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WHAT HAPPENED?

The conflict between management and labor is as old as capitalism itself. On one side you have the administration, with pencils and paper and telephone buttons nearby. Meanwhile, the workers toil in the fields, streets or factories, producing the necessary goods and services, always struggling for a little fairer share of the pie. Each side is isolated from the other; workers rarely seeing the inside of an office--administrators rarely raising the sweat upon their brows. The whole arrangement is almost tailor-made to breed misunderstanding, mistrust and division--perhaps by ancient design.

By this point in time, almost everyone in town has heard something about the city employees' attempts to gain formal recognition from City Hall, in the form of appeals to logic and reason, all in vain. Following several lengthy debate sessions at City Commission meetings in October and November, the Commission finally voted "no" to the question of recognition of the United Public Employees Association of Lawrence (UPEA) by a 3-2 margin.

This was a shameful thing. All of our city employees are engaged in providing the most vital functions which any community could demand. We continually cry for better police and fire protection. We want our garbage picked up. We want our streets and sidewalks kept in good repair. We want clean and safe park facilities as well. The men and women who provide us with these services are dedicated to doing a good job. An overwhelming majority of the nearly 220 municipal employees involved live right here in Lawrence. They need services too--and they have a first-hand understanding of the problems associated with their procurement--perhaps better than anyone else in the community--including the Mayor and the City Manager. The failure of the City Commission to unanimously recognize the UPEA is nothing less than an insult to the integrity of every policeman and woman, every firefighter, street worker, sanitation worker, and parks and recreation worker in Lawrence.

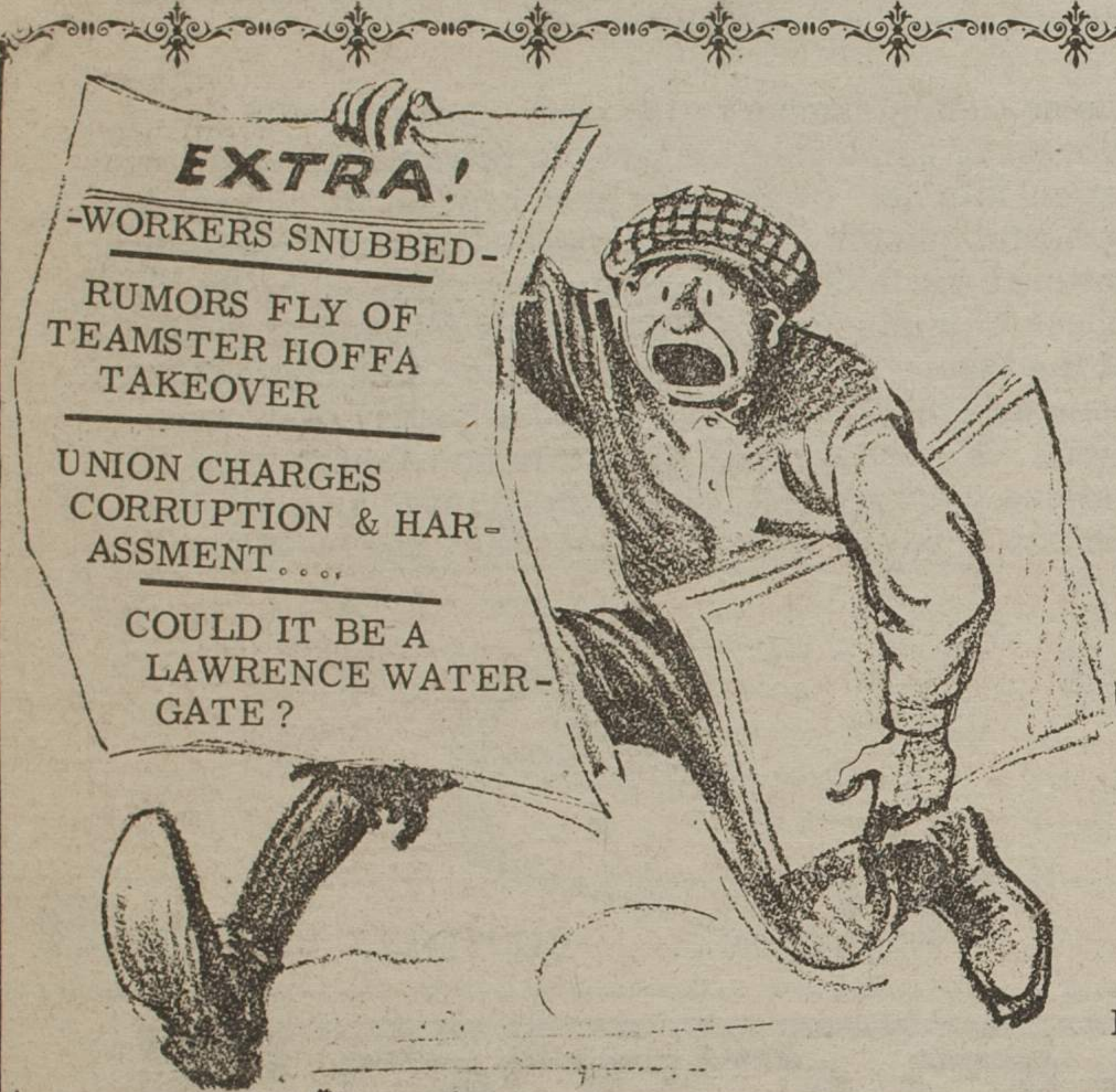


The PUBLIC NOTICE hereby takes a firm stand in the support of the right of municipal workers of Lawrence to organize themselves for the purpose of collective bargaining...in defense of their jobs and their integrity. We also support their demand for a system of binding arbitration, by law, as set forth by the Public Employees Relations Board of the State of Kansas. Until city workers have a legitimate voice in the management of their own affairs, they will remain in a subordinated position, treated insipidly as upstart children. Until they are recognized as dignified individuals, with Constitutional rights, there will be no peace in labor-management relations at City Hall. And so...in keeping...the workers will now speak for themselves...

November 6, 1975

AN APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF LAWRENCE, FROM THE UNITED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF LAWRENCE (Firefighters, Sanitation Employees, Street Department Employees, Police Officers, and Parks and Recreation Dept. Employees)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



PUBLIC NOTICE







LAWRENCE, KANSAS

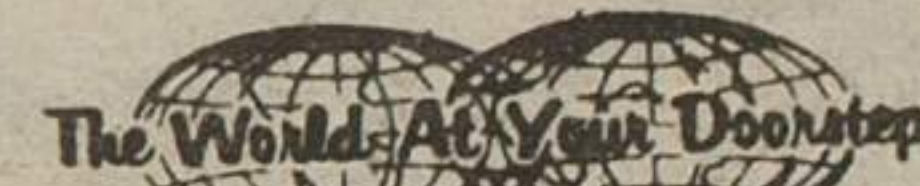
DECEMBER 1975

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 2

THIS IS YOUR PAPER. ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PUBLIC NOTICE ARE ENCOURAGED. WRITE BOX 114

Inside

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-  Ever been to the Garden of Eden?...page 4.
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25¢

The Game Goes On; Something Has Gone Wrong

THE Sixties rediscovered ecology. We and our environment are one. We can't escape it, we are in a place, not apart from it.

Another 60's rediscovery: the subtle effect of form on meaning. Body language suddenly told us a total communication included message plus what a person's body did when he talked. If a person crossed his legs when he talked one thing was meant, if he kept his legs apart, another. On a group level, teachers found that interesting lectures wouldn't guarantee a lively class. The whole feeling of a group could be changed by arranging chairs in the room in different ways.

Let's carry these discoveries into an analysis of what happens every Tuesday night at 7:00 in downtown Lawrence Kansas on the 4th floor of the tallest building in town at 9th and Mass.

City Commission meetings are held there.

The content of meetings varies (the Commission both designates National Beauty Parlor Week and decides the fate of neighborhoods) but the layout of the room, the manner of audience participation, the presentations by staff and so forth, in short, the forms of the City Commission, are relatively static.

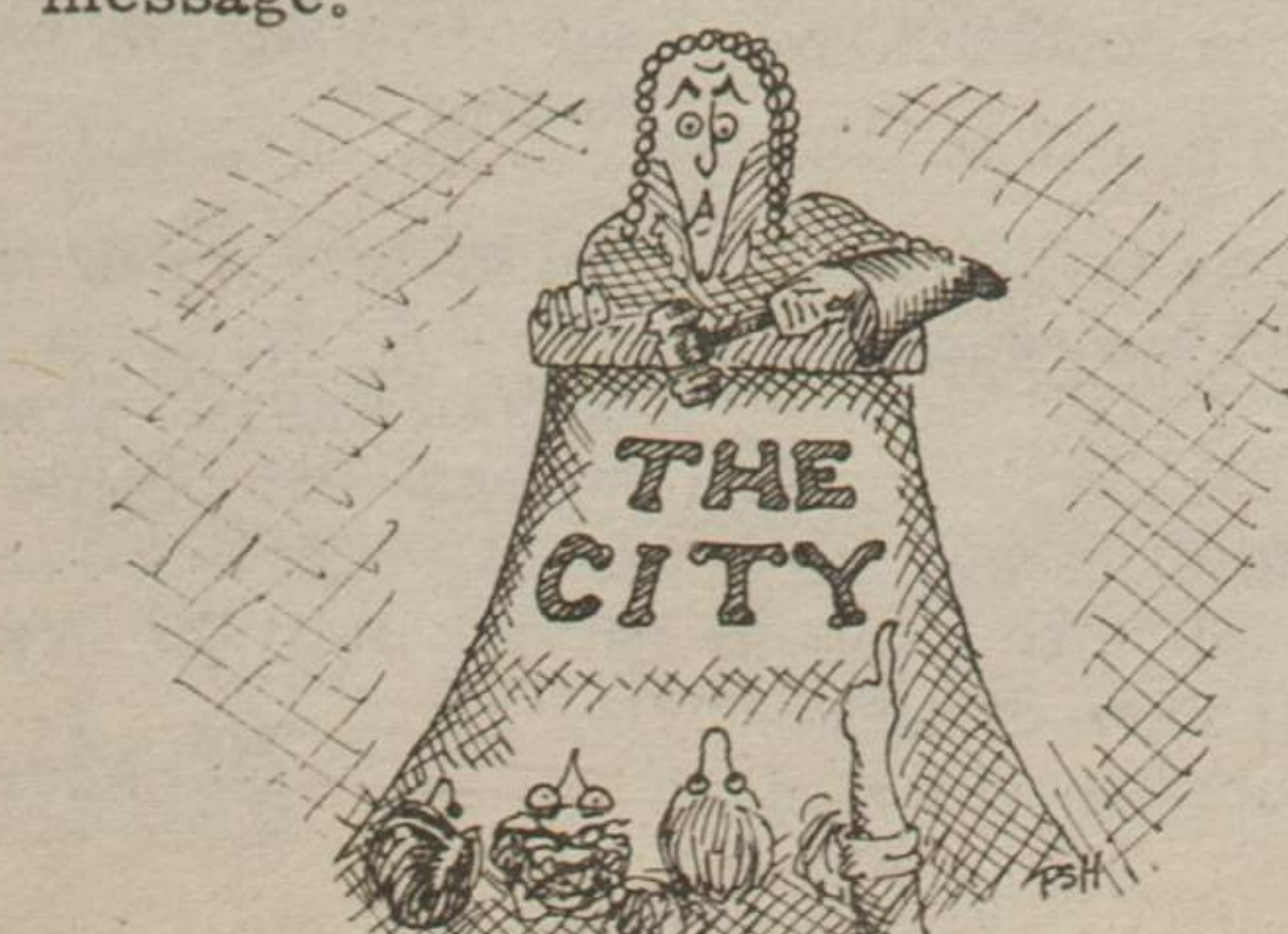
The 60's discoveries have not been applied.

Imagine: The commissioners arrive in t-shirts and jeans and sit on canvas-bottomed fold-up stools. Or imagine: a plexiglass shield is installed between commission and audience while the commissioners, topped with powdered wigs and swaddled in robes, sit behind oak judgement benches. Setting makes all the difference in audience participation.

The commission and audience stare at each other. Stare in a bar and you're slugged, it's that potent an act. The advantage of the arrangement is that it allows the politician's eyes to be read by the audience (remember watching Nixon sweat on our TV screens?) while the politicians can monitor the audience.

The message back of it all is this: audience is one group, commissioners another. How to close the gap? Think of the situation of the planning director showing a site plan map to the commission. Rather than turn his back to the audience, block the map with his body and point things out to the commission without including the audience (every little movement has a meaning all its own), why couldn't those maps be cast onto the wall with a magic lantern so all could see? The psychic effect of this would be that the audience and commission were joining as mutual spectators.

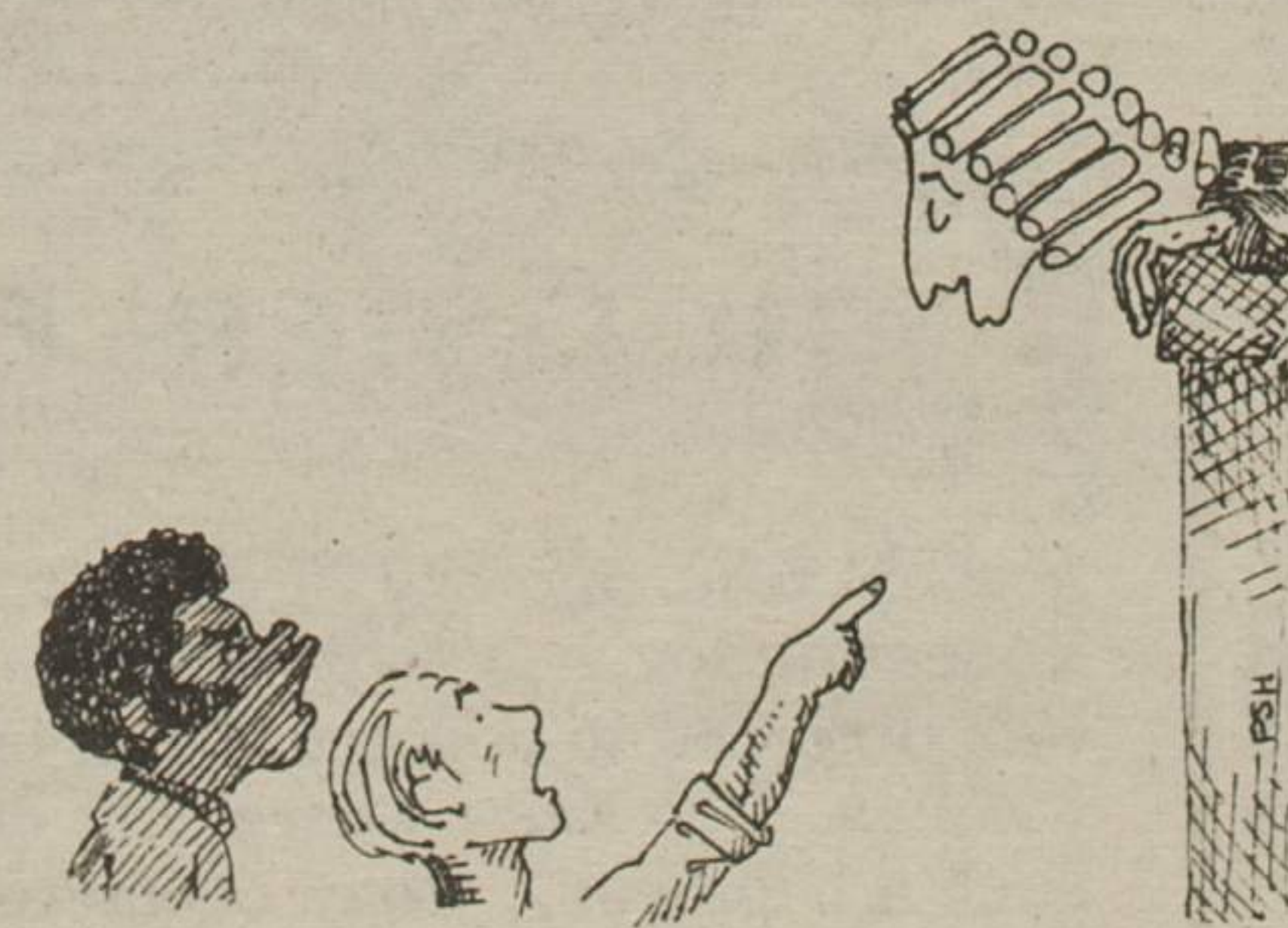
As it is, the impression left is that the commission members are experts, the audience hardly worth including in the discussion. Do they vote? No. Do they matter? No. That is the unspoken message.



But focus on what is. Think about the fact that one addressing the commission must come forward to a microphone to do so.

Forget the fact that this form is entirely appropriate to a Christian culture that stresses the power and necessity of

witnessing before individuals and groups. You are sitting in the audience. You find something someone says objectionable. You may also find the distance to the microphone overwhelming. Your jaw locks. If you are a fool this is to everyone's advantage--as anyone who attends commission meetings and watches the ego freaks who love to hear themselves yammer and pontificate, will attest. But you can't separate those folks from a microphone anyway, so why disadvantage the more modest by forcing them across that gulf?



The bristlers step forward anyway. So do the trained talkers, the polished, the pros. Others just gulp, or feel the feathers in their stomach, or whisper to their neighbors, or do anything to keep from crossing the space to the mike.

If they got there, they might not be able to speak anyway. I once saw a man forget everything he prepared to say at the podium and talk nonsense for three embarrassing minutes. He never came to another meeting. Anxiety that rips out your memory is horrible.

The arrangement of furniture in the room pits staff and commission on one side of the room (the staff conveniently turned so it faces neither audience nor commission, but can pivot either direction) against audience on the other. I say "pits against" because that is the effect of the arrangement. They couldn't divide it more neatly with a black stripe.

Then there's the agenda. At his first commission meeting, a new attendee wonders about everything. No hostess hovers at the door to greet him with a mug of coffee and answers to his questions. No guide to city government is handed him, no pamphlet explains what appears on the agenda, or why. It is mysterious as church. No one could describe to the novice the process he has stumbled upon, since it is not a conclusion but a process. A most complex one. Commissioners and staff, involved for years, forget the awful initial ignorance. The spectator plays catch up ball.

Part of the bafflement is what the Hell everyone is talking about. A bond is no longer something you buy from Uncle Sam for 25 bucks, no it's a general obligation (or GO) bond, or a revenue bond. Understand? I didn't the first time I heard those words. What's an easement? a planned unit development? community development funds? general revenue sharing? Language turns into a gangster who fogs the room then clubs the unaware, who don't know, who just don't know, who can't know without a law degree or grad work in political science or sheer gutty persistence. We are put to sleep and then we sleepwalk our way out the door, yawning and wondering what happened when we reach our house. We won't return.

The layout of the room, the format of discussion and the talk itself drives people from commission meetings. You must be greatly ironic or patient to muddle through it, week after week. Only a few do. The pros. And then the enraged come, on an ad hoc basis. That's it. And that's how it will continue, until some consciousness of the effect of environment and form on audience participation emerges. I don't expect it will be soon.

Labor union . . .

From page one

The Lawrence City Commission, by a narrow margin, has voted not to extend recognition to City Employee Associations. By this action, the City has declined to bring law and order to employee-management relations, law and order that would protect employees, management and the public from any unfair practices. The consequences of the Commission's vote is to eliminate direct communication between employees and the Commission; eliminate employees' right to appeals and eliminate written agreements that would make both employees and management live up to their word. Above all it will make possible the continuation of many deplorable practices that have demoralized Lawrence City employees over the past years. How this is supposed to improve the quality of life in Lawrence is beyond comprehension.

Instead of the rule of law and order, the City has confirmed the rule of one man, the City Manager. They have done this by setting up an Employee Council in which Buford Watson's word is the final word on employee grievances. The United Employee Associations of Lawrence reject this proposal as totally un-American. The day has not come when Americans will submit to the dictatorship of one person, no matter under what guise. We also reject the strange notion that any government has the right to dictate what form any organization of American people should take. We have our own employee organizations which represent the overwhelming majority of our employees. We are not about to disband in deference to an organization set up by management. This form of "company unionism" was outlawed in private employment in the 1930's. We remind our Commissioners that they were elected to protect citizens, not dictate to them.



MANAGER
WATSON

The three Commissioners who voted against law and order apparently forgot that talks between us and the City Manager have been going on since last May. Despite this there are still:

- employees penalized for time lost because of on-the-job injuries
- massive safety violations despite employee and insurance company requests for correction

--no adequate accounting that the 1/2% sales tax is being properly spent to upgrade the police and fire departments as intended when the tax was initiated

--arbitrary harassment and insulting of employees

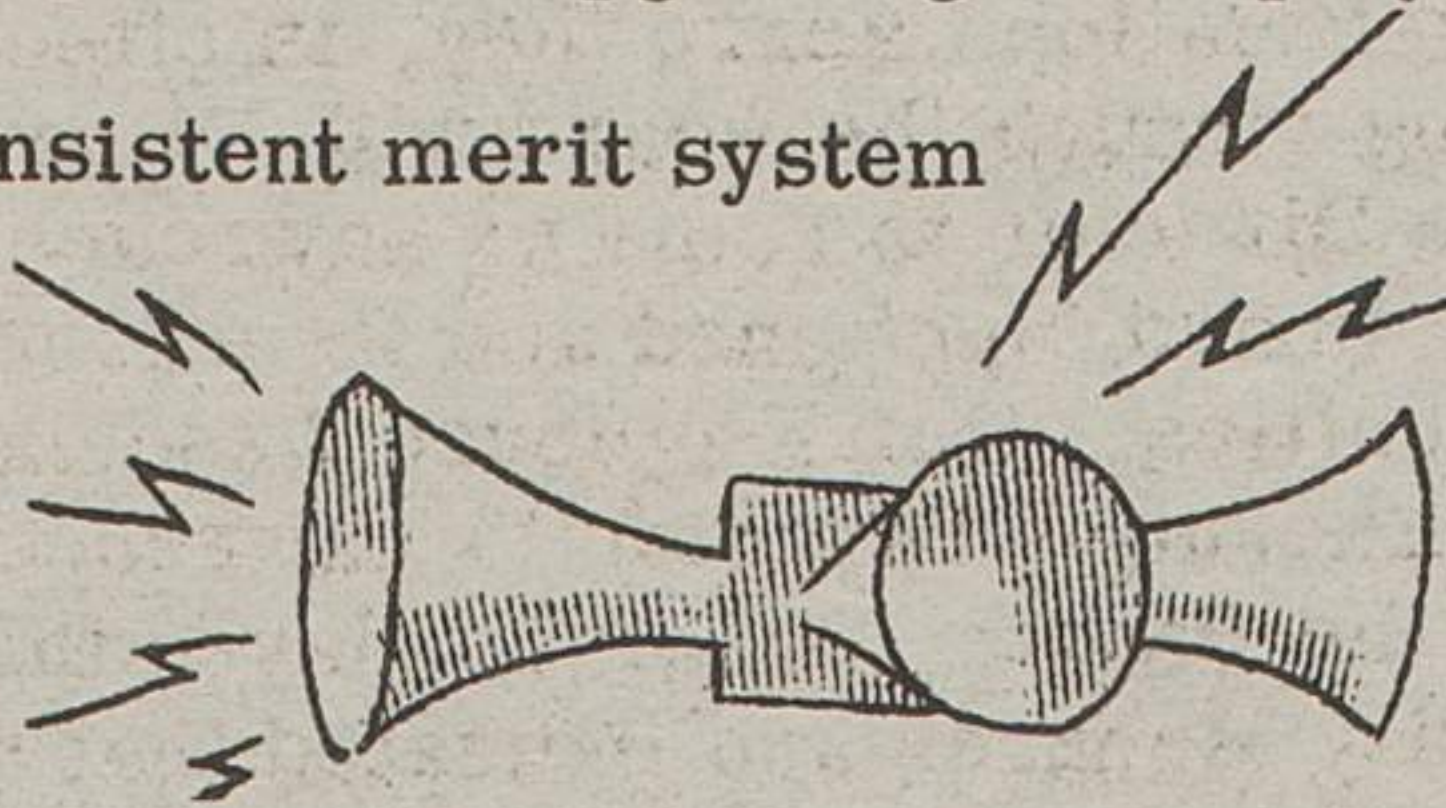
--threats of dismissal of employees

--favoritism in work assignments and promotion

--secret files are still kept on employees

--no programs for upgrading of employees

--no consistent merit system



--no consistent grievance machinery

--no improvement in equipment maintenance

--no probation policy

--contradictory policies on termination of employees

--inadequate hospitalization

--employees receiving threatening letters from collection agencies for medical bills for on-the-job injuries

--employees required to operate unsafe equipment

--no consistent employee evaluation procedures

--inconsistent policies on overtime payment and distribution

--no consistent training programs

--failure to abide by wage commitments made at time of hiring

--no consistent work standards

--no consistent chain of command

--no consistent disciplinary policies

--no policy on employee uniforms

WE ARE PREPARED TO AMPLY DOCUMENT ALL OF THESE MALPRACTICES.

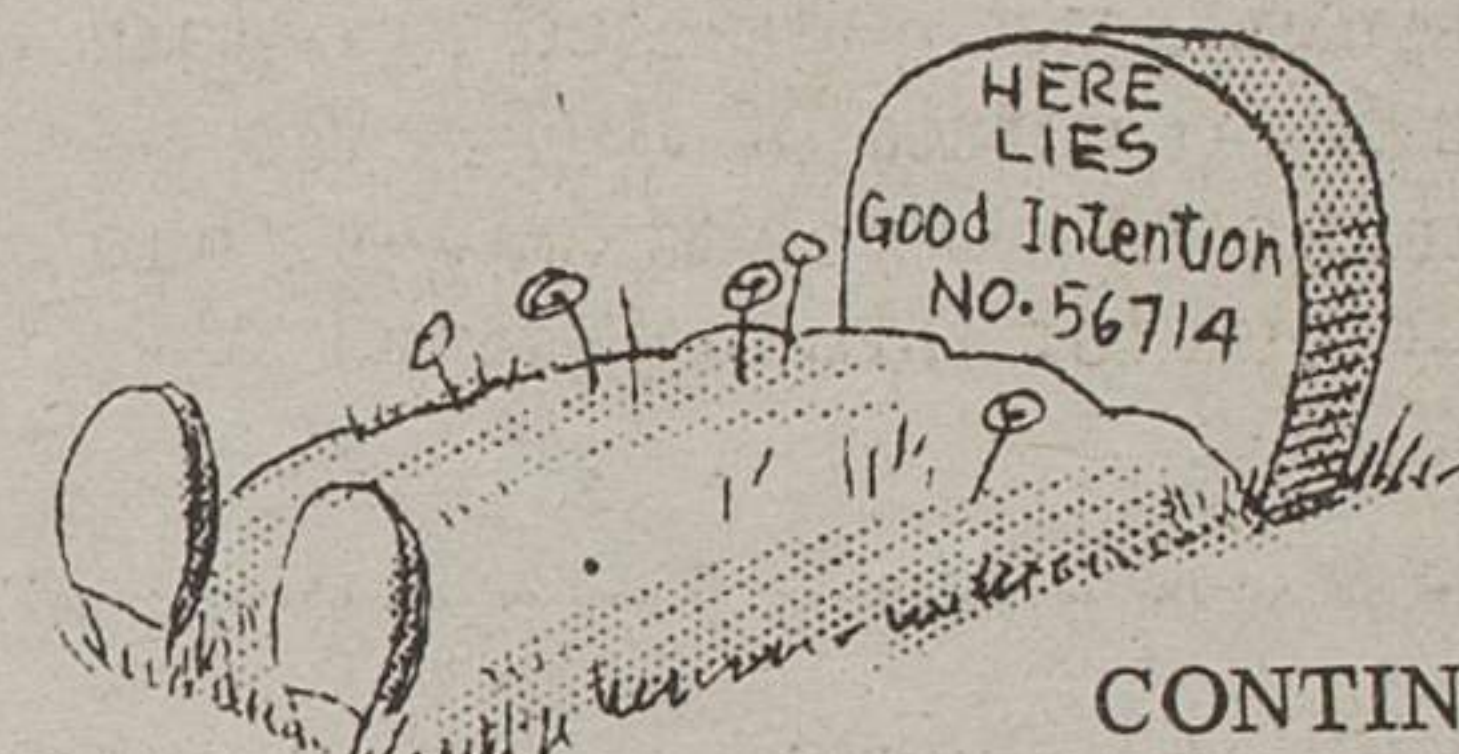
THE AFFLICTION

Quite simply, the City is grossly mismanaged causing great loss in service efficiency and loss to the taxpayers. Commissioners have been informed of these violations, but instead of investigating them or setting up a system, under law, that would peacefully and rationally correct these violations, three Commissioners have chosen to sweep the issues under the rug.

The public should be aware that under City regulations, any employee who brings employment problems to the Commission is subject to dismissal. With such a closed system, how is it possible for anything to change or services improve?

We, the United Public Employees Association of Lawrence, are acutely mindful of our public trust. We want to provide quality services to the people of Lawrence. Some Lawrence City Commissioners seem to be obsessed with wage demands. (We have made none despite some major inequities.)

These Commissioners also seem obsessed with the thought of employees bringing in powerful outside labor organizations. (None have been brought in. The only powerful outside influences planned for Lawrence were national waste disposal monopolies initiated by the City.) These Commissioners conveniently forget that most of the issues raised by the Employee Associations have been designed to improve the poor quality of management. We believe that some Commissioners keep raising the wage and outside union issue as a smoke-screen to cover up managerial chaos and inefficiency.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

HOME INTERESTS

Health By Elanore Smith

The League of Women Voters of Lawrence is making a study of how well health and medical needs of people in Lawrence are being met and how these services might be improved. As one part of our investigation we are looking at various health delivery systems, what they cost and how successful they have been in other communities.

One of the most interesting of these community attempts to bring medical care to residents regardless of ability to pay is called Clinicare. It is a clinic in Kansas City, Kansas which charges its patients according to their ability to pay. No one is turned away, even if they can pay nothing.

Of course Medicare and Medicaid pay for many of the people who are served but the clinic is also dependent on the support of several local churches and on private donations, many of which are very small. The most important donation is made by the staff. Although most of them are paid, they all could earn much more in other jobs.

Of course Kansas City is very different from Lawrence and perhaps the most important difference is in mere numbers of people. From rather a small beginning the clinic now sees about 2,000 patients a month. There is no evidence that Lawrence needs or could support anything on this scale, but it is a good example of what can be done with strong community support.

But what does Lawrence need?

Are there many Lawrence residents who find that they cannot get medical care when they need it because they have no insurance or do not qualify for Medicare or Medicaid?

The League does not need and does not want names. It does need fact and numbers. We would be most grateful if the citizens of Lawrence would help us collect this information by filling out information cards. They can be obtained at the Public Health Department, the Salvation Army, Penn House, the Ballard Center and Eckan.

HOOSIER FRIEND?

By Harry Puckett

A short time ago one of our citizens was looking for a location for a private business to deal in furs. He was directed to contact one of our local real estate dealers, who knew where this citizen could operate such a business. They contacted the zoning board and were told that they could operate a fur business as long as no tanning or drying was involved. So, an agreement was made for the property in the 900 block of Delaware. The citizen made a down payment and began work to put the place in condition for the business.

The planning board had thought of some technical point, however, as an excuse to reject his request for a permit to do business.

The citizen contacted an attorney to find out why he couldn't operate his business. Since our city manager has control of all our city employees in each department, the attorney tried to get an interview with him but so far has been put off.

This citizen has spent considerable money and time on this place. Why is he denied a right to do a legitimate business that hurts no one or interferes with no one? This is denying him of his constitutional rights. . . an injustice.

We need someone to manage our town who will give justice to all, not just a few special privileges.

HUMAN VALUES

By Barbara Willits

One of my pleasures this fall has been my daily walks with two energetic five-year-olds from 12th and Delaware to the New York School.

The 1000 block of Pennsylvania must be one of the most peaceful spots in Lawrence. Neat houses of all sizes line both sides of the street. Most of the houses have flowers around them and on the porches. Every yard shows loving attention. Mrs. Ida Price was out one day enjoying the bright sun. Her neat garden defied a weed to show its head on the north side of her lot.

Every person I meet while walking is amiable, ready to speak and give attention to the children. I find myself wondering what arrangements will be made for kids to get across 11th and 9th streets after the "Loop" is channeling traffic into the downtown business area. I hope our school officials recognize the dangers inherent for our children in the Loop plans.

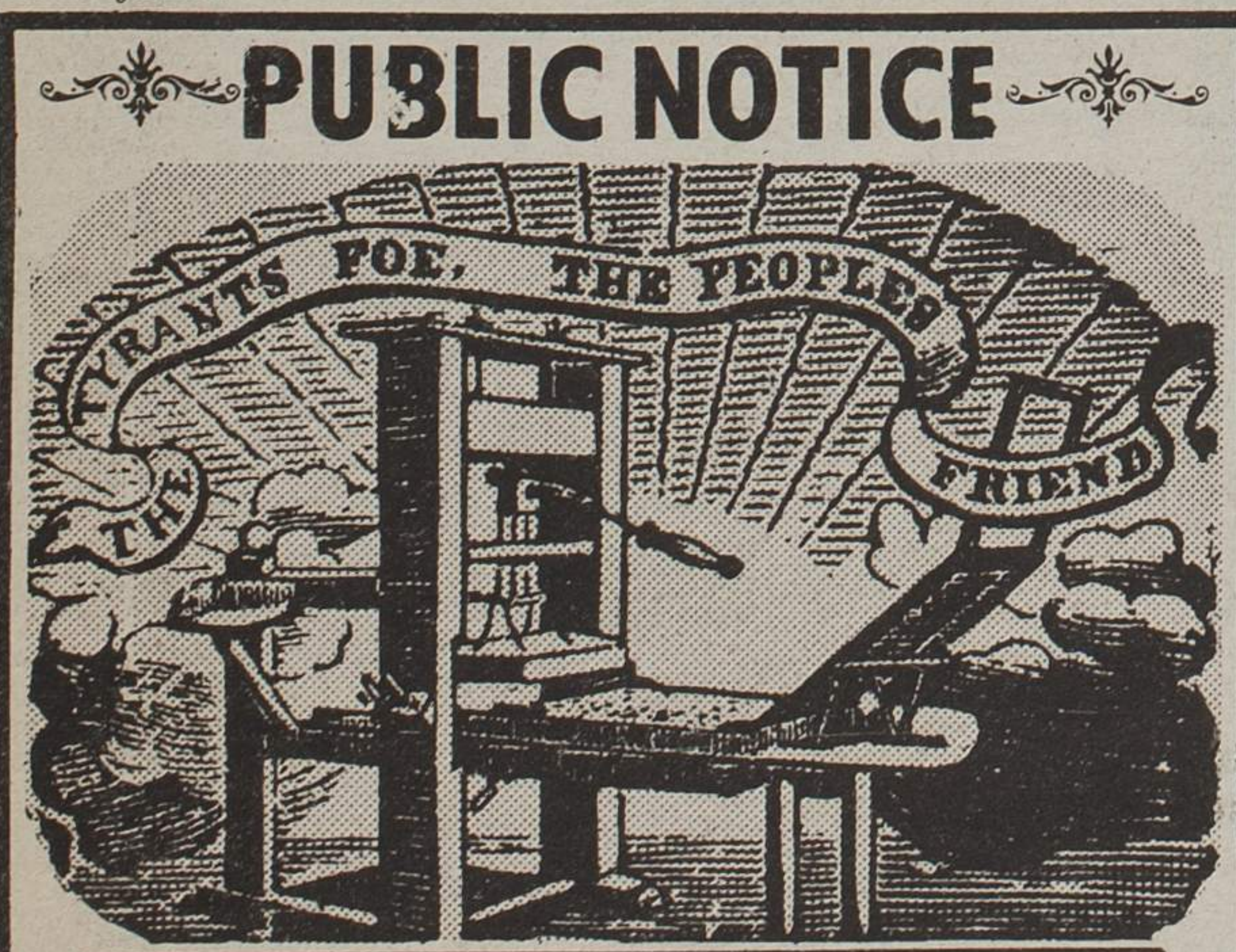
Isn't the power and authority of city staff appalling? The city and USD # 497 Board members meet and all the Loop propaganda is spread out by Planning Director Dick McClanathan. He spouts words--energy crisis, development, boost school population--no matter that he can't spell out what development! Families need low and moderate cost housing. A row of garden apartments along the Loop just won't cut it!

We hear high flying plans about a new neighborhood center, but no mention of it in the six-year capital improvements plan, of course. It's just more pie-in-the sky. Where are East Lawrence kids to fly kites--play football and baseball-- just plain run off their energy?

I'll believe a new neighborhood center when I see it in the flesh, not a second before! The mood of the City in East Lawrence is BULLDOZE--the ball park, houses, 235 people who signed a petition against the Loop--tear down not build. Don't anyone hold your breath until the new center, please!

Believe It or Not!

Savoring the construction boom in town? Well think again. Unless you are the developer or the contractor, you're out of luck, particularly if you're one of those who needs a place to live. Only eight permits for the construction of multi-family dwellings have been issued this year, all high-rent. Hundreds of new homes, \$30-50,000 range please, high society only. Poor people, working people, look elsewhere. Hats off to the planners, McClanathan, & all the rest.



★★ THE LAWRENCE PUBLIC NOTICE ★★

The PUBLIC NOTICE is published on or about the twenty-eighth of each month, in Lawrence, Kansas by the Permanent Press, Box 114, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

People who contributed to this issue: Susie Hanna, Richard Kershenbaum, Jake Flake Barkley Clark, Steve Trone, Barbara Willits, Mark Kaplan, Norm Forer, UPEA of Lawrence, Harry Puckett, Elanore Smith, Ruth and Louis Ward, David Hann, Pat Sullivan, Chuck Magrel, Paul Hughs, Diane Lubert, Dave Moore, Paul Johnson, Carol Loretz, Jim Mason, Jim Cobb.

Union

(Continued from page 2)

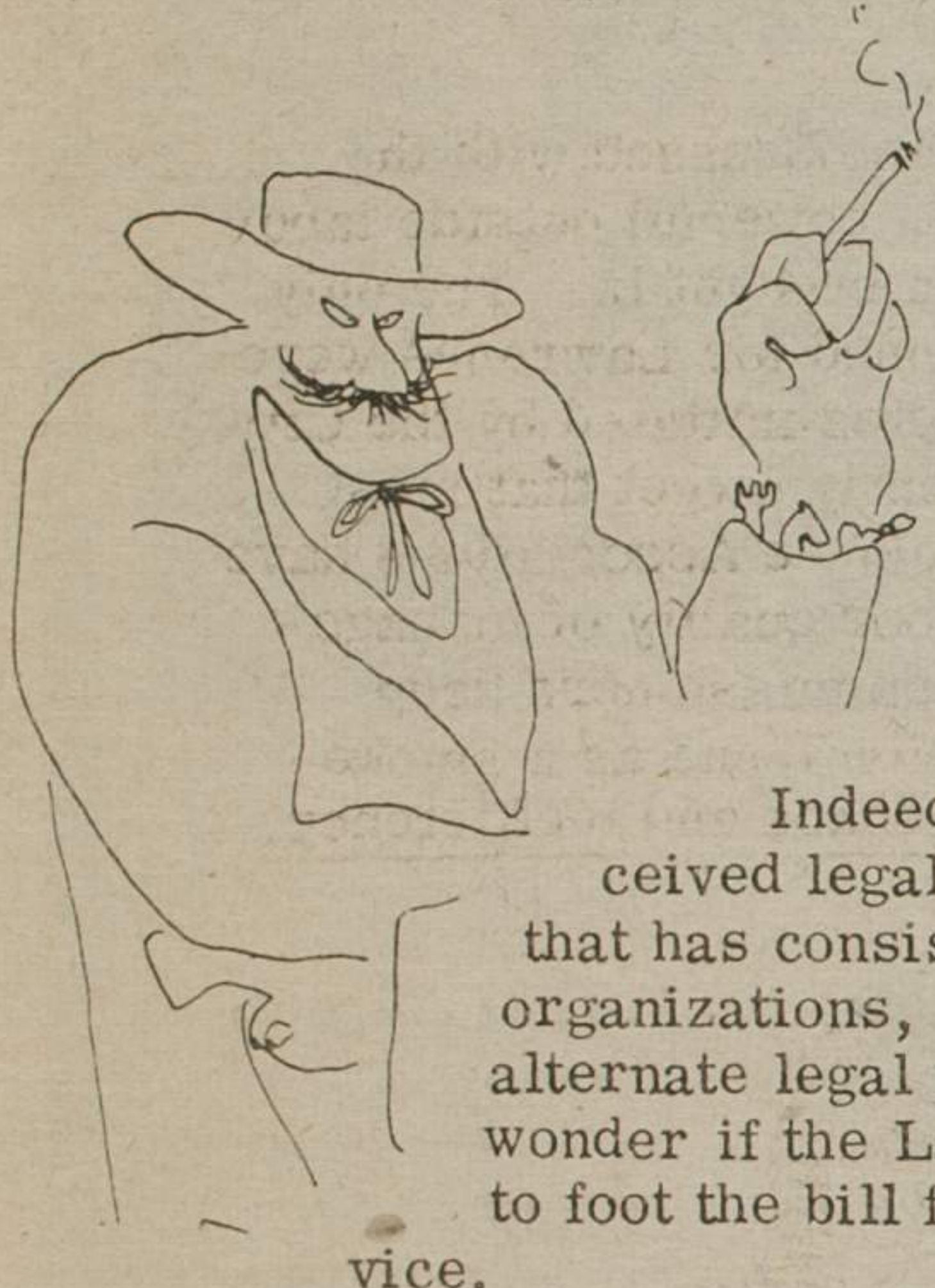
It has been a tradition in our democratic system that when local government is unwilling or unable to act responsibly, it's time for the people to act. We therefore call on all Lawrence citizens who want efficient, fair and open management to join with us in calling for:

1) an investigating committee for efficient management to investigate all of the above charged malpractices and report back publicly to the City Commission. The City Commission should then hold public hearings to receive citizen input with regard to the investigating committee's findings. The investigating committee should be comprised of two City Commissioners, two representatives of the United Public Employees' Associations and two neutral Lawrence citizens selected by agreement among the two Commissioners and two Public Employees;

2) an investigation by the appropriate state authorities into the uses of the 1/2 % sales tax;

3) an investigation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration into the widespread safety violations in Lawrence municipal employment;

4) an investigation by the Highway Patrol to determine if City vehicles are roadworthy and safe to both employees and the public.



The Lawrence City Commission considers itself open-minded and impartial, yet as one Commissioner pointed out, all information placed in the Commissioners' folders by the City Manager were arguments against recognition.

Indeed, the Commission received legal advice from a source that has consistently opposed employee organizations, yet neglected to obtain alternate legal points of view. We wonder if the Lawrence taxpayers had to foot the bill for this one-sided advice.

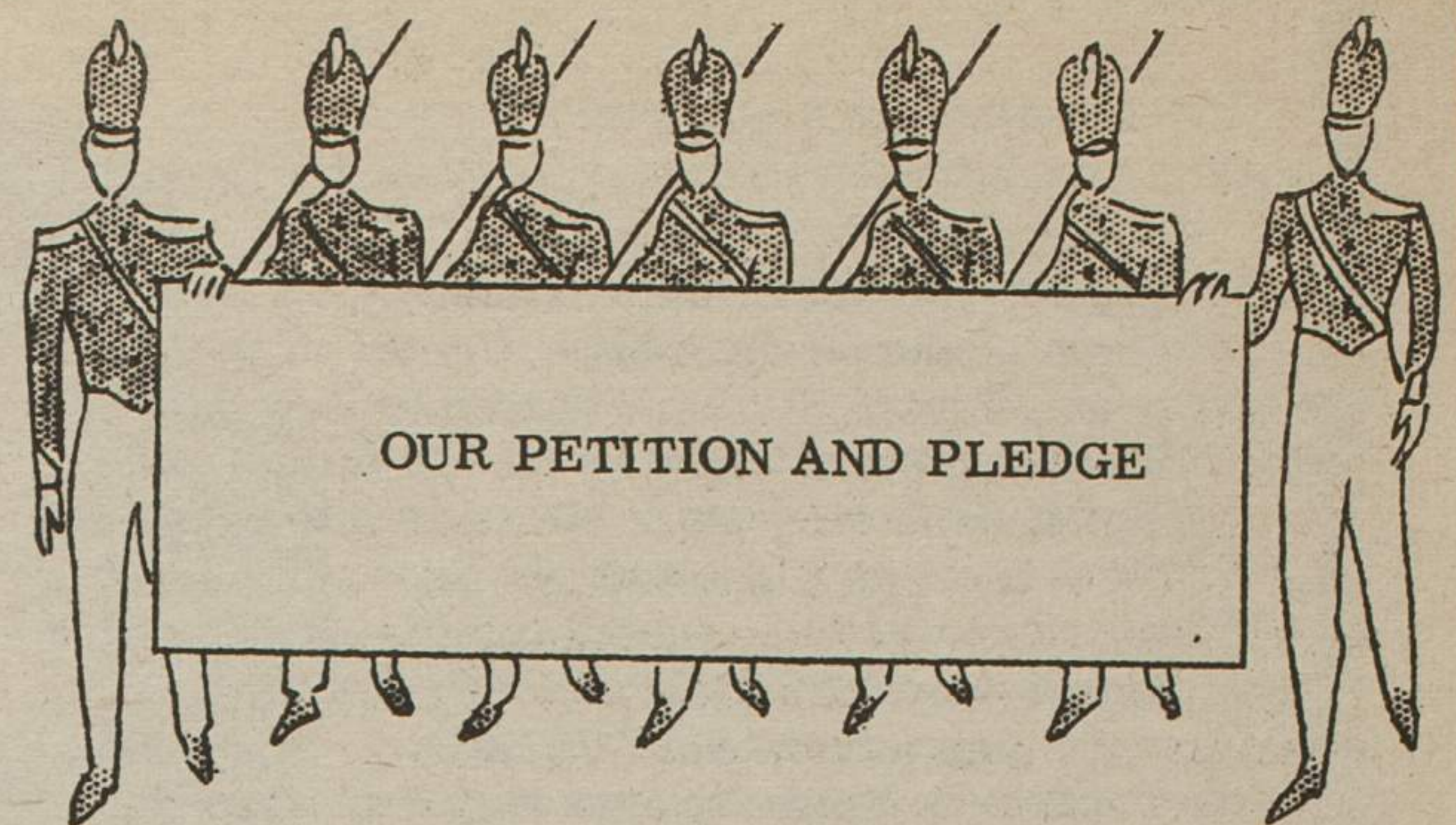
Lawrence City Commissioners have pledged themselves to openness in government, yet by the Mayor's own admission, the Commission's vote was influenced by private meetings with unnamed citizens. As one Commissioner noted, only one citizen opposed recognition at the public hearings. We are dismayed that some Commissioners feel they can make crucial decisions in the public interest based on citizen opinions not stated publicly where such opinions could be challenged in open and honest debate.

We are also dismayed that although Commissioners have frequently indicated their interest in the Kansas Public Employer-Employee Relations Board they, in effect, voted against working through the Board without having invited its Executive Director to come to Lawrence and testify as to how the Board functioned and its effect in other Kansas communities. Our Employee Association invited the Board's Executive Director to Lawrence so it could learn about the Board. We also relayed this to the Mayor and the City Manager and indicated that the Executive Director's information would be extremely valuable to the Commission in their deliberations. As one Commissioner pointed out, there were "stories" about the Board's negative effect on certain communities which, upon investigation, proved untrue. Yet the Mayor and the City Manager chose not to expose the Commission to the facts directly from the Board's Executive Director.

Some Commissioners have noted somewhat critically that our petition for recognition was not specific as to whether our request was for regulation by state or local authority. We were not specific in order that the Commission have the widest latitude in its decision making. However, we will readily admit that our failure to be specific may have produced some problems in the Commission's decision making process. We are concerned that the rule of law prevail in Lawrence. The State of Kansas has provided a procedure whereby the many problems in City employment can be solved in a peaceful, orderly, legal and democratic fashion. We are also concerned that decisions be based on fact, publicly expressed, rather than on private influences. Commissioner Mibeck has noted this lack of fact and expert testimony at the last public hearing.

PUBLIC NOTICE endorses the labor union call for consistency. It asks the unions to remember what they have said about big city groups coming in--for the future. What is your opinion? Box 114.

Plea to Citizens



We will therefore call upon concerned citizens to join with us in submitting a petition to the City Commission, specifically asking that it consider an ordinance placing Lawrence under the Kansas Public Employer-Employee Relations Act. We will ask that a public hearing be held for which the widest and most expert opinion, both pro and con, can be solicited. We will do our best to cooperate with the City Commission to bring forward as much data as possible so that a fair and objective decision can be reached.

One final note: apparently word had leaked out to managerial personnel that recognition was to be denied and this has produced a renewal of thinly veiled threats against the job security of Employee Association members and officers. Although we have pledged our cooperation to the City and public we wish to emphatically state that under no circumstances will we tolerate harassment, intimidation or dismissal of employees for exercising their Constitutional right to free speech.

We wish to acknowledge the efforts of Commissioner Don Binns and Carl Mibeck for attempting to achieve an atmosphere of moderation, openness, rationality and elementary fair play in municipal employment. But above all we commend their compassionate understanding of the lives of working people.

This statement is intended for all the people of Lawrence. We urge its reproduction and circulation.

Mr and Mrs. Louis Ward should be happy. Recently they made their final mortgage payment to the Lawrence National Bank. At last, they own their own home at 946 Pennsylvania in East Lawrence where they have lived for 30 years.

The Wards take pride in their accomplishment. They have worked hard for more than 30 years and are comfortably settled in their medium-sized, white, frame house on the quiet corner of 10th and Pennsylvania.

Their son is grown and married. Now, money that was needed to live day to day could be spent for a few luxuries. Some repairs could be made on the house and a few new appliances could be added. Life could be just a little easier.

But, something is wrong. Clouding the horizon is the threatened destruction of the Ward's home. The proposed Haskell Loop will pass through the Ward's property.

Feeling that the city has ignored the human toll extracted by such projects, the Public Notice decided to sit down and talk to Louis and Ruth Ward at their house recently. We wanted to know how they felt about the road and about themselves. We knew they were upset and consumed with a sense of deep despair and confusion, as well as righteous embitterment.

Before we had even spoken, Louis Ward was getting angry, just thinking about the road. His face was flushed.

"They're not going to move me!" he said, his voice rising. "I'm too old, too nervous, where am I going to go, where am I going to go."

We began to take some notes, and tried to interject a few questions, but Louis wasn't finished.

"You not only cease to be a citizen, you are not a citizen, you cease to have rights. A few Commissioners can just tell me where I'm going to live.

"You call that freedom?"

Mr. Ward continued, "You've seen those bumper stickers...I've been told that I could move if I didn't like the country.

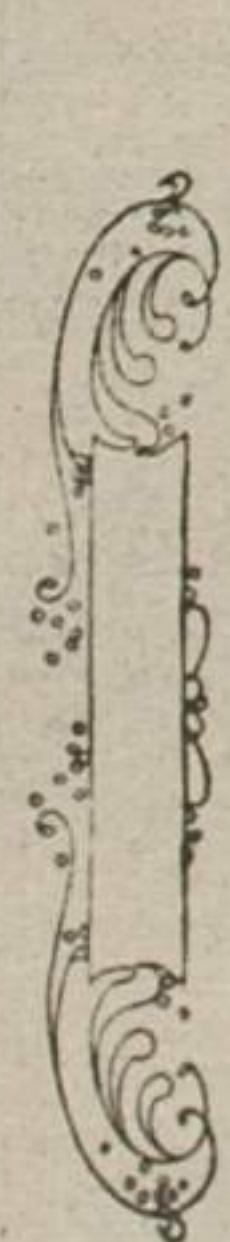
"Where is freedom when the city government can tell you to move out? if the

public doesn't want that, then it's dictatorial!"

The Ward's home is only one of many which will be removed by the roadway. The City will take their home under the rule of "eminent domain," or that law which allows for the confiscation of private property when deemed in the "public interest." The Loop budget actually allows for \$60,000 in legal expenditures, or \$2,000 for each home, to facilitate this process.

Louis Ward came to his feet, with an anger and frustration which thrives in the gut of many working Americans. His face reddened.

"Do we need the road," I asked. "Do you think..."



"No! We don't need it!"

"Do you think many of the neighbors know much about the road, the plans, the route and the whole thing?" I asked.

Louis glared at me. He picked up a light jacket.

"Nobody knows anything about!"

He turned in disgust and rage, and retired from the house.

Mrs. Ward had remained in the room. She was obviously grieved. A little moisture appeared in her eyes. The situation had become a bit strained. I even felt a bit awkward, and was anxious to return to some conversation.

"Have you gotten any notification, from the city, or anyone," I asked quietly.

"No," she replied. "No one ever con-

tacted us. No one sent us a letter, came by. We still haven't been officially informed that our house will be taken by the road."

She was staring at the floor.

"I don't understand how the neighborhood will be improved. There has to be housing for low-income people. Everyone can't be making top wages."

We expressed our agreement.

"My husband has said something about moving to the other side of town, but our taxes would go up so much."

I asked, rhetorically, if the whole idea of having to pull out was not extremely unsettling.



"It's causing me a lot of inconvenience," she replied. "We'd like to put up storm windows, you know, with heating bills going up so. We need to move the hot water tank, but we don't know what to do."

I was thinking then of how Mr. Ward had reacted moments before, to our coming over to talk about the roadway. I asked Ruth how Louis would ever be able to stand the strain of seeing his house run over by a bull-dozer.

"We've thought about that," she said, staring at the floor still. "I think we're probably going to have to move out before the road goes through, to save my husband's health."

I envisioned the real estate people coming to the house, having heard of the Ward's desire to sell out quickly. I may have winced a bit. I almost blurted out something about the real estate business, but decided upon soliciting more conversation from Mrs. Ward.

"If you didn't get anything in the mail or

any calls, then how did you first learn of the road," I asked.

"I think we first learned about it in the paper," she said, a little whimsically. They printed a map, so we got out our magnifying glass...we wear bifocals, you know...and I said, 'well I believe that road goes right through our house!'"

We all laughed.

"A man from City Hall, a friend of sorts, told us that he intended to write us a letter to tell us that it wasn't going to take our home. I believe that was in August of '74, and we've never heard anything."

The story sounded familiar.

I was wondering how many of the people in East Lawrence the city had failed to notify. Mrs. Ward's comments shifted to the impact for the residents of East Lawrence.

"Do they think they can just buy up our homes and put us in those homes for old people. You know people don't last long in those places," she said.

The dogs began to bark on the front porch and Mrs. Ward looked a bit anxious, wondering when Louis would return.

"I'm terribly worried about Louis," she said. "His health has gone down hill. He looks about five years older than he did a year ago."

The atmosphere became more uneasy. What can one possibly say to make things better? We offered our sympathies, but they sounded meaningless.

Mrs. Ward had said repeatedly that she felt uneasy about having their names appear in print. We tried to reassure her that it would be alright, but it was obvious that she didn't trust us.

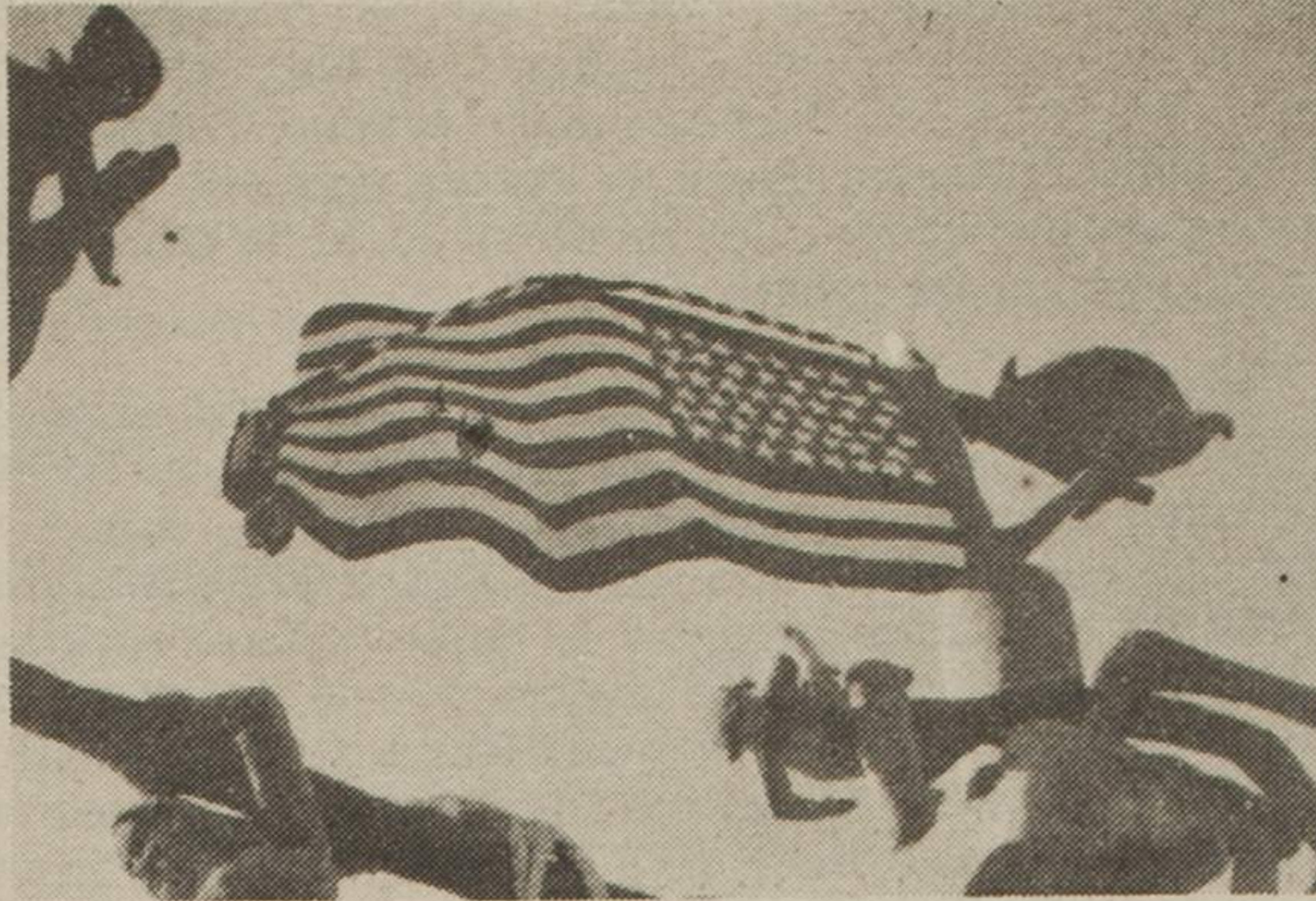
"You just have to be skeptical now days," she said frankly. "I just don't trust people like I used to. I used to trust everyone when I was a child, but in the past few years I've become more leary of people."

"I don't know if you've felt this, but things just aren't the same. Things have changed so much since I was a little girl."

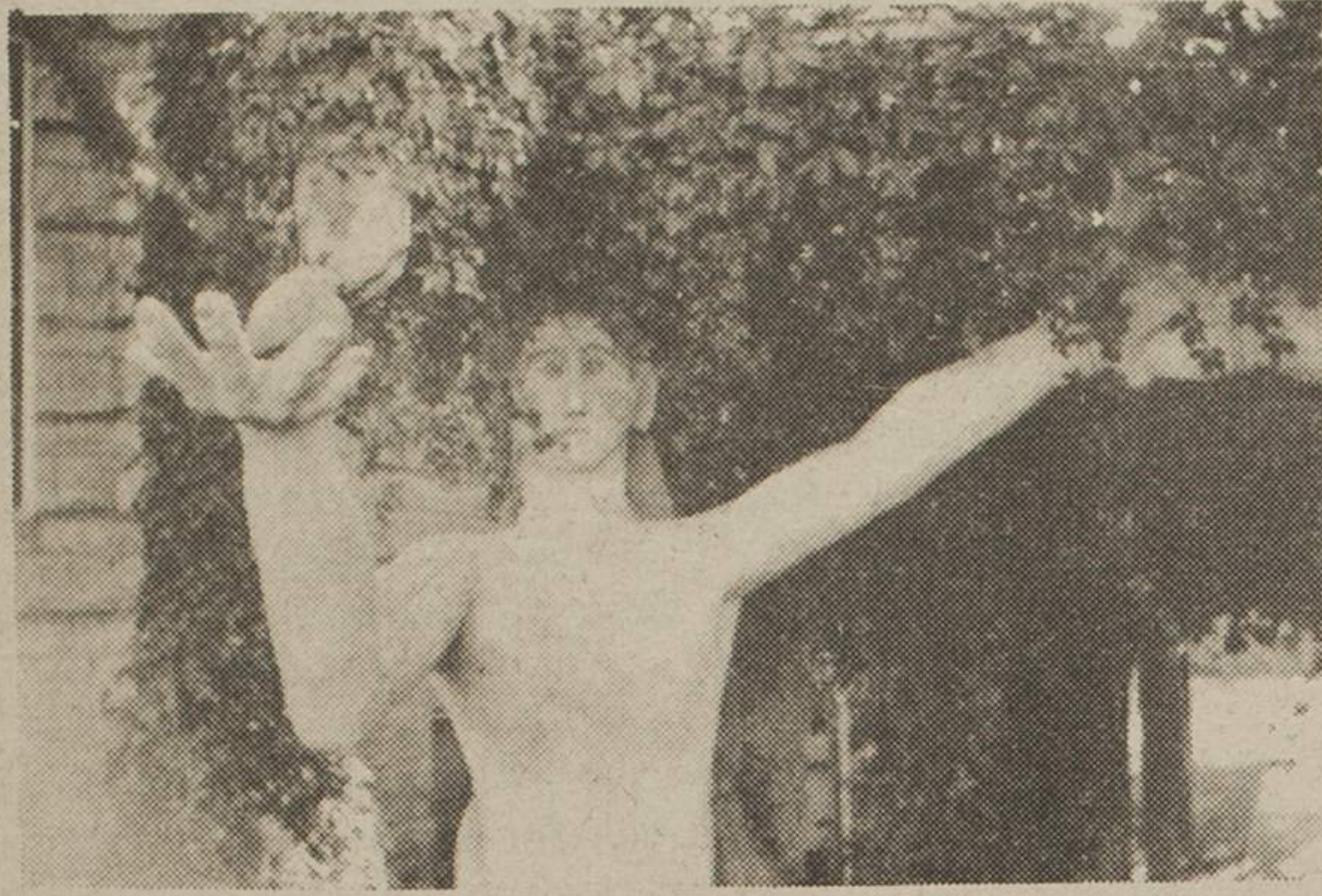


By David Hann

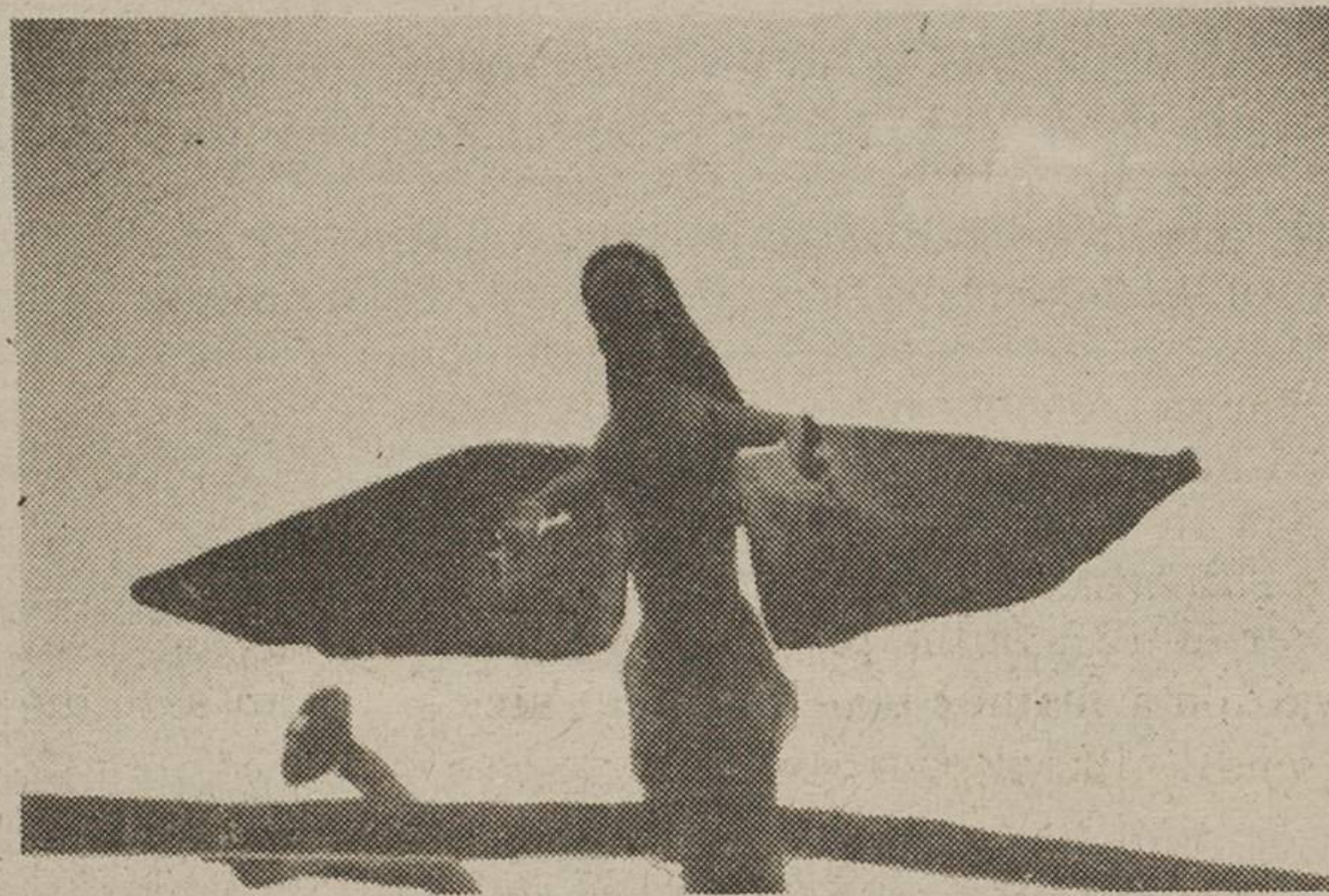
Lucas, Kansas is approximately 45 miles due South of the Geographical Center of the Continental United States. Paradise lies 15 miles West, on State Highway 18. Highway 232, North from Interstate 70 leads into Lucas. Most travelers zoom down Interstate 70 oblivious to road signs pointing to places other than the next Stuckey's Pecan Parlor. One road sign advertises "Rock City, a geological wonder." There are no relics of cave men or dinosaur bones at Rock City, as is implied by the sign which shows a smiling brontosaurus and puzzled-looking Neanderthal just a clump of grey, roundish boulders resembling giant clams.



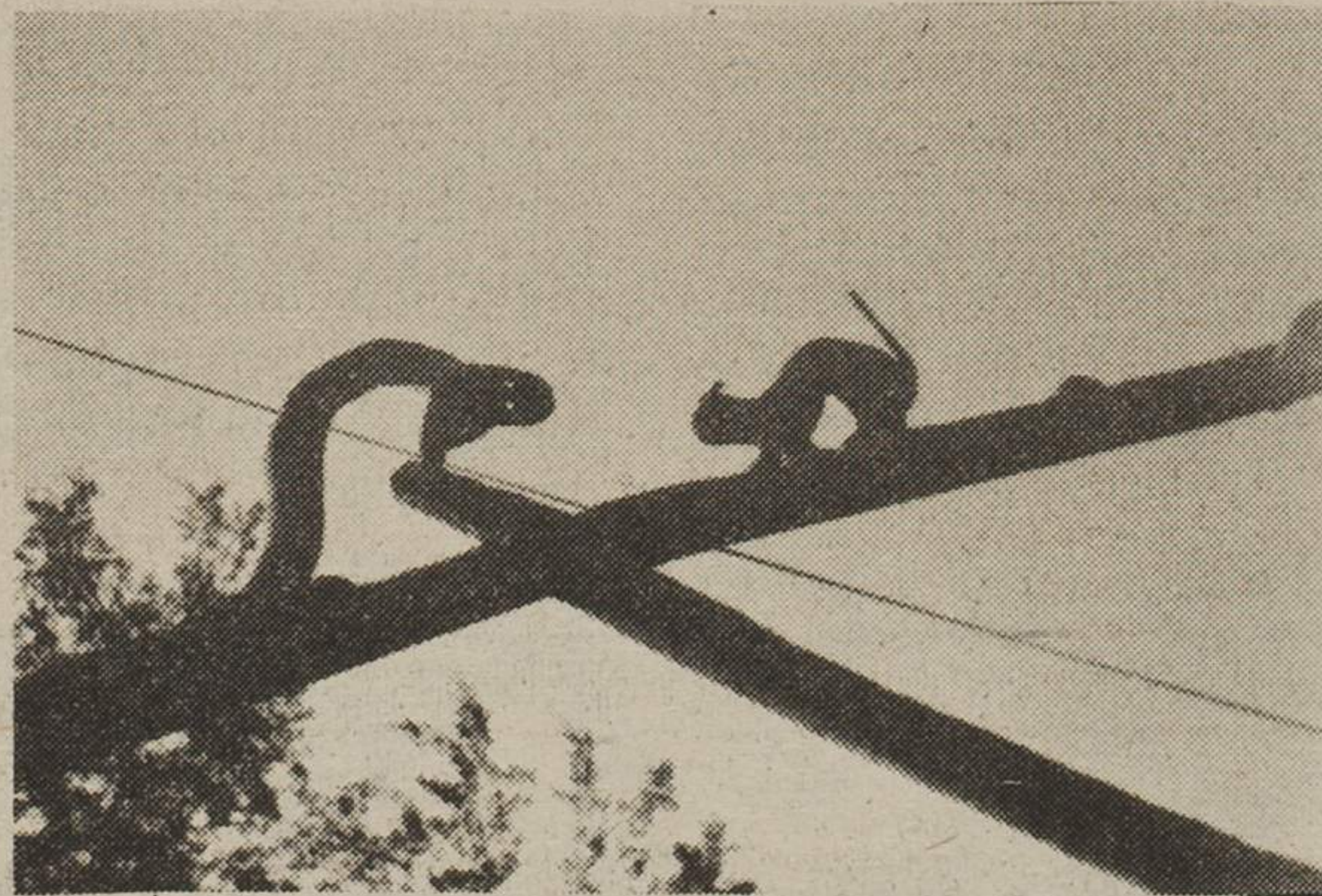
The next highway sign mentions the Garden of Eden. This Garden of Eden was built by Samuel P. Dinsmoor from Portland Cement. The 64 year-old Dinsmoor began working on his Eden about 1905 and continued until his death in 1929. Dinsmoor liked visitors and entertained them with his particular brand of religion and politics laced with humor and a touch of cynicism. The Garden is surrounded by cement figures taken from the pages of Genesis and Dinsmoor's interpretation of the Bible. Eve extends her hand toward the sidewalk, a concrete apple in her open palm. Her other hand joins Adam's. Their arms form an arch through which visitors may pass into the Garden of Eden.



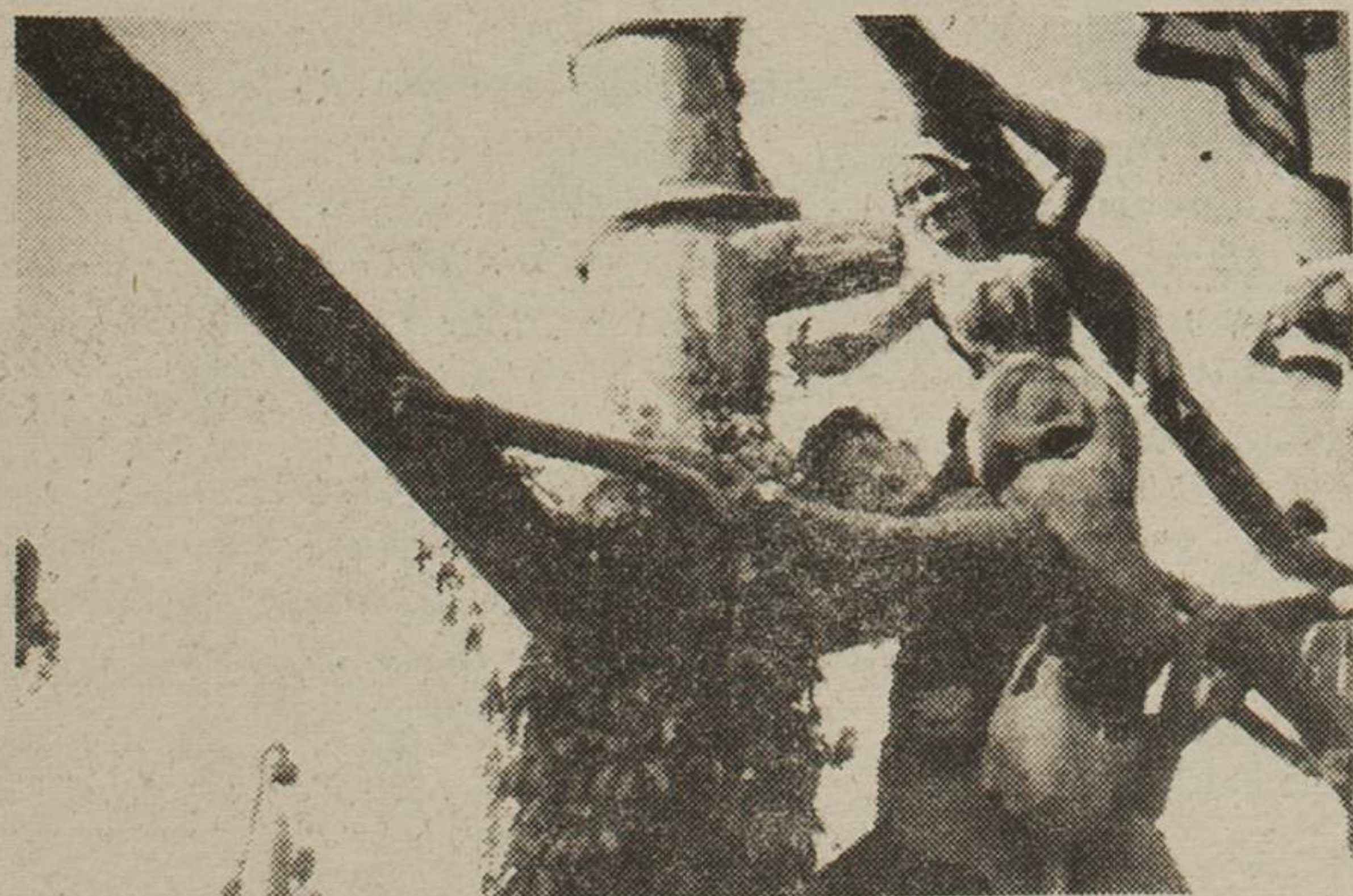
The First Woman and First Man welcome visitors, but above and beyond them Satan waits. His pitchfork points at a child that fell from one of the storks. Since there was "darkness over the land" according to Moses, storks carried babies under their wings and had lights in their mouths to see. Dinsmoor saw no conflict in mixing 20th century technology with Biblical tradition. Violence was part of Biblical tradition as well as Dinsmoor's own experience. He was a Civil War veteran of 18 battles. Cain flees the scene of Abel's murder into the Land of Nod to Dinsmoor, and he has Cain turning the corner from paradise into the post-civil war era of political corruption.



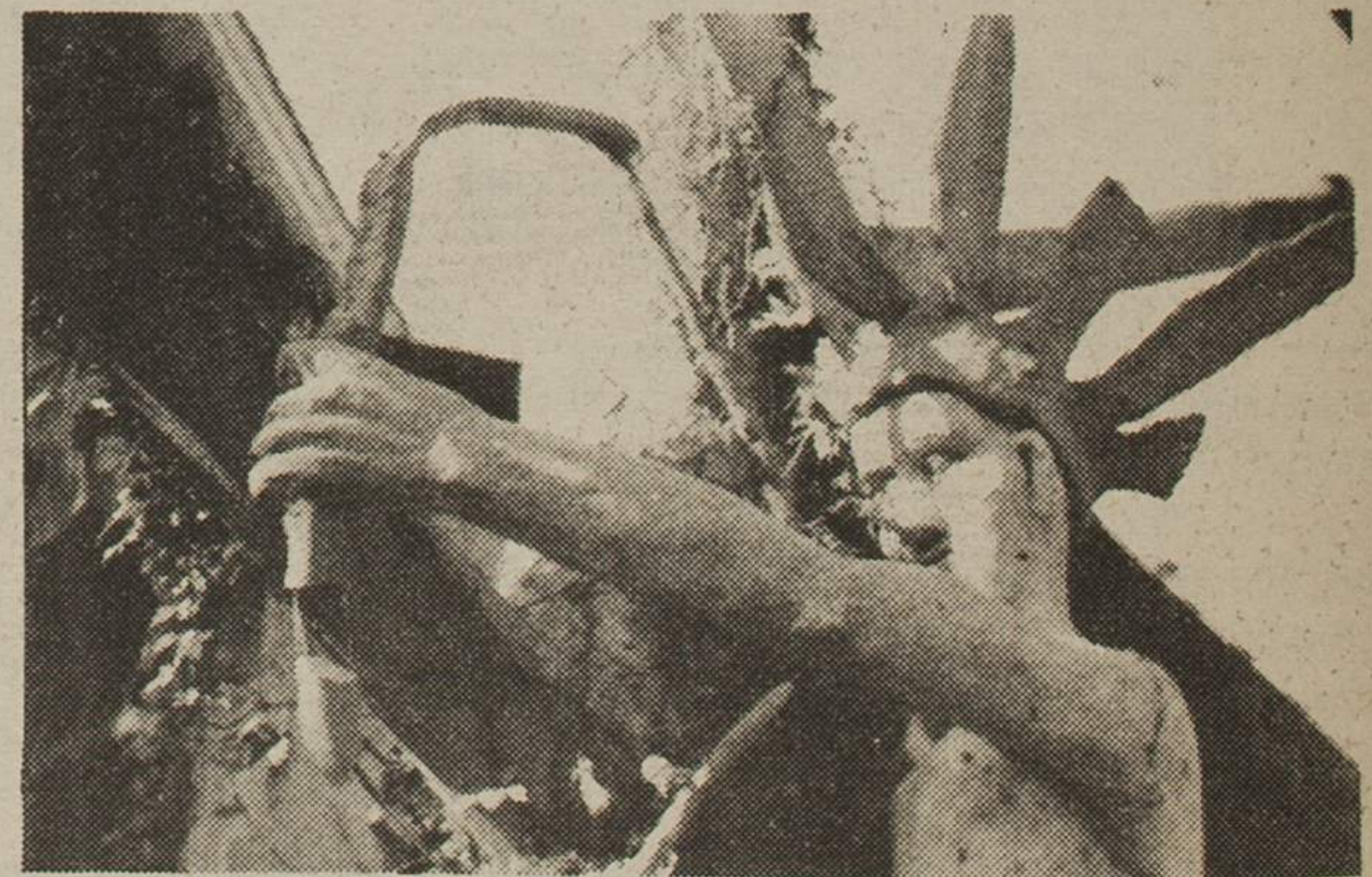
It was a dog-eat-dog world and Dinsmoor's concrete figures pursue and attack one another. A cat arches its back at a concrete serpent which has a light bulb in its gaping jaws. The Goddess of Liberty thrusts a spear into the head of the trusts. A cement soldier sights along his rifle at an Indian. The tentacles of the trusts reach into the soldier's haversack and around the waist of a woman depicted as a camp-follower. A Doctor, Lawyer, Preacher, and Banker surround Labor Crucified. Dinsmoor felt these four represented the forces opposing and enslaving the working class. Later in the piece a man and woman saw the limb that the trusts rest upon. The saw is labeled **BALLOTS**. Since there is no path leading from this world into another, as there was in Eden, Dinsmoor may have felt compelled to resolve the conflict between Business and Labor in that fashion.



The flag was being used by dishonest businessmen and corrupt politicians for their own selfish motives. Dinsmoor felt the flag protected capital better than it did humanity. "It drafted the boys but asked the money to volunteer," he wrote. He felt the flag's rightful use was as a symbol of liberty and therefore should be flown in all weather, day and night. Dinsmoor's two cement flags, ripples frozen in place, have flown for over 70 years. One swings on ball bearings above the entrance to the Cabin Home. The other hangs over his mausoleum. Dinsmoor's sense of humor carried into his views on Death and the Hereafter. He fashioned a cement angel to wisk him to Heaven. He also made a cement water jug to take along just in case he had to go below come resurrection morn. Dinsmoor stated he was well prepared for "the good old orthodox future."



The Garden of Eden is worth a few hours drive West from Lawrence. "There is nothing else quite like it," as we all have said about one place or another. Adam and Eve got into the Garden of Eden free of charge and visitors can see most of the cement sculptures from the sidewalk. A dollar entitles the visitor to the Grand Tour - the mausoleum, grounds, and beautifully done interior of the Cabin Home. And there are no rules concerning what may be eaten.



LEDO

By Jacob Flake

This story proves that horror exists in the disguise of banality, that banality is often cloaked in blandness. The subject: an interview for a job in a small town, at a small town junior college in Western Kansas. The subject guarantees an abundance of stereotypes. Remember *In Cold Blood*? It had all the cliches going, isolated individuals, violence, creeps croaking a healthy, Bible Belt family. Or have you heard about the cows with their rear ends chainsawed off? Western Kansas again. Something creepy out there. My story

is warm milk beside these examples. No murder. No violence. At least of the physically brutal type. But it is shoddy with stereotypes.

From Lawrence to the town I will call Ledo is a 3 hour drive. We arrive (my wife and I) at 6 Sunday night. Next morning is the interview. I teach English, they're hiring. I've written scores of letters, to bunches of institutions. No jobs around, so I should be happy to be interviewed at all, but I'm scared off by all those weird images of backwater Kansas. Driving into town we spot a big

Gibson's Discount tucked in a shopping center. Ugh. There it is, the juco, an anthill of buildings enthroned on asphalt. Ugh, ugh.

Wheat all around, everywhere. Bell telephone and Eisenhower's interstate save this place from utter isolation. The sun is a nickle in a hard sky. There are 8 trees in town and they're all on main street. You know Kansas is flat and wheat in the west--but you didn't know that so much green wheat could look so awful under so much unsheltered light.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4...

We check in at the recommended hotel. East is a diner where we eat. Oh boy, small town cafe, it's got to be good--or very bad--serving frozen pizza in the 90-second oven. It is good. But very heavy, bread potatoes corn to fatten you. Nerves rattle as I watch a farmer watch us. I saw Easy Rider. I know what happens next.

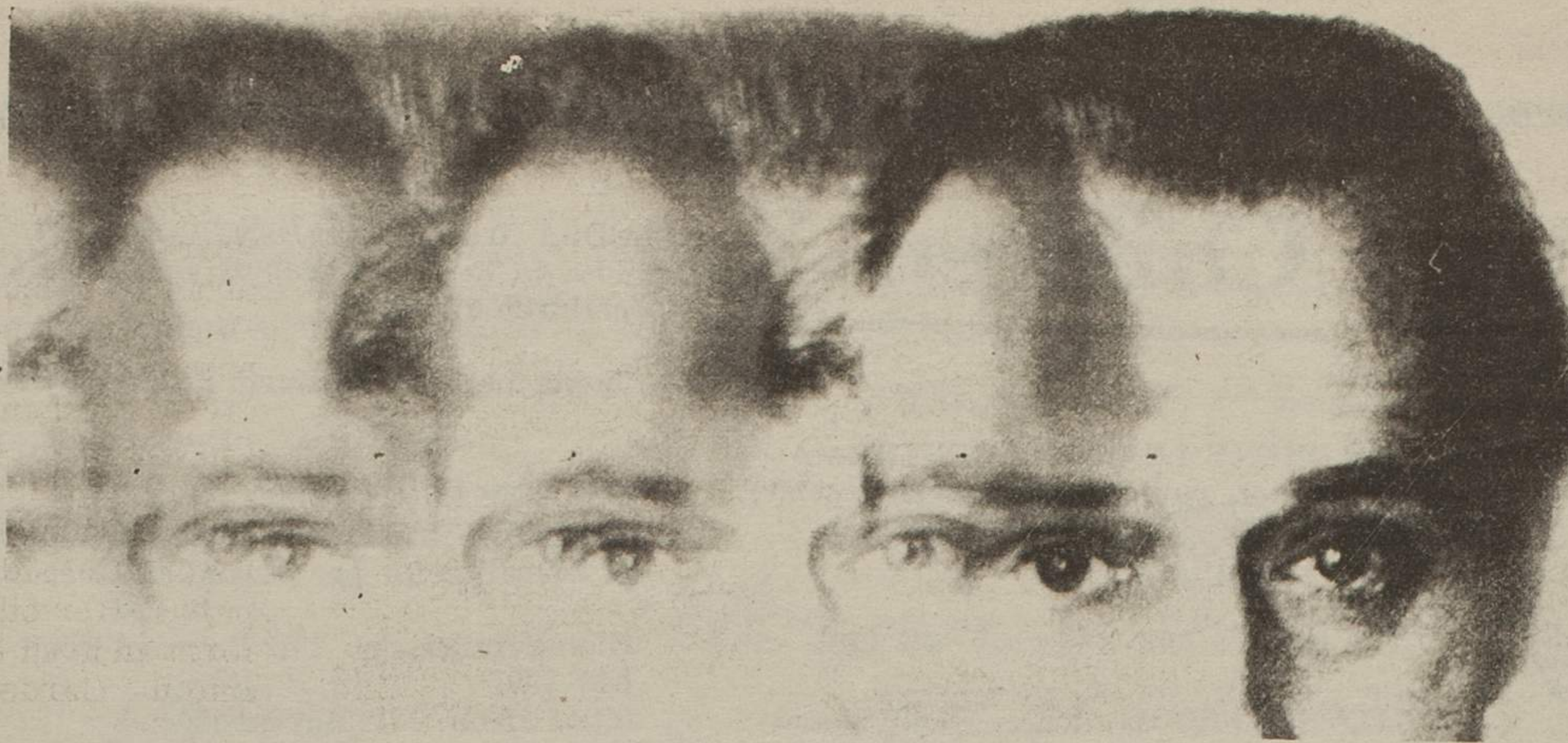
Cliche is wrong again. After dinner I call Dale Sumper (another bogus), the department head. I'm here Dale. He asks the wife and I over for a coke. A coke. Nobody has invited me over for a coke since the demise of the coke date in 1952.

We're in front of the Sumpers' house and rapping the clacker on the door. Jerri Sumper answers the knock. Little boy in his birthday suit flashes out of the hallway behind Jerri while we exchange amenities. He is caught, swatted, apologized for. Apologizing for naked children seems to me like apologizing for taking a pee. Its an act of God, that's all. I look at the walls and notice a Woolworth cardboard nature print. No conversation in that, unless I lie like a pig.

I intuit the rathskellar, our next stop, immediately. Nondescript tile floor, a leather recliner, Dale down there, smiling at us, pipe gripped in the teeth. Shaking my hand. Not shaking my wife's hand. I'm right, on all counts.

Conversation begins with work. You clock in and out at the department, 40 hours a week if you please. Exactly what I was running so hard from by choosing the academic life in the first place. I'm a lazy jerk. Ledo hates lazy bastards like me. John Calvin would be welcome here. Part of the teaching load is driving out one night a week to a nearby town, to teach farmers, housewives and other strangers the tricks of composition, or Milton. I'm staggering under my imagined work. The question comes: What am I willing to join? (Haven't they heard of the Lone Ranger here?) Our courses are student centered (at last a relief, that means easy.) But you will find papers piling up on your desk like corn cobs at a shucking bee (chuckle). Oh yes--and you should expect 75 to 100 dollars to be sucked out of your wallet every year, for this project, for that service club.

Talk turns personal. (Real danger here. On policy, we can fake agreement. Differences in experience are dangerous.) Jerri Sumper whines about the



It Never Stops, Does It?

department's image problem. A year ago Bill Rambeau and his wife and kids moved out from a Montana juco. Looked great on paper, strong interview, Rambeau was hired. In Ledo, the family, the whole bunch of them, go sour. It won't socialize or return uninvited drops by the Sumpers and others. Jerri complains that Rambeau finally wound up sitting in a dark room wearing dark glasses, the high-fi turned up to 8. At semester's end, he draws complaints. In his first class, unhappily, he has told everyone that his name is God. They can him.

By now my cliche detector is rattling and running out of control. Outwardly they deplore this story, and still sprinkle the acid of its truth on themselves, each other, and whoever else gets in range. Inwardly they love it, as it gets them in their Christian guilt glands, they failed with Bill Rambeau. The following day I am told by another faculty member, Larry Herbert, that Bill's wife didn't even leave the house after being in Ledo awhile. Poor Bill shopped and cooked for the family. The worst of it--a sorry faculty party scene, Rambeau arriving drunk, chumming it up in a way no one expected, smooching on the department members' wives. Next day at work he is cold as a pickle.

The Sumpers are less sympathetic. Wolf Rambeau is rejected at school because of his unusual name, short for Wolfgang. Jerri blurts, "Can you imagine naming an innocent child Wolfgang?"

We leave the house. Hearing Rambeau's story was like seeing myself in a peculiar mirror. I felt my mind had been read, that they'd whiffed my Rambeau madness and were trying to scare me off. The story is absurd--a stranger from far off

comes to town claiming he is God, then is cast out by the citizenry. The cliches again. My wife and I giggle over it. As a writer I am a voyeur and love peeping into the bowels of confession. But I am also horrified and pissed over what happened to the Rambeaus. My impulse is to call Dale Sumper, cancel the interview and wail back down the interstate.

I don't follow the impulse. I am still desperate for a job. Ann and I arrive at the hotel. We pass a plaque in the hallway with the words "God don't make no junk" written on it. In our room, under a picture of majestic mountains and a brook threading through a stand of timber, we fall asleep.

I wake at 7:30. We give our key to a man who sits in the hotel office, listening to a religious broadcast. We eat at the same diner as the night before.

Dale Sumper greets me in the administration building of the college. A butterfly of a bow tie hovers at the throat, his white shoes shine in the fluorescence, a slick cracker he is. In the president's office we wait on a leather couch. I feel sick and small, like a poorboy.

The president addresses us in his office, his topic, the attractions of Ledo. The town is growing, a new industrial park planned south. No one fails at Ledo Juco, no F's are given. No courses required. Ledo is for the student, not the teacher or administrator, so students drop courses any time in the semester. This pandering liberalism, based on the pragmatics of swelling enrollment (to keep the student or his money give him an F in your mind only) disgusts me. The president is happy, progressive-thinking, and intellectually terminated.

I meet other department members. Larry Herbert, ex-salesman, greets me at the threshold of his office. Over his desk is displayed a black light poster. A girl interrupts our conversation. She stands in the doorway, which is always open. Larry smiles over his shoulder at her and asks if she needs help. She says she just stopped by to say hello. After she's gone, Larry tells me the staff must often function as quasi-counselors. Positive-thinking signs hang everywhere. Orange-colored, have-a-happy-day faces smile at you. The joy is too much.

I remember nothing of the third department member but his brown suit and his arms folded over his chest.

Last year, to boost interest in the English department, these three men posed around a pool table in gangster suits for a departmental brochure with a Bonnie and Clyde theme. Everyone agreed it was real cute.

The three department members interview me in a large room in the student union. Respectability is the theme of the interview. I ask how I can be respectable and teach a course on the Sixties. Rude Mick Jagger, faggoty Allen Ginsberg, caustic Leroi Jones--60's shouters--these people ain't respectable or nice. Wouldn't these horrify, cause anger, raise ghosts of Rambeau? I get no satisfactory answer to that question. I am told that "discretion" will guide me.

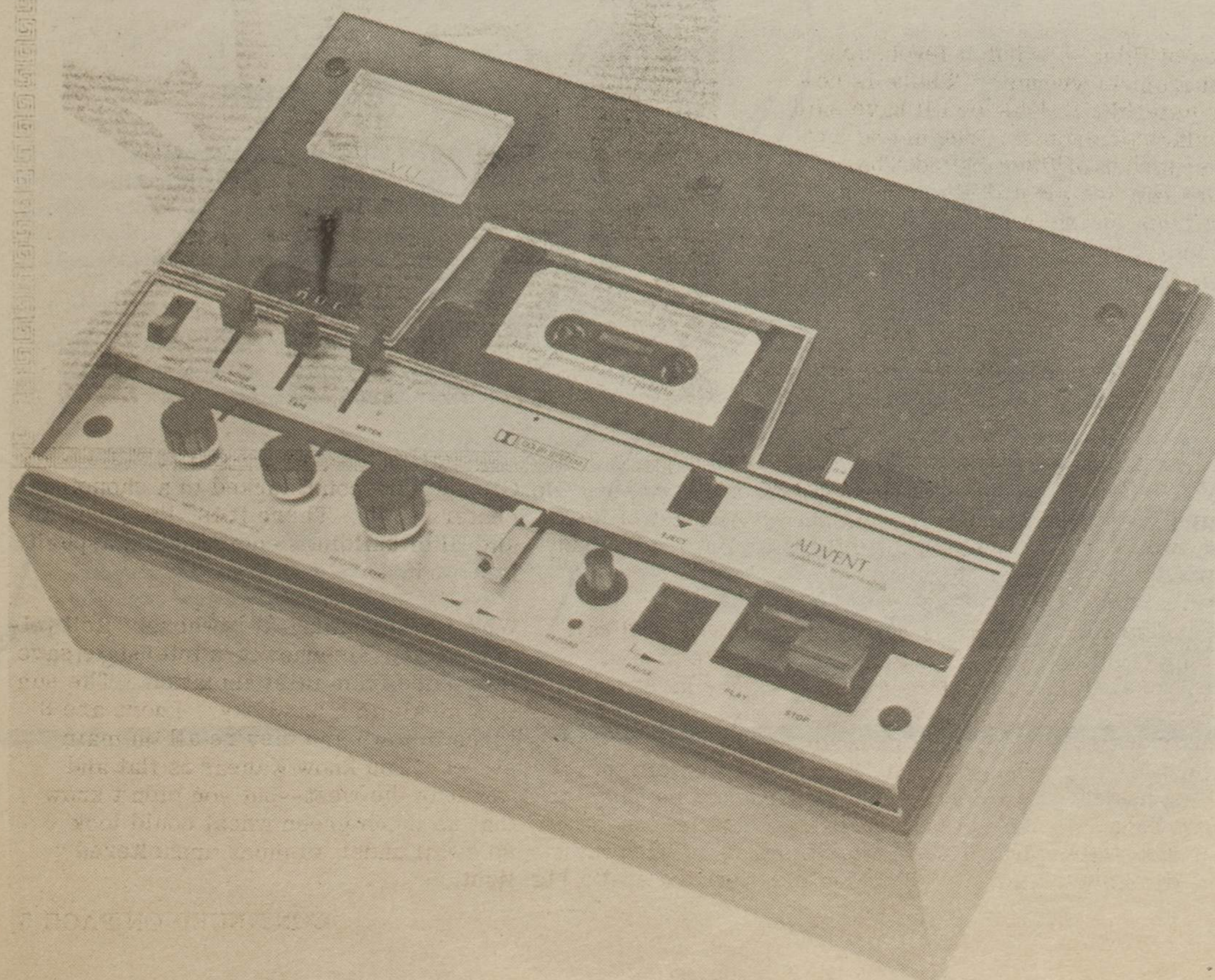
The Sixties I know did not happen in Ledo. Neither Woodstock nor Gimme Shelter ever played there.

I am brought back to the president. He reminds me that the work week is, indeed, a long one. My starting salary: \$9000. Leaving his office, I know him as little as when I arrived.

Ann and I stop at a Dairy Queen before leaving town. It is run by an old man with skin the color of baby powder, liver spots on the backs of his hands. He wears a chocolate smudged apron and sunglasses. He serves us sundaes in little cups. Ann and I step outside. We drown in the scorching sun. We drive to the interstate. A mile east, I spot a dead snake on the road's shoulder.

It makes you sorry to find people and stereotyped situations meshing so comfortably. It's downright scary when you find people's attitudes about personal differences in style to be rigid as dry mud. I didn't get the job. Big deal. I probably wouldn't have taken it anyway. It would have been a stupid grave to jump into.

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Children



CHILDREN'S LEARNING CENTER--A pre-school, day-care and nursery school for working parents; mostly for low-income families.

Gale Bullock 1000 Kentucky 841-2185

CLOTHING ROOM, PTA--Clothing and volunteers needed to keep all school children adequately clothed.

Barbara Willits 1000 Kentucky Mail to: 1205 Delaware 842-2113

DISTRICT # 497--Provides reading, tutoring and classroom helpers. The Corley School provides special education for retarded children.

2017 Louisiana 842-6222 Extension 88

EDNA HILL CHILD DEVELOPMENT PRE-SCHOOL--Needs drivers to bring children to school.

Judith LeBlanc Haworth Hall 864-4840

YELLOW BRICK ROAD FREE PRE-SCHOOL--Provides an alternative form of education for pre-school children.

Eloise Halepaska 2312 Harvard Road 843-9491

Mike Efron 2312 Harvard Road 843-2978



START THEIR WHEELS TURNING

LAWRENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY--Children's section provides books and general library services, plus story-telling.

Mary Paretzky 707 Vermont 843-3833

METHODIST CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL--Provides nursery school: MWF or T, Th.

Barbara Bell 946 Vermont 842-5292

Lest We Forget Friends

SMALL WORLD, INC.--A non-sectarian volunteer organization designed to help international women and their pre-school children learn English, foster friendships and acquaint themselves with Lawrence.

Marie Willis 812 Shelburn 842-8073
Meets at the First Presbyterian Church



BALLARD COMMUNITY CENTER--Serves the needs of low-income families of the Lawrence community; provides tutoring and tax preparation, sewing, scouting, nutrition, Black history, counselling, meeting places, services for the elderly, emergency food supplies and youth services

Cynthia Turner & Betty Dutton 708 Elm 842-0729

HOLT FAMILY PROGRAM--Introduces foreign students to American family life.

Barbara & George Puckett 842-0015

OPERATION FRIENDSHIP--Needs volunteers to help foreign students in intensive English.

Ben Broome 2500 W. 6th 841-5783

UNITED WHEELS--Will provide specialized transportation for emergencies if 40 volunteers are found to be on call, drive out of town, or volunteer services monthly.

Shirley Reese 842-9950

HEADQUARTERS, INC.--A 24-hour crisis center; phone or walk-in. Volunteers are needed for office work and to answer the phone. Training provided to volunteers.

Jim Supica 1602 Massachusetts 841-2345

ECKAN MULTIPURPOSE CENTER--Volunteers needed for special projects working with low-income families to improve their housing, etc.

Greg Stock 710 Massachusetts 841-3357



DOUGLAS COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS--Provides coaching for recreational gym nights and special olympics. Provides roller skating parties and movies for which volunteers are needed.

Judy Wetherby 639 Alabama 843-4289
Sharon Aikins, President 842-1296

EAST LAWRENCE CENTER--Provides supervised free play for youngsters of school age 1st thru 8th grade. Afternoon and all day during the summer.

Harold Cook 10th and Delaware 842-9418



INDIAN CENTER--Operates to help Indian people who might be in need, especially Haskell Jr. College students; also provides nursery school.

Theodore White, Jr. 1912 Mass. 842-4439 or 841-3943

PENN HOUSE--Provides self-help programs for low-income families. Clothing room and emergency food supply. Provides opportunity to work towards self-improvement.

Ocoee Miller 1035 Penn. 842-0440

Health

BERT NASH MENTAL HEALTH CENTER--Provides services in counselling (marital, family, and individuals). Volunteers can help by driving, and through one-to-one supportive friendships.

Frances Macauley 4th & Missouri 842-3531 or 842-9192

COTTONWOOD, INC.--Training, physically and mentally handicapped adults. Volunteers assist staff in workshops.

Georgann Stevens 3145 W. 31st 842-0550

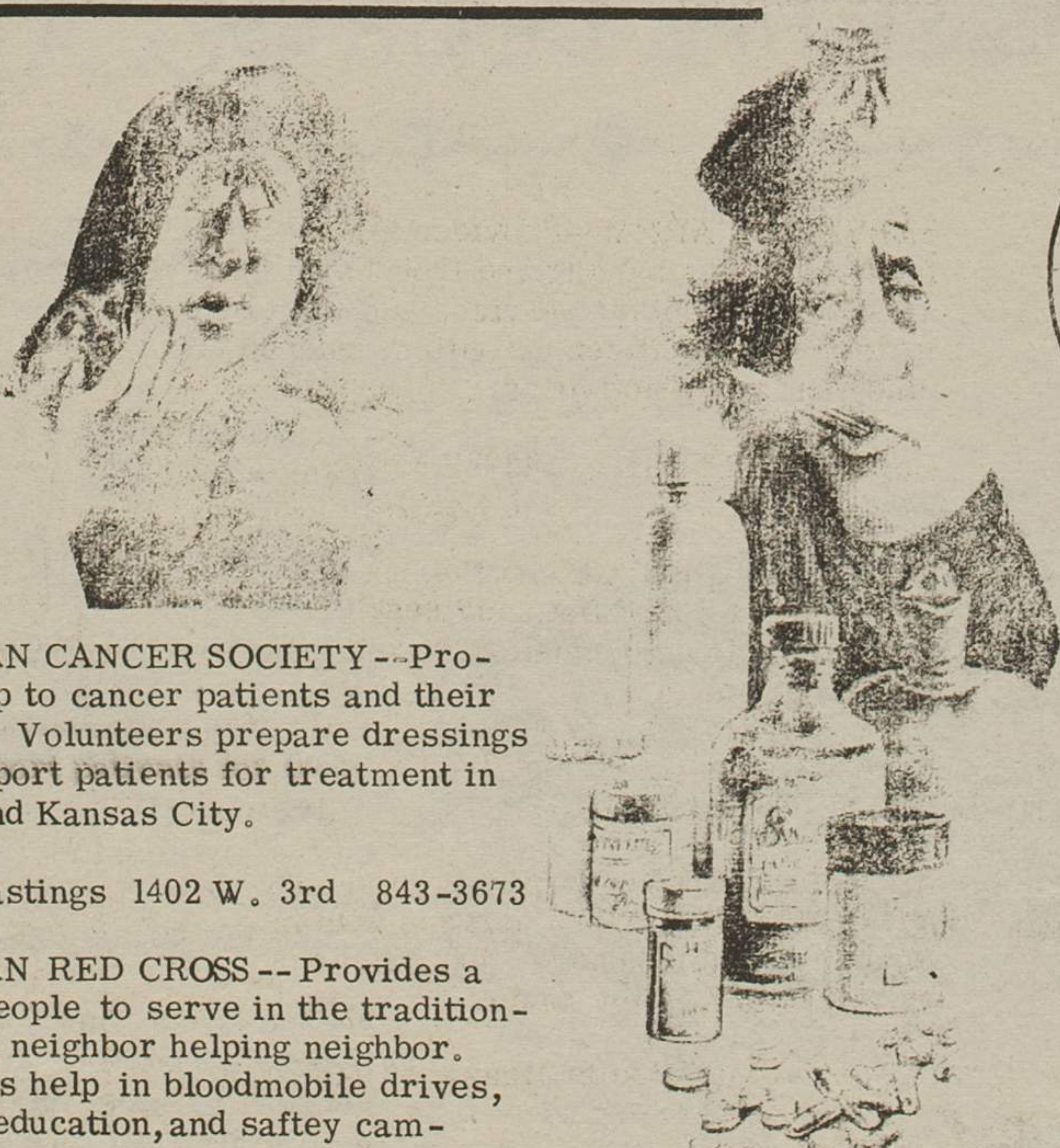


AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY--Provides help to cancer patients and their families. Volunteers prepare dressings and transport patients for treatment in Topeka and Kansas City.

Evelyn Hastings 1402 W. 3rd 843-3673

AMERICAN RED CROSS--Provides a way for people to serve in the traditional role of neighbor helping neighbor. Volunteers help in bloodmobile drives, nursing, education, and safety campaigns.

Jo Byers Community Bldg., 115 W. 11th 843-3550



Museums

ELIZABETH WATKINS COMMUNITY MUSEUM--Volunteers needed for office work and in museum.

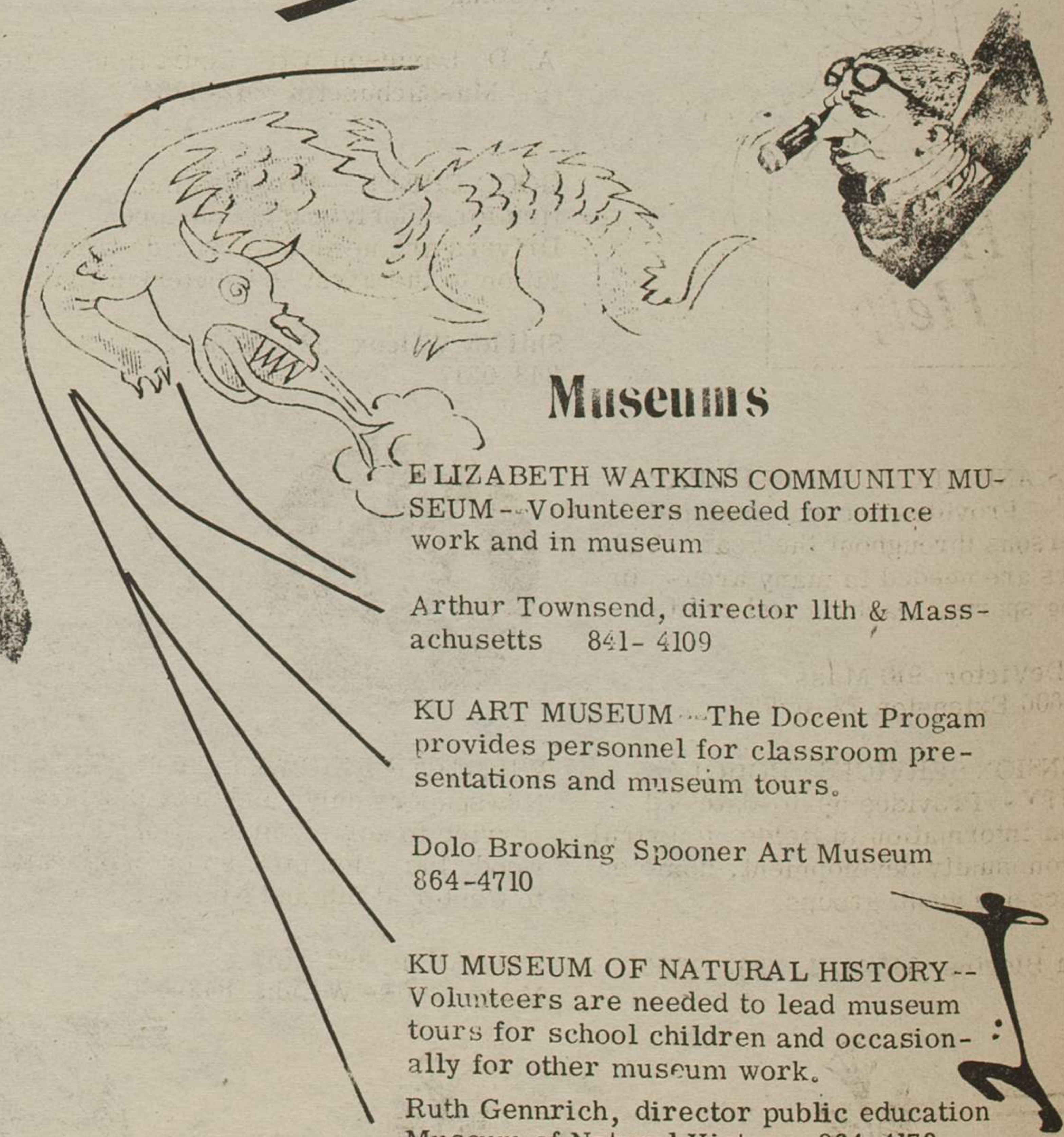
Arthur Townsend, director 11th & Massachusetts 841-4109

KU ART MUSEUM--The Docent Program provides personnel for classroom presentations and museum tours.

Dolo Brooking Spooner Art Museum 864-4710

KU MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY--Volunteers are needed to lead museum tours for school children and occasionally for other museum work.

Ruth Gennrich, director public education Museum of Natural History 864-4173



Community

In Lawrence, business, industry, government and But ours is a community of people, above all else. projects and programs...all designed to serve people have in common is lack of money, the need love for people and the community.



The Volunteer Clearinghouse, a three year the responsibility for coordination of the page. People move around, tho, and phone have any problem in reaching anyone listed on this page. volunteer Clearinghouse, inside the lobby of the County Co achusetts. They can also be reached by telephone a to help the Clearinghouse do a better job. or if you w involved in these programs, or any others, or know come by. The hours are nine to three weekdays.

Edgewood Homes, at 1600 Haskell Avenue, is having a couple of weeks. What's needed right now is a host you could be of any help here, call Lawrence Austin.



HEADSTART--Childrens Hour provides day care for children of low-income, single, working parents and others with special needs.

Bobbie Nichols 1505 Ohio 842-6153

BOY'S CLUB OF LAWRENCE--Recreation.

Mike Dusenberry 945 1/2 Mass. Mailing address: Box 3261 842-3713

UNITED CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER--Provides day care for children of working parents.

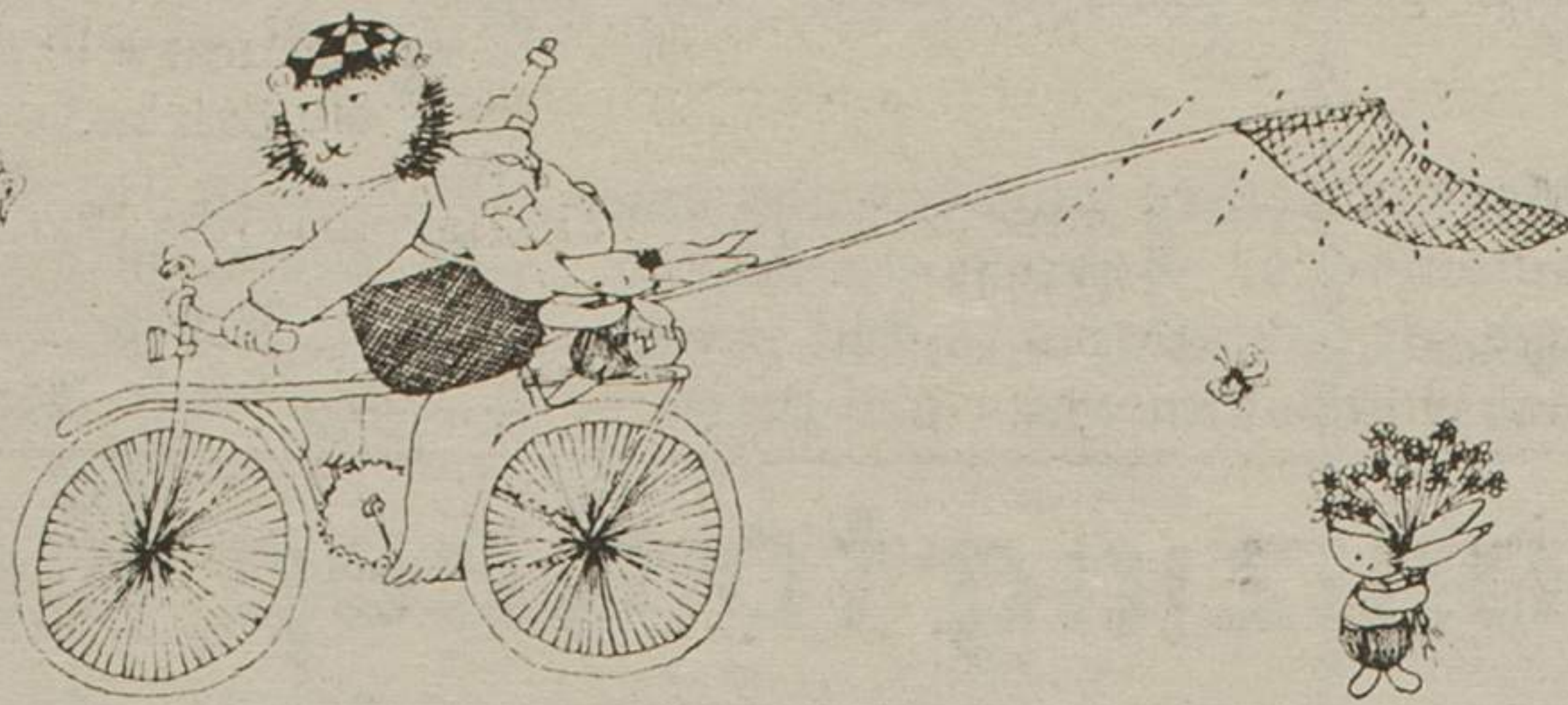
Barbara Bell 946 Vermont 842-5292

VOLUNTEERS IN COURT--A one-to-one relationship helps child express his or her feelings and develop goals toward independent, socially-accepted community living. Volunteer families are needed to provide alternatives to detention.

Susan Cherniss County Juvenile Court, County Court House 843-6914

DOUGLAS COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN--Aimed at filling the needs of parents who have retarded children. Volunteers are needed as drivers.

Mrs. John Baughman 3309 W. 8th 841-2263



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA-- Provides a number of programs to teach leadership and citizenship to boys. Volunteers are needed for leaders and to teach specialized skills.

Dwight Burnham 1051 Wellington Road 843-4341

HEADSTART--Plymouth Community Children's Center provides day care for children of low-income, working mothers.

Cathy Swanson 925 Vermont 842-2515

GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL--Provides girls with leadership and citizenship training. Volunteers are needed to be scout leaders and to teach specialized skills.

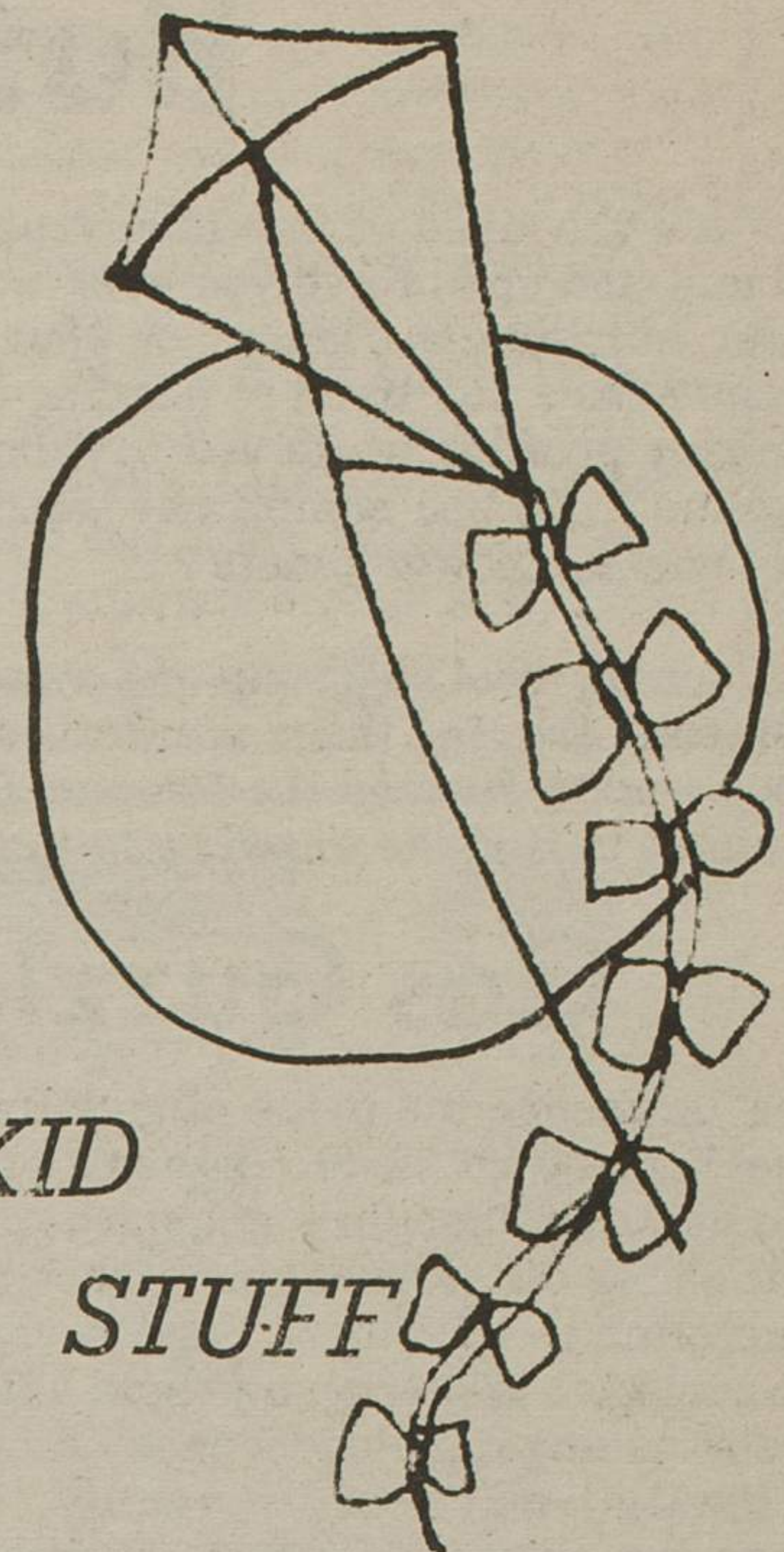
Betty Dunhaupt 527 Pioneer Road 842-5427

HILLTOP CHILD CARE CENTER--Provides care for children ages 1 to 6 of KU students, staff and faculty.

Joan Reiber 1314 Oread 864-4940

LAWRENCE COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL-- Provides low-cost nursery school with parent involvement.

Barbara Porto 645 Alabama 842-0064



Community Affairs

...government and institutions seem to get all the attention. Lots of people are involved in less visible ways to serve people's individual needs. One thing which they need for volunteer help, and an abundance of money.

...three year-old community organization, has taken the collection of the material on this page, get in touch with the Volunteer Center at 11th and Massachusetts, at 841-5059. If you would like to find a way to get involved, or know of those who could provide any kind of help, please contact...

...having a Christmas party for resident children in the host of toys--new, used and/or repairable. If you would like to donate, contact the Clearinghouse, 841-5059

Speaking of People



BABCOCK PLACE--Residence for elderly persons; some disabled. Volunteers work in Wednesday morning clinic for those over 60, and with catered food service.

Violet Fleming 1700 Massachusetts 842-8358

COUNCIL FOR SERVICES TO THE AGING--Endeavors to identify needs of the aged, and secure the means to meet these needs. Bus 62 (transportation) and Congregate Meals are two on-going programs.

Cal Broughton Community Bldg. Gail Mayo 115 W. 11th 842-0543

CHERRY MANOR--Home for the care of the aged; seeks to provide a comfortable place for the elderly. Volunteers visit with residents, bringing outside contact.

Mrs. Ning Jordan 3015 W. 31st 842-7282



SAMARITAN LODGE--Provides care for the aged. Volunteers visit with the elderly.

Mrs. Elliott 205 N. Michigan 843-8934

REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES SERVICE--A group of therapists and volunteers who work to improve rehabilitation in rest homes and private homes.

Lorita Whitaker 2627 Manor Terr. 842-3991

VALLEY VIEW-- Provides care for the aged and seeks to make a home away from home.

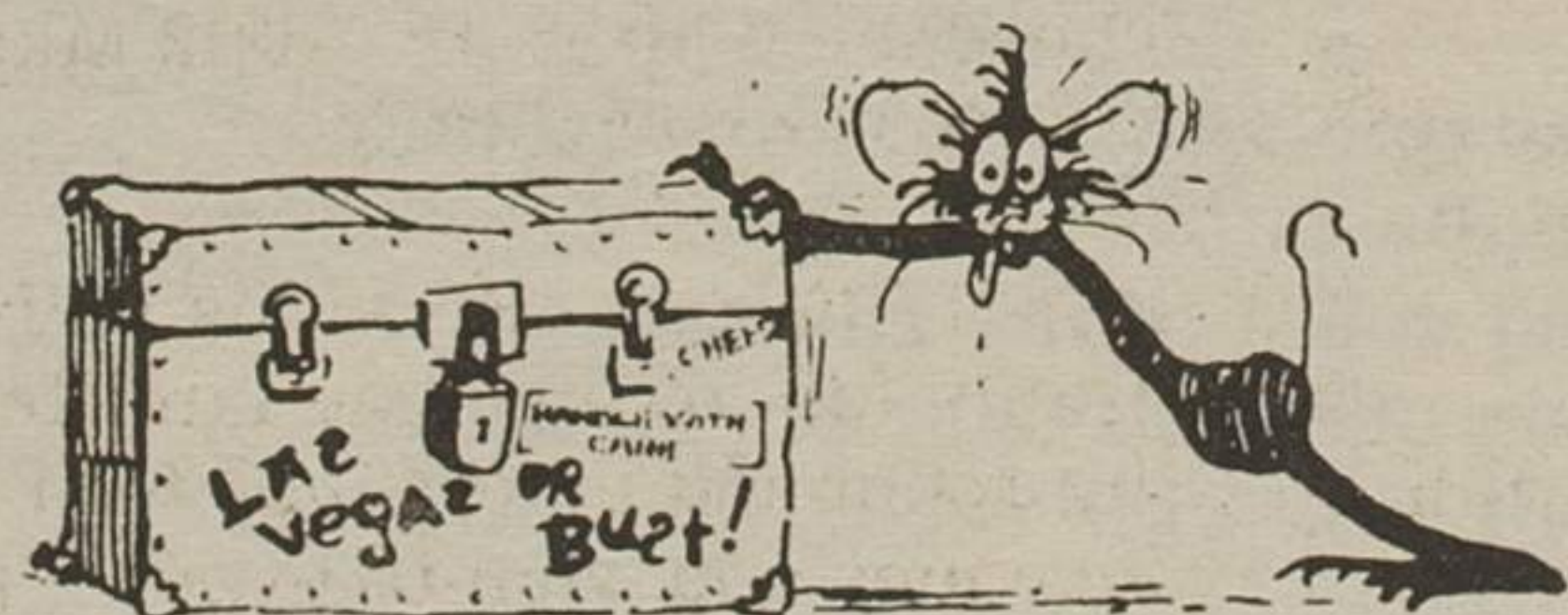
Dorothy Nice 2518 Ridgecourt 842-5292

WAKARUSA MANOR-- Provides nursing care for the elderly; seeks to maintain as much in health care as possible.

Calore Gable 1800 W. 27th 842-4383

SUNFLOWER PROJECT--Provides services for residents of Sunflower Village (now Clearview City) in education and recreation.

Paul Brotsman School of Social Welfare 864-4720 or 864-3712



KANSAS BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE--Helps parolees find jobs and housing

A. D. Davidson Cty. Court House, 11th and Massachusetts 842-3884

GOOD CHEER-- Provides monthly parties for elderly and handicapped people. Drivers are needed to provide transportation to the First Presbyterian Church.

Shirley Wilcox 527 Pioneer Road 843-0217

BIG BROTHER/BIG SISTER PROGRAM-- Provides friends for grade school age children.

Mike Bryant 864-5726 Sally Hayden 843-8255

SALVATION ARMY--Provides emergency food, clothing, lodging and transportation as well as volunteer services such as tutoring, senior citizen activities, telephoning, and camp activities.

Capt. Howard Chase 843-4188 Linda Farve 946 New Hampshire

CONSUMER PROTECTION ASSOCIATION--Checks complaints and seeks to bring them to a conclusion; makes price comparisons.

Carol Strohbehn Room 299 Kansas Union 864-3963

AUDIO-READER-- Provides blind and physically handicapped persons with information and pleasures thru reading by volunteers on the radio.

Rosie Hurwitz Sudler House 864-4600

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT-- Provides recreational activities for persons throughout the year. Volunteers are needed in many areas, including sports, teaching and crafts.

Fred DeVictor 910 Mass. 843-4600 Extension 72 or 73

EXTENSION SERVICES, DOUGLAS COUNTY-- Provides up-to-date education information in fields of agriculture, community development, home economics and youth groups.

Oletha Blevins 645 N.H. 843-7058



WHOMPER RECLAMATION CENTER-- Newspapers only, and provides pick up service to some points. Contact Cottonwood, Inc., for pick-up or bring papers to Center at 6th and New Hampshire.

Arly Allen 842-1732 Mary Louise Wright 843-0008



Food

CONGREGATE MEALS--Catered meals at four sites for those over 60 years old.

Gail Mayo 8331/2 842-0543

MEALS ON WHEELS--Serves balanced, nutritious meals to the elderly and handicapped in their homes. Drivers and substitutes needed.

Terry Houston 733 Mississippi 843-5498 Alice Amyx, Pres. 2125 Barker 843-3243



Battle Behind Energy Decisions



Are you tired of watching your utility bills go up and up--and up? Have you ever wondered what the "Fuel Adjustment Clause" on your electricity bill means? Are you tired of hearing about higher oil company profits, while you pay more and more for gasoline? Do you sometimes wonder about the safety of nuclear power plants?

In October, 1974, a group of Lawrence and Topeka residents sharing these frustrations and questions about energy formed the People's Energy Project, in an effort to find the answers to these questions, and

to make some changes. Since that time, we have researched many energy issues, intervened in Kansas Power and Light rate increase hearings, built a library dealing with energy issues, put out a monthly energy newsletter, and worked to stop the construction of a proposed nuclear power plant at Burlington, Kansas.

It hasn't been easy. Most of us are workers and students. All of us are volunteers. Yet one conclusion we have reached through all our efforts is that people can become knowledgeable about energy, and that

people are capable of making decisions about energy-related issues, particularly those which most closely affect our lives.

On these pages, we would like to share with you some of the things we've learned these past months. There is much more to learn and much work to be done before we can have meaningful input into energy policy; Please join us. We meet every Sunday evening at 6:30 PM at the ECKAN center at 710 Massachusetts Street. If you can't come by, then please write to us at Post Office Box 423, Lawrence, Kansas, 66044.

Gas Guzzlers

In Lawrence the price of gasoline is going up. (Hovering around 52-61 cents per gallon). This high price hurts the people's standard of living--all for the profit of big oil stockholders (such as Vice-president Rockefeller). President Ford says he wants the price of gas and oil to go up so people will buy less gas, thereby easing our dependence on foreign oil imported into the United States. In reality, Ford wants to decrease our need for foreign oil without decreasing those high profits. Higher prices seem to have caused little reduction in gasoline demand, since most workers and students have little alternative to using cars for transportation.

WE SHOULD CUT BACK on gasoline use, both to improve air quality, and to conserve oil resources. The United States consumes 33% of the world's energy, while it has only 6% of the world's population. This can't continue. The "third world" people (Africa, Asia, Latin America, etc.) are beginning to demand their fair share of natural resources.

THE PEOPLE'S ENERGY PROJECT totally rejects President Ford's plan of forced gasoline savings by gouging workers and the poor with higher prices and profits. The burden thus falls on those least able to pay. Instead, we advocate the provision of low-cost fuel-efficient transportation to replace Detroit's current over-priced gas-guzzlers. Alternatives include trains, bus lines, subways, smaller cars with more efficient engines, bicycles, and others. While gasoline savings are being realized by these methods, the government can roll back the price of oil to meet the lower level of demand. Large gasoline savings could strike a tremendous blow against pollution, since for most vehicles more gas burned means more exhaust emissions. Also, the contrived need for dangerous and expensive nuclear power plants would evaporate if the demand for fossil fuels (such as gas, coal and oil) were relieved.

IN THE BIG CITIES, the focus must be to switch from single-occupant auto commuting to convenient inexpensive mass transit. Only by this method can the city air be cleaned and open spaces protected from the on-slaughter of new free-ways. The new Bay Area Rapid Transit system (BART) in San Francisco points the way forward. Yet it still has many problems, and was developed by private capital solely for profit. New rail systems like the BART and the Washington, D.C. subway system will take time and large amounts of money to complete. Money for such projects could be obtained by an extra "waste" tax on manufacturers and dealers of gas-wasting new cars. Until these new rapid transit systems are constructed, emphasis must be placed upon improved bus service, as in Kansas City. Even so, many areas on the Kansas side of the Kansas City metropolitan area cannot be reached after dark. Currently, the Area Transportation Authority fare is 20¢ higher on the Kansas side, due to the lack of a sales tax subsidy. Such a tax could benefit everyone in the city. It would reduce traffic and pollution, making the city that much more livable. But again, the tax should be shouldered by the real culprits, the large-car manufacturers and large-car dealerships.



FOR SMALLER TOWNS LIKE LAWRENCE, the focus will shift to smaller fuel-efficient cars, motorcycles, minibuses with variable stops, and good old human self-propulsion. Since mass transit will have limited patronage in small towns, citizens will have to be given incentives to drive Chevettas, VW Rabbits, Toyotas, etc., or to simply drive less. It will be safer to drive these cars, motorcycles and bicycles once the oversized junk now coming out of Detroit is forced off the road. Bike paths and special bike lanes will have to be built, as suggested by City Commissioner Carl Mibeck.

ITS YOUR CITY, your future and your mode of transportation. Don't be content to let some planning commission decide the future for you. Get involved and take a stand.

Organizing to Keep Rates Down

Last November, when the People's Energy Project heard that the Kansas Power and Light company (KP&L) wanted to raise electricity rates by 13%, we decided to organize customers to fight it. Before a utility company is allowed to raise your rates, it must first get permission from the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC). The KCC is a board of three government officials, operating at the State level, who claim to be a neutral regulatory body. But our attempts to participate in the rate increase hearings showed us that instead of being neutral, the KCC officials had a clear interest in protecting the utilities from the very beginning.

First of all, the rate increase hearing was held during the daytime in Topeka. How can the public have an equal chance with KP&L executives to attend these hearings, when most of us cannot afford to miss days at work or school to participate? The KP&L executives get paid, while the public has to pay (both the executive's salaries, and their own transportation

costs to the hearing site just to be there. As for location, why should all the hearings have been held in Topeka, when many customers lived in other cities within the area to be affected by the increase? We note the fact that the Kansas Power and Light headquarters is located in Topeka. This made things a lot simpler for the utility.

It is not merely the bias of the three individuals who comprise the KCC that slants the content of rate increase hearings in favor of utilities. Rather, it was the nature of the intervention process itself. The KCC did not want People's Energy Project to intervene as a group, but asked that they come to protest as individuals. Knowing that people will have more power and influence when they are united, we demanded the right to represent ourselves not as a fragmented rable, but as a single organization. At this point, the KCC said that we might not be allowed to intervene at all because we were not an incorporated group. Incorporation costs are high, and demand a good deal of paper work before the process can be completed. Why should it cost money just to be heard? Although P.E.P. felt competent enough to present our own case and cross-examine witnesses, the KCC demanded that our group be represented by a lawyer. Luckily, we were able to find a lawyer who volunteered to work without a fee.

P.E.P. recommended at the hearings that a feasibility study be done on equalized and/or inverted rate structures for utilities. The KCC responded that it was beyond their power to do such a study. The KCC is the only body in the State of Kansas that has the power to regulate and investigate utilities operating within the State. If such a study is not within their power, then to whom does this responsibility belong?

The hearings finally ended in a KCC-sanctioned 8.4% rate increase, rather than the 13% originally requested. The KCC and its staff could not be expected to deny the whole increase request because by law they are directed to grant a utility company a fair rate of return on its investments. The KCC was in no position to question the whole system of investor-owned (private) utilities as the best way to meet the energy needs of the public.

The point of all this is that the public can never rely upon our government agencies to protect our interests by merely regulating a system which deems monetary profits more important than people's basic needs. Energy is one of these needs. We just can't get by without it. We must come together over this issue, to talk and learn as much as we can, in order that we might find a better way of doing things.

DO YOU KNOW ?

KWH--Kilowatt hour; the basic unit of electrical energy equal to one kilowatt of power supplied to or taken from an electric circuit steadily for one hour.

KW--Kilowatt; 1,000 watts.

Watt--The electrical unit of power, or rate of doing work. It is similar to horsepower or foot-pounds per minute of mechanical power.

Fuel Adjustment Clause--The federal law that allows utility companies to pass along, automatically, the increasing costs of the raw materials used in the production of electricity or heat. Thus, your utility bill may rise steadily from month to month, while never hearing of a rate increase.

BTU--British Thermal Unit; The standard unit used for measuring the quantity of heat energy, such as the heat-producing content of fuel. It is the amount of heat energy necessary to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.

Utility Guilty of Cover-Up

Utility rates in Kansas weigh heaviest on those using the least amount of electricity. A family at or near the poverty line may be paying over twice as much as much per KWH under Kansas Gas and Electric Co. rates than an industrial or big commercial user. (They would pay close to a penny more than these users under Kansas City Power and Light and Kansas Power and Light).

Listed below are average costs per KWH for residential, commercial, and industrial users under KG&E, KP&L, and KCP&L.

	KG&E	KP&L	KCP&L
Residential	2.17¢/KWH	2.87¢/KWH	3.02¢/KWH
Commercial	2.24¢/KWH	1.94¢/KWH	2.57¢/KWH
Industrial	1.24¢/KWH	1.28¢/KWH	1.58¢/KWH

The largest industrial users are paying at or below the cost of electricity production (1.45¢, according to KG&E). In Kansas, industry uses the most electricity and pays the least of any group rate. They are the most wasteful, and contribute to the problem of costly peak loads (higher costs caused by the use of inefficient fuels during periods of high demand). The higher rates paid by residential users, in effect, subsidize these large users.

The utilities give cheaper rates to those residents who

use more electricity, who have electric ranges, electric water heaters, and electric space heaters. People who live in all-electric homes get the cheapest residential rates of all. This is ridiculous, since all-electric homes and electric heating systems waste much more energy than coal, oil, or gas heating systems.



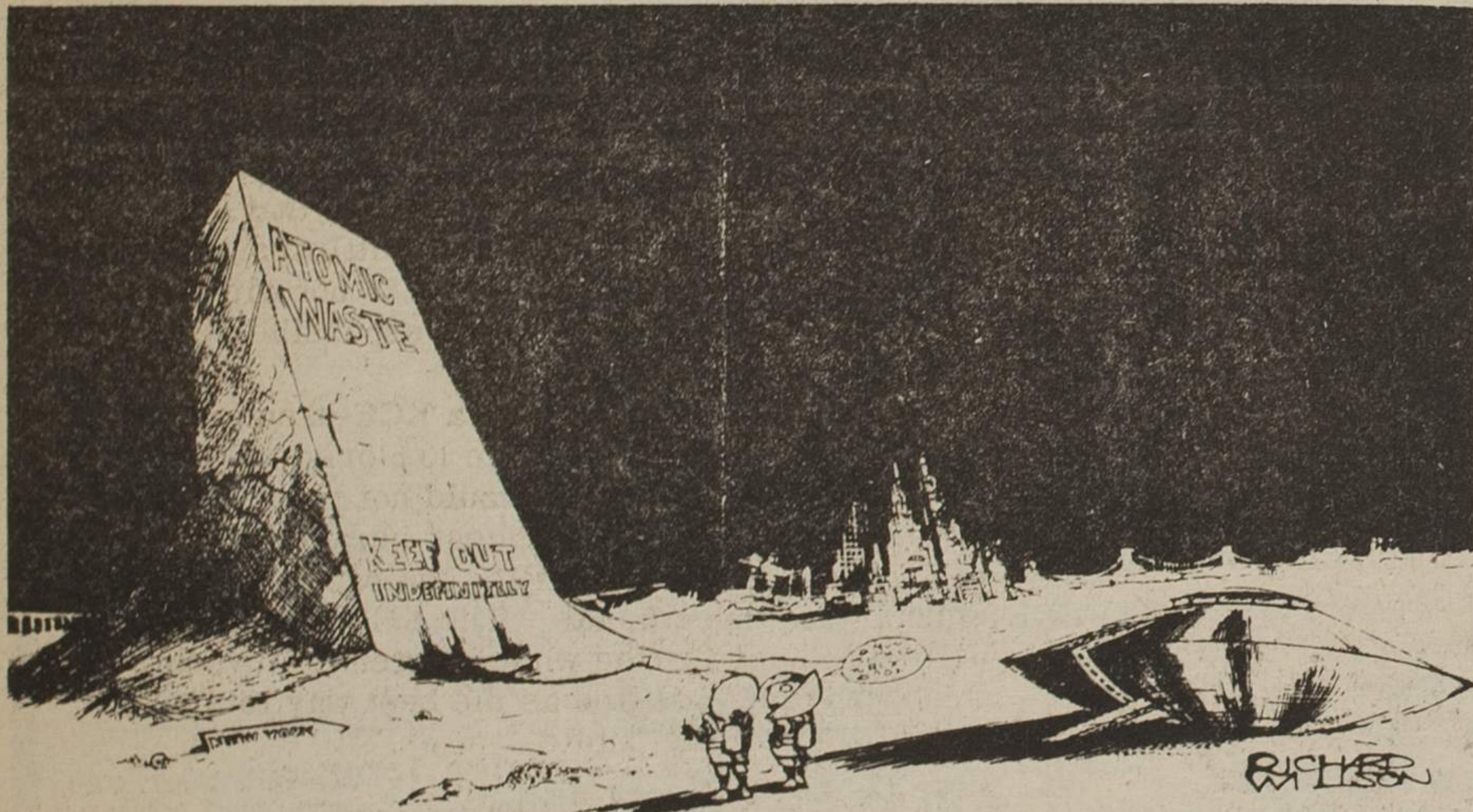
Electricity rate structures are grossly discriminatory. The more electrical appliances you can afford to buy and use, the less you pay for power. Electric utility rates also promote waste because they encourage the inefficient use of energy in exchange for cheaper power. Wasteful and discriminatory energy policies such as these affect you directly--through your wallet. It's time that we all get to gether and demand a little shake-up among the energy producers for our town.

BLESSINGS OF EMPTINESS

The People's Energy Project is concerned with energy issues. One of the most important of these issues surrounds the construction of the proposed nuclear power plant to be located near Burlington, Kansas, a small town about sixty miles southwest of Lawrence. The issue is not merely whether Kansas should get its electricity from burning coal, the traditional method, or from the fissioning of uranium-235, as in the nuclear power plant. Instead, the most important issue is a moral one; that being what sort of a world we want to leave to our children and their descendants. P.E.P. feels that nuclear power will be an insufferable burden to generations to come, that there is no reason why we need such plants, that we should abandon the nuclear experiment and turn to the sun for our energy supply. But to back up a little, we should look to see why nuclear power is being considered as the nation's principle source of electricity for the foreseeable future.

OUR CURRENT SITUATION IS THIS: The population of the world, and, to a lesser degree, the United States, is increasing sharply. Even if we were to attain a zero-population growth rate tomorrow, our population would continue to grow. The demand for energy has been increasing also, although a sharp decline in the rate of that growth occurred last year. In the face of this growth in demand, there is a rapidly diminishing supply of the fuels needed to satisfy these demands. Natural gas and petroleum reserves are not expected to last more than fifty years or so. There won't be any more large discoveries of petroleum, as everywhere suspected of containing oil has already been surveyed. Even a major find would last only a few years, at our present rate of consumption. Our coal could last us a few hundred years, but it is also a non-renewable resource. Much of that coal is accessible only through the strip-mining of our western lands. Many feel that it is a crime for us to waste fossil fuels that have so many other uses besides the gross production of electricity or the propulsion of automobiles.

NUCLEAR POWER IS SEEN by its proponents as a means of decreasing our consumption of fossil fuels while producing energy in a non-polluting fashion. The People's Energy Project feels that this assessment is incorrect. The construction of a nuclear facility and the production of its uranium fuel requires immense expenditures of energy, mostly from fossil fuels. So much energy is needed, that it is estimated that the facility would have to run at full capacity for ten years before it became a net producer of energy (for an average-sized plant). Thus a rapid development of many nuclear power plants would increase our consumption of fossil fuels. Nuclear power plants only produce one useable form of energy: electricity. Electricity is a very high-quality form of energy that is best suited for only a small number of uses, such as lighting and powering appliances and machinery. The bulk of our energy needs (industry, space heating) require only low-grade power and heat which is much more efficiently supplied by burning fossil fuels on the site than by "electric resistance" heating. Nuclear power does not create the kind of pollution we normally hear about. The fission process produces highly radioactive wastes that must be completely isolated from the environment for at least 800 years. No one yet knows how to do this. Even if there were a way, the transportation and reprocessing segments of the nuclear fuel cycle are still quite vulnerable to human error, and acts of malice that would have very serious consequences for the environment.



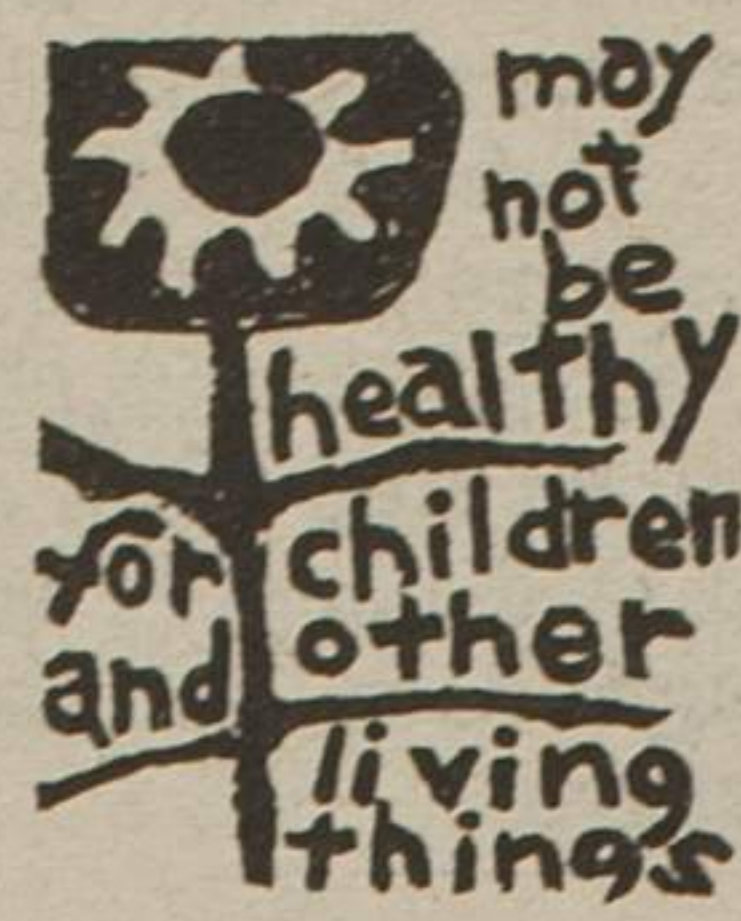
(translation) "Presumably a shrine for one of their primitive religious cults."

IT HAS BEEN STATED that nuclear power plants are an unimaginative solution to the energy crisis; not because the technology is simple--far from it. Its most serious shortcoming is its failure to change peoples patterns of energy consumption. If we do not halt the growth in energy demand, which is at the root of our problem, then we will ultimately fail to solve the energy crisis. We can either choose to conserve now and make a controlled transition to a steady-state economy, or be coerced into strict conservation when the shortages reach true crisis proportions. P.E.P. believes that a serious program of energy conservation, which need not lower anyone's standard of living, and intensified development of the various forms of solar energy are the keystones of a safe and sane energy base that our posterity would gladly inherit and build upon.

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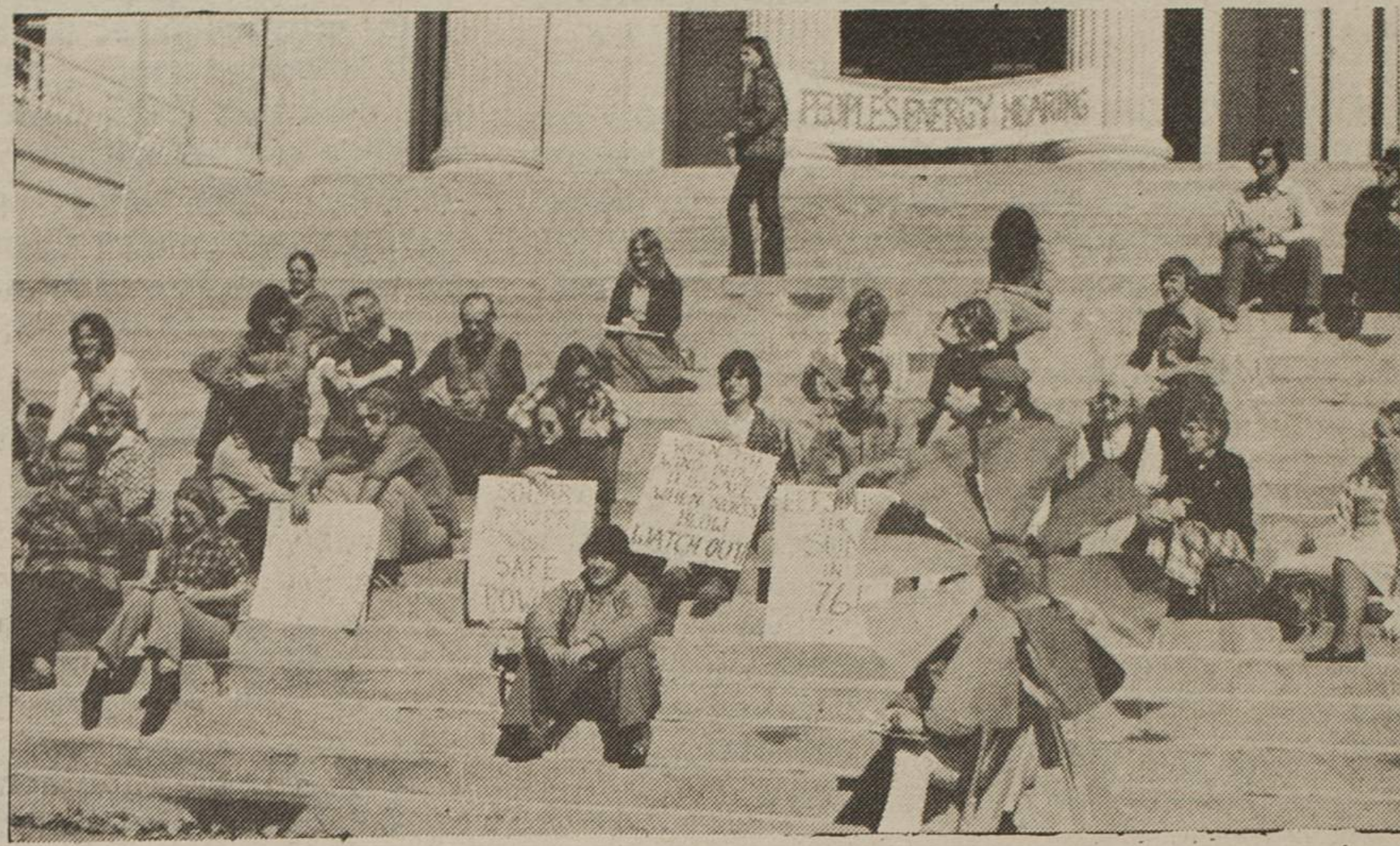
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NUCLEAR POWER



AN ANNOUNCEMENT

A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT right in our own back yard? To get the word out on this and other utility companies' plans for our future, the People's Energy Project has put together a concise factual presentation on "Nuclear Power and its Alternatives." Over the last few months, we have given our presentation to many local groups and classes. We would like to come and talk with your group. If you don't have a group, just gather together some of your friends and neighbors. It doesn't cost a cent. Write us at P.O. Box 423, or call 841-3364, 842-6344, or or 843-0502 and let's arrange a time and place.



ON Saturday, October 18, about 100 people from across the state met on the Capitol grounds in Topeka to hold a "People's Energy Hearing." The hearing was held in response to the restrictive nature of the current run of hearings conducted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on the proposed nuclear reactor slated for Burlington, Kansas.

The hearing focused upon opposition to that plant's construction. Other energy issues, such as solar and wind power, utility rate structures, and public ownership of utilities were also discussed. Several speakers participated, including Dr. J. K. Frenkel from Overland Park, Bill Ward from Lawrence, and Illene Younghein from Oklahoma City. Others present took advantage of an open microphone session to voice their opinions. There was also an entertaining and educational puppet show entitled "Burnt Toast: Trouble in the Nations Breadbasket." It starred Nuke, the monster with the poisonous breath, and Leon, the Solar Lion.

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

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