

Women throw book at Library Board

Library workers strike

Anna Sklar

More than 150 library workers plus children, husbands and lovers picketed Pietro Vitale, president of the Los Angeles Board of Library Commissioners, at his home in Brentwood on Sunday, July 25 in protest of the Commission's demands that library staff work Sundays on arbitrary assignment with no additional compensation and without choice of working days.

Jane Ellison, president of the Librarians' Guild, which organized the protest, explained the purpose of the demonstration. "The Commission refuses to recognize the needs of working women. 95% of library staff is composed of women and most of us have children and families. We need time to spend with them."

"The Commission is an elite appointed body which has no understanding or interest in the needs of workers. Two of the members live in Hancock Park, one lives in Baldwin Hills and Vitale and another Commissioner live in an exclusive area of Brentwood. The Commission held a public hearing Monday afternoon and decided they had a mandate to open libraries on Sundays. You can imagine how many working people attended that meeting."

"We are in favor of Sunday library service," she said, "but we feel that a more equitable arrangement should be worked out. Currently many librarians work several evenings a week and often work six straight days. The Commission wants us to move into an 80 hour biweekly work schedule or 10 working days in order to incorporate Sunday as a normal workday for no additional pay," added Ellison.

In a survey of other library

jurisdictions, the Librarians Guild found that other libraries which are open on Sundays either pay staff time and one-half on a volunteer basis, or use part-timers.

The Los Angeles Public Library with 61 branches is one of the largest library systems in the country and has recently suffered several budget cut-backs, including the shut-down of the popular "Hootowl" service. "Hootowl" was a telephone reference service for the public during non-library hours.

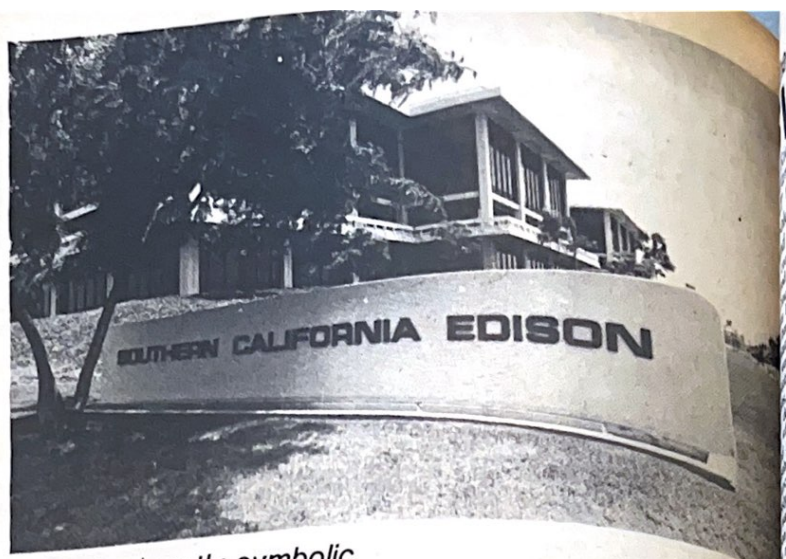
Jane Ellison emphasized that the Commission is attempting to save money at worker's expense. "In order to save money," she said, "the city wants to disrupt our family and personal lives so they can have good p.r. while cutting back on other services. In fact," she added, "the library will close community branches in order to have only seven regional libraries open on Sundays."

"We do want Sunday service but believe we should be compensated for that work and should be given a choice if we want to work on Sunday, go to church or stay home with our families."

The demonstration on Sunday included a protest religious service and a one hour march. Library staff sang labor songs as they marched single file down the quiet tree lined streets of elegant Brentwood.

Pietro Vitale was at home but refused to meet with demonstrators or reporters at the scene. According to his wife, Vitale was unable to come out because he "had a bad back."

Ms. Ellison will meet with Mayor Bradley Monday, July 26, to discuss with him directly why librarians protest the Commission's actions.



New plan mostly symbolic

Lifeline rate a moral victory

Tim Brick

Relief from soaring utility rates is at hand in Southern California — that is, if you live outside Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale or Pasadena. The state Public Utilities Commission in a precedent-setting decision July 13 established the quantities for the nation's first statewide "Lifeline" standard.

Lifeline has become a battlecry across the country in recent years as consumers have watched utility bills skyrocket. Hard-pressed and cornered, consumers turned their attention to the growth-oriented pricing policies of the energy agents and demanded an end to rate structures which charged more for basic home use.

Then last fall a major breakthrough came. The California legislature determined that the traditional rate structures serve to penalize the individual user of relatively small quantities and at the same time encourage wastefulness by giving large users big discounts for their energy. The legislation they approved, the Miller-Warren Lifeline Act, recognized that light and heat are human rights that should be made available to all people at low cost for basic minimum quantities. The Lifeline was to be implemented "in order to encourage conservation of scarce energy resources and to provide a basic necessary amount of gas and electricity for residential heating and lighting at a cost which is fair to small users."

The recent PUC decision defined what those basic necessary amounts of gas and electricity are. The allotment for electricity granted is 240 kilowatt hours a month with an allowance of 250 additional kwh for those who use electric water heating. The Lifeline will also include amounts varying according to climatic zones from 550 kwh to 1,420 kwh per winter month for electric space heating.

The average Los Angeles user consumes about 400 kilowatt hours a month.

The gas Lifeline amounts to 26 units (therms) of gas per month for cooking and water heating and a quantity varying from 55 to 140 therms for space heating in the months from November to April. The average L.A. user may use 35 to 40 therms during the summer

and about 75 during the winter.

A kilowatt hour costs about \$.05 and a therm runs about \$.30.

The victory, despite its national significance, is a squishy one for the consumer groups involved. While the once sacrosanct utility rate-making policies have been shattered, the actual Lifeline to be implemented will not be nearly as

instance recommended a more reasonable 300 kwh figure, while the utilities varied from 150 to 400 in their suggestions.

Ironically the only utilities bound by the PUC action are municipally-owned and controlled ones. In Southern California they are: Los Angeles, Glendale, Burbank, and Pasadena which

Lifeline will not be nearly as generous or effective as once hoped...Through the process of hearings the weight of the utilities prevailed.

generous or effective as once hoped. Nevertheless it demonstrates a newly emerging political clout for energy activists.

The Miller-Warren Lifeline Act as originally drafted would have provided for a 50% price reduction for the Lifeline allotments. But through the long process of legislative and regulatory hearings, the weight of the utilities and business associations prevailed in minimizing the impact of the plan once called "the brightest concept to emerge from the energy crisis" by a Federal Energy Administration report. First the 50% reduction was slashed until all that was left was a hold on prices for the newly established Lifeline limits. However, the hold is even limited until prices for additional energy uses rises to at least 25% more.

Furthermore, the Lifeline amounts were set at such meager levels to make the victory a hollow one indeed.

While concurring with this month's decision, the two Governor Jerry Brown PUC appointees, Leonard Ross and Robert Batinovich, criticized it for taking "an unnecessary backward step" by reducing the basic electric allowance to 240 kilowatt hours. There is no allowance for instance for clothes washers or dryers, televisions or domestic well-pumping in remote regions. Such an allotment, they held, is not adequate for basic residential service. But it was Ross himself who led the investigation into this matter and must have played a central role in defining uses and levels of use. The PUC staff for

provide electric service and Los Angeles Beach which supplies gas. The agencies, born of the reforms of the early decades of our century are lagging behind, despite the fact that they were established to reflect a greater social responsibility than the PUC controlled, privately-owned utilities.

In Los Angeles, which owns the nation's largest municipal utility, a Blue Ribbon Committee was established last fall by Mayor Bradley to decide the same questions resolved by the PUC action, but their report due in June has still not been released.

Howard Stover, who represents CAUSE — Campaign Against Utility Service Exploitation — Bradley's committee, contends that the 240 figure is only adequate if there is a reduced price for the amount. The CAUSE proposal submitted to the Blue Ribbon Committee, would reduce the average residential user's bill by at least \$5 a month. "Our rollback is a better way to go about it than the PUC freeze," Stover holds. "It communicates more clearly the social value of various uses and ends the rip-off of small consumers by current rates."

In any case the PUC action sure to strengthen the CAUSE position in the hearings soon to be held before the Los Angeles City Council, which will consider reform for the Department of Water and Power. It should highlight the way to similar victory for other consumer groups fighting for Lifeline and greater control of the energy agents in cities and states across the country.



LIBRARY WORKERS protest in front of home of Pietro Vitale, president of the Board of Library Commissioners for Los Angeles. They sang labor songs as they marched in Brentwood for better working conditions and library services. (Photo by Marv Newton)

father slain before TV cameras

SWAT team set up needless killing

Ron Ridenour
A Vanguard investigation indicates that a L.A.P.D. SWAT team deliberately and needlessly shot a 38-year-old father, handcuffed him and left him on the ground to die last month.

No coroner's inquest was conducted into the death of former Los Angeles lieutenant Anthony Brown, who was killed outside his south-central home in a confused June 18 confrontation which left one police officer wounded by police bullets. Accounts of the incident by witnesses, physical evidence, and official documents indicate that Brown, who spoke nine languages and had taught physics, biology and baseball, was cut down without chance to surrender by a reckless firing officers who knew Brown was a sick man, a mentally ill person.

Three members of the Special Weapons and Tactics team had crept up the narrow wooden staircase at the side of the two-story home at 2632 Kenwood, five hours after other police first arrived to take him to a mental hospital. They broke a window and threw tear gas through it and a police officer Thomas Stockman remained on the small landing with his rifle pointed away from the door. Moments later, Brown rushed out of the door with his hands at his eyes, a knife in one. He was immediately shot three times in the chest and stomach. As he lay dying, Stockman ran downstairs to where his partner, officer Kenneth Piersol, had been wounded in his chest side by side by one of Stockman's bullets.

In a July 1 editorial, the Los Angeles Sentinel wrote: "To the people who witnessed the Anthony Brown shooting, there is the feeling that Brown, as deranged as he was thought to be, could have been helped and taken into custody without being shot."

Andrew Allen, owner of the only black-controlled ambulance service in Los Angeles, in an exclusive interview said, "The police wanted us out of the house. I knew then he'd (Brown) never come out alive."

Ambulance owner Allen said he had been summoned to the Brown home by the West Central Mental Health office at 12:55 p.m., following a determination by psychological Emergency Team (PET) supervisor Sandra Taylor that Anthony Brown should be transferred to Camarillo mental hospital.

Alyce Brown, a former singer-soloist, had summoned Taylor, who was her son's case worker, the day before. She had not requested

When Allen arrived, the police were in the house at the bottom of the stairs; Brown was upstairs with a butcher knife in his hand. Taylor and the mother were downstairs as well.

"I wish I could tell you all I knew. They'd (police) all be in jail. But I'm under contract with the county and they'd hurt my business," Allen told the Vanguard, the only news medium to interview him.

"When I arrived, I brought four aides all well trained in handling mental patients; I've been doing it for 12 years. We had straps and straight jackets. I was supposed to be in charge; but it didn't work that way. The police treated me rudely. I approached Tony — I'd known him for some time and moved him before. I said, 'Tony, come on with me now.' He wasn't raising any hell; he just held the knife down at his side and said, 'I just want to be left alone. This is my house and I want everybody out.' He made a lot of sense to me," Allen said.

Allen says he was in the middle of the stairs when one policeman touched him and told him to leave. "They said they'd get me some lights so I could see Brown better. He was in a shadow. If I'd gotten those lights I know we could have taken him to the hospital without anybody getting harmed."

The lights never came. Instead, Lt. James Stone soon told the mother and Allen that "He is ours now; he's assaulted a police officer." The police claim Brown threw down a candle holder at some point in the "negotiations." According to Lt. Frank Piersol, of Metropolitan division, who was on the scene, this constitutes a felony. However, neither the mother nor Allen saw any incident.

"I never saw any assault. But Taylor told me to leave now that the police would take care of it. It shouldn't be that a mentally ill person becomes a criminal, and not a mental patient, simply because he threw something at somebody, even if he did. He's disturbed and needs treatment."

"We could have come back later and got him. Everybody could have just left him alone for awhile. But those police get you if you give them a chance. They look at us and see us as niggers. They don't care who you are. They do what they want to do to us. I knew when I had to leave that the only way he



LANDING on which SWAT officer Thomas Stockman stood with rifle pointed at the door waiting for Anthony Brown to come out after SWAT members threw in tear gas. Brown, a mental patient, was killed by Stockman as he escaped the burning fumes on June 18 in the Adams district. (Photo by Miguel Tejada Flores).

The police and county official version of what occurred does not contradict Allen's own account, but does conflict with the mother's story and that of some neighbors.

Lt. Charles Higby, homicide investigator, said that Brown had to be killed because he "lunged at officer Stockman with a butcher knife." But Higby, and all other police interviewed, refused to discuss "tactics." But there are many unanswered questions which disturbed Brown's relatives, neighbors and community organizations.

Why was tear gas used? Why was the officer standing by the door after throwing it, when he knew the mentally ill person had a knife and had been held at bay for five hours? Why was he not isolated? Why did he remain on the ground for over three hours handcuffed before taken away by the coroner's office? When did he die?

The police refused to allow the officers immediately involved to be interviewed. Lt. Higby and Lt. Frank Piersol answered some questions.

"The officers handcuffed him before they knew he'd expired," Higby said. Why wasn't medical attention made available? "He

was pronounced dead at 17:10 (5:10 p.m.), just minutes after he was shot." The handcuffs remained on him, after he was dragged downstairs and left on the ground until after 8 p.m., because the law forbids removing anything from a dead body.

Bob Dambacher, assistant chief of investigations for the coroner's office, confirmed this and said, "Police don't know they've killed a man. They apprehend him and subdue him. They didn't call us until 19:05 (7:05 p.m.) because they have to do routine crime investigations, taking prints and things like that." The coroner came an hour later.

However, the mother is convinced that her son lay for an unknown time still alive. Eyewitnesses, she says, support this. Some neighbors saw police talking to Brown as he lay on the ground yet no medical attention was provided.

Interestingly, a coroner's report does indicate he died at 19:05, two hours after being shot. Dambacher says this was a clerical error, made because a clerk made the wrong mark when she/he was called by police to come pick up a "dead body."

Captain Tim Deluca, deputy to

the chief engineer of the Fire Department, confirms that Rescue Unit 34 pronounced him dead at 17:10, only eight minutes after it was dispatched to the scene.

Apparently other RA units on the scene, or previously on the scene, were unexplainedly not summoned. Deluca also has no record of a policeman being taken away after the shooting but does show that RA unit 26 took an officer (name withheld) from the scene at 14:30, 30 minutes before the shooting.

All this may be explainable, if the police were willing to discuss their operation and show documents. But both Higby and Piersol continually decline to discuss "tactics."

"As far as tactics that an individual officer uses, we don't discuss that. The SWAT teams are highly trained and use the best judgment," Piersol insisted.

"Tear gas was used when negotiations broke down," Higby said. "I'm not going to talk about if we should have done so or not. The suspect was armed."

The social worker justified the killing as well. "I wouldn't go to his house without a police backup. He

(Continued on Page 8)

"The police wanted us out of the house. I knew then he'd never come out alive...I knew when I had to leave that the only way he was gonna leave was in a brown box."

Her son had been fascinating and she thought he would have medical care. Taylor died a full day before arriving in an ambulance. The ambulance arrived more than one hour later, after Anthony Brown had died. It is clear to his mother and father that he didn't want to go to hospital nor with the police.

(Brown) was gonna leave was in a brown box," Allen said.

Allen left a few minutes before four o'clock when there were a dozen or so police cars in the street, helicopters flying overhead, and fire trucks and ambulances nearby. Scores of police cordoned off the area, keeping neighbors and even the mother away from the house.

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The publication reports that Adornetto, in a letter to a judge, asked that he be placed on probation in return for supplying undercover information on Bay Area "drug patterns." *The Barb* adds that the letter also promised the judge that Adornetto could

The study also suggests the Ford administration has failed to carry out the law — provisions of the 1974 Foreign Assistance Act that specifically prohibits American assistance to foreign police and prison forces. The act also requires a cut-off in aid to foreign governments which engage in systematic violations of human rights.

U.S. News and World Report says the United States now boasts an estimated 180,000 persons worth at least \$1 million each. Today's figure of 180,000 millionaires compares to a mere 67,000 of them in the U.S. in 1967.

Leaders of one of the largest unions, the Federation of Government Employees, have ratified a plan calling for the elimination of the United States Postal Service and other branches of the federal government. The academy has been the presence of the Park, some of the area are strongly. A has long of the current neighborhood. In other impact of long ob-

to be built adjacent to an existing facility in Elysian. Nothing residents of that neighborhood expected to oppose the proposal. A group of local citizens opposed the presence of a new academy in their neighborhood. In the surrounding neighborhoods, the proposal would be well-received, but still hard to sell.

ndall, who was recently
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contending he is being un-
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July 30 Los Angeles Vanguard page 10

SWAT slaughter of L.A. father

(Continued from Page 5)

was a violent man. The police did what they had to do," Taylor told the *Vanguard*. She also said that he'd threatened the mother but would not say how. Though she made accusations, she would not support them because she said she was complying with the privacy laws governing mentally ill persons. She did say he was mentally ill and violent but would not disclose a diagnosis.

Would it have been better to call in a psychiatrist and try to isolate him?

"Psychiatrists don't go to the field and what agency is going to spend the time to isolate someone? There are none which have two or more days to do that," Taylor said.

When it was pointed out that the city spent enormous sums over the five-hour period for scores of government-paid personnel and equipment, she replied: "Mental health has so little money; it's like peeing in the ocean. Legislators, society, give mental health a low priority."

The laws governing when mental health agencies can use police force state that whenever there is danger to life, police may be called. This is what guided Taylor, she said, although she summoned them before she saw or talked to Brown. However, the Lanterman Petris-Short Act, the governing law, also states that "Whenever possible officers charged with apprehension shall dress in plainclothes and travel in unmarked cars."

When a reporter inquired of Lt. Dan Cooke, press relations officer for the LAPD, about Brown, he said, "Which one was he, there've been so many (killings) lately." (Osece Newfield, a 77-year-old hostage in a bank holdup, had just been killed by police days before the query, as police chased the robbers and fired at them).

Cooke finally said, "The mother said she was glad he was dead because she was fearful of her life. And the neighbors were relieved too."

"That is an unequivocal damn

lie," seethed Harriet Babero, Anthony Brown's aunt, as her sister sat shocked when this reporter relayed to her what Cooke had said about her alleged reaction to her son's death.

"He never threatened me," Alyce Brown said. She had told the social worker that her son refused to take his medicine, that he believed he was a general and the vice-president, but she never said she feared for her life. A *Los Angeles Sentinel* story quotes her as saying he "had threatened me with a knife," but the writer, Mays Andrews, told me, "That is wrong; that is not a quote and I don't know how it got that way in the paper. My impression for the two years I've been knowing the family is that she never felt threatened by him."

Furthermore, the mother says, "If I'd been fearful why would I have stayed in the house with him all night and day before the so-called social worker arrived with her police. And we were all in the house for hours before they got me



BURNS and cuts on floor and rug of Brown home made by tear gas grenades. Six weeks after the killing, gas fumes strong enough to make one cry linger on and city refuses to do anything for Brown's mother Alyce Brown. (Photo by Miguel Tejada Flores).

out and did their killing," she said. At no point while police, social workers and other government workers were present was anyone's life in direct danger. No one, including the police, disputes that.

"Anthony didn't want to go with the police. The first time he had a nervous breakdown, he'd almost got his neck broke. Then two years ago they took him to jail for three months because when they tried to take him away he beat them. So after a while, I told the police to leave my house," she said, because Anthony was pleading with her to have them leave, as he stood upstairs and everyone else was at the bottom of the landing. "But they refused to go, instead they said they were going to arrest him for throwing a candle stick."

Alyce Brown didn't see her son shot because one policeman kept her away. After the shooting they took her to the police station. After holding her there for a while (she doesn't know why she went), they returned her to the house but then made her leave again for the rest of the night. She later found out that she had been in her house while her son lay on the side. When she returned the next morning, her house had been ransacked; the whole upstairs was torn apart and many valuables were missing: mink stoles, gold watches and a 100-year-old diamond chut. The police claim they took nothing. But neighbors claim they saw police cart away boxes of goods.

When this reporter visited the home, over a month later, the upstairs was still in disarray and numerous newspapers were found with a feverish handwritten scrawl all over them, marked "top secret." These were the last words of Anthony Brown. We had to leave after a few minutes because the gas fumes were still overpowering.

Neighbors are convinced that Brown was killed because police wanted revenge after he'd beaten one up two years ago. Some say he waved a white curtain after being gassed, that when he came out the door, he had his hands at his face when an officer shot him, and that he lived unattended for an unknown time, at least 10 minutes. Clearly, the neighbors were not "relieved" that he was dead, since 50 of them attended a protest meeting soon after the killing. They, and the Committee Against Police Abuse (CAPA), are planning a protest march of Brown's death — and those of other victims of police bullets: Betty Duren Scott and Barry Evans among them: Alyce Brown and neighbors plan

to attend. "I'll do anything for Anthony," she said. The march is set for noon Saturday, July 31, at Western Exposition Park for a 14 p.m. rally.

Alyce Brown believes her son's death was a "cold-blooded assassination." She and her sister also think that he became a "nigger" because of his "racist experience in the Army." He was pressured to resign by white officers after he joined in 1961. They resented a well-educated black officer. This reporter read one letter written from Baltimore, July 15, 1963, in which Brown spoke of how "nigger" kept calling him.

"If I resign," he wrote, "I am giving up without a fight and saying they are right..." Soon after he received an honorable discharge, and after he taught at Manual Arts High School, in south central Los Angeles, he had a mental breakdown.

"You know the army wouldn't ever let me see his records to find out if it was to blame for his break. They wouldn't pay any of the doctors' bills all these years; and they wouldn't even pay for his funeral," Alyce Brown said as she stared vacantly.



Don't take 'no'

Don't take no for an answer! The way to get the VANGUARD at a convenient location is to hound your local pharmacy/liquor store/book store/supermarket until they/it agree to carry the paper. They'll carry it in a hurry if they think people will be in to buy it. So don't go in alone... ORGANIZE! If you and several of your friends ask someone to carry us, they'll be calling us pronto. Tell them we're at 931-1642.

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CROSS MARKS the spot where Anthony Brown was left to die. A neighbor made the chalk mark after police left. She was one of scores of neighbors who have met to protest the killing by police. (Photo by Miguel Tejada Flores).

Dialing 411 a drag

Getting answers to everyday problems

ADULTERATION COUNSELING
If you have no family doctor to turn to for the problems of your pregnancy, you can discuss them with the Clergy Counseling Service. Problem Pregnancies, 3150 W. Crenshaw Blvd. (737-7988); St. Vincent's Center, 1027 Crenshaw Blvd. (594-8984).

ACCIDENT — AUTOMOBILE
If someone has been hurt or killed, call the local law authorities or the Sheriff's Office (213-2000). If you must also report an accident to the Dept. of Motor Vehicles, it is 10 days if it has resulted in injury or in property damage of more than \$200.

ACCIDENT — POISON
The Information Center's 24-hour service at Children's Hospital (594-8984) is available only to physicians and hospitals, but in an emergency you can get directions to the nearest hospital equipped to treat a poison victim.

ADVERTISING — FALSE OR MISLEADING
If a deceptive sales pitch crossed the lines in a magazine or on TV, call it to the Federal Trade Commission (624-7575). Within the commission is handled by the Attorney General's Consumer Fraud Unit, 1001 W. First (620-2154).

AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE
Complain to the Calif. Dept. of Insurance, 107 S. Broadway (620-4970) and let your state senator and assemblyman know about it. Also call your governor.

WILD ANIMAL PICK-UP
If the city call the Sanitation Bureau, Dept. of Public Works (594-8111). In the county get in touch with your nearest animal control officer.

AUTOMOBILE PURCHASE
Used car buyers are often victimized by a seller who has no title to the automobile, warns the Dept. of Motor Vehicles. Before you sign anything, ask to see the title slip or some other valid evidence of ownership. If the car is unsafe (faulty brakes, lights, etc.) at the time you drove it off the lot, tell your story to the Calif. Highway Patrol. Beware of the "lemon" used to set the old "bait and switch" trap, and be sure you get the right kind of insurance. Credit life and disability — merely makes full payment of the contract if you should die or become disabled.

AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS
If you've been taken in by an incompetent mechanic, there's nothing much you can do about it except file off some letters to newspapers demanding a state law requiring the licensing of repair shops.

AUTOMOBILE SALE OR TRADE-
If you dispose of a car, whether a direct sale or by trade-in, be sure you sign over the pink slip, otherwise you may find yourself back with someone else's traffic

BEAUTY PARLORS
If you have any complaints about a beauty parlor, send them to the State Board of Cosmetology, 1020 N. Street, Sacramento, Calif. (CA9-5814 or call locally 620-4280).

BIRTH CERTIFICATE
If the birth occurred in Los Angeles County, go to the County Recorder's office, 227 N. Broadway, Room 10 (628-9211, X 63613).

BIRTH CONTROL
In low-income areas women can get The Pill at county health centers. Counseling and clinics are available (you pay what you can afford, but no one is turned away) at Planned Parenthood-World Population, 3100 W. Eighth (380-9300) and at Family Planning Centers, 2966 W. Eighth (386-1970). A family planning directory listing all public and private services is put out by the Los Angeles Regional Family Planning Council, 1636 W. Eighth (386-5614).

BURIAL
If you can't pay for burial and the deceased was without funds or insurance, call the Mortuary Recorder's Office, 1200 N. State (225-3115, X 71065). Cremation.

CAMPING
The U.S. Forest Service has a booklet for vacationers planning to camp in one of its 154 National Forests or 19 National Grasslands. You can order a copy from the government bookstore, 300 N. Los Angeles St. or write Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Ask for Forest Service Publication No. PA-502. Price: 20 cents.

CEMETERY LOTS
If you think you got a raw deal, report it to the State Cemetery Board, 107 South Broadway (620-4247).

CATS
In most residential areas of the county and city, you're limited to three cats (kittens don't count until they're weaned). If you want to help curtail the cat population explosion, call Pet Pride, 15113 Sunset Blvd. (459-1703) or Pet Assistance Foundation — Curtailment of Breeding (937-5204).

CHILD SUPPORT
This is a matter for your local district attorney's office. If you think you're getting the runaround, check in with Mrs. Jean Temple, one of the founding mothers of the Assn. for Children Deprived of Support, 8622 Wistone Ave., Northridge (886-7245).

CONSUMER COMPLAINTS
Defrauded? Report it to the State Attorney General's Consumer Fraud Unit, 217 W. First (620-2154). If interstate commerce was involved, call the Federal Trade Commission (624-7575). You can also take your case to the Better Business Bureau in your community.

CRISIS COUNSELING
Any adult (17-1/2 or older) in need of emergency psychiatric help can sign up for crisis counseling at the Benjamin Rush Center for Problems of Living, 1100 South Robertson (272-3376). Fees are on a sliding scale: \$25 to zero.

CURBS, SIDEWALKS, GUTTERS
They're public property, but you're responsible for their maintenance. If anything goes wrong in the county, call your local city engineer or the Road Dept. (225-1677, X 75214).

DISCRIMINATION
If it's job or housing discrimination because of race, religion or national origins complain to the state's Fair Employment Practice Commission, 322 W. First (620-2610).

DRY CLEANERS
Every dry cleaning establishment in the state is licensed and bonded (\$1,000). If you have a complaint, take it to the Dry Cleaners Board, 107 S. Broadway (620-4130).

ELECTED OFFICIALS
If you want to know the name of Your U.S. Senator, representatives, state legislators, supervisor or city councilman, call the information office of the Registrar of Voters, 808 N. Spring St. (628-9211, X 63791).

EMPLOYEE-EMPLOYER DISPUTE
If it's a common complaint under the California labor code (you didn't get paid when you were laid off), call the state labor commissioner, 107 S. Broadway (620-2100). If you think it's a federal case, check it out with Frank Terry at the U.S. Labor Dept., 300 N. Los Angeles (688-4970). If it involves failure to pay overtime or the minimum wage, Terry will send you to the Wage-Hour and Public Contracts Division in the same building (688-4972).

FOOD, DRUGS AND COSMETICS
Misbranded or contaminated food, drugs and cosmetics should be reported to the U.S. Bureau of Food and Drug Inspections, Dept. of Public Health, 1449 W. Temple (620-2966). If state lines were crossed, it's a matter for the U.S. Food and Drug Admin., Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, 21 W. Pico Blvd., (688-3771).

GARDENING
If you've got insects, ask for Mr. McCrea (625-3611 X 65321); if it's a plant disease, call Mr. Loos (X65319).

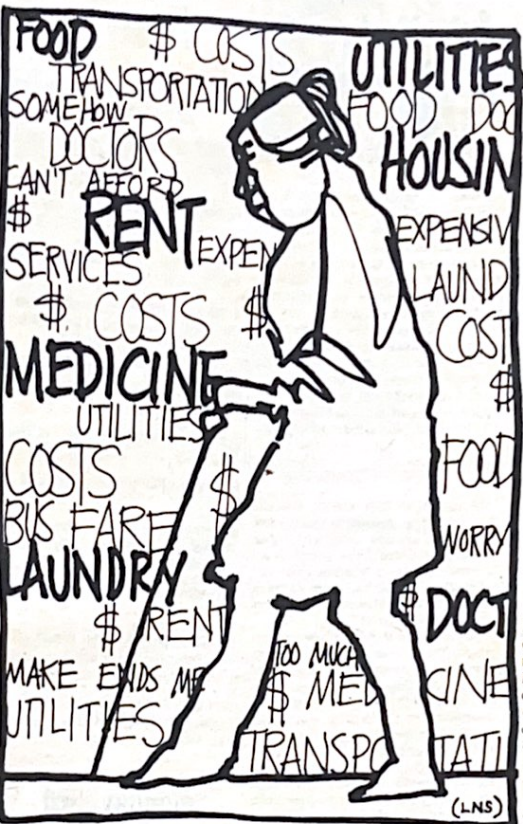
GAMBLING
Want to kick it? Call Gamblers Anonymous (292-4010).

HOTLINE
Central Los Angeles (666-1015); Southeast (233-6145).

HOUSING
Having trouble finding a place to buy or rent because of your race, religion or national origins? Ask the Housing Opportunities Center, 4034 Buckingham Road, (296-6840) for the address of the fair housing council in the community where the difficulty occurred.

IDENTIFICATION CARDS
Persons 21 years or older who have no California driver's license may obtain an ID card from the Dept. of Motor Vehicles. Fee \$3, good for four years. Handy for cashing checks.

(check next week's handbook for a continuation of listings)



CONSUMER REFORMS
If you're fed up with the everyday swindles of the marketplace and want to fight back, check in with the Assn. of Calif. Consumers, 621 S. Virgil Ave. (380-1450 or 879-0154), or drop a line to Ralph Nader, Center for the Study of Responsive Law, 1908 Q St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

CREDIT
If you've been fast-talked into a bad deal by a loan company, take it up with the State Division of Corporations, 107 S. Broadway (620-2720). If a collection agency used unfair tactics against you, report it to the Collection Agency Licensing Bureau in the same building (620-3000).

CONTRACTORS
If your contractor's work was defective, if he or she failed to live up to the terms of his contract or skipped out on you before the job was finished, complain to the Contractor's State License Board, 107 S. Broadway (620-4180). In the San Fernando Valley (782-7611).

DAY NURSERIES
You can get a list of day nurseries from the State Dept. of Social Welfare, 107 S. Broadway (620-4375).

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Sample forms are available at the Federal Information Center, 300 N. Los Angeles (688-3800).

DEATH CERTIFICATE
You'll need copies for life insurance payments, social security benefits, etc. Apply to the County Recorder's office, 227 N. Broadway, Room 10 (628-9211, X 63613).

COSMETICS
If that new beauty-aid turns out to be physically harmful, take it to the Food and Drug Administration, 1521 W. Pico (688-3771).

DEBT COUNSELING
In over your head? Consumer Credit Counselors, 945 S. Western (737-3130) will try to bail you out. No charge.

DOCTOR
If you don't happen to know of a doctor to call, ask the County Medical Assn. (483-6122).

DOGS, BARKING
If you and your neighbors are being kept awake by a barking dog, talk it over with the owner, and then go to the district (or city) attorney's office with a petition.

