

Gay boycott of hotel for cancellings conference

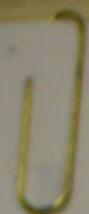
By ROBIN ROBERTS

COUNCIL WORKERS in Britain have organised a boycott of a leading hotel group after their proposed annual gay and

The Cardiff hotel had written to them asking for assurances about no publicity and when the group said they would not to a

article outside the Park Hotel, to draw attention to the issue. She added, "We believe the position of the Park Hotel and World Charlotte Investments Group was one of the main reasons why we decided to

Tony 1988



Introduction

TRADES UNIONISTS
AGAINST
SECTION 28

NON-COMPLIANCE
CONFERENCE

REPORT

TUAS believes that this section of the Local Government Act is the most far reaching legal attack on lesbian and gay rights this century. This law has not only extended the scope of legal discrimination against homosexual projects and initiatives, but has also intensified the climate of prejudice and hostility towards all lesbians and gay men.

WE BELIEVE THAT LESBIANS AND GAY MEN SHOULD BE AFFORDED EQUAL RIGHTS, ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN:

Schools, Colleges and Universities

Education - Homosexuality should be presented as equally valid as heterosexuality.

The custody, fostering, adoption and childcare of their own and other children.

Employment

The provision of housing, social services, cultural facilities and grant funding

WE DEMAND THAT ALL LOCAL AUTHORITIES IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY IRRESPECTIVE OF THE LAW

We call on all councils to stand firm by, extend or introduce commitments to lesbian and gay equality in employment and the provision of services.

WE CALL ON THE LABOUR MOVEMENT, PARTICULARLY TRADES UNIONS, COMMUNITY GROUPS AND CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS TO CAMPAIGN FOR THIS POLICY AND REFUSE TO IMPLEMENT SECTION 28

We call for their opposition to the censorship of lesbian and gay projects and organisations by local authorities, school governors



EQUALITY NEWS

Issue No. 2

Spring 1984

Tax blow for Fleet St. creche

Fleet Street's creche, due to open at the end of the year, is threatened by extra tax charges which could make it too expensive for most parents.

The Inland Revenue has recently begun implementing a clause in the 1978 Finance Act which deals with the taxation of benefits. Because creches are not exempt from the definition of "perks", employers' contributions to them are taxable.

Parents who have children at the Kingsway Creche in London have been told to pay the added tax costs on employers' contributions as well as back tax to 1976.

The hike in monthly payments is huge. Kingsway parents pay £100 a month (this is due to go up to £115 in April); companies pay £200. The extra tax charge on the employers' contribution will raise the parent's contribution by about £67 a month. There will be a further charge to cover back tax.

Tax Woodcraft, assistant research officer at Nalga, says: "If parents panic and pull out, Kingsway will collapse." The forecast for Fleet Street is equally bleak.

The TUC Women's Conference passed a resolution condemning the extra charges and called on the Women's Advisory Committee to take action by campaigning with other organisations, such as the National Child Care Campaign, for amendments to the Act to stop the tax being levied.

The campaign will drive home the point that creche facilities are a right, not a perk.

Union acts on anti-gay copy

THE NUJ has found three journalists guilty of breaching the union's rules by writing sexist and anti-gay copy.

For the first time in its history the National Executive Council fined a member £200 for encouraging discrimination against gays. He was censured in 1981 for an earlier breach of the union's rules.

Two law writers were also reprimanded for sexist and anti-gay stories.

Monitoring the code, *see page 18*

These findings were the first of their kind since the NUJ's Code of Conduct became open to complaint under Rule 18.

Frank Donkley of London South-East Branch was found guilty in connection with a column in the *Kensal Independent* about a local councillor. She had contributed an article to *London Labour Briefing* which also contained pieces by a lesbian and a transvestite. Donkley suggested that because of this "clear indication" of the company she kept she had influenced policy in allocating council homes to gay people.

Terry Lovell, a Manchester branch member, was reprimanded for a story in *The Sun*, headlined: "What's the sexiest bit of a woman?" It was accompanied by a photograph like the "planned cow" in butchers' shops, with each choice "cut" labelled.

The NEC accepted that the published story was far worse than Lovell's original copy which began as a write-up of a theory by an American psychotherapist. But it found that his copy still constituted a breach of

Clause 10 of the Code of Conduct.

After commenting that Lovell's editorial appeared to be an "understanding" of the attitudes which he believed Clause 10', the NEC said: "It is to be the original psychological theme can be discussed. It appears to be discussing women's attitudes towards their own physical attributes for their own satisfaction.

"The impact of Mr Lovell, however, as well as the general article, converts this into a self-examination undertaken to determine physical attributes of greatest attraction to men, and goes on to suggest that women's role is to answer to men's requirements."

Victor Chapman of Central London Branch was also found guilty of a breach of Clause 10. He wrote a story for *The Sun* which encouraged discrimination against gays. He, too, was reprimanded.

The story said a "following council planned to recruit homosexual men and women to work with children" and that a "wave of fury" had erupted. But the origin of the story was a draft equality charter covering all council posts, which could have included jobs which involved working with children.

• Clause 10 of the NUJ Code of Conduct says: "Journalists shall only mention a person's race, colour, creed, illegitimacy, marital status (or lack of it), gender or sexual orientation if this information is strictly relevant. A journalist shall neither originate or process material which encourages discrimination on any of the above mentioned grounds."



INSIDE

MP attacks sexism in media

Gays fight prejudice

Spotlight on Women's TUC

Oor Wullie gets the message

GOING TO ADM?

FIRST TIME?

Meeting for all women delegates, first night, Monday April 9, 8pm. Check conference pack for venue.

delays in postal deliveries when their ADM meetings arrive after closing

"As a result of this article, the National Executive Council decided to remind all members of their duty towards the Code of Conduct.

"A letter from the general secretary on December 22 to the joint chair of the Equality Council also raised the question of the use of the NUJ logo

Post shares are taking up two seats on the Equality Council for the first time this year.

Not English and Scottish MacGowan of London Television Branch are filling the broadcasting position. Vic Waly and Helen Warby of London Freelance Branch are sharing the freelance seat.

Equality News has given the National Executive Council the follow-

Two into one does go

part" in the Winter 1983 edition under the heading "Two into one won't go" and has sought this right of reply of equal length and prominence.

"While there is no attribution of the NEC members, or even if they were industriously elected members or officials, who insisted there was no 'intention' to do this, it is clear that the

readers. This clearly implies that any of those named could have been involved in a conspiracy.

"This impression is reinforced entirely by the National Executive Council. Some NEC members have already indicated publicly that they did not require their names of the meeting since their names of the meeting

LESBIANS AND GAYS IN SCHOOLS

An Issue for Every Teacher

NUT Guidance on Lesbian and Gay Issues
Schools and Colleges in Education



LESBIAN AND GAY TEACHERS

In discussion on these issues, teachers may be asked whether they are lesbian or gay themselves. Whilst choice of response is clearly a personal matter, the advice of the Union is that ordinarily personal security is not a matter for discussion with pupils. If asked directly, in principle the best course of action for a teacher on this or any other question concerning personal security is to draw the questioner into more general consideration of relationships, stressing that caring relationships with respectible attitudes take place between lesbian and gay people as well as heterosexuals. Teachers should keep firmly in mind their role in educating against prejudice rather than engaging in discussions about their personal security.

If a teacher's lesbian or gay status does become known to pupils, either through discussion or through involvement in campaigning

FORMAL TEACHING PROGRAMMES

Formal teaching about lesbian and gay relationships and sexuality is most effective when it forms part of a package of work on relationships, moral issues, minorities or other appropriate topic. (Other opportunities will of course also arise in subjects such as history and literature for discussion about the prejudice faced by lesbians and gay people.) The approval of the local and government of the school should always be obtained, and the local authority policy statement on sex education should be consulted. Parents should also receive suitable notification, preferably in the context of helping them to appreciate the school's total programme of work on personal and social issues. Those responsible for the programme should be prepared to address themselves sensitively to parental objections, if any are expressed. Careful planning and consultation with colleagues is essential, and it may be helpful to compile a dossier of briefing