

## MORE OF THE SAME WON'T DO

WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT...

In Kansas, the Landlord-Tenant Act does not give tenants the right to withhold rent as a way to force landlords to make needed repairs.

But the City of Manhattan, on Oct. 17, 1972 passed a city ordinance which permits tenants to put their rent money into an escrow account until the repairs are completed.

The most commonly used and proposed system, according to Manhattan's Tenants Handbook, allows tenants to cease paying rent to the landlord and begin paying the same rent into an escrow account (often the city treasury) when the local building inspector of health department determines that there are repairs or alterations which need to be made to the dwelling(s) in order to maintain compliance with the building and housing codes. There is almost always a period of grace during which the landlord is given sufficient opportunity to correct the deficiencies, this period usually ranges from thirty to ninety days.

Wouldn't it be great if we could pass such an ordinance here in Lawrence?? The Topeka Housing Complaint Center has already begun to work for its ratification there. Let's get busy by writing and talking to our city commissioners and state legislators to implement an escrow ordinance in Lawrence!

**You have a problem.**

**We have a solution.**

On Sept. 2 a group of concerned citizens held its first meeting to discuss and begin to do something about the housing problems of Lawrence. Lack of housing and substandard housing has plagued this community too long! Would you like to help? Our meetings are at 8 p.m. Thursday nights at ECKAN, 1201 E. 13th, or call 841 3357. Won't you join us?

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED TO KNOW... In Detroit, citizens must obey a new ordinance that requires all houses to be inspected and certified as habitable before they can be sold. The inspection is designed to make sure that houses are structurally sound and that their electrical, heating and plumbing systems are in good repair.

ECKAN, East Central Kansas Community Action Agency has packed its bags and hitched up its truck for 1201 E. 13th Street in Far East Lawrence.

We are a community action program funded by federal, state, county and city funds; and private donations.

We can provide free emergency home repair, such as roofing, heating, plumbing, electrical work, attic insulation, weather stripping and storm windows. You may be eligible for repairs up to \$1,000 from ECKAN, or \$5,000 through the City of Lawrence Community Development Department!

*'I did not want to live in a box'*



In late September, ECKAN learned that it still had \$40,000 available for rehab. We are also members of the Emergency Service Council, so please call us if a financial crisis occurs to your family. Maybe we can help.

Would you like to earn your high school diploma? Sign up for GED classes held two nights a week, or you can come in the center during the week at any time that fits your schedule.

Need a comfortable place to hold a meeting or some other activity? Call us, Greg, Susie or Helene, at 841-3357.

## OVERHEARD IN LAWRENCE

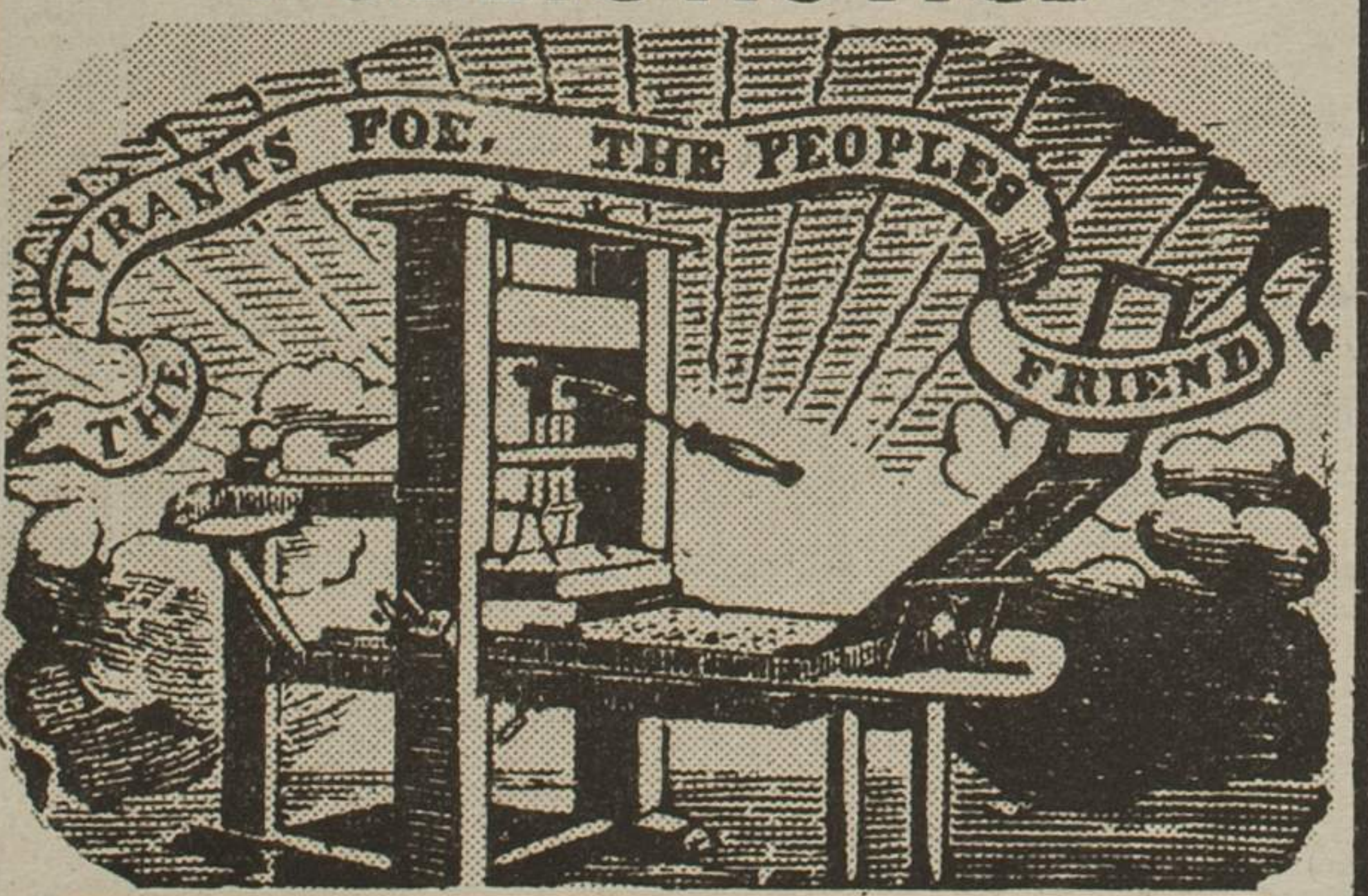
It was a hot, dry day when the local Democrats threw a beer bash in Centennial Park, a reward for those who had registered to vote. Candidates for state office, college Democrats, a large group of College Republicans partaking of the opposition's hospitality, and other thirsty passers-by, drank and talked on the brown slopes of the park.

Two PUBLIC NOTICE writers talked with the candidates. A former Mayor of Lawrence, who is running for state office, made these remarks when asked about changing the form of City government from City-Manager to Mayor-Council, making the Commission seats salaried positions so that working people could afford to devote full time to their office. A Commissioner is now paid \$100 yearly.

"You know that the office will soon pay, I think, about \$900," the candidate said. "I think that's enough so that someone could hire, say, someone to come in and clean and take care of their house. Besides, someone like Barkley Clark, for instance, wouldn't be interested in a salary of nine or ten thousand dollars."

True. Commissioner Clark wouldn't give up his position in the KU School of Law for such a piddling sum. But the person forced to work for a living will still be faced with a governmental system designed for those in a profession, a business, or with excessive leisure time. A mere \$900 might provide a cleaning woman, but it hardly allows someone elected to office to quit their job. And so, working people can afford to devote only part of their time to office. They don't have the time or energy to thoroughly investigate, question or contemplate City issues, but must ask for "expert" advice from paid consultants, city staff, and the city manager; all unelected and therefore, unaccountable and unaffordable positions.

## PUBLIC NOTICE



★★ THE LAWRENCE PUBLIC NOTICE ★★

The PUBLIC NOTICE is published on or about the 15th of each month, by the Community Mercantile food cooperative, with main offices located on the top floor of the Stubbs Building, 1101 1/2 Mass. CALL 842-5657

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## Speaking of People

### THE POOR

It's the anarchy of poverty that delights me, the old yellow, wooden house indented among the new brick tenements or a cast-iron balcony with panels showing oak branches in full leaf.

It fits the dress of children reflecting every stage and custom of necessity-- chimneys, roofs, fences of wood and metal in an unfenced age and enclosing next to nothing at all.

The old man in a sweater and soft black hat who sweeps the sidewalk--his own ten feet of it in a wind that fitfully turning his corner has overwhelmed the entire city.

--William Carlos Williams

On television, the interviewer asked Albert Shanker, president of United Federation of Teachers, "How can we improve the situation of the poor?"

"GIVE THEM MONEY."

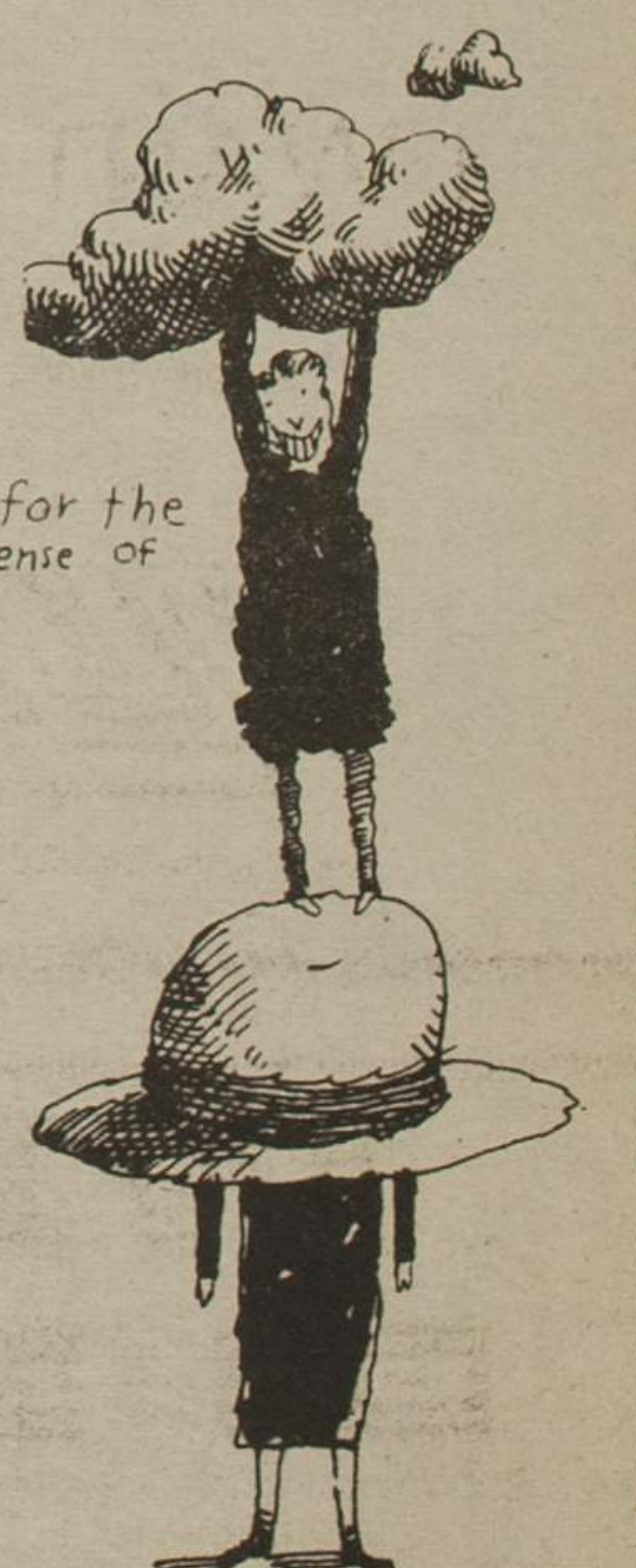
On television, the interviewer asked Dr. Milton Friedman, University of Chicago economist, "How can we improve the incomes of the poor?"

"GIVE THEM MONEY."

"Equal incomes? No. People with beastly jobs-- scavengers and lavatory attendants and the like-- should be paid a great deal more than anyone else."

--Sir Victor Gollancz

There is something patently insane about all the typewriters sleeping with the beautiful plumbing in the beautiful office buildings--and all the people sleeping in the slums.



Madman Reaching for the Clouds at the expense of another.