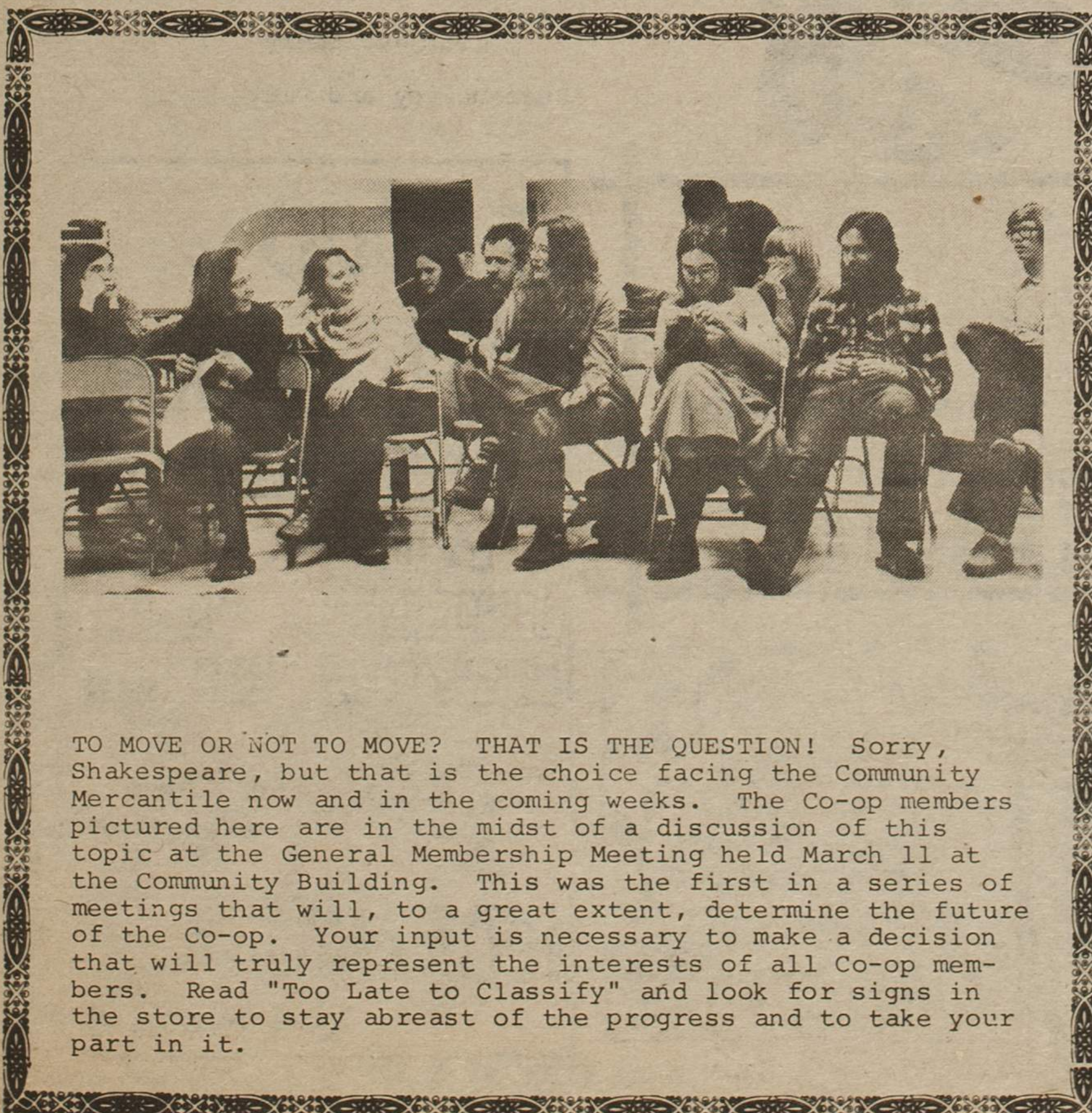
about the dessert recipes though. They contain a lot of white flour and sugar.

Ten Talents: This book is published by the Seventh Day Adventists, so some may not get off on the pictures or the religious comments. However the nutritional information in this book is excellent as are many of the recipes. It is particularly good for those trying to cut down on the use of eggs and milk. It includes information on herbs, natural food equivalents, food combining, minerals and vitamins, and more. There's no index in this one though.

Diet for a Small Planet: This book is quoted by many for good reason. It provides convincing, well-documented comments on how we can use protein so that the most protein exists for the most people and so that we live in harmony with the earth's ecosystem. This book is really a must for anyone who is concerned about the excesses of the food production methods in our country. In addition, the book is essential for vegetarians to read and to learn how to combine proteins. The recipes contained in the book are somewhat strange, though, and not always tasty. Even so, this book is worth buying for the information on protein.

El Molino Best Recipes: A good cookbook for cookies, breads, cakes, waffles and pancakes. Some of the recipes contain brown sugar and you may want to substitute honey.

Continued on page 6

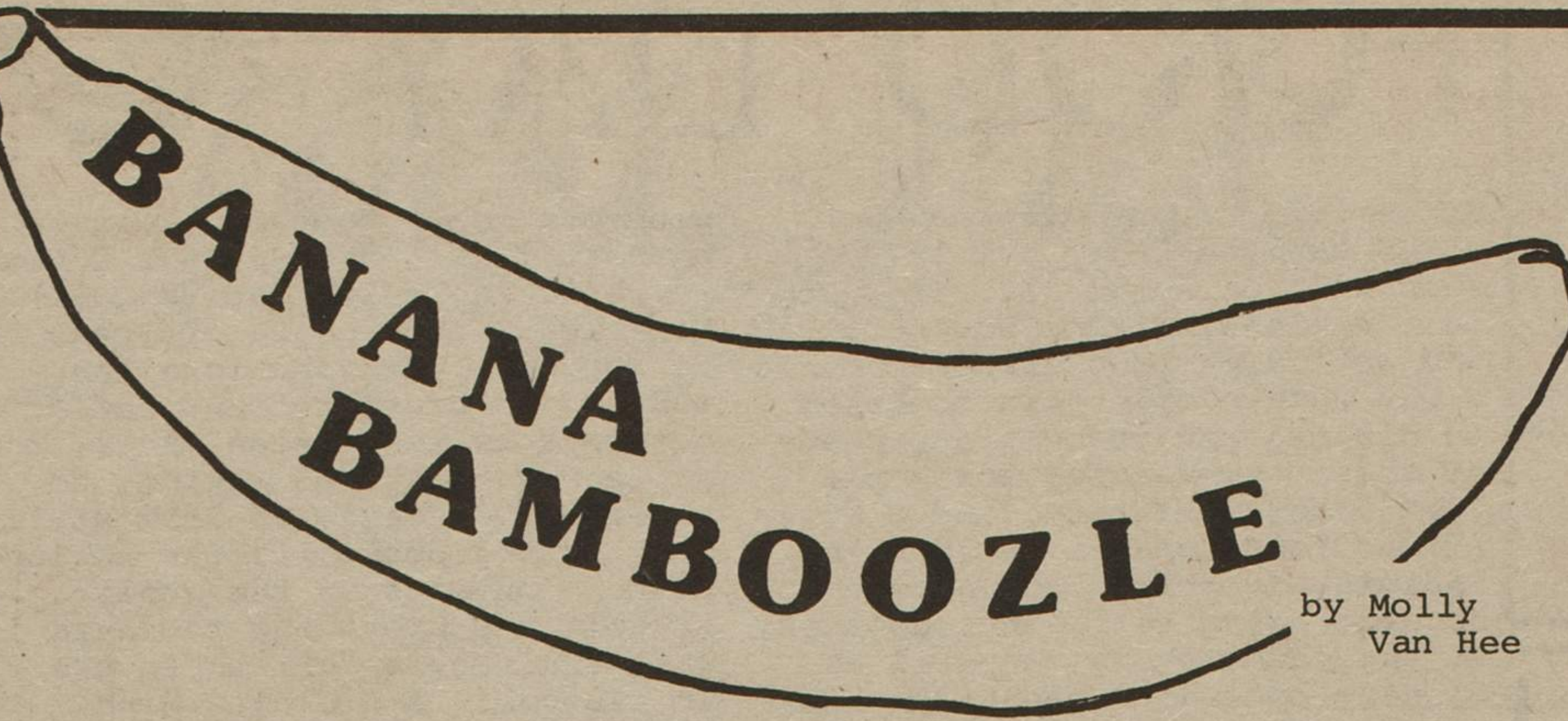


TO MOVE OR NOT TO MOVE? THAT IS THE QUESTION! Sorry, Shakespeare, but that is the choice facing the Community Mercantile now and in the coming weeks. The Co-op members pictured here are in the midst of a discussion of this topic at the General Membership Meeting held March 11 at the Community Building. This was the first in a series of meetings that will, to a great extent, determine the future of the Co-op. Your input is necessary to make a decision that will truly represent the interests of all Co-op members. Read "Too Late to Classify" and look for signs in the store to stay abreast of the progress and to take your part in it.

This past month has brought to our co-op the exciting addition of organically grown produce. In mid-February we received our first shipment and began our new relationship with Sunburst Organic Foods. This development has been an intense experience with both good and not-so-good sides to it.

On the plus side, the co-op now has a year round source of fruits and vegetables grown without the use of pesticides and with concern for the ecology of the soil. Sunburst buys from small growers who are not part of the giant agribusiness food monopoly.

On the minus side, we have a huge shipment (5,000 pounds) of food to unload once a week and barely enough space to put it even after hours of shuffling many cases. Sadly too, we have found that most of us are spoiled and brainwashed about how produce should look. In spite of any intellectual awareness that Americans are overly appearance-oriented, co-op members are very picky about the produce they choose. So to set



the record straight let me remind everyone that we are accustomed to produce that is dyed in color, gassed to prevent spots, and chemically fertilized to be bigger and better (?). For instance, the organically grown red delicious apples we now have are less even in color and smaller in size but crisp and ripe with no bitter taste from being sprayed. They are truly delicious unlike their giant, bright red counterparts with green and mealy in-

sides. The bananas we now have are grown in Mexico and have not been gassed to delay ripening and prevent brown spots. They are far smaller than Dole or Del Monte but taste fine and no possibly carcinogenic chemicals have been used on them like the bigger and yellower ones. This is not to say that you should buy rotten produce, organically grown or not. But a slight wilt, brown spots, or a smaller size do not justify passing a fruit or veggie by.

To make sure that I'm not misleading anyone, I should point out that not all of our produce is organically grown. We have marked on the produce price list ORG by the items that are and N/O by those that are not. And to reassure any local growers, the intent is always to buy locally grown whenever it is available.

To help get the Sunburst produce to the Ice House for storage we need a truck or van every Friday from 12 noon until 2. If you have one and can help, sign up on the special list by the work calendar.

We hope to keep getting Sunburst produce. The prices are reasonable and the quality appears good. We like being able to support small growers and provide organically grown produce. But we will only be able to continue if you truly believe that it's what's inside that counts! Feedback and comments are welcomed and encouraged on this and any other area of the store.

Recycle Your Bottles

There's a new and hopefully final bottle policy at the store. The February policy of 20¢ for every bottle and jar led to a financial disaster - we were paying much more money out for bottles than we were getting in. After much agonizing, the work collective came up with the following system.

The store will pay and charge 20¢ for all milk bottles and \$4 for all water bottles. These will be the only jars and bottles that will have deposits or refunds on them. Since we need a supply of jars and bottles and since there is no recycling center in town, it's to everyone's mutual benefit for the store to recycle glass containers. We'll take anything that people want to recycle and if the store can't use it, we'll throw it away.

So please continue to bring in jars and bottles. And when you do, show milk bottles and water bottles to the clerk for credit and then put them in their proper racks. All other jars get left up front in the area by the clerk but do not need to be checked in. The back room will continue to be reserved for sterilized jars and empty milk bottles.

HELP WANTED

by Patti Spencer

I don't know if everyone has noticed, but space is shrinking at the store. We are carrying more and more merchandise all the time, which is far out for our shopping but hard on our coolers. The result is that the store needs some major work done-cleaning, remodeling, building cold storage areas. At the time this article is being written plans haven't been finalized. But we do know that major amounts of energy are going to be needed.



Please watch for signs in the store and check in **Too Late To Classify**. In late March there will be several meetings about changes we need to make. April will be the target month - please plan to save some time to help get the store in shape. Please don't count on someone "who has more time" doing it for you. If we don't do it all together, it won't get done.

Whodunit?

Our store definitely runs by the efforts of many people. In an attempt to tell each other who's been doing what at the store, we're starting a Special Thanks Column. Please let us know if you know someone who deserves thanks.

Special Thanks to:
Ed Scheurich - for making a lid to the produce cooler.
Renee Lazar, Barbara Stanley,

Kelly Kindscher, Fran Beier, Mike Weinsaft, Jackie Magerl, Annie Smith, Kathy Nemeth, Barbara Smith, Molly Van Hee, Annabelle Nelson, Chuck Magerl, Kate Duffy, Mark Larsen, and many others, for the tofu-chili supper.
Tom Ingle and Galen Tarman - for turning out 140 extra cakes of tofu for the tofu - chili supper.
Betsy and Duane Evans and John Stitz for showing their slides (and growing the soybeans) at the tofu-chili supper.

And John Lundmark who drew the poster.

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FOOD DAY April 21

Since 1975 a day has been set aside as Food Day. For 1977, this will be April 21. Food Day is a national day of education and action on food issues. It is a day when people join together to discuss and to meet the needs of their communities for ample food, good nutrition, and a fair-priced food supply. Groups and individuals across the nation will be organizing teach-ins, debates, TV and radio shows, as well as opening community canneries, farmers' markets, and urban gardens.

In Lawrence, planning is now in

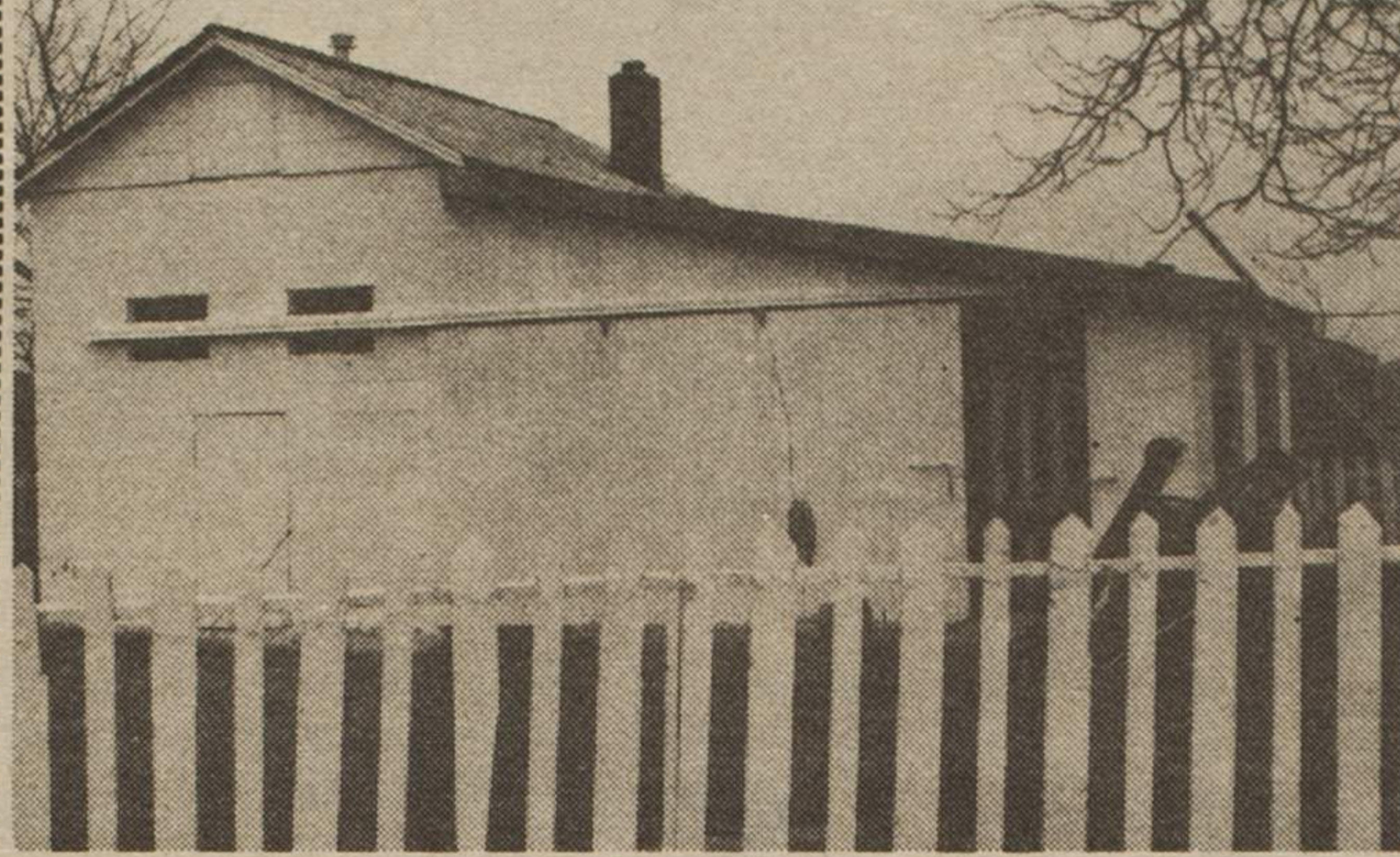
progress for a Food Day Fair to be held from 1-5 PM at the Community Building (11th and Vermont). More ideas and people are wanted, of course. Contributions can range from presentations and/or displays on vegetarian meals, to gardening, to bread making, to alternative diets, to life styles, etc. Other possibilities include poster contests in the public schools and providing teachers with Food Day materials to use in classes. A Dialogue with International Students could help us to see ourselves better and hear about the global per-

spectives on food issues. Can you add an idea? Contact Bob Hubert at 841-3122 or Martha Maier at 841-5424.

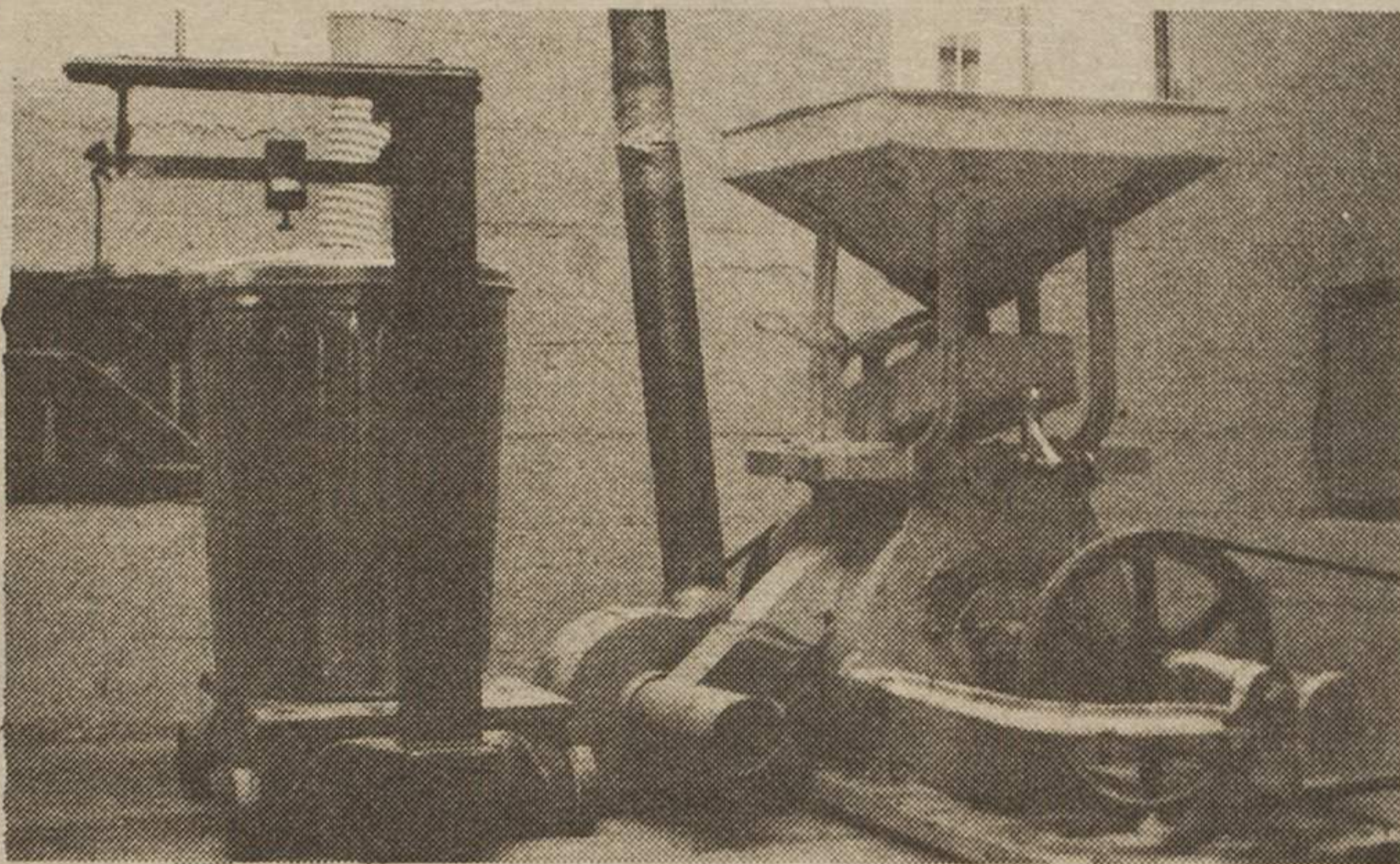
Pamphlets, books, posters, and T-shirts dealing with Food Day and other nutritional/political issues can be obtained from Nutrition Action, 1757 S. St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. Write to them for a list of their materials.

The time has come to fill your head with the facts of food. Your body will never be the same.

This is a building at SADHANA FARM



These are the Co-op sacks of whole grains that sit in the building at Sadhana Farm.



This is the mill that grinds the whole grains belonging to the Co-op that sit in the building at Sadhana Farm.



These are the people of Sadhana Farm who own and operate the mill that grinds the whole grains belonging to the Co-op that sit in the building at Sadhana Farm.

Many thanks to Cody Lee, Arch, Nyja, Tonya, Robin, and Raven (the newest member of the Sadhana Farm) for making fresh flour available to us. To the right, Dawn Van Hee, a member of the camera crew.



BOOKS cont. from p.4

Tassajara Bread Book: A splendid bread book. If you really want to learn how to make bread this is the one for you. This book offers a large variety of yeasted and unyeasted breads--even a bagel recipe. And it teaches you to make those great braided breads.

The Art of Just Cooking: "Macrobiotic cooking is the preparation of foods according to the principle we call the Order of the Universe, our modified and updated version of the ancient Oriental principle of yin and yang." Beginning a section titled cooking with Harmony in Mind--instructions on proper slicing of vegetables. George Ohsawa's wife, Lima, gives detailed recipes and procedures for balanced Macrobiotic eating and living. Whole Grains and Vegetables from Land and Sea fill half the book. Good reading and good eating.

Recipes for a Small Planet: An extension of the recipes offered in Diet. Each recipe utilizes the concept of combining proteins and tells you what percent of your daily protein requirement you are getting. These recipes seem to be a little tastier than the ones in Diet.

The Book of Tofu: Tofu, that versatile soybean product available at the store and easily makeable at home, fills over 300 pages with 500 recipes and facts, stories and charts to bring an Oriental food to the West. The subtitle, Food for Mankind, is an understatement.

The Book of Miso: A companion volume to The Book of Tofu, this book expounds the uses of Miso--a fermented soybean paste with hearty flavor and healthy protein. East meets West.

Other cookbooks are:

Oats, Peas, Beans and Barley Cookbook

Tassajara Cooking
Sunburst Farm Cooking
The Farm Vegetarian Cooking

Herb and Health Books:
Back to Eden
The Farm's Natural Birth Control

Periodicals:
Well-Being
Co-Evolution Quarterly

Continuing review of currently carried books and possible additions is ongoing. If you would like to comment on ones not fully reviewed or select recipes from any--send it to the paper--there's room. Suggestions from your cookbook shelf are welcome and REMEMBER--you can SPECIAL ORDER any book our distributors carry. Follow instructions on the bookcase.

El Matador

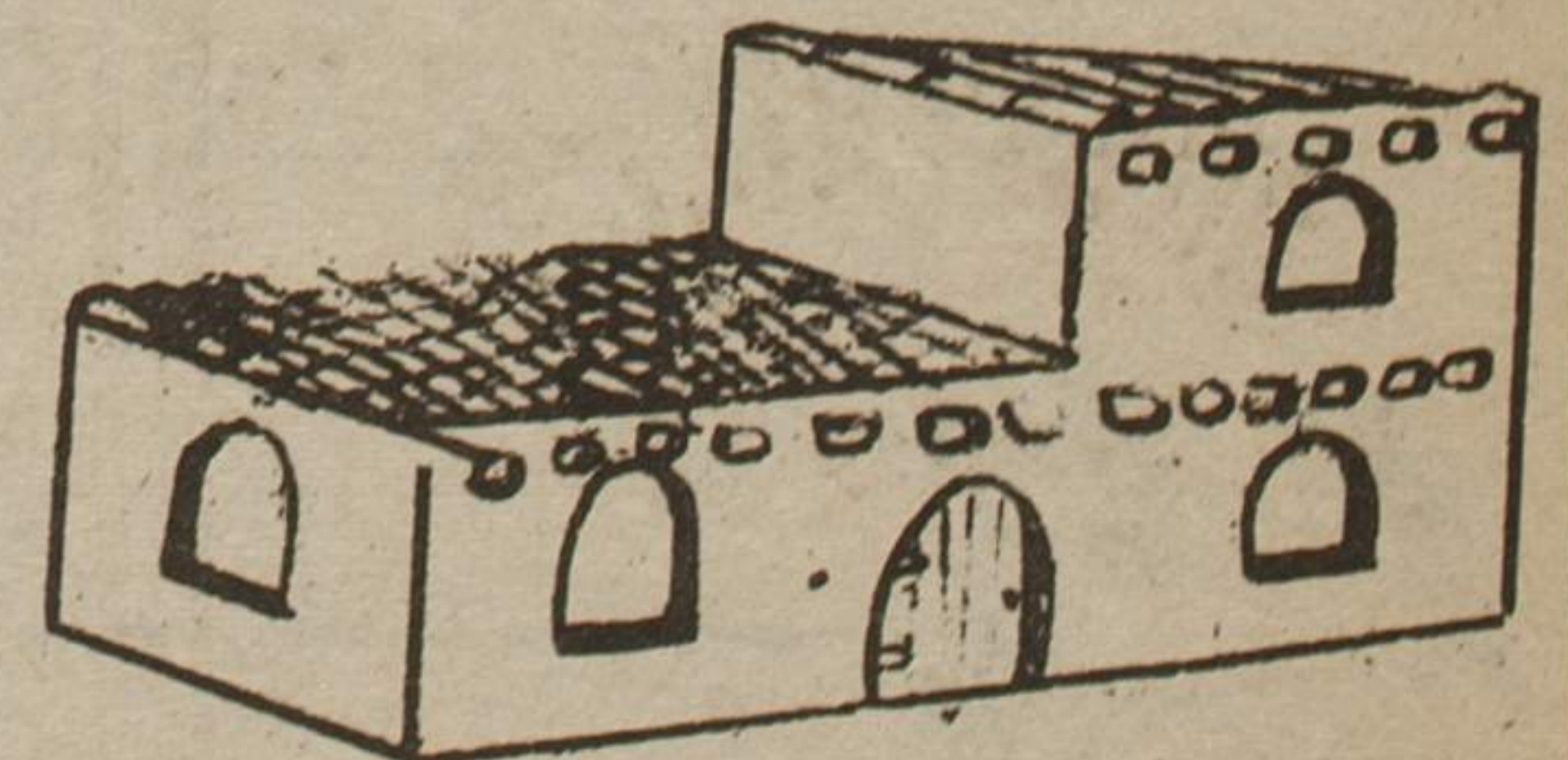
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Food Talk

by Laurie Schwarm



For all of you who are ready to have that vegetarian dinner for your parents, co-workers or other unconvincibles, here are the recipes that were starred in last month's menus.



Lentil-Tomato Soup - very hearty - small bowl for first course, or large bowls next time for a main dish.



- 1 c. dried lentils
- 5 c. water
- 1 onion chopped
- 5 carrots diced
- 3 stalks celery chopped

Put these ingredients in a pot and simmer for three hours, adding water as needed. Then add:



- 3/4 teas. thyme
- 1 teas. tarragon
- 1/2 teas. garlic salt
- 1/2 teas. salt
- dash dill weed

Simmer for another half hour or so then add:



- 1 small can tomato paste and heat through. Garnish with a large dollop of sour cream and serve some more on the side.



Ratatouille

- 1/2 c. olive oil
- 2 large cloves garlic minced
- 2 onions chopped
- 1 lb. eggplant unpeeled cut in 3/4" strips
- 3 tomatoes chopped
- 2 zucchini thinly sliced
- 1 tab. minced parsley
- 1 1/2 teas. salt
- 1/2 teas. pepper

In a large skillet heat oil and add garlic, onions and cook until dark golden in color. (15 mins.) Add remaining ingredients and cook gently about 30 minutes until eggplant is tender and there is only a little liquid left.



Batter Fried Pineapple

- 4 tab. flour
- 2 beaten eggs
- 1/2 teas. salt
- 8 slices canned pineapple

Mix these ingredients and dip the pineapple slices in the batter and brown in hot oil.

Short notes - A recent newspaper article reported that Americans eat 194 pounds of meat per capita each year. A sobering thought.

And - Also a reminder to all you gardeners. Due to the drought in California and the freeze in Florida, all predictions say that the quantity and quality of produce this Spring and Summer will be down and the price will be up. This means we should all plant as many vegetables as we can, and we should concentrate seriously on having a productive and bountiful garden more than ever before. If you have always said "Next year I'll really keep out those weeds and I'll dig in some compost, and I'll plant more..." then this is the year, of all years, DO IT!!

COFFEE, TEA, AND THEE

by Dot Roberts

Almost every American knows that in 1773 a group of American colonists, disguised as Indians, boarded British ships in the harbor at Boston, Massachusetts. They dumped chests of tea overboard in protest at the high taxes imposed by British customs officials. Could that have been the beginning of the almost universal use of coffee in America?

Today Americans are rebelling again - this time against the high price of their favorite beverage, coffee. At the present price of \$3.50 per pound for coffee, who needs to drink the black, caffeine laden brew when there are so many healthful, delicious teas? I'm not speaking of the Oriental teas, which also contain caffeine, as well as tannic acid and flouride which are very harmful to the teeth and many organs of the body.

The teas I refer to as healthful are the delicious herbal teas. If you must have a black concoction to drink, try roasted chicory or roasted dandelion root. At the Mercantile you can buy Roastaroma Spice Herb tea. It contains a blend of roasted grains and roots such as roasted barley, roasted malt, roasted chicory root, roasted dandelion root, cinnamon, allspice, ginger and Chinese star anise. It is a coffee like blend, and you can make it as strong and black as you like it. With whipped cream and honey, it is an after dinner treat without the

harmful caffeine that coffee contains. Another substitute is Pero. Pero is sold at the Mercantile and contains roasted and ground malted barley, barley, chicory, rye, and molasses.

What's wrong with caffeine? First of all it is a dangerous, addictive drug which has been linked to low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), schizophrenia, destruction of the islet glands



found in the pancreas, a rise in blood fats and cholesterol, which leads to heart disease, miscarriages, and stillbirths, as well as fetal death due to damage to the developing brain and central nervous system. The list continues with high blood pressure, insomnia, restlessness, anxiety neurosis, vomiting, muscular tremors, faintness, head aches, rapid respiration, and possibly bladder cancer, and in severe cases, bladder collapse.

It has been estimated that 150 billion cups of coffee are drunk in America each year. Is it any wonder that Americans are taking tranquilizers by the millions to offset their coffee nerves? Delicious, healthful herbal teas will help you in your battle against coffee "jitters." If necessary you can carry the tea bags with you, ask for a cup of hot water, and presto! A cup of brew that will help not harm your health. One of my favorites from the Mercantile is Red Zinger Tea, which makes a pink or red tea, depending on how much of the material you use. Rose hip tea will provide you with Vitamin C.

I quit drinking coffee about 40 years ago; I even drank coffee as a child. At two cups a day that means I have drunk about 27,010 cups of coffee less than some people I know who now have "jittery" nerves and some of the symptoms listed above. Don't drink coffee; drink healthful, delicious herbal teas. One last word - the ingredients in colas, cocoa and chocolate, even in cold tablets, are also harmful because of the caffeine in them. You can substitute carob drinks for colas, cocoa and chocolate.

More on caffeine in a later issue of Public Notice...

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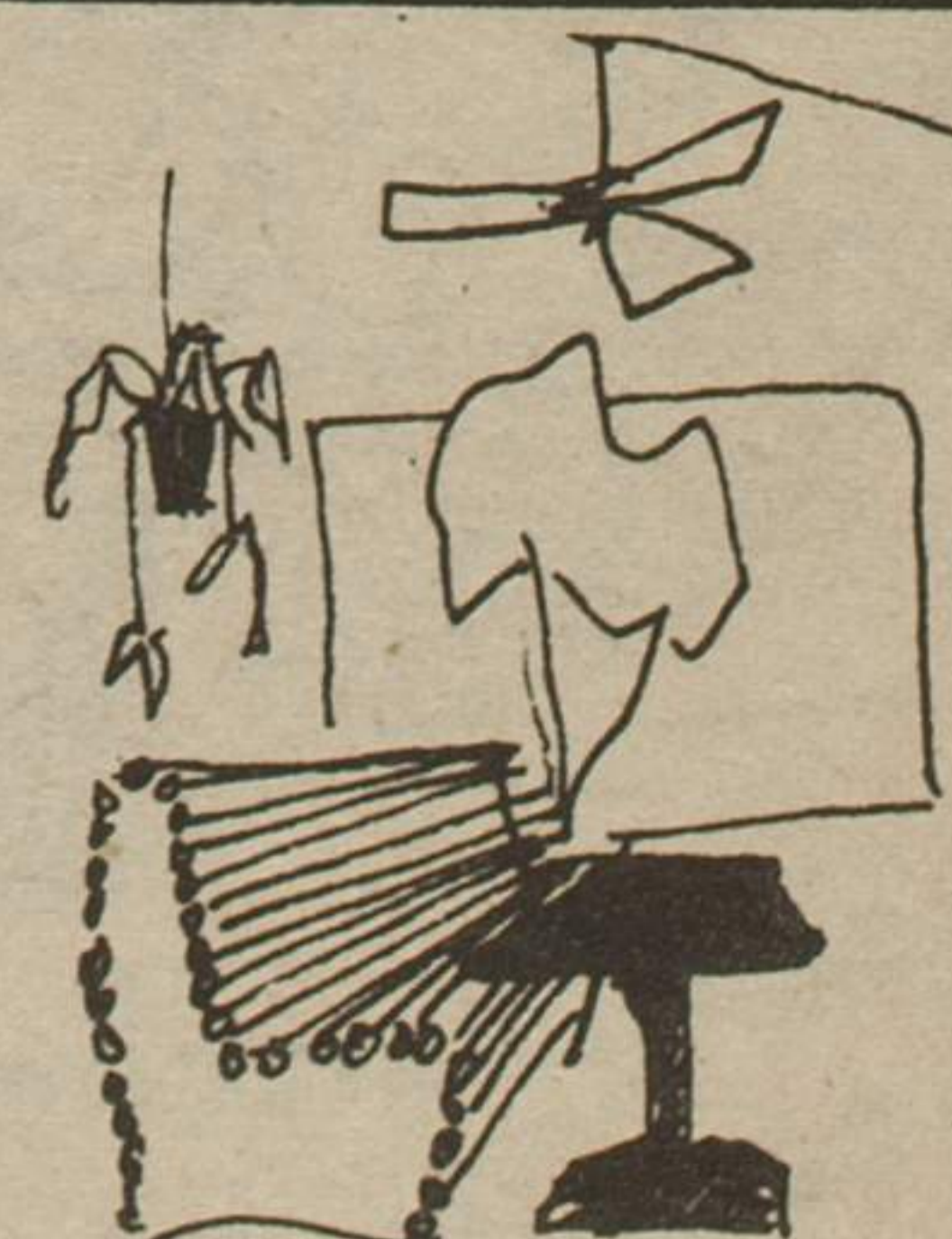
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HARVEST

APATHY... CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE
 mention the accompanying growth of the suburbs the plant is designed to produce, nor the fact that the new Quaker Oats Company will consume a million gallons of water each month when in operation.

MAYOR-COUNCIL REFERENDUM

This set the stage for the general election featuring the referendum question to abandon Manager-Commission government for a Mayor-Council system. This has been the most controversial issue in the spring campaigns.

Throughout the winter, a group called Citizens for Mayor-Council Government circulated petitions calling for the vote. Barely meeting the deadline required by law to have the question on the April ballot, more than 3,800 signatures were finally filed with the County Clerk in late January.

Presently four of the five Commissioners hold four-year terms. Council members would all serve two-year terms.

The Mayor-Council issue, proponents argue, is essentially one of participation and Democratic representation. Their main criticism of the present system is that it lacks checks and balances and is designed to inhibit public involvement. The prime target is the unelected City Manager and the at-large elected Commission.

Opponents of the change defend the present system as more efficient and business-like and argue that it is representative and responsive.

Twenty-five candidates and two referendum questions involve a lot of information for the electorate to digest in a few short weeks. As usual, a notable lack

of our registered voters exercised their right in local and national elections, sending direct representatives from their districts to these offices. While Lawrence's voter turnout in state and national elections has remained excellent, the turnout for local elections has dropped, almost steadily, for the last 12 years.

We place the blame for lack of interest squarely on our City government. More interested in building airports, and roadways than in repairing streets and picking up trash, our government has actively promoted growth and development as the salvation of the city. The results are growing cynicism and voter apathy.

Claims of responsiveness by our present Commissioners are hollow when you examine the issues. North Lawrence begged for four years for just one traffic light. Pinckney battled with a petition drive, a

technicality. The list goes on and on.

If City government is so responsive, then why are so many people staying away from the polls and so many people are fighting City Hall in one neighborhood crisis after another?

How did petition gatherers find so many thousands of citizens willing to sign petitions to abandon the form of City government all together?

The problem isn't with the voters; citizen turnout for national and state elections has been good, and when threatened directly, individuals can organize their neighborhoods and defend their interests in spite of City Hall.

But why should they have to fight City government when the sole mission of our government is to serve those very people, from whom it derives all its authority? This is a basic tenet of American Democracy. Our local government makes a mockery of it.

The people of Lawrence don't have adequate representation. Ties to the voters are weak, and the meaningful devices that give people direct control of their government are lost.

What are these devices? What are the basic tenets of representative Democracy in America? What elements of representation are lacking in Lawrence City government?

Strong ties between voters and their elected officials are needed. People aren't elected simply to rule, but to represent the needs and desires of all the people. Yet, since all the people, by definition, comprise such varying interests, no single idea or person can adequately represent them in total. So, it becomes necessary to divide the body into smaller groups and allow these groups to independently elect their representatives to a common council where interaction occurs.

District representation, seemingly so basic a concept in America, has been forgotten in Lawrence. But it's a simple way of proper decision-making.

Think of a meeting you've attended, be it for business, educational, religious or social reasons. If the whole group had a variety of tasks to perform or questions to address, your group probably divided itself into smaller groups in order to involve everyone in the discussion, and to discuss each matter more thoroughly. In this way, each individual is more able to speak on a topic that might not have commanded the attention of the larger group. Final decisions reached by the whole group are more likely to reflect the direct concerns expressed in the smaller groups. Had the discussion been left to the large group, many of the concerns would have gone unattended because of the multitude of various concerns competing for attention.

This is the basis of the U.S. Supreme Court's one member--one vote ruling which dictates that members of the U.S. Congress and every state legislature be elected from districts rather than at-large, thus insuring the people more direct representation.

This building block of Democracy is lacking in Lawrence government. The Commission is elected at-large and given a great responsibility, yet paid no compensatory sum. Direct ties to the electorate are diluted through the



"TOO MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LOCKED OUT"

It's a question Lawrence voters haven't faced in a quarter century, since the Manager-Commission system was adopted in 1950.

Today, Lawrence's City government consists of a 5-member Board of Commissioners, elected at-large; paid a token \$100 per year acting as a legislative body, and a City Manager, hired by those Commissioners and paid more than \$30,000 per year. The City Manager has dictatorial control over City Administration and nearly 600 employees.

Proponents of the Mayor-Council system want to replace the Commission with a Council of 8 people elected from at least four districts, two council members from each district. A Mayor would be elected at-large to head the administration.

of in-depth coverage by the daily newspaper and radio have made it impossible for voters to cast informed ballots.

The low-voter turnout reflects this lack of information. Without adequate information about the issues and candidates, most of the electorate made no decision at all. While not unique to Lawrence, the problem here is growing by leaps and bounds. In the 1975 general election, for example, only 54 more votes were cast than in 1963, despite the population increase of more than 40 per cent and despite the increase in eligible voters with 18 to 20 year olds given the right to vote.

PUBLIC NOTICE doesn't think the problem rests with the electorate. Last November 2, more than 85 per

court case and a Commission election to keep the City Maintenance Garage out of its neighborhood. Old West Lawrence recently watched Tennessee Street ripped up and widened without so much as a phone call to the neighborhood association.

Now, they're fighting a City-backed plan for a highrise. East Lawrence struggled for two and one-half years against the Haskell Loop, while the City turned a deaf ear to their heart-felt fear of the roadway's effect on the neighborhood. Schwegler, south and west of 19th and Louisiana, battled all the way to federal court to avoid paying for miles of sidewalk which the City put in their front yards without consultation. Alvarado, west of Kasold, battled the City to a draw to maintain open space on the basis of a legal

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at-large election process. Given their status as part-time, volunteer Commissioners, they are equipped to properly represent only a small minority of the Lawrence residents.

A cursory glance at who has been elected to the Commission the past 26 years shows how few people the Commissioners have really represented. Of the 32 Commissioners since 1951, there have been two lawyers, one doctor, one builder, 11 business owners, nine business managers, one accountant, one dentist, one associate KU dean, on KU professor, and two housewives of University people. Only two people who could be classified as wage-earners, have been elected.

In a community the size and diversity of Lawrence, it is no accident that such a homogeneous club of professionals and business people have continually dominated the Commission.

The system is designed to perpetuate this class of people in office. First, running for office on at-large basis costs a great deal more than running in smaller districts. It also takes a great deal more organization, and city-wide contacts. All these qualifications directly discriminate against hourly or salaried wage-earners. With a regular work schedule to maintain, a family to support, the prospect of the election race is discouraging. Add to this the salary of Commissioners, a token \$100 per year and it's easy to see who is willing to spend the 15 to 20 hours per week minimum time necessary to keep up with City business. A third and most important paradox is that if more than 10 to 12 candidates file for the three Commission seats, which should, of course, be encouraged in a Democracy, then the field of City-wide candidates becomes so muddled that those few candidates with money, organization and a flexible time schedule are greatly advantaged.

Another tenet of American Democracy is direct election of the chief administrative officer. The administrative arm of government's job is to provide basic services to the general populous, for which they are taxed. The nature of the people in charge of the bureaucracy delivering these services determines who will get what and how much. In a Democratic society, it would be contradictory to allow anyone but a directly elected official to head such a bureaucracy. At the state and national level, it would be unconstitutional.

In Lawrence, this basic principle has been tossed out. Our City administration is run by one man, the City Manager, who is hired by the Commission for an indefinite term, paid a high salary and given near dictatorial control over all aspects of the adminis-

tration and of all City employees.

The Manager's office and the entire administration is shielded from the voters by the Commission by intent. There's a tie between the voters and the Commission, there's a tie between the Commissioners and the Manager, and also a tie between the Manager and his staff. But the three relationships are separated like a military chain of command. The voters have no control over the appointed City Manager. While the Commissioners can hire or fire a City Manager at any time, they have no control over appointments to City staff. Yet, the staff performs most of the administrative work. In Lawrence, staff members are forbidden to speak directly to Commissioners without direct permission by the City Manager.

legislative and administrative functions of government were divided into two branches, each with separate and singularly important functions. With one person chosen to head the administrative branch, the founders of the Republic understood the value of a free and independent legislative body, elected by districts to guard against administrative abuses of power. At the same time, the chief executive, being a direct representative of the people at-large, was given similar powers over the legislature. Thus, a system of checks and balances.

No such system exists in Lawrence City government. To the contrary, there exists a built-in conflict of interest in the City Manager System. Since the Commission is a board of part-time, unpaid, "amateur" politicians, most of the

ation."

By Carter's own admission, Manager government is basically a marriage of business and government. City Manager government is designed to run like a business. It's main purpose is not to serve the needs and desires of Lawrence residents, but is to promote growth, business and industrial development and profits. Citizen participation, Democracy, fairness, representation hardly figure in such a system.

This form of government has no place within the borders of these 50 United States. Within the past few months, federal district courts in Alabama and Louisiana struck down at-large Commission government as unconstitutional because of its inherent discrimination against minorities through dilution of the voting strengths of Blacks.

The form of government recommended by these courts is called government by a Mayor and Council. An elected chief administrator, a Mayor, is voted on by the city at-large and is ultimately responsible directly to the people for all administrative decisions at City Hall.

The Mayor, accountable to the public and to the Council, serves for a two-year term. He or she then has to campaign on his or her record for re-election. The Mayor appoints a staff or professionals responsible for departments in City government by and with the consent of the common Council. The Mayor has the right of veto over the Council's decisions. He or she has the right to appoint an administrative assistant and shall, upon entering office, find his or her salary set by City ordinance. The office is the administrative branch of City Hall.

The Common Council is elected from voting wards in the city, with no less than four wards having two council members elected from each ward. All council members come before voters in their respective districts every two years. They are embodied with with full legislative authority, consent of all Mayoral appointments, and can, with a 3/4 vote, supercede the Mayor's veto. Their salaries are set by city ordinance. They comprise the legislative branch of city government.

The Mayor-Council system provides the kind of meaningful governmental "checks and balances" that can make Lawrence not only a beautiful and prosperous community, but one in which the democratic ideal is placed above all others. True representative democracy can function most perfectly only at the local level.

Let's waste no more time in beginning such an experiment here in Lawrence!

People on the way Up



Why Is This Man Smiling?



You might say that his mirth stems from his pending resignation as director of the Lawrence-Douglas County planning department. His name is Dick McClanathan, and he's on the way up. Forced to resign by insubordinate underlings and scandal-weary commissioners, Dick will no doubt surface soon in a larger city with a higher salary.

Meanwhile, the nation-wide search goes on, for a new planning director. Main qualifications: must be able to work well with local developers and contractors; must be able to work within a "military" environment; high school diploma, or equivalent.

Firing the City Manager is the only effective means the Commission has to affect the internal structure of the City administration. If they were to do that, they would dissolve the very infrastructure that manages the City and provides them with information with which to direct the official they are firing.

The fact that the Commission is charged with setting policy and seeing that the City management carries out the policies, shows the lack of the third and final tenet of representative Democracy in City Manager government.

That tenet is the system of checks and balances inherent in the separation of powers provided in the U.S. Constitution.

In that ingenious document, the

information on which they base their decisions are placed before them each week by the staff of the man hired to carry out the policy decisions they've made.

Stop now a moment to ponder the role of these five representatives of all the people. Who do they represent? Who has the greatest lobbying power with these five representatives? In what circles does this lobbyist travel? What are the scope and variety of interest groups he represents?

Ed Carter, district manager of Southwestern Bell, president of the Rotary Club, director of the Chamber of Commerce, and current contender for Commission said in his campaign, "Our present City government, more closely than any other form, resembles the structure of the American corpor-

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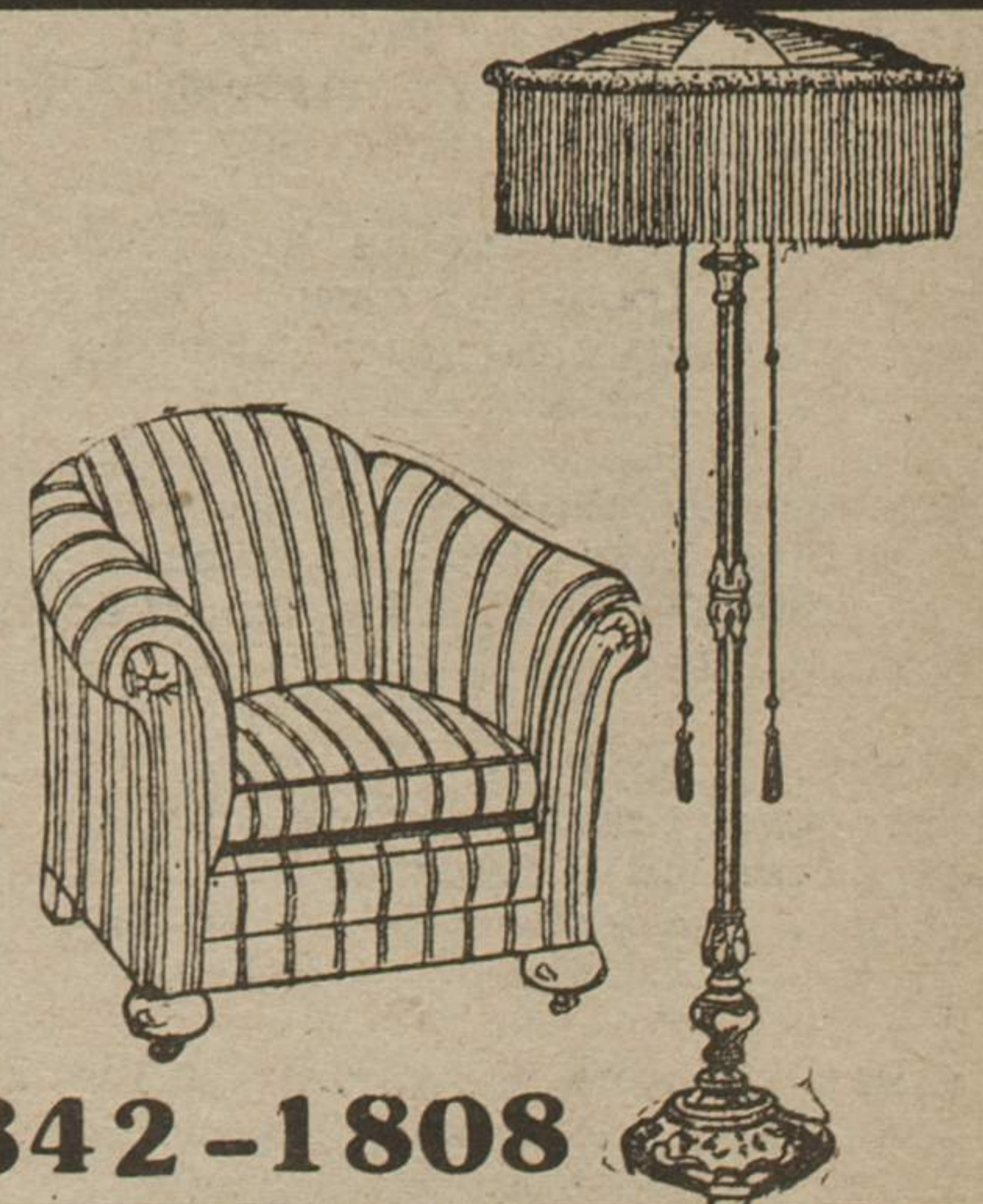
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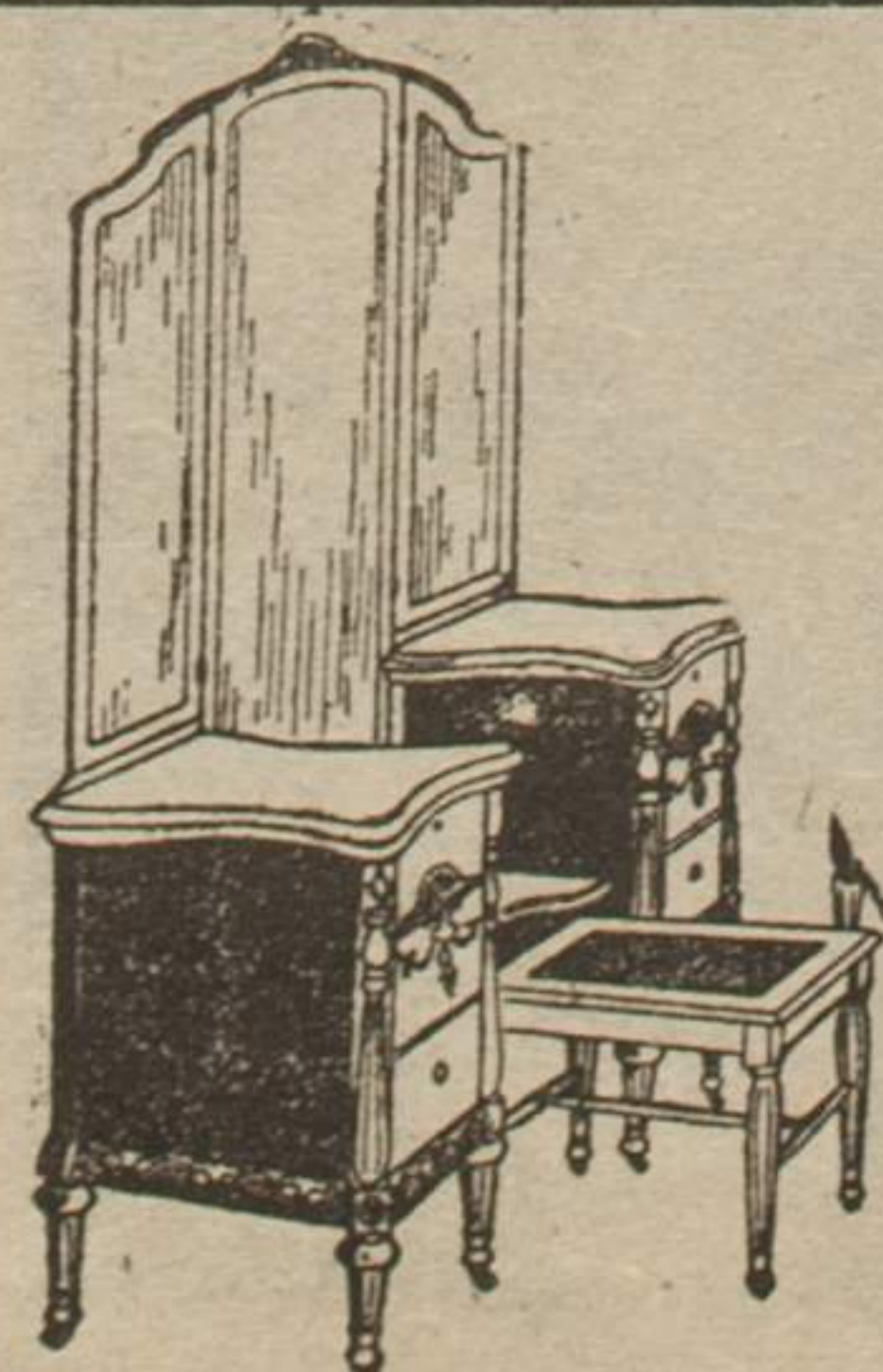
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WHALES 2, PYGMIES 0 UTILITIES WOO REPS

BY C.D. CEDE

The utility lobbyists have been able to nip in the bud the two major consumer-oriented bills to come up in the Kansas Legislature so far--a bill giving the legislature authority to veto proposed nuclear plants, and a bill prohibiting the inclusion of construction work-in-progress (CWIP) costs in utilities' rate bases. But this year the lobbyist's have had to hump a little to earn their fat salaries.

K.G. & E's Wilson Cadman and Glenn Koester could often be seen lurking about on the third floor or the fifth floor of the Topeka Capital, sometimes amiably chatting with lawmakers, other times huddling with them, leaning into them, jaw-boning.

Cadman, a feisty little bull-terrier of a man, loves to recount the stings his industry must endure from the legislature, "Why is this industry in the spotlight?" he has fumed at his listener. Or, "What other industry would the legislature try to limit the executives' salaries? What other industry would be prevented from cutting off its services to delinquent bill payers?"

Cadman blames it on irrational, subversive environmentalists and anti-nuclear forces, who are threatening to hamstring the utilities which simply want to provide electricity to their customers.



These ideas are poured into legislators' ears night and day. Thus planted, they pop up again when legislators debate bills.

During the house debate on the nuclear power veto bill, Cadman's "besieged industry" thesis emerged, in swollen baroque form, from the mouth of Representative Ben Foster (R-Wichita) who said "The utilities are like giant, beached whales, lying helpless, as the environmentalist's, like primitive pygmies, dance around hacking at the whale's flesh!"

Donald Mainey (D-Topeka), replied that perhaps the utilities could stand to lose a little fat.

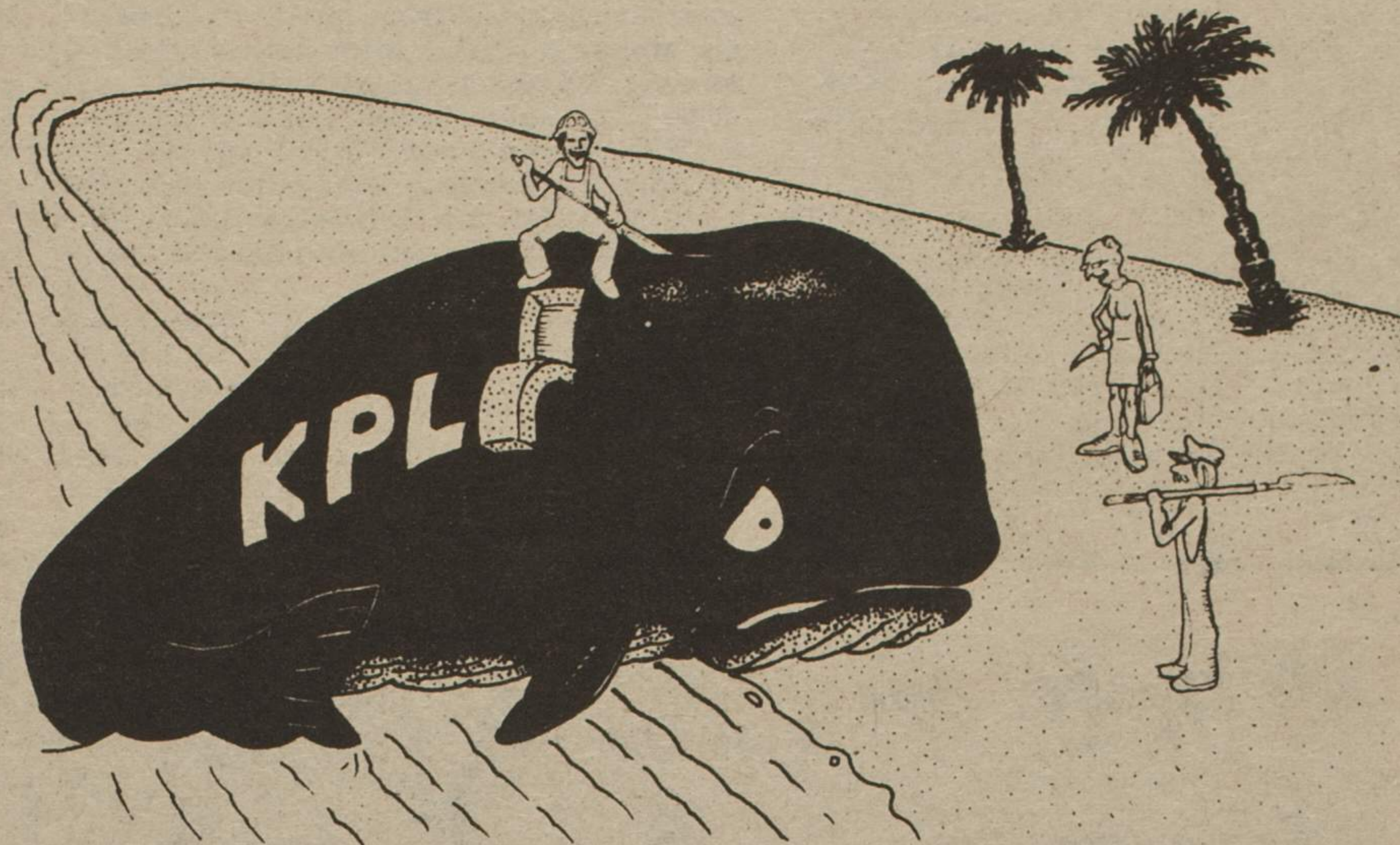
KP&L has been tightening its belt. Instead of taking legislators to fancy restaurants this session, KPL has been having "Hard-Times Buffets" in its offices. K.G.&E. still wines and dines lawmakers at restaurants, both following the lobbying adage, "The way to a legislator's vote is through his stomach."

Obviously, the utilities are old hands at the lobbying game. And at this writing the score stands: Whales - 2, Pygmies - 0.

For you sports fans who follow these things, we'll give a run-down of how the utilities knocked out both bills.

But first, a word on the rules. They're complicated. This helps the experienced players, the utilities, who know the rules inside out.

The first rule is that the utilities can have about as many professional players on their team



as they want. Wilson Cadman receives \$35,000 a year as K.G.&E's "vice-president for Customer and Community Services", but the legislature must be his major customer because you see him up there almost every day. He is on only one of such pros, who are paid for by utility customers, who are often pygmies.

The pygmies, however, must rely on unpaid amateur players. Thus, this year, the pygmies have one full-time advocate, Ann Bueker of the Mid-America Coalition for Energy Alternatives, and a few part-time players.

Secondly, if the pygmies want to change the law (the utilities seldom need a law changed, because they scored all their points a long time ago), they must carry a bill across at least seven goal-lines. If the bill is introduced in the House, it must be passed by the House Committee it's referred to. Then the House as a whole must approve the bill, and approve it again in a Final Action vote. If the bill makes it this far, it goes to the Senate, where these three steps are repeated. The seventh goal is the signing by the Governor.

CAPITAL Ins and Outs

Small wonder that the "pygmies" back home watching TV and reading the newspapers have a hard time figuring out what the hell is going on in Topeka.

Now, as the pygmies try to cross each of these goals with their bill, the utilities get to take a whack at them. If the utilities can stop the bill at any one of the goal lines, they win.

The judges in this game are our elected state representatives, many of whom won their seats with the help of contributions from the utilities.

The nuclear veto bill did pretty well; it made it past two goals. The Nuclear Veto bill, introduced by Representative Robert Miller (R-Wellington), would have required the legislature to approve any future nuclear plant within sixty days after its approval by the Kansas Corporation Commission. Failure to approve would be a veto of the plant. Thus the utilities would have to cross those seven goal lines to build their nuclear plant.

This was clearly not a radical bill. It didn't ask the legislators to decide for or against nuclear power. It simply gave them the authority to decide on future plants. What's more, the bill would only apply to plants built on land where a utility owned less than 25% as of 1976. Since utilities owned a good deal of unused land in 1976, it would be a while before the bill applied.

Miller's bill got him some good "media splashes", and it had symbolic importance, but its short-term, even long-term impact, was negligible.

In the hearings before the House Energy Committee, many folks testified in favor of the bill: Paul Johnson of the People's Energy Project, Ivan Wyatt of the Kansas Farmer's Union, Mary Ellen Salava of the Wolf Creek Opposition, Diane Tegtmeier of the Mid-America Coalition for Energy Alternatives, Paul Burmeister, a farmer from Claflin, Kansas, and Wichita geologist, Fred James, among others.

Senator Arnold Berman (D-Lawrence) told the committee, "With a nuclear system, the effects of an incident can be so substantial, that the decision to require Kansans to be exposed to such risks, however small, shouldn't be made without considering our people's concerns." Berman, an attorney and engineer, worked for the Atomic Energy Commission for five years.

Only the utilities testified against the bill. They claimed there were already avenues for public participation, and the bill would add to the extensive red tape.



Apparently the voice of just a couple of whales meant at least as much as those of many pygmies; the bill had to be watered down before being passed. Instead of requiring the legislature to approve a proposed nuclear plant, the legislature could disapprove. So, it would be the pygmies, not the whales, who would have to cross each of those seven goals.

The bill passed the first goal, barely on its feet.

At the second goal line, the House Committee of the Whole vote, the bill squeaked by 62-59. But the next day it was shot down on the Final Action vote, 49-73. For some reason, 16 legislators had switched to opposing the bill overnight.

Folks speculated that the utilities, saw how close the margin was and put last minute pressure on to kill the bill.

But Miller didn't think arm-twisting did it. "I think most legislators don't understand nuclear power, and they're afraid of the responsibility of a decision," Miller said. He might have added, the utility lobbyists are always at the legislator's elbows, saying, in effect, we'll take care of everything in this area. After all, energy is our business!

If the nuclear issue was difficult for some legislators to understand, the construction work in progress (CWIP) bill was enough to short-circuit their brains. CWIP is a matter of accounting, dollars, and cents. It's not the kind of thing that makes good headlines, but it's dear to the hearts of utility companies.

The bill was introduced by Ruth Luzati (D-Wichita) before the House Energy Committee.

As things stand now, electric utilities must either sell stock in the company or sell bonds in order to finance the construction of new power plants. Thus the customers do not pay for the new plants until they begin to produce electricity.

With CWIP, the customers would pay for the power plants as they are being constructed. The utilities argue in the long run this is a cheaper method since the utilities need not pay interest on the borrowed money. Many consumers feel that they would be paying for a service not obtained and that it takes away the incentive from utilities to do better with



what they already have.

Basil Kesey, K.G.&E. spokesman, subtly threatened brown-outs or black-outs if CWIP costs were not allowed in the rate base. He said, "No one can predict precisely--and I don't think we want to engage in that kind of disastrous discussion--where the point is that KPL and other Kansas utilities will have to mothball half-completed plants and leave customers without electric service."

This argument is an old standby of the utilities. It's really a kind of blackmail. Nobody wants to be blamed for a power failure; especially not elected officials! And there's no denying that the utilities control the power; they run the power plants. Who's to say they wouldn't drag their feet in power production if provoked, and lay the blame on regulations instituted in Topeka?

Apparently another tactic utilized by the utilities against the CWIP bill was rumor-mongering. One House veteran close to the action said he had reason to believe that a utility lobbyist planted the rumor that Luzati's "bill was a bill the Democrats were trying to ram through the House." He said, "This naturally set Republicans against the bill; nobody likes a bill rammed down his throat." He indicated the utilities were old hands at the game. "They know how to use partisan politics to their advantage."

And so, in the end, the committee was bewildered, intimidated. They amended the bill to read, instead of the corporation not considering CWIP costs as part of the base rate, the KCC may consider CWIP as part of the rate base. Then they referred the bill to interim study, which

(CONT. ON NEXT PAGE)

People's Energy Project

POWER FOR PEOPLE, NOT PROFIT!

VOLUME III, NO. 3
APRIL 1977

KANSAS PUBLIC SERVICE CO. OUR (?) LOCAL GAS COMPANY



BY PAUL JOHNSON

Ever wonder who owns the gas company here in Lawrence? With the innocuous name of the Kansas Public Service Co., one might believe it is a city owned operation. Believe me, that is not the case although the Kansas Public Service Co. is only a small operation.

The truth of the matter is our gas company is primarily owned by three families. They are the Dunnes of Wichita, the Dockings (Virginia, George and Bob of Governor fame) and Hilda M. Holmes of Lawrence. The company has only issued 13,000 common stocks and 3,000 preferred stocks in its existence. By law, any person owning more than 5% of the common or preferred stock must be identified at the Secretary of State's Office. Together these families own 73% of all common stock and 75% of all preferred stock. Thus the lines of allegiance in our gas company are clearly defined.

The sole regulator of the Kansas Public Service Co. is the city commission of Lawrence. No state agency has control over KPS rates or profits. However, the Kansas Corporation Commission does have some say over pipeline safety. Thus, the citizens of Lawrence find themselves in position to elect city commissioners which have real power over the gas co.; power that has not been exercised in the past. Since gas prices were so cheap, consumption and adequate profits went hand in hand.

KPS buys all its gas from Cities Service Gas Co. Whenever Cities

Service hikes prices, our gas co. has little choice but to pass on the hikes. This is done by notifying the City Commissioners and waiting 30 days. If during this time, no Commissioners object, the price hike automatically goes into effect. This price hike is achieved by using the automatic fuel adjustment clause, and no extra profits are accrued since the added cost of gas flows through to the customers.

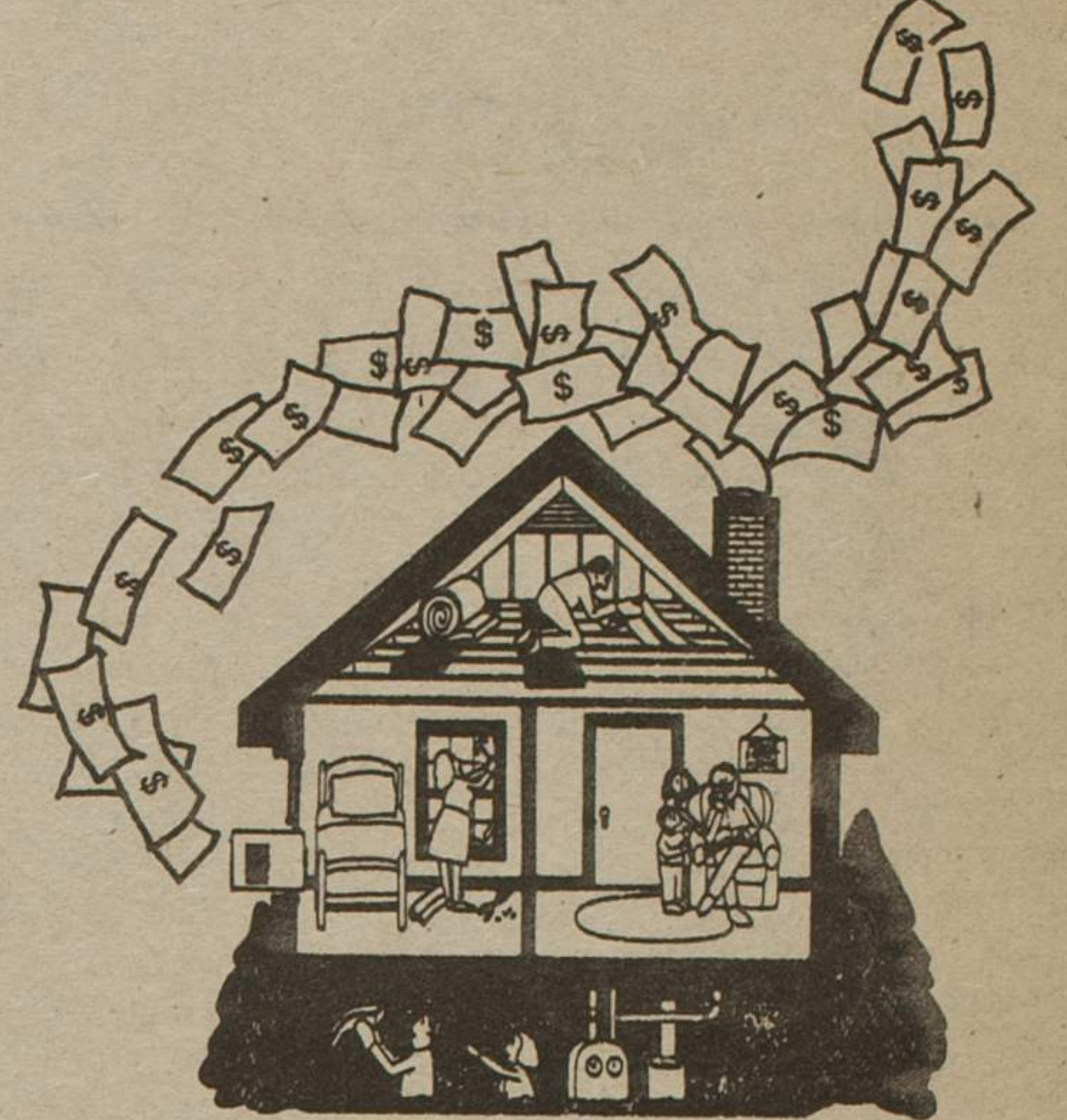


However, when the Gas Co. feels that profits are too low due to inflation and unexpected increases, the Gas Co. presents new rates to the City Commission to gain greater revenues. It's at this point in the past that the City Commission has felt helpless to understand the rate request so they pass it on to a consulting firm. This consulting firm, Black and Veatch of Kansas City, is a large regional engineering firm with many on-going projects. They review the proposed rates and return with their recommendation. This recommendation is binding, so the citizens of Lawrence must live with the wisdom of this K.C. Company.

Black and Veatch may understand the technical and engineering aspects of our gas company, but how well do they understand the impact of higher and higher prices on a citizenry unable to stay up with all these inflated prices? No doubt the owners of Kansas Public Service Co. will gain, but are the customers getting an equal say?

A forceful and enlightened city commission could take a great lead in helping Lawrence citizens conserve gas and save money. In a recent interview with a gas company official, this reporter was told that any conservation measures mandated by the city would be diligently pursued by the gas company. Out of the discussion came a few suggestions:

would help the city draft more energy conscious building codes.



A new firm that would take more interest in seeing that insulation programs get as much attention as other parts of the Gas Co. operations.

The avenues for energy conservation are unlimited if the city finds an engineering firm to re-evaluate the gas rates and insulation program in light of a dwindling resource. Indeed, your vote on a city commission candidate and form of government will show up on your gas bill. Evaluate carefully!

*Home insulation--all new homes should meet minimum standard before a gas hook-up is allowed. For existing rental units, insulation codes should be written into the Housing Occupancy Code. For those landlords unable to afford such improvements, the city should make available low interest loans or work with the gas co. to have the bill paid over an extended period. Space heating and cooling represent the greatest use of energy in the home thus good insulation promises the greatest savings immediately.

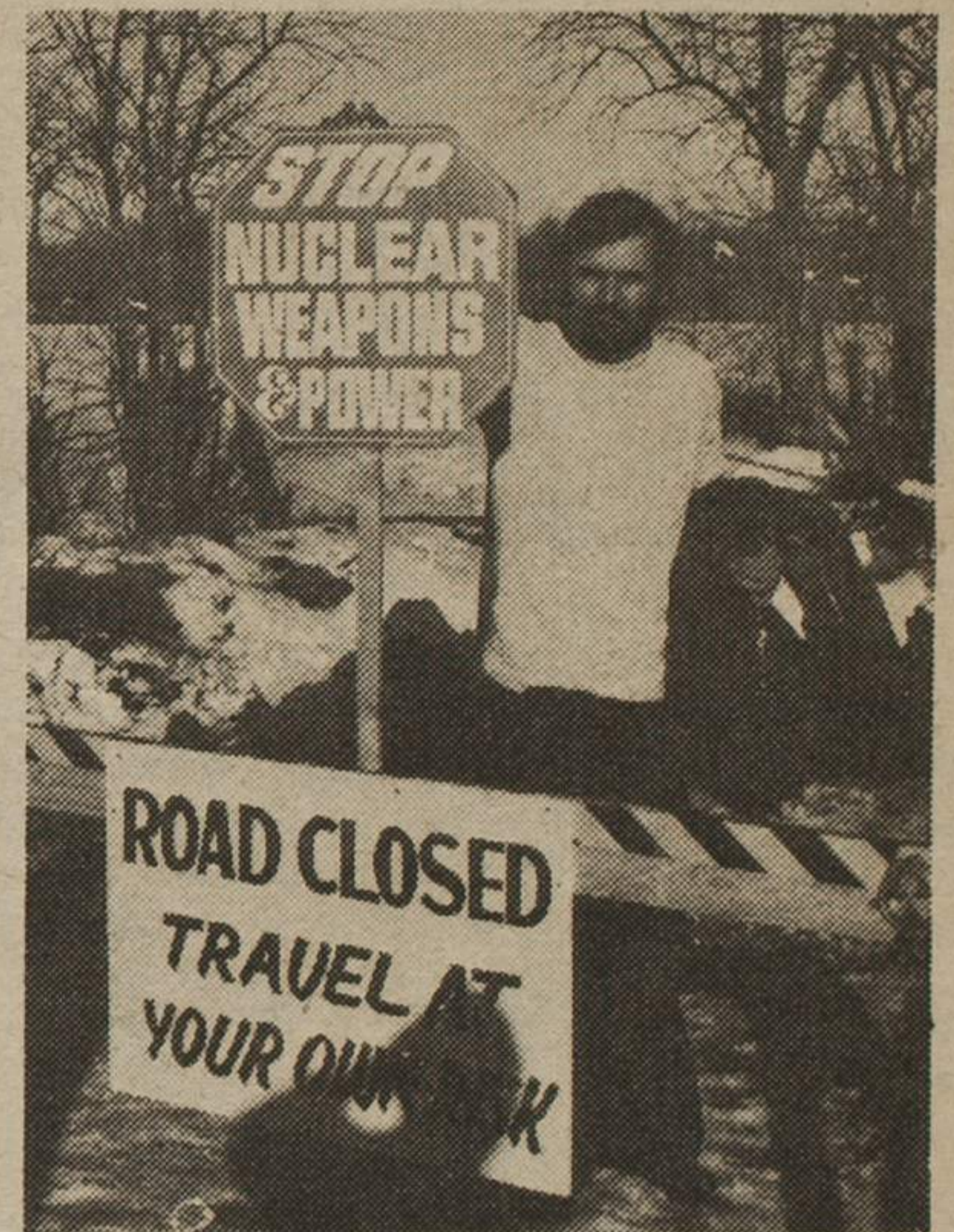
*The city and gas company should commission aerial infrared photography. It would measure heat loss and could help locate the worst buildings. A priority system could be established so the worst houses could be helped first. As gas prices skyrocket, such help would be welcomed.

*Installation of electronic ignitions on all gas stoves, water heaters, and furnaces, in order for the pilot light to remain off. It's estimated that 1/4 to 1/3 of your cooking gas is wasted on the pilot light.

*Installation of automatic flues so the flue is closed when your furnace is not operating.

This represents a start in helping customers to conserve gas. Since the city commission has only used the firm Black and Veatch for rate hike reviews, it's time to try some other firm that may have a stronger consumer and conservation orientation. A new firm that would have staff engineers who

NEXT MONTH:



A complete update on the nuclear reactor situation in Burlington.

UTILITIES (cont.)

(CONT. FROM PAGE 14)

means it will be studied over the summer for possible action next year.

After the vote, the meeting broke up and the committee members filed out. The utility lobbyists shook hands with some of them, giving them a hearty smile and "Thanks."

One Committee member was heard telling one lobbyist, "Well, that's the best we could do for you."



A representative of KPL told Committee Chairman Mainey, with more than a little swagger and a hint of menace, "Don't try to have the bill brought up again; we've got 15 votes lined up against it." A couple of the members of the committee later stated that they had been confused by the welter of motions; that when they voted to refer the bill to interim study, they thought they were voting favorably, on the bill. So it goes. The CWIP bill never made it past goal one.

And there you have it, sports fans: Sharks, er... Whales--2; Pygmies--still out in the cold.

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