moss side news

news

views

readers' letters

all the latest :

read all about it :

"revolutionaries" reply to town hall smear tactics

issue no 4

price 6d

THE MOSS SIDE NEWS

ISSUE NO. 4

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This is Moss Side's own paper, written and produced by and for local people. Articles, letters etc. are welcome from all Moss Siders and any interested people. Please submit them to the editor.

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That the Cleansing Dept. will help you to get rid of an old motor car, FREE OF CHARGE.

DID YOU KNOW

That you can have extra dustbins free of charge if you apply to the Cleansing Dept?

DID YOU KNOW

That the Cleansing Dept. will collect your old furniture, pram, cooker, mattress, etc. FREE OF CHARGE if you ask them.

Ring: The Cleansing Dept.
Platt Lane Depot
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EDITORIAL

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE PAPER?

We were vary glad to receive the letter which is printed on page 10. What we're pleased about is that the author is making comments and suggestions about the paper which can help us to improve it. In fact we have adopted two of the suggestions that were made; we've tried to get rid of the impression that we're only interested in housing, and we've introduced a cookery page.

This sort of letter is the only way we have of finding out what our readers want. Please write to us!

THE MOSS SIDE DIRECTORY

The Moss Side Directory is now on sale all over Moss Side. Most newsagents are selling it and it costs 1/-. It gives details of every public service that one can think of; corporation departments, doctors, lawyers, schools etc. An enormous amount of work must have gone into getting it together and the Council for Social Service must be congratulated on producing it. The only criticism of it is that the text is a bit too small to read comfortably and anyone whose sight is not too good would find difficulty in reading it. We understand that the reason for this was the cost of making it bigger.

PERSONAL ADS

Wanted: Playpen. Pref with floor in good cond. 71 Viscount St. off Claremont Rd. Rusholme.

Twin-tub washer. Good condition Heater etc. £19/10/- 226-1117

Are you in need of a baby sitter? Contact the Afro--Caribbean Youth Society Tel. 881-4349

Personal Ads 1d per word.

HE'S HUMAN TOO Derrick Rogers

It's easy to criticise the fellow who empties your bin. But don't forget that if you were a dustman carrying a bin that was too full, you'd most likely drop the extra rubbish on the floor, if only to make sure you didn't get it down your neck!

Give your bin-man a chance.

READER'S LETTERS

"WIDER INTERESTS".

Sir,

whilst congratulating you on your third edition of "Moss Side News", may I perhaps make some suggestions for future issues.

I'm sure a large number of your readers in Moss Side and surrounding areas are, like myself, young mothers who would appreciate a regular column on household hints, baby care, hair care, cookery etc. This area is, as we all know, multi-racial but how many Englishwomen know how to cook so many of the dishes so loved by each particular nationality---- I know I don't.

Lots of people love curried dishes but how many can turn out a dish equal to the delicious ones served up in many restaurants?

Then there are the strange vegetables we see in the shops. What are they called, how are they cooked and what are they served with? I especially have wondered.

It has been said that Moss Side is a unique community, but as no one knows how long it will last please let us make the most of the opportunity your paper offers for more understanding of each others customs and traditions.

Housing and its problems are a serious issue but there must be plenty of light hearted news of Moss Siders-- they always seem to be busy enough. This is where your paper is in a more advantageous position than the "Nationals". People know one another and like to read of the people they know.

Please do not think that I am only out to criticise you. Indeed I am not, I admire your initiative and courage on such a difficult project -- but you did call the paper "Moss Side News" and not "Moss Side Housing Report

Mrs W.E.Long
71, Viscount St.
M/c 14.

Editors note. Thanks very much for your criticism. We completely agree with you. Our problem is that we are not getting enough articles on matters of general interest in the area. Re recipes you will find one in this issue. As far as exotic vegetables we are going to try and produce a guide to them in the near future.

Sir,

would you find a letter from an outsider acceptable?

Sociological surveys repeatedly tell of the effects of ill-planned slum-clearance to new housing estates :-

the splitting up of families and community.

the sudden increase in rents, bus fares and food prices aggravating financial troubles.

the lonliness of mothers with young children with no nursery or play facilities.

the isolation of old people torn away from friends and a life they know.

the lack of facilities for youth and the boredom which encourages acts of petty delinquency etc. etc.

It is not a privilege

that a community such as Moss Side asks for a say in its future, but a right. This is a fact which must be appreciated by the Town Planners of Manchester if only to avoid making the same mistakes they have made in the past.

Sheila Spicer,
53 Gt Cheetham St W.
Salford 7.

"DISGUSTED."

Sir,

I was disgusted to read in your last issue that the Tory Chairmen of the Housing and Planning Committees had cancelled any further meetings with the Housing Action Group. This high-handed behaviour is quite inconsistent with the Skeffington idea of local participation in planning decisions, and it is clear from Mr Millar's letter that it was the Chairmen themselves who were responsible for it.

Certainly if Labour had still been in control at the Town Hall this would not have occured, and I can assure you we in Moss Side Labour Party shall do our best to get this piece of stupidity reversed. Of course we may not succeed but I can assert with confdence that when Labour returns to a majority position in Manchester we shall certainly do our best to encourage local participation.

No doubt there will still be disagreements with active local groups, but at least we shall reach disagreement in open discussions, and not by turning our backs on the people.

Pat Paget.
(Moss Side Labour Party.)

OLD MOSS SIDE

Sir,

I would like to thank Mr Rayner for his interesting series 'Old Moss Side'. I wonder if he can tell me if Lloyd George, the Liberal Prime Minister, was in any way connected with the Lloyd family of Moss Side. The reason I ask is that the street I live in, Criccieth St used to be called George St. Criccieth, a delightful place in Wales, is the home ofthe Lloyd George family and I thought there may be a link somewhere.

Ellen Peel-Haigh
86, Criccieth St.

--- --- ---

Mr Rayner informs us that as far as he knows there is no link but he is making further enquiries.

---

eat

at

GOODEATS

SERVICE &

CIVILITY

COMPETITIVE PRICES

80 MOSS LANE E

news---news---news--

Mrs Mabel Taylor, the wife of Moss Side M.P. Frank Taylor, hit the headlines last week when she went in for a bit of direct action in Cornwall. Apparently she was fed up with holidaymakers leaving cars parked in the lane at the side of the Taylor's holiday home in Sennen and blocking the road. Mrs Taylor said this prevented delivery vans visiting peoples homes further up the cliff. The last straw came when she politely asked some one not to leave his car in the lane and the driver completely ignored her and walked away. Mrs Taylor then phoned the police and calmly proceeded to drive holes in the cars tyres, after which she let down the tyres of two other cars in the lane. Afterwards Mrs Taylor said "I did it for a purpose--- After all, if people like me can't fight for the people of Sennen, who can? If a protest like this cannot be done by peaceful means, other methods must be used."
Bravo Mrs Taylor. Now how about a bit of direct action on behalf of the people of Moss Side!

Student John Edwards has just returned home to Manchester after completing four years study in U.S.A. On his return his father ALDERMAN DOUGLAS EDWARDS, Chairman of the Manchester Town Planning Committee said, "He looked worn out" So John and his wife were sent off to the Riviera for six weeks. We understand that there are no plans at present to make this the normal practise for tired students.

PLAY STREETS.

Last week in the "Manchester Evening News" there was an account of kids in Levenshulme barricading a play street in order to stop cars using it as a short cut. This is particularly interesting to Moss Siders. We were told by the police that it is not possible for streets which run into main roads to be made into play streets. (See Moss Side no 3 page 11.) The point about this is that the play street the kids in Levenshulme barricaded was Elbow St. which runs between Stockport Rd and Chapel St and if they are not main roads then Princess Rd is a cul de sac! Once again it seems there is one law for Moss Side and another for the rest of the city.

CARAVANS.

The question of caravan sites for gypsies came up again in the Council last week. The Corporation say they intend to provide a site for FIFTEEN caravans at a cost of £20,000 to £25,000. The site will be at Red Bank and will be surrounded by a high wall to "give some protection to the caravans".
All the travellers have ever asked is a place to park with access to water and toilets. The council have also said no other travellers will be able

to stop anywhere in the city. This raises a lot of points such as who is going to select the lucky 15 and on what basis will they be selected? How are gypsies ever to feel like people if they are to be shut away behind high walls? Why is the council spending so much on one totally inadequate site? What happens to the gypsies in the area who don't get onto the new site, and in particular what happens to their kids? Or is the education of children whose parents live in caravans not important.
Of course there are problems involved in helping the gypsies to come to terms with the rest of the population, but it isn't any help to just move them on and pretend they don't exist.
After all is said and done Gypsies are PEOPLE.

DON'T cheer YET!

Manchester housing chiefs have announced the fact that they will be soon issuing a brochure to the residents of "twilight" zones to tell them what the answers are to such questions as when and where they will be re-housed. While welcoming this as a step in the right direction it will be as well to wait and see just how good this brochure really is. In the past the only answer given to the question where will we be re-housed has been---"Where ever there happen to be houses at the time you move.

Ex prisoner of war James Dougherty bought a shop on Radnor St a few years back. After being told by the Corporation that his property was safe for 15 to 20 years he borrowed from the bank and opened up a chip shop. 3 years later the shop was demolished by slum clearance. Mr Dougherty got £17 for his property and an ex gratia payment of £200. Mr Dougherty was about £750 out of pocket. Said Sir Richard Harper, after refusing to increase the ex-gratia payment, "We couldn't increase it without being unfair to thousands of others equally displaced"

"JOKE OF THE YEAR."

That was the comment of Oldham Councillor Frank Collins when he heard that the St Mary's ward estate in Oldham was to go on show at the international architects exhibition in Buenos Aires.
The estate is so bad that it is undergoing an investigation by the Ministry of Housing.
Said Con. Collins, who represents the estate, "I have had over 400 complaints"
Tenants are complaining of leaking windows, faulty taps no heating, and dampness and condensation.
The comment of architect Councillor Denis Smith, the deputy chairman of Oldham's Planning Committee was:-
"The estate has had its teething troubles, BUT THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH ITS APPEARANCE.
As far as we know Coun Smith does not live on the estate!

ANTI-COUNCIL, ANTI-TOWN HALL ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT REVOLUTIONARIES.

That was the headline in la last week's Daily Mail North West Extra. It wasn't a description of a band of armed and desperate guerillas. It was the Moss Side Housing Action Group as seen through the eyes of Manchesters Chief Planning Officer!

This type of language is of course smearing of the very lowest kind. The kind which is stooped to by people who have no constructive case to state. We in H.A.G. are not prepared to lower ourselves to this type of behaviour. In his statement in the"Daily Mail" Mr Millar said "---after our meeting the group published a one sided and inaccurate account of it for the people of Moss Side. What they said was rude and aggressive--"

It is denied by us that what we said was either one sided or inaccurate. In any event if the Town Hall think it was then the remedy lies in their own hands. No one can accuse them of having been inaccurate in what they have told the people of Moss Side because they HAVE NEVER YET TOLD THE PEOPLE OF MOSS SIDE ANYTHING AT ALL.

As far as being rude and aggressive we have never yet said anything which even approaches the rudeness or aggressiveness of John Millar's press statement.

If you saw the article in q question you may have been as intrigued as us at the headline, which was one sided and biased. The article itself was in fact quite well balanced. It seems the sub editor who wrote the head line is more interested in sensationalism than in honest journalism.

Enough of this anyway. This kind of smear tactic is used regularly to try to discredit pressure groups. The b best way to counter this type of propaganda is to show the Town Hall Officials that what we want is a bit of action from them NOW.

Instead of knocking us they should be in Moss Side finding out for themselves what people want.

The Housing Action Group now meets evey Thursday Night at 8 p.m. at the H.A.G. room corner of Princess Rd &Bold St.

We still need any spare white emulsion paint you may have and any spare wooden chairs.

Is there a qualified electrician in Moss Side who can give us some advice & maybe do a bit of wiring? - FREE!

All enquiries about HAG to
23, Sewerby St.
or at our premises any Thurs. after 8 p.m.

ACTION ON HOUSING. NOW

IMPORTANT PUBLIC

MEETING

THE TOWN HALL HAS LAUNCHED A VICIOUS AND SMEARING ATTACK ON THE HOUSING ACTION GROUP.
THE PURPOSE OF THIS ATTACK IS TO DISCREDIT A GROUP OF LOCAL PEOPLE WHO ARE FIGHTING FOR A BETTER DEAL FOR MOSS SIDE. ONCE THE ACTION GROUP HAS BEEN DISCREDITED THE AUTHORITIES WILL BE ABLE TO FORGET ALL ABOUT MOSS SIDE AGAIN-----IF WE LET THEM.

MOSS SIDES ANSWER TO THE TOWN HALL
MUST TAKE THE SHAPE OF SUPPORT FOR

H OUSING A CTION G ROUP

COME TO THE MEETING
SHOW THE TOWN HALL THAT THE PEOPLE OF MOSS SIDE ARE NOT BEING TAKEN IN

PRINCESS ROAD SCHOOL.

TUESDAY 26th AUGUST

8.00p.m.

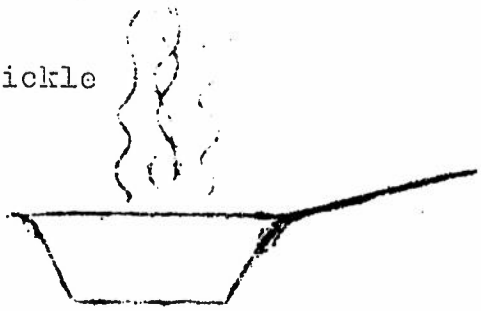
SPEAKERS HAVE BEEN INVITED FROM OTHER CLEARANCE AREAS IN THE CITY. COME AND HEAR ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES.

10/

A Variation on Shepherd's Pie

Ingredients

1 lb mincemeat
2 onions
1 tablespoon of curry powder
1 tablespoon of chutney or sweet pickle
2 eggs
1 slice of bread
a little milk
1 or 2 cloves of garlic
a few raisins or almonds
a little fat for frying



Start off by putting the bread in the milk to soak. Meanwhile, chop the onions finely and the garlic very finely, and fry them gently with the curry powder. Add the meat and then the bread, mashed up; next mix in the chutney and the raisins.

When the meat is cooked, take the pan off the stove and stir in one of the eggs, well beaten. (Add water if it does not seem moist) Put the mixture into a greased pie dish and cook in a moderate oven for about ½ an hour.

P.S.D

FOR THE HIGHEST QUALITY AT THE MOST COMPETITIVE PRICES

FISH

GAME

MIDDLEHURST

POULTRY

79, ALEXANDRA RD. MOSS SIDE.

seen here + there

When Mrs Janet Trent opened her diary yesterday the entry for the day was already filled in by somebody else and read: 'House burgled 5 a.m.' A burglar had stolen £24 as she slept in her Hallfield Estate, Paddington, home. (Daily Express.)

Audience tried to ruin play but St Chads players succeeded.
(Headline in Sunderland Echo)

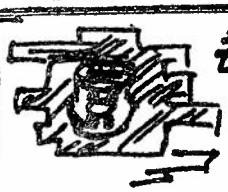
In the Doncaster district there are more underground cables than overhead, but this is largely due to Doncaster having its cables underground.
(Yorkshire Evening Post)

To avoid slipping in the bath place a rubber mat on the bottom. (Paisley Daily Express)

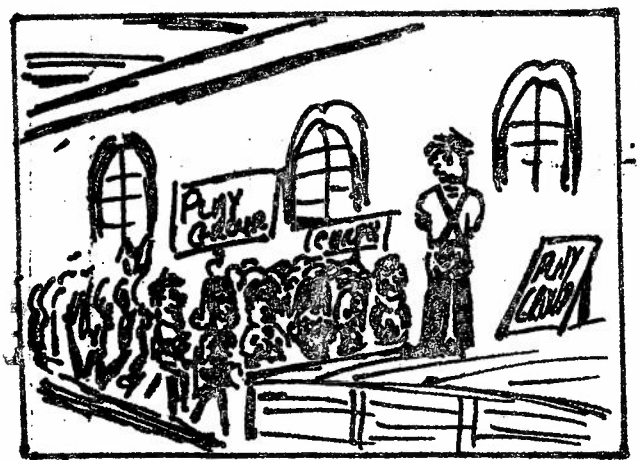
STERILITY MAY BE INHERITED.
(Headline in Pacific Rural Press)

'I'm not subletting, the noise you can hear is the Rats moving in from the empty house next door'.

Action Fred LOOKS IN



TREVA



I'll Start my own play group

all the kids love me!

EDUCATION GROUP

As previously reported in the Moss Side News a few Moss Side Parents got together and called a meeting on June 8th, at which a Parents Association was formed. Since then we have had several meetings, out of which has come the idea that an advisory centre is needed in this particular area. We have now decided to open such a centre.

3 NIGHTS A WEEK

We recieved an offer of premises from the West Indian Association, which we have gratefully accepted. The address of the centre will be 53, Darcy St. and it will be open 3 nights a week to start with.

It will have one teacher and two parents in attendance to answer questions, give help on the Welfare Services and give advice about school grants that may be available to you.

WE MUST TRY!

The parents who will be at the centre are people like yourselves who live in the area and are just as involved as you are. This is your association, yours and mine, we need your support. These are your children and mine. Look around and see if we can't improve things for them.
WE MUST AT LEAST TRY!

ADVICE CENTRE FOR PARENTS

When does it start?
27th August
When will it be open?
Wed, Thur, Fri evenings every week.

The times of opening may be changed if it is found that these times are not convenient.

If you are interested in joining the organisation or helping in any way plea contact
Berry Edwards
78, Platt St. M/C 16
or the advice centre at
53, Darcy St.

on sale now!
at newsagents
moss side
DIRECTORY
1/-

A guide to Social and Community services, published by Manchester & Salford Council of Social Service.

Racing Tips

by Ivan.

In the last issue three out of the five horses, that I had selected, won: SAYFAR at 5-1, CONSEQUENTLY at 9-4, MILITIA at 5-4.

This week I will try to do better still. For my first selection I like ART TREASURE in the 2-15 at HAYDOCK PARK. Also at the same meeting TYPHON, trained by Van Cutsem, should win the 3-15 from Come on Grey.

SIR BIRT an improving 2yr old, should win the Lyme Park Nursery Handicap. My nap of the day is HAPPY VICTORIOUS in the 4.00 at LINGFIELD. For my final selection I take DAN PATCH in the 3.00 at NEWMARKET.

IN MY OPINION

by Mrs Ellen Peel-Haigh.

A few days back the editorial board had a meeting to discuss the Moss Side News. Many of us are aware of the anxieties and problems clearance brings and the first few editions have been primarily taken up with this subject. Whilst we are going to print further news on this topic we want a more varied type of paper. This is your paper to say what displeases you, or what you would like to do or have done.

Is it your special anniversary? Have you a new addition to your family? Did you enjoy your holiday? Have you a favourite hobby or recipe? - Come on football fans, here's a chance to tell how you would make your favourate team even better!

There's going to be a celebration next year for Alexandra Park Centenary. Would you like a carnival, fancy dress decorated lorries, Morris dancers, the lot? As we residents may not be here much longer maybe the celebration could be made a memorable one.

Come on folks, get those pens cracking - we are waiting! If you won the pools what would you do with the money? In our house we have varied opinions on how to spend it, so I don't know what the outcome would be if we ever struck it lucky!

NEWSFLASH!

Carrying banners saying "Chains are for lavatories not for blacks"and"Moss Side bleeds in agony", 100 black people marched down Princess Rd to Platt Lane police station on Tuesday, protesting against 'Police Brutality'.

The march was peaceful and was organised as a result of two alleged 'beatings up' within the last month of arrested blacks by the police. The event got national press coverage.

One of the marchers said afterwards: "I think it succeeded in its purpose, but it would have been better if there had been more people!

MATHER & VICKERS
119 DENMARK ROAD
WINES &
SPIRITS
GROCERIES

WASHER & VAC REPAIRS
ROLLS ACME
THOR DUOMATIC
BURCO HOOVER ETC

SAME DAY SERVICE
52 DENMARK RD

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