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Owen's; Welfare; ERA rally; Harber Hall; Mayday; lotsa letters & more

Bloomington-Normal

25¢

POST AMERIKAN

June 1976
Volume 5 No. 3

CRIMESTOPPERS TEXTBOOK

YOU CAN HELP STOP DRUG BUSTS!



MEMORIZE THESE FACES!



THESE FOUR MEN ARE
BRAND NEW UNDERCOVER NARCOTICS

AGENTS. A TEAM OF POST-AMERIKAN PHOTOGRAPHERS CAUGHT THESE SHOTS WHILE THE AGENTS WERE ENGAGED IN FBI-SPONSORED NARC TRAINING IN MID-MAY. THEY DON'T KNOW THEY WERE PHOTOGRAPHED.

AT LOWER LEFT IS GARY HIGBEE. A MEMBER OF THE WARREN COUNTY SHERIFF'S POLICE FORCE, HIGBEE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE MULTI-COUNTY DRUG ENFORCEMENT GROUP (MEG) WHICH OPERATES IN MCLEAN, TAZEVELL, PEORIA, FULTON, KNOX, AND WARREN COUNTIES.

WE DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHICH UNDERCOVER DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES THESE OTHER NARCS WORK FOR. IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THEY, TOO, ARE NEW AGENTS WORKING FOR THE PEORIA-BASED MEG. POSSIBLY THEY'RE ASSIGNED TO ONE OF THE OTHER 6 MEG UNITS IN ILLINOIS. MAYBE THEY ARE FBI AGENTS, ASSIGNED TO SPY ANYWHERE IN THE STATE.

USUALLY, A SECRET POLICE AGENT'S IDENTITY DOESN'T BECOME KNOWN UNTIL HE OR SHE BUSTS SOMEONE AND HAS TO APPEAR IN COURT. WITH THE PUBLICATION OF THESE PHOTOS, THESE NARCS LOSE THEIR COVER BEFORE THEY HAVE A CHANCE TO BUST EVEN ONE PERSON.

HELP PREVENT UNNECESSARY DOPE BUSTS. MEMORIZE THESE FACES. IF YOU SEE THESE MEN, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO APPREHEND THEM ALONE. THEY ARE DANGEROUS. THEY WILL DO ALMOST ANYTHING TO BUILD UP THEIR ARREST RECORDS. IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION ON THESE MEN, CONTACT THE BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL POST-AMERIKAN, (309) 828-7232, OR WRITE PO BOX 3452, BLOOMINGTON, ILL 61701.

MORE PIX INSIDE,
p. 4.

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED

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BLOOMINGTON
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ABOUT US

Anyone can be a member of the POST staff except maybe Sheriff King. All you have to do is come to the meetings and do one of the many different and exciting tasks necessary for the smooth operation of a paper like this. You start work at nothing per hour, and stay there. Everyone else gets paid the same. Ego gratification and good karma are the fringe benefits.

Decisions are made collectively by staff members at one of our regular meetings. All workers have an equal voice. The Post-Amerikan has no editor or hierarchical structure, so quit calling up here and asking who's in charge.

Anybody who reads this paper can tell the type of stuff we print. All worthwhile material is welcome. We try to choose articles that are timely, relevant, informative, and not available in other local media. We will not print anything racist, sexist, or ageist.

Most of our material or inspiration for material comes from the community. We encourage you, the reader, to become more than a reader. We welcome all stories or tips for stories. Bring stuff to a meeting (the schedule is printed below) or mail it to our office.

Meetings

Friday June 11, 6:30 p.m.
 Friday June 18, 6:30 p.m.
 Wed. June 23, 6:30 p.m. (deadline)
 June 26 & 27 after noon: layout
 Friday July 2, 6:30 p.m.
 Friday July 9, 6:30 p.m.

These meetings are held at the Post-Amerikan office, and if you'd like to come, call us. The number is: 828-7232. You can also reach folks at 828-6885, or 828-7986.

You can make bread hawking the Post--15¢ a copy, except for the first 50 copies on which you make only 10¢ a copy. Call 828-7232.

Mail, which we more than welcome, should be mailed to: The Post-Amerikan, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61701.

Post Sellers

OUTTA TOWN

Galesburg: Under the Sun, 188 W. Main

Springfield: Spoon River Book Co-op, 407 E. Adams
 Pontiac: Semmens Drug 123 Madison St.
 East Peoria: Records, Records, Records; 103 Junction

NORMAL

University Liquors, 706 W. Beaufort
 Welcome Inn (in front)
 Redbird IGA
 Divinyl Madness Records, 115 North Street
 Mother Murphy's, 111 1/2 North Street
 Ram, 101 Broadway Mall
 Al's Pipe Shop, 101 Broadway Mall
 Hendren's Grocery, 301 W. Willow
 Co-op Bookstore (in front)
 The Galery (in front)
 The Lobby Shop, ISU Student Union
 Bowling and Billiards Center, ISU Student Union
 Cage, ISU Student Union
 Midstate Truck Plaza, Rt. 51 North
 Hottle House, 1402 S. Main
 SW corner, University and College
 Radio Shack, Raab Rd. (in front)
 New Age Bookstore, Broadway Mall

Old Main Bookstore, 207 S. Main
 Campus Records, 311 S. Main, Normal

BLOOMINGTON

The Joint, 415 N. Main
 Medusa's Bookstore, 109 W. Front
 News Nook, 402 1/2 N. Main
 The Book Worm, 310 1/2 N. Main
 Gaston's Barber Shop, 202 1/2 N. Center
 Sambo's, Washington and U.S. 66
 DeVary's Market, 1402 W. Market
 Harris' Market, 802 N. Morris
 Hickory Pit, 920 W. Washington
 Biasi's Drug Store, 217 N. Main
 Discount Den, 207 N. Main
 U-I Grocery, 918 W. Market
 U-I Grocery, 608 S. Lee
 Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland Ave.
 Bus Depot, 523 N. East
 Park Store, 909 S. Allin
 Nierstheimer's Drug Store, 1302 N. Main
 Pantagraph Building, in front of it
 Eddy's Market, Washington & Allin
 Bi-Rite, 203 E. Locust
 Lazy J Saloon, 1401 W. Market
 Mandingo's, 312 S. Lee

DEAR RADDY

DEAR RADDY:

My father says that I have to ask you what you think the punishment should be for the crime I committed. I stole some money from my parents.

So whatever you say, I will have to do. I am 12 years old.

--Gully in Clifton, N. J.

DEAR GUILTY:

Your letter is, unfortunately, a textbook case of slave mentality. However, unless your father (or mother) is an executive of State Farm, your energy would probably be better placed if you made a practice of stealing from warmongering multi-national corporations rather than private individuals who are themselves victims of the capitalist system. Also steal a copy of Engel's Private Property and the Family and give it to your parents for their next anniversary.

DEAR RADDY

I am a 28-year-old woman with a six-year-old child who will be starting first grade next fall. I would like to return to the job I had before my marriage, secretary in a law office. My husband doesn't want to let me. He says that it would interfere with my duties as mother and housewife.

My working hours would permit me to be home when my daughter left for and returned from school, and I know that I could keep up with the housecleaning, but my husband won't listen to me. What can I do? (We don't really need the extra money.)

--Shut-in in Chenoa

DEAR SHUT:

I would suggest that you somehow coerce your husband into exchanging roles with you for one year. By the end of that time, because of the pressures, isolation, and frustrations involved with unpaid and non-cooperative childraising and housewifery, he will probably be addicted to tranquilizers. (75% of Illinois housewives really are on "mood-altering" drugs.) At this point, you will be able to do whatever you want with him.

DEAR RADDY:

We recently announced that our daughter is being married at a large church wedding on June 26th. A friendly neighbor phoned and asked at what time our wedding was scheduled. I told her 2 p.m. Then she told me that HER daughter was being married the same day at 5 p.m. and asked if she could use our flowers.

I didn't know what else to say, so I said yes.

When I told my husband, he said I should have told her if she wanted to use our flowers, she should pay half the florist bill. They are just about as well off financially as we are.

Now my husband wants me to ring the lady up and make that suggestion, but I haven't got the nerve. Please help me.

--Wasn't Thinking

DEAR WASN'T:

Your confusion about what your own feelings really are about this is logical and understandable in a society that's as weird as ours is. In a capitalist society, there are no easy or ideal solutions. However, whatever you decide, don't let your husband's feelings substitute for working out your own. I personally think you might as well be neighborly and share only the flowers, not the cost. (If you do share the cost, remember that the flowers will be "used" and thus have depreciated in value by the time your neighbor gets them.)

Another solution would be to discourage both your daughters from getting married (challenge the basic premise, so to speak), which is probably best anyway.



Post Amerikan photo team poses after another successful narc-shooting mission.

NEED HELP ON YOUR RENT?

As was noted in the April 12, 1976 Moneysworth, thousands of American homeowners and tenants have become eligible for Federal rent aid under a newly-passed law raising the income levels permitted families that are receiving housing subsidies.

The income limit has been upped to \$13,500 for a family of five and \$15,900 for a family of eight. And the income range is actually higher than that, because those figures represent "adjusted gross income"--income after real estate taxes and a deduction of \$300 for each minor dependent.

Under the HUD subsidy program, an eligible family pays a maximum of 25% of its income, with HUD or the landlord making up the difference between the 25% and the "fair market" rent for the apartment.

I. F. Stone II

How Well and Fair is Welfare? ³

Anyone who thinks that living on welfare is a pleasure, this article is especially for you.

Having had to survive on welfare (ADC) for two years myself, I know just how much of a hassle it really is. But like many others, my situation doesn't leave me any other alternative. My situation is typical of hundreds of other welfare mothers; I have small children, no skills to obtain a great-paying job and no child support.

First of all, if you have no job, for reasons I will go into later, then you receive a monthly set amount, depending on how many children you have. For instance, if you have one child, the amount is \$204 per month. This is supposed to pay your rent, utilities, and buy your food stamps, and not to mention items you have to buy with cash, such as garbage bags, detergent, toothpaste, etc. I asked my caseworker at Public Aid just how they came up with that small of a set amount, when considering all those things it's "supposed to cover" far exceed that amount! She explained that (apparently) these figures were established years back, and completely fall short of inflation allowances (over years' time!) For instance, in figuring this set \$204 a month, they also "figured" and allowed about \$100 for rent. Now that may have been reasonable years ago, for an efficiency apartment! Except even now an efficiency isn't allowable with children if you're on Public Aid, because they won't help pay rent on too small a place (you have to report how many rooms you have). And even if it was allowable, with the costs of things the way they are now, especially in Bloomington, it's doubtful that you could get an efficiency for that cheap. With two children, you're supposed to have two bedrooms, and most people pay anywhere from \$150 to \$175 a month for a decent apartment. And usually you pay one or more utilities. And security deposits are your own problem; Public Aid won't help. After paying for all that out of your \$204, there's not even enough money left to purchase the food stamps! I know of many people receiving welfare who were left in that predicament, and finally had to resort to not paying the rent in full, or not paying utilities, just to eat that month! What's even more ridiculous, a bill is being passed to increase the cost of food stamps to one-third of your base income, and for those with a set income of \$204 a month, that would mean almost \$70, an increase of almost \$40 or \$50 over what they were paying and couldn't even afford. And for those with more children, it will mean an even greater increase. But the problem of the meager monthly amount is only the beginning.



If you are lucky enough to have a car, probably a piece of junk, then maybe you can get a job. Public Aid will pay a babysitter, and a small part of transportation costs (nine cents a mile the last time I heard), but you have to send in a monthly income report, and your "set amount" is reduced, according to how much you make. So, in reality, it doesn't really pay to go to work, when you're going to come out with the same small amount of money you had before, plus now you're paying out for gas, work clothes, and car maintenance. Most people trying to live on just welfare who don't work, would probably rather be working, but not if it's going to put them farther in the hole financially.



It is now a requirement that a babysitter be licensed, or Public Aid will not help pay. Because of this, any job you hope to get will have to be Monday through Friday, daytime hours, because there are very few licensed sitters who sit nights or weekends, if there are any.

A few years back, Public Aid would allow \$50 for car repairs, or up to \$50 a month to help pay off a car, for at that time a car was recognized as a necessity (for those working). A lot of people had begun paying for decent cars with the help of this \$50 allowance. Then all of a sudden in January of 1974, Public Aid announced it was discontinuing this type of assistance, which in turn, resulted in many people having to give up their cars as they no longer could afford payments. It wasn't these people's fault their cars were lost and their credit ruined; it was the fault of Public Aid. Public Aid should have at least finished helping those who were already being helped, and just not started any new people with this type of assistance. Instead of doing the decent and logical thing (which would be extremely out of character), they left many people in a very bad bind. And although a car is still a necessity (especially with children), acquiring one is now your own problem.

Again, I come to the subject of children. As I stated before, Public Aid will pay for a babysitter. But, as usual, there is a catch to this also. You used to choose the babysitter, but as a few months ago that is no longer true. It is now a

requirement that the sitter be licensed, or Public Aid will not help pay. Because of this, any job you hope to get will have to be Monday through Friday, daytime hours, because there are very few licensed sitters who sit nights or weekends, if there are any. Needless to say, this doesn't leave a real choice of jobs, especially with jobs at any hours being extremely scarce in this area. How does Public Aid expect a person on welfare to go out and work when almost every step of the way the hassles and inconveniences get bigger and bigger??

No 'Luxuries'

Then again, if you do work and receive welfare, and you're anxiously awaiting this year's, or any year's, income tax return, I have a word of advice. Forget it! If you didn't already know, it is not yours to keep. Public Aid requires you to report how much you receive, and they deduct it from your monthly check. So if you needed clothes for yourself or children, or needed car repairs, or had debts to pay, those are just "luxuries" you'll have to do without again this year. But if you've lived on welfare for long, you're no doubt used to "doing without" a lot of things by now, and know better than to expect anything more from Public Aid! This year won't be any different from any other year (unless it's worse)!

Child support is another thing the welfare mother won't ever see. To qualify for ADC, the mother has to sign support papers against the father of her children. Then Public Aid will take him to court, and he will then proceed to pay PUBLIC AID the child support. The welfare mother will not see any increase in her monthly check, because there won't be any. All it will mean is that PUBLIC AID won't have to pay the mother quite so much because part of her check will be paid by the father. But it won't mean any more money, or a bigger check. Public Aid is the only one benefiting. Funny, but I thought child support was meant for children?

No Organization

As far as the people working for Public Aid, and especially caseworkers, they just aren't worth mentioning. From my own experiences, and other people's, with them, it's obvious most of them are either never trained for the job, or are as confused by Public Aid's tactics as anyone else. The organization in that place is unbelievably pitiful. This all stems from the mess at the Public Aid office in Springfield, which does most of the messing up! People who aren't employed receive notices that the state thinks they are working and that their assistance is to be cut off, and people who are employed receive notices that if they don't apply for unemployment they will be cut off Public Aid also. And it goes on and on, getting more and more ridiculous as it does.

All this doesn't even begin to cover the hassles of trying to live on welfare, but it covers some of the major ones. And if there is anyone who read this article, and still believes that welfarites are living a problem-free life of luxury, then I suggest they go down and sign up for Public Aid themselves, so they can share a taste of the good life!!

L.--

MEG Fires Agent Ford Conley

MEG agent Ford Jonathan Conley was fired in April, according to his reluctant testimony in court in mid-May. (He will still be testifying against people he busted.) No reasons were revealed in the trial, but the firing probably stems from charges investigated by a McLean County grand jury which is looking into MEG agents' misconduct.

When the Pantagraph first reported that a grand jury would be investigating Agent Conley, MEG head Jerry LaGrow publicly backed up his employee even though he knew of the charges. Since that time, apparently, pressure from higher officials has forced La Grow to fire Conley.

At presstime, there was no word yet on the grand jury's conclusions about MEG agents. Witnesses who passed lie detector tests about Agent Conley's actions have testified.

A lie detector examiner's report procured by the Post-American shows that Agent Conley smoked pot, delivered drugs, and repeatedly hounded an acquaintance to sell drugs. The acquaintance, Tony Griffith, was busted by MEG for a Feb., 1975 and March, 1975 delivery of pot to Ford Conley. After Griffith passed a lie detector test, the McLean County State's Attorney dropped charges. Like Griffith's case, many MEG busts are being thrown out lately by the State's Attorney before they even reach court. (Such dismissals are not included in MEG's statistics when the drug unit computes its conviction record.)

Tony Griffith lived in the same apartment house as Ford Conley in the fall of 1974. At this time, Conley was working for MEG as a special employee while finishing ISU. Conley became a full-time MEG agent in January 1975.

According to the lie detector report, Conley began hanging around Griffith and begged to buy drugs almost every time they met. Griffith refused at least twenty times.

Conley smoked marijuana with Griffith at least 3 times, and gave Griffith amphetamine on at least one occasion. Griffith remembers that the speed worked, because he used it studying for finals in December, 1974.

In early 1975, Conley and Griffith no

longer lived in the same apartment house, but Conley still chased Griffith down and tried to get drugs.

Once, to get Conley off his back, Griffith picked what looked like pot growing in a field. He mixed it with some mulch and other assorted plants growing near his apartment, sprinkled brandy and ammonia on it, and let it sit. This is what he sold to Agent Conley in February and March 1975. Griffith said he had smoked the stuff, and it did not get him high. Griffith thinks that Conley substituted real pot for this home made concoction when he submitted it for laboratory analysis. Conley's report said the substance was green, while Griffith remembers the stuff he sold was black.

Griffith's account of what happened was enough to satisfy the polygraph examiner, and it was enough to satisfy the McLean County State's Attorney. Except for the \$2500 he has to pay his lawyer, Griffith is free. So is Ford Conley, unless the grand jury chooses to indict him.



ABOVE: MEG Agent Ford Jonathan Conley was so into his superspy undercover role that he donned this outfit to hide his face from photographers after court.

Additional shots of front cover narcs



Here are additional views of two of the narcs featured on the front cover. At right is Gary Higbee, who until recently worked as a deputy for Warren County Sheriff David Watkins.



IBI's Singer



Now at a desk job, IBI Agent Jerry Singer (above) was recently an undercover narc, living with and working with MEG Agent Ford Conley. Last summer these two narcs, along with informer Mic Yeitz, moved in on rural McLean County, bringing a batch of arrests in December '75. Singer may be re-assigned to undercover work in the future.

James Kizart, IBI undercover narc

Here's IBI undercover agent James Kizart, photographed as he left the McLean County Courthouse in early May. Hired as a narc in March, 1975, Kizart claimed in court that he's made over a hundred undercover buys since the summer of '75. He can be spying anywhere in the State of Illinois.





MEG's head narc, Jerry LaGrow (above) claimed he was making undercover buys in Bloomington until the Post-Amerikan printed his photo last issue.

WILL MEG CONTINUE IN BLOOMINGTON?

As a whole, the Peoria-based MEG unit will most probably continue after December 31. Members intend to secure more money from their own cities and counties, especially in the Pekin-Peoria area. In addition, the seven MEG units in the state, according to a May 7 article in the Galesburg Register-Mail, have formed a committee to approach state legislators in a pitch for special MEG appropriations. ILEC chairperson Eugene Eidenberg, quoted in that May 7 article, said he supports an extension of ILEC money to MEG past December 31. To give MEG units time to wrangle funds from the state legislature, the ILEC board chairperson wants to fund all 7 MEG units at least until June 1977.

Neither was the Bloomington City Council. On May 24, the council unanimously rejected Anderson's proposal to withdraw from MEG. The council agreed to meet with MEG head Jerry LaGrow and officials from Normal, McLean County, and ISU.

At present, Bloomington is still a part of MEG, and plans on continuing in MEG.

At present, MEG chief Jerry LaGrow said in the Pantagraph May 24, MEG has 60 cases pending in McLean County (with drugs already bought but no arrests yet). 30 Bloomington residents are currently MEG targets, including "some very heavy people," LaGrow bragged.

LaGrow claimed to have made many of the buys himself, and offered his undercover role as reason why he had never "surfaced" earlier to talk about MEG with the Bloomington City Council. Because the Post-Amerikan printed his photo, LaGrow said, he can no longer operate undercover, and so can come out in public.

LaGrow tried to blackmail the Bloomington Council into staying in MEG. He claimed in the Pantagraph that MEG would just have to drop its 60 pending cases if Bloomington pulled out of MEG. There is no legal stipulation that would force such a termination of pending cases.

Whether Bloomington will remain a part of MEG remains unclear.

At first officials feared that Bloomington would have to withdraw because the city would no longer be next to other MEG territory. As it turns out, the lack of contiguity does not force Bloomington to pull out.

In mid-May, Metromanager David Anderson formally proposed that Bloomington pull out of MEG. He suggested forming a county-wide drug unit, composed of both city police departments, the sheriff's office, and Illinois State University police. Anderson had already met with the heads of these police forces twice to discuss forming such a unit, but news reports later said that ISU Security Chief Newbold and Normal police chief McGuire aren't really interested in joining.

McLean County ends its commitment to the Multi-county Enforcement Group (MEG) on June 15. But that doesn't necessarily mean we'll be rid of it. Will MEG be able to continue after its money from the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission (ILEC) expires December 31? Will the City of Bloomington continue to be a part of MEG even without the county of McLean?

Partial answers to both these questions are continually developing, but here is what's happened so far:

More Sleazy MEG Tactics

Ingratiating Informer Sets Up Job and Pot Bust

On Dec. 17, 1975, one day after being busted by MEG for delivery of marijuana, John Shelton was fired from his job as a Pinkerton guard. The man who got John the job in the first place was Reid Jacobson, the MEG "special employee" who set John up for the pot bust.

John Shelton had been completely taken in by MEG "special employee" (narc jargon for an informer) Jacobson. They had spent hours together drinking beer and enjoying themselves in Tobin's Pizza. John's girlfriend, a Tobin's waitress, had originally met Jacobson, and the three of them got along fine.

"When Reid first started coming into Tobin's," Shelton's girlfriend says, "I didn't trust him. He wore this Pinkerton uniform, and he was always asking for dope. But after a while I got to know him, and I trusted him anyway. He was so fun-loving, he loved to drink beer."

"I asked him if he was a narc," John told the Post-Amerikan. "He said he wasn't. Then when he got me the job at Pinkerton's, why should I have ever thought he was a narc? He even showed me shortcuts on the job so I wouldn't have to do all the company wanted."

Shelton's acquaintance with Reid Jacobson began in the summer of 1975. By September, Shelton was working at the Pinkerton job Reid Jacobson had arranged.

Halfway through September, John Shelton finally gave in to Reid Jacobson's constant requests for marijuana.

All summer long, Jacobson had asked about getting some pot. Both Shelton and his girlfriend were sure that Jacobson smoked, but they admit they never saw him do it.

Shelton finally agreed to get some pot for Jacobson. Shelton was the middleperson in the transaction. He made no profit on the deal.

That was in September, 1975. Shelton never saw Reid Jacobson again. In December, Shelton was one of about a dozen McLean County people busted by MEG.

According to guidelines established by the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission (ILEC), the body which funds MEG, the drug unit is not supposed to go after pot busts unless the pot buy is a necessary step on the way to purchasing hard drugs.

The Shelton case is an obvious violation of this guideline: MEG never even bothered to try to buy any more drugs from Shelton, whom MEG knew was not even a dealer. As soon as they had made their pot buy, MEG was satisfied. Another dangerous dealer nabbed.

The really dangerous person, though, is MEG informer Reid Jacobson.

The Post-Amerikan received a letter which was stolen from Jacobson in the summer of 1975.

The letter says: "Thanks for calling--your new job sounds neat. Enclosed are some people to watch. I know they're all users, but I couldn't swear any are pushers."

Enclosed in the letter is a list of ten names and addresses. The letter was not sent by an official MEG agent. It appears to have been sent by a personal friend of Jacobson's. The letter was sent from Peoria, but all the names and addresses are Bloomington-Normal or ISU people.

How much Jacobson followed up on this list of people to watch is unknown. How much MEG knew

about this list is also unknown. But the very existence of the list, and the very fact that it was sent to a paid MEG informer, demonstrates the extent of the secret police type mentality MEG has encouraged. One private individual in Peoria has fingered ten individuals for surveillance.

And the story of what happened to John Shelton shows that the type of people MEG hires as "special employees" will stoop to just about any unscrupulous tactic to gain a potential victim's trust.

It stinks.

ANOTHER INFORMER REVEALED

Roger Davis, of RR #2, Delevan, has the honor of being MEG Confidential Source #1, according to documents filed in the McLean County Courthouse. MEG appears to number its informers by their order in hiring, so Davis must have been an eager beaver.

Davis was responsible for the December, 1975, arrest of Mike Stokes in Bloomington, according to testimony by MEG agent Robert J. Edwards. In a January preliminary hearing, Agent Edwards tried to keep Davis' identity secret, because Edwards said the informer was still engaged in undercover work for MEG.

"200 years is long enough"

SPRINGFIELD E.R.A.

RALLY DRAWS 12,000

Morning of May 16th, two buses from Bloomington-Normal left for Springfield carrying part of a 12,000 person demonstration in support of the Equal Rights Amendment.

E.R.A., up for vote once again in the stubborn Illinois Senate, drew supporters from across the country, all eager to see the amendment passed in Illinois. The Land of Lincoln is considered a key state in the drive to get the constitutional amendment passed, a fact that gives not only Illinois residents but others also, a stake in the state Senate vote.

More than thirty states were represented at the Springfield rally, along with a multitude of labor, professional, and activist organizations, including the Illinois Railroad Workers, Coalition of Labor Union Women, AFSCME, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, ACLU, League of Women Voters, League of Black Women, Lesbians for E.R.A., and the Alton Educational Association for E.R.A. (Alton, Ill., is home turf for Phyllis Schlafly, well-known slavery supporter.)

The rally, which lasted three hours, took place outside the state capitol building where a series of speakers related the struggle for E.R.A. to the Bicentennial, spoke against fear tactics used by right wing groups opposed to the amendment, and made jokes about a plane buzzing the rally.

That plane. Lugging a banner that read "Illinois Women Oppose E.R.A./ Libbers Go Home," it flew over the first two hours of the rally, apart from the humanity standing below on the city sidewalks, a comment on the moneyed interests behind anti-E.R.A. That plane more than anything else that day served as a metaphor for the irrationality and power of those supporting women's oppression, and speakers continually pointed to it, one speaker betting twenty bucks that its pilot wasn't a woman. (There were no takers on the bet.)

The plane's message. With its mysterious separation of "women" and "libbers"--as if supporting E.R.A. forced women to forfeit the first title--and its attempt to disallow Illinois residency to everyone present made it clear just how dishonest anti-E.R.A.ers can be. No lie is too big if it helps smash E.R.A., it seems.

In fact, the majority of those attending the rally were women and



Women demand ERA in Springfield. (Guardian photo)

"libbers," though a healthy amount of the latter category included men and children. And though the rally was composed of a cross country sample, a clear majority came from Illinois.

As one woman member of the Bloomington-Normal group said when she first saw the plane's sign: "But I am home!"

Speakers at the rally included Cecil Pardee, sponsor of the Illinois Senate bill supporting E.R.A.; Karen DeCrow and Betty Freidan; representatives of labor, student groups, and the National Coalition of American Nuns, in addition to the obligatory show biz person (in this case, Bruce Solomon, who plays Sergeant Foley on MARY HARTMAN, MARY HARTMAN.)

Despite the disparate nature of the speakers, several points were consistently emphasized. First and foremost was the fact that women have lived 200 years in this country without equal rights under the law. References to Abigail Adams' letter to John Adams asking him to "remember the women" and to Susan B. Anthony and the suffragette movement made up much of the rally's speeches.

The history of this country, after all, is one of peoples being unevenly rewarded for their labors, and no one group has been so massively, consistently exploited as women. Is it any wonder the rally overflowed with signs stating simply "200 Years Is Long Enough"?

Also during the rally, opponents of the E.R.A. were condemned for the fallacious nature of their campaign. All the traditional scare tactics (the pressing toilet question, for instance) were trotted out and revealed for what they are, absurd overexaggerations that are more emotional than reasonable.

Charges that E.R.A. is anti-working class were also answered, not just in speeches but in the presence of working women at the rally. Part of that criticism, it was pointed out, lies in falsely defining men as the "real" working class over women.

Then too there's the old "We can't afford equal rights in a recession" line. This analysis is unsound because it tries to define the economic effects of the amendment without taking into account the potential a new, unfettered, inventive work force has in expanding the economy. (Admitted, potential for growth is difficult to gauge, but it's impossible to analyze if it isn't even acknowledged.)

Another charge, that middle Americans don't want E.R.A., was answered again and again in the speeches. Final speech by Betty Freidan, who was born and raised in Peoria, put the cap on this point. Describing her visit to the city, revisiting high school acquaintances (some of them housewives), Ms. Freidan was about to say, "It's a lie that housewives don't want E.R.A. . . . E.R.A. plays in Peoria."

Which was no news to a lot of Illinoisians present.

Denny Colt/Ellen Dolan

Women's Oppression O.K. With Him

Hall Sides With Slavers

In this Bicentennial it behooves us to recall the less pleasant moments of our nation's history, one of the most glaring being its 100-year institution of slavery. What kind of person, one wonders, could have deliberately enslaved members of another race, and, more to the point here, what sort of jackal could stand behind and support such activity?

Harber Hall, local Illinois Senator, might know, for he's opposed equal opportunity for women much in the same way earlier unscrupulous politicians pandered to slaves and racially bigotted bosses.

"I want to be known, in history," Hall told an NBC news interviewer the day of the pro-E.R.A. rally in Springfield, "as being foremost in the fight against E.R.A." One watching the tube the day of the interview could have easily flashed to this vision: nineteenth century Harber Hall railing against abolition, refusing even to see representatives of the anti-slavery movement, kowtowing to the biases of the people in power who got him in office.

Nobody remembers the nineteenth century Harber Halls; hopefully history will swallow up his twentieth century counterpart.

--D.C.

FORMER OWEN NURSERY SUPERVISOR TALKS

Al Tharp worked as a low-level supervisor at Owen Nursery from August '73 to May '74. While there, he saw many of the same oppressive working conditions and fraudulent sales practices related in Post-Amerikan articles last issue. Tharp also witnessed Owen's hiring of young children, eight to twelve years old, as technique to prevent union organizing.

Tharp believes that Owen Nursery management purposely sends out a lot of dead plants, knowing that only a small percentage of customers will bother to ask for a refund. Tharp says that Owen's mail order arrangements always guarantee that if a plant is dead, the customer can get another plant. The customer has to send back the shipping label, though, and most people won't remember to keep it very long. Owen Nursery counts on this, Tharp says.

Some of the plants Owen mails out die from being frozen in the winter. Tharp remembers once, in the dead of winter, a full truckload of plants was left outside all night. The truck, an open two-ton flatbed, had been stacked with the product of a full day's wrapping--at least 4000 boxes.

Tharp says that Richard Owen personally inspected the plants the next day and deemed them OK for shipping to customers, despite the fact that he examined only 10 boxes out of 4000.

Tharp is sure that many of the plants they shipped that day were dead.

Even without selling dead plants, Owen would make a mint on the live ones. Owen sells Privet for \$1.75 each plant.

Owen buys them for \$2.50 per hundred. None of that markup goes for labor, Tharp points out, because Owen Nursery charges the buyer \$.50 more for handling.

Despite this already high markup, Tharp told the Post-Amerikan, Owen tries to squeeze profit out of every plant cell.

Workers wrapping sedum, for instance, were given clumps of plants. Workers had to break the clumps apart and break them into the smallest pieces possible. One small twig of stem with one small hair-thin root was the ideal. These small pieces would be wrapped and sold at 3/\$1. Many of these plants didn't have a chance to survive, Tharp said, but Owen Management wanted them shipped anyhow. If customers got around to sending for a refund, another (usually as scraggly) plant was sent.

Sometimes, Owen Nursery ran out of the plant being replaced. The shipping agreement called for substitution in cases like these, but Owen would violate the agreement with the customer by substituting plants of a lesser value. (The substitution clause called for substituting a plant of equal or higher value.)

Tharp said that most of the workers at Owen Nursery are aware that many of the plants they ship are dead or will die shortly. I asked him what indication he had that supervisors were aware of the dead plants. Tharp said the supervisors didn't care whether the plants were dead or not.

Tharp said the percentage of dead plants shipped varied from plant to plant. Venus fly traps, he remembered in particular, were almost always dead when they were shipped. Tharp said they grew the fragile indoor plant in a special greenhouse, but they took it to the workroom in the middle of winter, and it died.

The outdoor plants, Tharp said, had a better chance of being shipped alive because they are sturdier. But even many of them are shipped dead.

The greenhouses have a moisture system which leaves sometimes an inch or two

of water on the floor. The plants are wrapped and just laid on the floor waiting for shipment. Plants are piled up twenty feet high. With the floor soaked, Tharp is sure that plants on the bottom had to be dead and drowned. But everything in the greenhouse was shipped to customers.

Tharp thinks that Owen Nursery management is consciously relying on the fact that a certain percentage of people will not bother to ask for a refund for a dead plant they bought by mail.

Last issue, a worker related Owen's bonus system; any employee still working through May 22 got a 70¢ an hour bonus for each week they worked full 24 hours. What Owen didn't tell employees, Tharp says, is that Owen's peak season ends in April, and lay-offs begin. If you get laid off before May 22, no bonus. (This year, because of extra-heavy mail order business, the layoffs didn't occur). Tharp said usually Owen's work force dwindles from about 300 to about 50 before May 22. "From about March on, they start weeding out employees. They try to find little things to terminate you for, until they get down to their quota. And then the few that are left get paid the bonus," Tharp said.

Tharp was working at the nursery when they installed the 17 TV cameras to watch employees. One head supervisor claimed the cameras' purpose was to "increase production." Another head supervisor said Richard Owen wanted to know everything that went on. He even watched the pop machine.

Last issue, a worker wrote that the workroom is freezing in winter, since the doors are left open. During winter, stacks of full pop bottles waiting to be used as refills in the pop machine stay cold. Sometimes workers grab one of these bottles, rather than spend in the machine.

Al Tharp remembers several times when Richard Owen would rush from the office area and fire a worker on the spot for stealing a pop. Owen had been watching on the TV monitor.

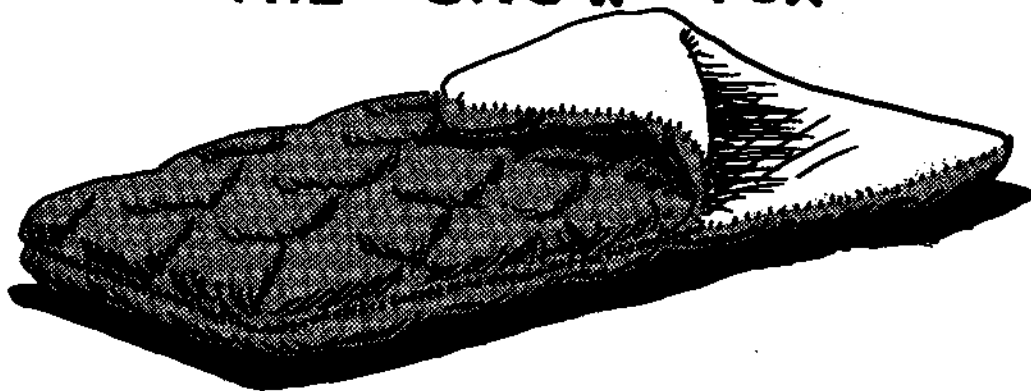
Anger at Owen's working conditions got to the point where Richard Owen saw that the college students and the senior high school students were uniting against management. Workers were talking about organizing. Owen sent out letters to the schools, and got permission from the principals and the parents to have young children work at Owen Nursery. Soon, 8 to 12 year olds were working the 5 to 9 shift right alongside the older workers. The street was packed at 9 o'clock, Tharp said, with parents in station wagons picking up the youngsters after work.

Since these young people were paid the same wage, Tharp is convinced that Owen hired them because they would be less likely to make trouble about working conditions. The young kids were happy to get the minimum wage. And they were an Owen loyalist's dream. They would tell on anyone, Tharp says. He remembers several occasions when a junior high school age Owen worker would run up to a supervisor saying so-and-so is smoking in the bathroom (a rule violation). There were 20 to 40 of these young people working at Owen in the spring of 1974.

Tharp remembers when Owen Nursery shot a TV commercial on the premises. It featured a clean male worker in a clean white shirt placing a plant in a box. "Your plants are carefully pruned when shipped," the commercial said. Tharp says the only thing he knows about pruning before shipping is the standing instruction to "make the plant fit the box." "If the box is two feet high, and the plant is four feet, you hack two feet off," Tharp remembers. That's Owen's careful pruning.

Tharp believes that the TV commercial was a deliberate attempt to deceive the buying public. There is nowhere at Owen Nursery where anyone putting plants in boxes looks clean. Tharp even knows some people who had to quit for health reasons--the dirt and dust were too much.

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Anti-Gay Movement

If the whole affair weren't so purblind dumb it might be scary; on the basis of one crackpot letter to the PANTAGRAPH this great crest of homophobia threatens to sweep through the Twin Cities, ridden joyously, righteously by the ever-ludicrous Harber Hall and a pile of right wing starch-necked pseudomoralists all ranting untrue tales of the Fall of Rome in an attempt to frighten the ever-shaky Average Citizen.

Citing a recent Gay People's Alliance Sexuality Convention (see POST, 5, 1, for full prior coverage) at I.S.U. as "proof" of civilization's coming collapse, a new right wing group is attempting to make hay with half-baked myths about homosexuality and some overdone culturally ingrained fears.

This scenario of political opportunism and hypocritical head shaking, this story of an issue that arose from one irrational letter, starts with THE DAILY PANTAGRAPH.

FUNK'S PHOBIA

The Stephen Funk letter appeared in the May 5 PANTAGRAPH under the heading "Citizen Group Fights Perversion." Apparently sparked by a VIDETTE story publicizing the G.P.A. Sexuality Convention, the letter appeared a full month after the event. Prior to Funk's letter, nobody had written in to comment.

Funk had a reason for writing when he did; his letter was printed several days before the downtown Bloomington May 8 Bicentennial Art Fair and contained a plug for the "Citizens for Decency Food Booth" and its petition. Because of the timing behind its appearance, nobody who wanted to respond to the letter had a chance to see their piece in the paper in time for the fair.

Funk's letter lambasted the convention, along with x-rated films, as examples of the stuff that ruined Ancient Rome. "In brief," it said, "the causes of the demise of the Roman Empire were breakdown of the home, the mad craze for pleasure, higher and higher taxes, the decline of religion"--an analysis more steeped in Cecil B. DeMille movies than actual history.

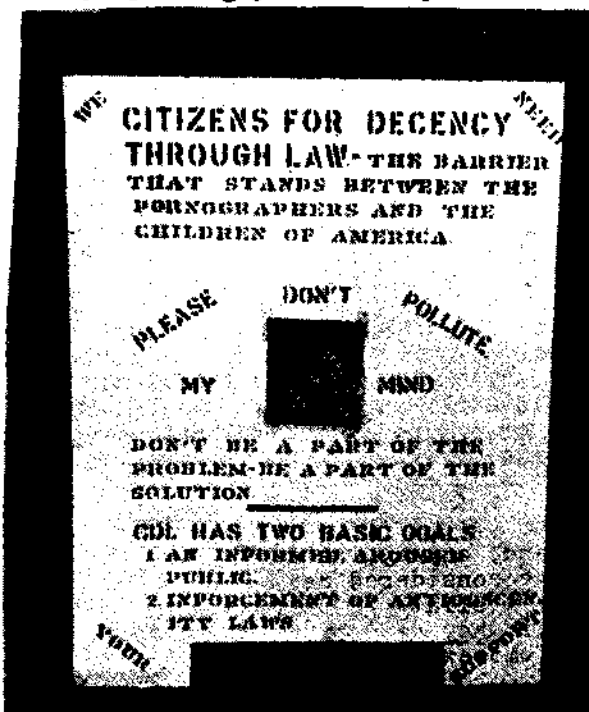


But Stephen F. wasn't concerned with fact in his letter as much as emotional impact. And you could tell he was going to get it. The moment he took an off-the-wall statistic and used it to "prove" that the "average lifetime of a civilization" was 200 years, you could almost hear the gasps throughout McLean County.

BOOTH AND COUNTER BOOTH

Effective the letter was. In more ways than one.

The "Citizens for Decency Food Booth" stood on Main Street the day of the Bicentennial Arts Fair, run by a group of local women and a man in sunglasses who looked like a used siding salesman. Stocked with what looked like Servomation junk pastry, coffee and their petition, this hearty band of "moral police" attempted to gather signatures. Generally refusing to debate with any who disagreed with them, they made their pitch to uncertain insecure parents, religious fundamentalists and general hypocrites with a petition calling for a ban on all x-rated films and further open displays of gay solidarity.



When challenged by one passerby as advocating suppression of a whole section of the population's human rights, one Food Boother answered, "We have a right to be here. The Constitution gives us a right to be here."

The point was inarguable. Yet here this same proponent of the Constitutional right of freedom of assembly was trying to take that right away from gay people.

Local members of G.P.A. weren't about to bow down to two-faced libertarianism like this. In response to the Funk letter, they'd made arrangements to also have a booth at the Arts Fair. Despite poor reception by the Arts Fair Committee who controlled placement of the booths (and placed G.P.A.'s off the Main Street) and made signs for the booths (but somehow forgot to make one for the gay booth) the booth was enough of a success to be included in the PANTAGRAPH's coverage of the day's event.

HALL THE POLITICAL HACK

The effects of Funk's letter weren't to cease with the folding of booth tables. Gathering up their petitions, the Decency Food Boothers brought their message to the churches and for their efforts came up with a total of 5,701 signatures from within McLean County whole. These they brought to Harber Hall.

Senator Harber Hall is a hack, an old line politico who never says anything that won't endear him to a conservative midwestern constituency-- unless he can get away with it. (Typical of the moral bankruptcy of the man is the fact that one week after he'd gone on network tv stating that he wanted to go down in history as an opponent of the E.R.A., Hall was sending out form letters to constituents who'd written in support of the amendment; these form letters said he hadn't made his mind up yet on the issue.)

With the "decency" petition Hall-- up for re-election this year--had an issue on which to appear fearless. After all, housewives support E.R.A., but who (outside of a few weirdos) in Illinois would support the rights of gays?

Hall brought his signatures to the Illinois Senate Appropriations committee to protest publicly the holding of the convention on Illinois State University plus the coverage of the convention in the university paper.

"There is not a daily conventional newspaper in the United States that would print even half of the article,"

Hall said, without adding that the VIDETTE was hardly a daily or even necessarily "conventional." (What student newspaper is entirely?) From Hall's words you got the impression that even the use of the word *gay*, much less the implication that gay is an acceptable life style, was offensive and should be banned.

ISU RESPONDS

Hall's motives in bringing the article to the appropriations board were transparent; nothing less than an attempt at freaking out university officials. At a time when educational funding shrinks almost as rapidly as people's faith in government, campus administrators are sensitive to controversy, particularly controversy surrounding a student group such as G.P.A.

(One of the inevitable arguments heard at the Food Booth was that "decent people" didn't want their tax dollars supporting the convention. Omitting the fact that gay people pay taxes also, it should be noted that no tax dollars went into the event and that publicity and speakers



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were sponsored through student fees, which are paid separately. Of course university buildings were used, but they're used for lots of activities different folks may not agree with: one week following the Bicentennial Arts Fair, for instance, a fundamentalist "Christian Crusade" was sponsored on campus.)

To the extent that Tom Jacob, local G.O.P. chairperson and president of the I.S.U. Foundation, showed himself willing to place political expediency over an unprofitable ideal such as educational freedom, Hall's blustering appearance before the appropriations board succeeded. Jacob, in the PANTAGRAPH article describing Hall's appearance, made a point of saying he agreed with the Senator's "moral concerns."

I.S.U. administration proper took a more tactful stance, disassociating itself from the event yet refusing to criticize it. In a prepared statement, Neil Gamsky, Director of Student Affairs, noted that the event was student backed and prepared, saying that, "With rare exceptions student organizations have proven to be highly responsible. We are convinced that they deserve continued institutional trust."



PANTAGRAPH ENTERS THE FRAY

THE DAILY PANTAGRAPH, however, didn't agree. Known for its ability to mingle conservative opinion with a pretense of moderation, the paper put together an editorial defending "university critics" that somehow managed to link the sexuality convention with racial tension and vandalism.

In the first allusion to the convention, PANTAGRAPH editor Harold Liston put all his moral cards on the table: "It cannot be incredible to those operating the system that all education suffers in the eyes of some of its supporters when the system seems to give weight to all schools of thought on all topics,

to immature as well as mature thought, to student liberty which is license and seems to abandon the obligation of the wise to project standards by which the good and the bad can be judged."

Now, a statement like that is not made in a vacuum. Liston was definitely crying for I.S.U. to put the "moral" clamps on its students. At the inevitable expense of knowledge.

(There's this Monty Python routine where this university department head welcomes a new philosophy faculty member. One of the rules he gives the newcomer is: "I want to make it clear that you're to teach all the major Socialist thinkers--as long as you make it clear that they were wrong." You can imagine Liston supporting that sort of pigheaded prejudice, also. It's what you let yourself in for when you start talking about "standards of good and bad" in something as individually variable as sex or politics.)

Despite letters to the paper by people who'd actually attended the G.P.A.-sponsored event--and knew more about what had or hadn't happened there than its critics--the PANTAGRAPH chose to side with the "moral cops." One letter by an attendee pointed out that despite rumors fostered by petition bearers, no sexual activity, nudity or display occurred at the conference; all programs and films (selected through a standard educational film association) were educationally oriented.

Liston chose to ignore the above in his second allusion to the event, linking it instead to more emotional, less educational aspects of university life. "Conventions of homosexuals (who indeed were supported by tax dollars)," he wrote, "marijuana-sex experiments, casual cohabitation, racial tensions, violence and vandalism disturb more than a few dunces;" (Underlining mine.)

Let's backtrack a second. I.S.U. administrators denied that tax funds were used; so did students attending the event. Where did the PANTAGRAPH suddenly get the right to bald-face assert the opposite?

Nobody knows.

THE UNCERTAIN OUTCOME

Several more letters appeared in the PANTAGRAPH, two on the same day of the editorial. One letter by an attendee said, "We do not understand how this group could label our educational function as perversion. Is it perhaps because they think all sex education is perverse?" Another by Harley Forbes of Colfax answered that question with a simple-minded "perversion is perversion."

In an attempt to counter such narrow-minded bigotry, members of G.P.A. attempted to take their case to other media. Terrence Farrelly, one of the letter writers defending the convention, spoke to I.S.U.'s cable tv news director. TV 10's news director said he didn't consider the matter "newsworthy," and, anyway, he added irrelevantly, he considered masturbation and flagellation "disgusting." (As if they were practiced only by homosexuals. . .)

Another group member spoke to Harbor Hall. The good Senator said that he was going to continue in his fight, going to university boards of trustees and presidents "to see if I can't find a way to restrict the use of university buildings for conferences such as you people had up there." It'll be interesting to see--if he succeeds--what other groups might be up for similar restriction.

Meanwhile, a new community group has formed out of the controversy: the Gay Awareness/Action Union of McLean County. Divorced from the university, the group has been formed to "gather concerned citizens together to overcome the myths and stereotypes, especially as they appear in our community, about gay people and homosexuality." First meeting was held, May 27th, at Withers Library.

Judging by the extent local politicians, editors and Republican chairperson have flaunted their homophobia, the Gay Awareness/Action Union has its work cut out for it.

Denny Colt
with Alice Wonder

A GPA representative interviewed Rep. G. Bradley about his views on gay rights legislation:

After I had asked Rep. Bradley about the legislation co-sponsored by four state reps., he said he wasn't sure such legislation was really needed. (To me, it seems if a legislator is unsure if specific bills are needed, the legislator should feel a personal responsibility to investigate and determine for him or herself the actual need or lack of need for the bills.)

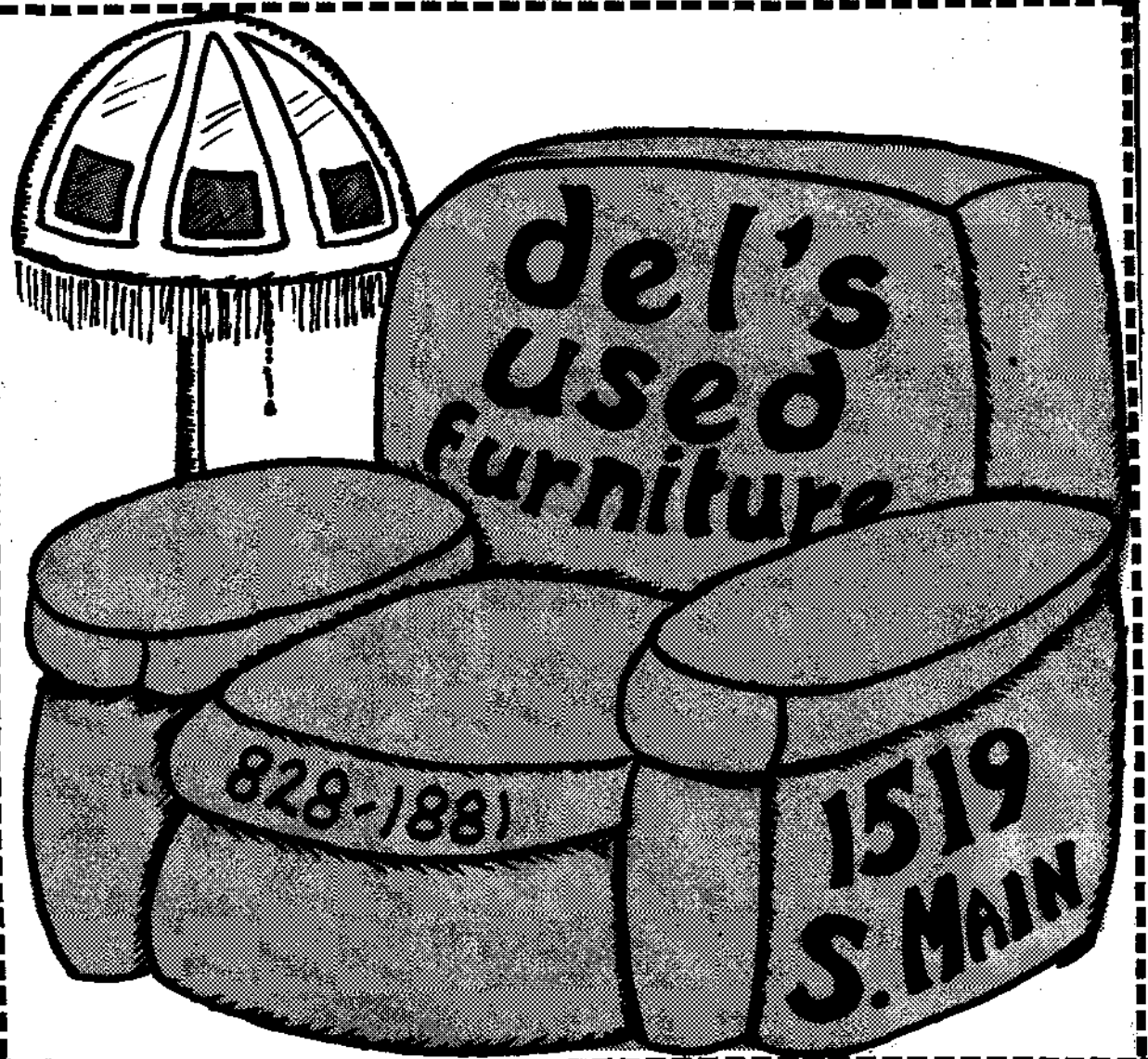
I then asked if he would, under any circumstance, consider supporting or at least investigating the need for anti-discrimination legislation for gay people, specifically in the areas of housing and employment.

He asked if I were going to quote him and I said, "Well... I guess I am."

He said, "Then, no."

Rep. Bradley informed me that he had long been opposed to raising tuition at state U's, and that while he supported the right of "your people" to have our own organization, he thought that we ought to be self-supporting. According to Bradley, this could possibly put the student fee money, paid by Illinois State University students (many of whom are being put through college by their hard-working parents), toward tuition.

He stated that he had talked to several parents who were concerned about the fact that part of the money they had paid to the university so that their sons and daughters could go to school was going to support such organizations as G.P.A.



ISU WOMEN'S SPORTS: NO GAYS NEED APPLY

(Post-Note: This article is a follow-up to a letter which appeared May 3rd in the Monday Morning Sun, exposing discrimination against lesbians in the ISU sports program by a coach.)

A couple months ago, a woman who intended to try out for an ISU team was told by her coach, Jill Hutchison, that she wouldn't be selected, since Hutchison had had "feedback" from 3 or 4 students that this woman was gay.

What supposedly bothered those students (Hutchison later upped their number to "at least 10") was the other woman's parties, where some of the women in the sports programs are openly gay. This, according to Hutchison, is bad because it disturbs other women who are allegedly straight, and simultaneously creates an atmosphere which sets up naive, innocent first-year students for high-pressure seduction.

Hutchison claims that lesbianism per se is not being discriminated against, but try to imagine a straight man being kicked off a team because he had parties at which, it was viciously rumored, other men tried to seduce first-year women students. Difficult to imagine? I thought so.

We also learned from women in the P.E. department that this is not an isolated incident. At least two other students have tried out during the past two years for teams that Hutchison coached and have been not selected because she had heard that the athletes were gay. In these cases, the students found out only later that their lesbianism was part or all of the reason for their not making the team.

Several interesting questions come up at this point.

1. How many students does it take to make a rumor a fact?
2. Are the women really upset by gayness, or are they indulging in a little traditional backstabbing?

3. If they are upset by gayness, isn't it their problem?

4. If gayness is such a horrible, evil, disgusting lifestyle, why is everybody so worried that at the least exposure to it, straight people will "turn" gay? (This question is one of my top favorite Cosmic Questions to ponder, second only to "If God is all-powerful, can he make a stone so large he can't move it?")

5. Who's really threatening whom? Are a few women who are tired of having to hide their lifestyle threatening other women, or is the whole heterosexist society threatening them?

For Want of Courage

Hutchison has been able to get away with this because the Intercollegiate Council (the coaches) met at the beginning of this school year and, anticipating "problems" with lesbians on the teams, decided to leave the whole thing up to the discretion of each coach as each situation came up.

This non-policy is especially unfortunate because it would take such an enormous amount of courage for each coach as an individual to come out supporting lesbian rights when the finger of suspicion has been pointed at them for so long. Women coaches are still seen by many people through a fog of "dykey," masculine stereotypes.

These stereotypes also contribute to discrimination against lesbians and/or suspected lesbians when the stereotypes collide with the Great American urge to Succeed. Hutchison has said that gay women could give the ISU sports program "a bad image," which would supposedly keep high school coaches from sending athletes to ISU, thus, weakening the team's potential for "success." There is intensified concern over image because women athletes, backed by Title IX, are in the middle of fierce struggles to be recognized as equal to men, and to be

funded and supported appropriately.

If I allow myself to get paranoid, I can easily see discrimination against lesbians as part of a whole depressing shift in philosophy for women's sports. The philosophy of women coaches at ISU is that college sports should be educational recreational and open to as many women as possible. They claim that this is fundamentally different from the super-competitive questionable ethics of men's sports. Somehow, discrimination against lesbians, especially because of image, doesn't seem to fit in with all that idealism.

In order to set up a situation where discrimination can exist, you need at least two kinds of people--people who have power and people who don't. Hutchison has said that she realizes that she probably didn't handle the "problem" the right way, but if it came up again, she would do it the same way. And she could. Another coach has said that there are ways to get around telling a student that she's off the team because she's gay, like telling her she doesn't have the skills when she really does. And she could do that--and possibly does. And this is why the women who have been discriminated against are not named in this story. They--and other women who are in very public, very stereotypically "butch" careers--are in a situation where paranoia is the only rational place to live, because people really are out to get them--and some of them can.

--Alice Wonder



If gayness is such a horrible, evil, disgusting lifestyle, why is everybody so worried that at the least exposure to it, straight people will "turn" gay?

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Discipline in the Prison System

Men's prisons throughout the state of Illinois have various techniques for the punishment of prisoners. Almost every prisoner receives punishment at one time or another during his prison life. If a prisoner receives a ticket for a misdemeanor or serious offense, he is taken to the prison court system.

Three or four members of the prison security system control this court system. You are read your violation and then asked whether you plead guilty or not guilty. Then you are asked to make a statement. You are told to leave the court room office while the members debate whether you are innocent or guilty.

You may be given any number of punishments for any offense. You can be put in C-grade and miss out on weekly shows, miss your 90-day phone call privilege, and worst of all, only be able to spend five dollars a month at the commissary. Five dollars doesn't even buy your necessities for a month.

Most people are given time in the hole, from ten days to over a year. While in the hole, you're only let out of your cell twice a week, once to shower and once for one hour of yard privilege. The "yard" is a gravel space no bigger than a garage, with a fence and a wall surrounding it. Sometimes your yard privilege is even taken away.

All the windows in the hole are boarded up and painted. No fresh air comes in,

and you have no way of knowing whether it's night or day.

For some rebellious people, they use the box. In the box, you are allowed nothing except your toilet and sink. You are subject to tear-gassings and macings, or beatings.

Also, every time you are taken out of your cell, handcuffs are put on you first. So even while in prison, you are under unnecessary restraint.

The cells are not properly ventilated. Your skin turns pale and chapped because the air is musty and stale. No sunshine enters the cell areas. The food that is served to you is not nourishing. You are given cold food most of the time, and not enough to keep a human body functioning properly.

It is a lonely place inside a prison, and more lonely in the hole or box.

There are many beatings inside the prison. I was beaten by twelve officers at one time because my radio was on. In prison, if you listen to the radio at any time of the day, you must use earphones.

Rules in prison are ridiculous. That's why they are broken every day. If rules were set out that made sense, then there wouldn't be very many people in the hole and on disciplinary status.

Also, when a prisoner is treated like an animal, you have to expect for a prisoner to act like an animal. Being beaten and ridiculed and not respected will only make a person do the same.

Something has to be done about harsh, unnecessary treatment in prison. I urge you to write to

Allyn R. Sielaff
201 Armory Blvd
Springfield, Ill. 62706

in protest against cruel and unusual punishment in the Menard State Prison. We cannot stop it without help from people on the "outside."

In struggle,
Mark D. Edwards
Prison #10129
Menard, Ill. 62259

As a follow-up to Mark Edward's letter in this issue, his mother called the newspaper providing more background on Mark's beating.

Mark Edwards, 18, of Leroy, Ill., is serving a sentence in Menard Penitentiary, south of St. Louis. Inmates are allowed to have radios, but one the guards thought Edward's radio was too loud. Edwards ignored the guard's requests to turn the volume down, causing a number of guards to enter Edward's cell. The results of the incident weren't good for Mark Edwards. He lost six months "good time" and spent time in "the hole," causing his absence at his next parole board meeting. Edwards also received bruises and cuts on his back and a "messed up" arm that was almost broken. Mark is now seeking legal aid.

CRIMINAL "JUSTICE" TACTICS

DON'T PLEAD GUILTY

Last night I received the news that another of my friends had pleaded guilty of a crime as charged, waived his right to a jury trial, and asked the judge to set a date for sentencing. This was done on the advice of an attorney to whom my friend's father paid \$3,000. Every time I see this happen again, I become more and more outraged.

After it happens, of course, there is nothing I can do to help my friend. And every time it happens, I am shocked because I'm certain that my friend should have known better, and did know better, and I can't imagine whatever possessed them to do such a dumb thing. So here and now, before I have to hear of another instance, I would like to share with anybody who is interested the knowledge I have gained in my experiences with police, detectives, attorneys, courts, and prisons. My only qualifications to give this sort of advice are the years I have spent going to court and visiting prisons (all but two in the state), where friends and family have been had countless times right in front of my eyes. And as much as I hate knowing it, many times it has been needless suffering, caused by mere ignorance.

The first thing I think that every person who may ever be arrested should know is that police will and do lie. Just keep saying that over and over in your head until you're sure that it's drilled in there to stay. They will, can, and do lie in any way and about everything, mostly in their attempts to get you to sign a confession or plead guilty and waive your right to a trial. One of the main and most common lies is to tell you that a person arrested with you has already signed a confession indicating you. Second most common is to tell you that they have an eyewitness when, in all reality, they only wish they did.

I don't care if they have a movie of you committing the crime, if you say anything to the police at all (and you certainly don't have to!) just keep swearing you don't know anything about it and you absolutely did not do it. And never, never plead guilty (except possibly to a lesser crime than charged for a reduced sentence). You should know that when you plead guilty, you lose a bunch of rights, most importantly you lose all rights to an appeal even if the law changes later. It goes on your record and will be held against you later, like if you should ever be arrested again, a judge or jury could look at your record and see that you have been arrested before and confessed your guilt

and then decide you're guilty of the new charge based on that.

Also, when the judge is passing sentence, you can count on a much tougher sentence if you have a previous beef, especially if the two (or more) are related, such as two drug beefs. It will also be held against you by the parole board because you will be leaving no doubt that you were guilty and in the case of your past record, repeaters obviously didn't learn their lesson fast enough last time, so the next time they will keep you extra long just to make sure you've done enough time to learn.

Next is the attorney racket. And racket is many times a kind work for the games these people will play with you. If your attorney ever recommends that you plead guilty as charged, you should fire him on the spot and demand the return of any money you have paid him or her. A cleaning lady could help you that much and you can have a public defender for free if you intend to do such a crazy thing as plead guilty. Be careful in choosing an attorney and find out how much s/he will charge and what s/he thinks s/he can do for you. If you are not pleased with the way things are going as you go through the long and frustrating "due process", fire him/her. Don't ever feel that you have to keep him/her on if s/he is not doing a good job. You don't. On the other hand, in all fairness to good attorneys (and there are a rare few), don't lie to your attorney. If you can't trust him/her enough to tell the truth, s/he's not right for you. By lying to your attorney, you screw both yourself and him/her. If s/he doesn't know what really happened, s/he can't possibly prepare a good defense for you. S/he may be confronted by the prosecution with new evidence implicating you when you told him you didn't do it, and believe me, s/he will be speech-bound trying to explain that to a judge or jury! Also, you should know that just as you can fire your attorney, he can drop you and if he finds out you're lying to him, chances are that is exactly what he will do because s/he doesn't want his/her case record spoiled by an ignorant client.

Lawyers will cost you a mint, but if faced with a choice between bail and an attorney, certainly your best bet is to get an attorney (who, by the way, will immediately get your bond cut by as much as half if at all possible). If you can't get any money and you get a public defender, you should know that money will help. Many public defenders have been known to tell their assigned clients that for free they'll read the arrest report on the way into the courtroom, but for a fee they'll read it sooner and prepare a proper defense.

There's really much more to say but I'm too burnt out on thinking about by friend to go on. The saddest part is knowing that before his arrest my friend couldn't get in school, couldn't get a job, and couldn't support himself. Since his arrest a few months ago, the state suddenly became interested. CETA sent him through mechanics school, he got a job, and has really gotten himself together—only to lose it all because now he'll have to do time. I get so indignant knowing that the state is not interested until after my friend has lost his right to a big chunk of what should have been one of the best parts of his life!

The very best advice I can give you is obviously don't do any crimes, and/or if you do, be paranoid and careful. If somebody laughs at you for being overly paranoid, you can tell them there is no such thing as overly paranoid when it comes to breaking laws. Prisons are full of people who will testify to that and there isn't a single person in jail today who thought s/he would get caught. However, in the event that something happens and you do get arrested, just keep in mind these two main things to protect yourself -- Police lie and don't ever plead guilty as charged.

I hope that by writing this I will have helped somebody, somewhere, sometime the way I wish I could've helped my friend had I done it sooner. If anybody reading this would like to share other advice, send it in soon. Today could be the day somebody you love gets stopped in a car and signs a statement against her/himself, not knowing they might have beat it in a court. Every day more people are arrested and are screwed by our criminal justice system and they need all the help they can get!



Agrikorps Extort Millions from Farmers

President Ford has vowed he will veto any bill which provided for all federal inspection of grain at export terminals. Such a proposal was approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Of course, a federally supervised grain inspection system is no guarantee of an honest operation. Earl Butz is a former employee of Ralston Purina. George Shanklin, current director of the USDA's Export Marketing Service served seven years in charge of the Bunge Corps, Washington, D. C. headquarters. Less than a month after he engineered the disastrous Russian grain sales of 1972, Clarence Palmby joined Continental Grain Co., a company which supplied half the grain involved in the sale.

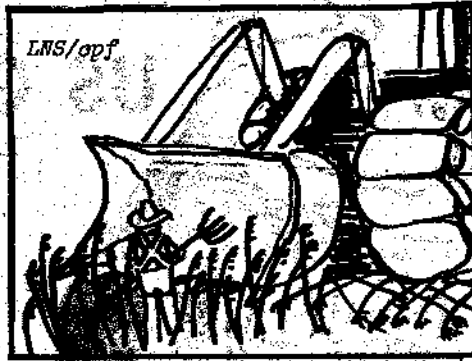
BROWNING REPORT

Declining quality of U.S. grain is no news to export markets who have long complained of corruption in the grading and weighing of U.S. grain. The so called "Browning Report" written by a special USDA situation team detailed these complaints in the United Kingdom and other Western European ports. The 1969 document stated that the quality of U.S. grain had been declining steadily for 15 years. Top USDA officials, Earl Butz and his spokesperson undersecretary Phil Campbell, testifying at a Senate Subcommittee of Foreign Agricultural Policy hearing a year ago denied any knowledge of the six year old report until it was brought out in the New York Times and Des Moines Register.

Well, Butz and his boys must not have been aware of the report since from 1966 to 1974 the number of active agents in the USDA's Grain Inspection Division was reduced from 300 to 220, while exports to be inspected doubled in the same time period.

WHO SUFFERS?

Of course, it's not just foreign countries who are suffering under this tyranny, and the pitifully small fines typically imposed by U.S. courts are not likely to change things. A \$20,000 fine levied on the Bunge Corp. for conspiracy and systematic theft over a 12 year period is not likely to affect the company which does more than \$2 billion in sales annually. The large volume of trading these companies profit by affect Chicago Board of Trade prices dramatically, placing both consumer and farmer at the mercy of wheeler-dealers, secret information and negotiations, and corruption in high places.



POST NOTE: I got the idea to write this story when I saw a train with at least 1/2 mile of Cargill grain cars go by. I wonder what they were up to?

Sources: Against the American Grain, New Times Magazine, Dec. 12, 1975.

President Says He'll Veto Grain Bill with Teeth--NFO Reporter, April, 1976.

Grain Middlemen (sic) Inspection Scandals Widen, Adding to Woe of a Battered Industry, Wall Street Journal, Nov. 10, 1975.

Grain Exporters Fired for Short-weighting, Washington Post, May 5, 1976.

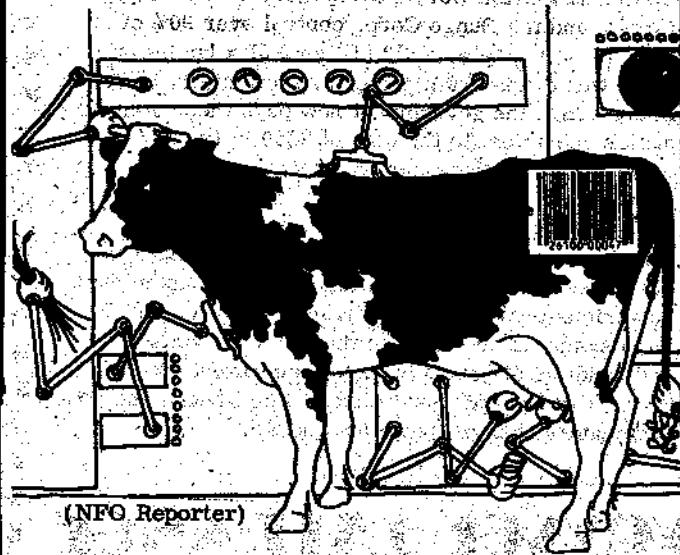
'Phantom Barges' Used to Hide Surplus Grain, Pantagraph, May 5, 1976.

A Letter from the President of Cargill Explaining Recent Charges, (Contact Post American)

From the Agriculture Desk ... at the Post American

OZONE A GOIN'

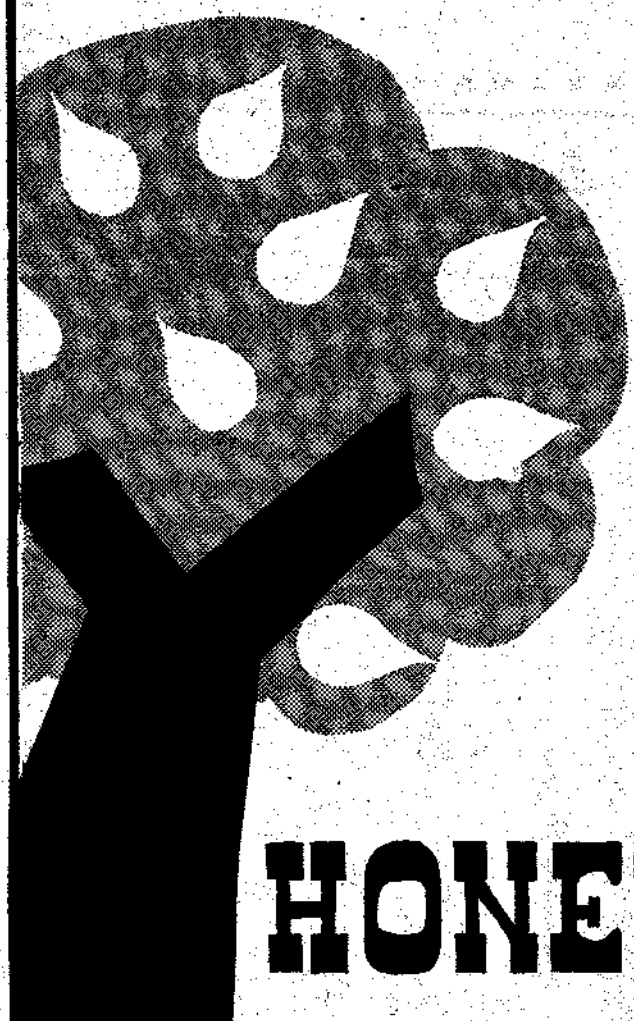
(Wall Street Journal) The earth's protective ozone could be threatened more by the increasing use of inorganic nitrogen fertilizers than by fluorocarbons in aerosol sprays, according to Prof. Michael McElroy of Harvard. He said extraction of atmospheric nitrogen for fertilizer speeds up a natural process of returning nitrogen from plants to the air, a process during which some ozone is destroyed.



MARY A DAIRY

(NFO Reporter) Dairy herd operators in the future will milk 3600 head of cows. To the average dairy farmer, the thought seems highly unlikely, but according to agricultural engineer Hoyle S. Pucket of USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS), that's the goal the dairy industry should be working toward. Pucket is currently designing such a program at government expense at the Illinois Agricultural Station in Urbana. Pucket justifies the governmental expenditure by reasoning that mechanization in food production must continue to progress, and that he sees no way to turn back the clock to what he calls the "idyllic" days of farming.

USDA figures show that there are 11 million cows in the U.S. on 384,562 dairy farms. If Pucket's scheme becomes a reality, the number of dairy farms in the U.S. would be reduced to less than 3100 farms.



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Rubber Workers Continue Strike

At this writing, the United Rubber Workers (URW) Union is entering its seventh week of a strike against Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. For most of the duration of the strike, contract talks between company and union have been deadlocked.

Both sides in the dispute have been attempting to sway public opinion about why the contract should not be giving favor to the other side. Firestone took out an expensive full-page ad in the Daily Pantagraph to publicize the company's side of the contract issue. Basically, what the ad said is that Firestone wants to walk "an economic tightrope" between giving its employees an ample income to survive an inflation-ridden economy and setting off "an explosion of inflation." Firestone's back-patting ad had the effect of fueling inflation because U.S. tire consumers are presently paying for that ad.

The Union

Members of URW Local 787 received their final check from the union's strike fund on May 22. It consisted of \$25 and was the last they would receive until they went back to work. Mass media coverage of URW contract demands lead one to believe that the rubber workers are well-paid, skilled workers. AP in releases in mid-May said that rubber workers average \$9.03 an hour in wages. "Not so," said picketing rubber workers in front of Montgomery Wards on May 23. "Maybe that's what they make in larger cities where the cost of living is much higher, but here, starting union pay is under \$4 an hour." The Post-American heard another worker picketing at the main plant on



Rubber worker pickets Ward's Auto Store in downtown Bloomington. Store carries Firestone tires.

Ft. Jesse Rd. say that after 14 years, he was only making \$4.20 an hour.

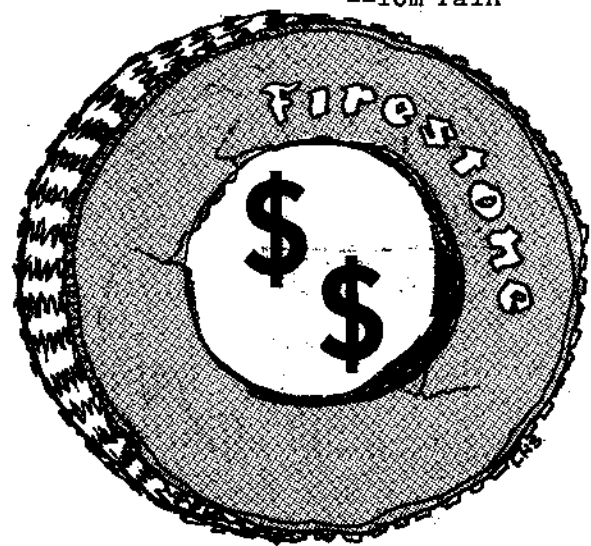
"It's hard to make ends meet for a family of four (or more) with pay like that," another worker said.

The workers then turned their attention to the leaflets they were handing out. The leaflet depicted four members of the Firestone corporate hierarchy leaving a pay window while the pay

window for Firestone workers was being closed down. The URW disputes Firestone's claims that labor causes inflation--rather, the well-paid at Firestone help to cause the inflation. The leaflet said that John Floberg, VP, secretary, and General Counsel for the Firestone Corporation makes \$75 an hour, plus stock options and a retirement income of \$59,146 per year. And the line of fat-cats walking away from the pay window is headed by Richard Riley, President of the Firestone Corporation. The leaflet claims he makes \$129 per hour, plus stock options and will get a \$219,770 yearly retirement income.

"And they say we cause the inflation! Why, a couple years ago, before our contract was even being thought about, Firestone raised the prices on tires as much as 35 per cent. Unless our contract demands are met, I won't work for Firestone. You just need more money to get along these days."

--Tom Pain



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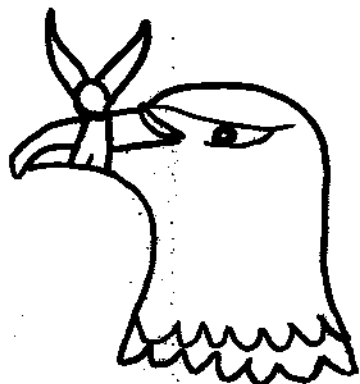
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FREE SPEECH ISN'T FREE

Will Shopping Centers Control Communications?

POST NOTE: A couple months ago, a jury of her peers found Tobe Easton guilty of criminal trespass for handing out copies of the Declaration of Independence at Eastland and continuing to do so when she was told to leave last July 4, 1975. The case is being taken to the appellate court in Springfield and, by some mysterious calendar, the appeal must be filed by June 9 and a reply made within 35 days.

July 5, 1975, was the day I began to understand what had really happened when a group from Community for Social Action (CSA) went to Eastland on July 4, the day before, to hand out copies of the Declaration of Independence, and I was arrested. Today, I'm still improving my understanding of what happened almost a year ago. My concern about free speech is still expanding.



The purpose I (we) had was to get people to think about the economic system that people wanted 200 years ago in comparison to the current system of huge business control, which is putting tighter squeezes on the crafter, manufacturer, independent business, individual farmer, and anyone in the labor class. (It was ALMOST funny to hear Danny Leifel from the State's Attorney's office

during the trial telling the jurors that my purpose was to make fun of the people of McLean County. Do people learn to use fantasy like that in law school, or do they think it up in order to hold on to their posts in public office?)

I am much more committed today to working with the problem that most Americans must face one of these days. We are finding more doors shut in our faces all the time. If we are concerned about a contract being let to Eastland (code name for the Tates' and State Farm's money) which allows them to control speech in the hub of business activity for a 50-mile radius, what is going to happen in 25 years when all shopping is done at shopping centers with like contracts, and the downtown is merely an office center?

My constitutional rights of free speech under the First Amendment were not considered when I was arrested on July 4, 1975. NEITHER WERE YOURS. You know what happens to a right-of-way if no one uses it for a given period. It does not exist. The same thing happens if the right to free speech is not used. What if a thousand people went to Eastland on July 4 to hand out copies of the Declara-



ABOVE: Cop escorts Tobe Easton to squad car after arresting her for passing out the Declaration of Independence at Eastland Mall July 4, 1975.

tion of Independence? Would they get arrested?

We need to get together and make our voices heard.

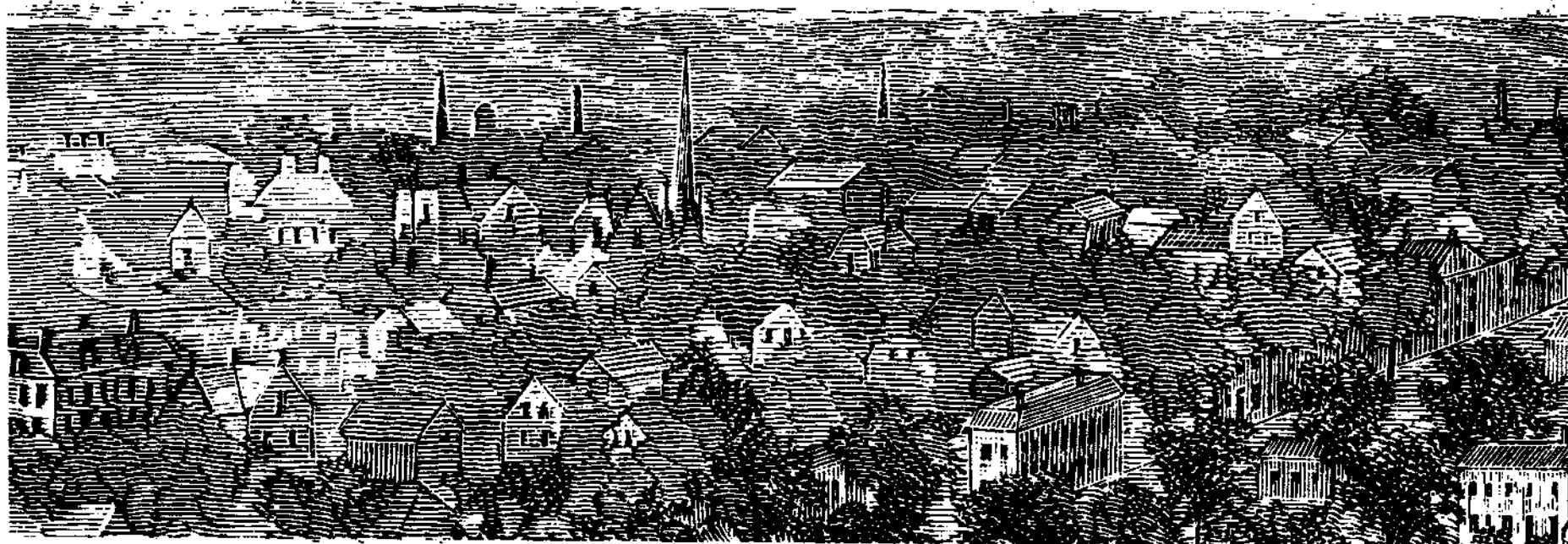
--Tobe Easton

DISHWASHING CUTS COSTS 15

(ZNS/The Rag)--To meet the spiraling costs of education, Franconia College in New Hampshire has come up with some radical methods to keep the doors open.

The school has cut its tuition costs by 12% next year to encourage more attendance, and has slashed the salaries of all administrators. In addition, college president Ira Goldenberg has been put to work washing the dishes in the dining hall every Monday night. Says the president: "Our economist is the dishwasher on Tuesday, and the dean of studies does the dishes on Wednesday morning."

looks like a sleepy, serene community.



look again.

If you listen to the city fathers, the Pantagraph, the civic boosters and the phony speechmakers, you would think we lived in a 1930's Hollywood set. But let's look behind the scenes. Each month since April, 1972, the Post-Amerikan has been denting that serene facade, printing the embarrassing truths the city fathers would rather overlook. Take another look at Bloomington-Normal. Subscribe to the Post-Amerikan.

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Mayday: Mellow Mix of Culture and Politics

I was walking down to ISU's quad about noon to join in the Mayday celebration when two friends pulled up in the car.

"How's everything going down there?"

"It's great. It's just what we were hoping for. We're heading back to get an old sheet to make a banner for the Post-Amerikan booth."

So I jumped in and went with. I drew the letters on the sheet, but they were too big, so I had to turn it over and try again. Just right.

They dropped me off by McCormick Hall. The quad was jumping. As I approached, I could hear music and hammers pounding away and people yelling to their friends. Gail came up and handed me two big rocks.

"Hey, take these over to the women's booth. Their leaflets are blowing away."

"OK; where's the women's program going to be?"

"Over by the rockpile outside CVA."

I stopped off by the men's liberation table and picked up one of their leaflets. They had flowers on their table.

I was supposed to meet some people in Stevenson Hall and get ready to do a reading, but I figured they'd be probably late too, because there were about fifty ways to get hung up on the quad that day.

Check out that scary nuclear power display...Hey, they really are building a geodisic dome!...When's the guerrilla theater supposed to start?...Did you see all those people checking out the narc pix?...Have a beer... Hey, Bill's telling people to buy Ludicrous Situations instead of the Post-Amerikan because it's funnier!... Go over to the Health and Nutrition tables and try some fresh carrot juice...What's wildcountry doing trying to sell stuff in the middle of this? Oh well, it looks pretty... Have a toke...What's going on over at the South Park stage? Nothing. Uh-oh...Can somebody run over to Weaver's and rent some sound equipment?...We've got at least four hours of women's stuff scheduled at the CVA for 1:30 or so; gotta make sure they announce it at the other stages... Hey, I thought you were in Arkansas!...

I read the men's leaflet while I waited for my friends in Stevenson. It started, "We, as men, want to take back our full humanity. We no longer want to strain and compete to live up to an impossible oppressive masculine image --strong, silent, cool, handsome, unemotional, successful, master of women, leader of men, wealthy, brilliant, athletic, and 'heavy.'" We no longer want to feel the need to perform sexually, socially, or in any way to live up to an imposed male role, from a traditional American society or a 'counterculture.'"



I thought how well their rap fit in with the mellow non-macho atmosphere of the Mayday celebration. I'd walked across the quad the day before, during Rites of Spring; after nervously strolling by a couple hundred uniformed police squawking away at their walkie-talkies, I sneaked by a guard who wanted to see my button before I set foot on my own campus, and made it in to hear some frenetic superstar way up on a stage blasting away,

sound distorted by humongous speakers, at \$1000 an hour or whatever it was. But you could see people were having fun anyway, drinking and smoking and messing around with their friends. "If they like Rites, they'll love Mayday...if they're not too wasted tomorrow," I had thought.

At Mayday, the lines between performer, organizer, and audience were pretty blurry. I saw a woman with a guitar playing and singing with about twelve people on a big blanket. And Jeri and Pat and Dan sat down right on the path between CVA and the amphitheater and we had a little impromptu concert. I just had time to pay my 25¢ and put my name in the raffle for an ounce of Columbian before our reading at the women's stage. On the way, I got my forehead stamped with a little butterfly, making me an honorary homosexual for the day, compliments of Gay People's Alliance. United Farm Workers representatives were explaining the lettuce and grapes boycott on the amphitheater stage.

It was pretty organized over at the women's stage; at least someone had got it together to get a firm commitment on a sound system (which was a problem at other places on Mayday). We had poetry and song and guitar and even a harp.

I went into CVA to the bathroom. There was another woman in there who said to me, "Hey, I bet that feels good!"

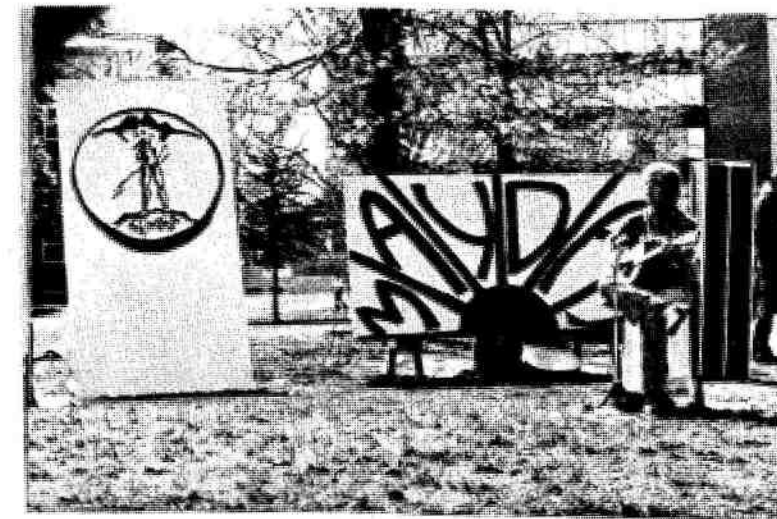
"Yeah...uh, what?"



"Drinking beer in this building... can I try it?"

So we stood there and shared a beer in CVA's bathroom, and giggled.

I went back out to the stage and climbed up on the hill where my friends were sitting. Pat and Yolanda were sounding better than Crosby, Stills, Nash, or Young ever did, and I had one more beer. Then I lay back in the grass and watched a kite skipping around in time with the music way up in the clouds, and I guess I felt about as good as I ever will.



alesalesale

*100 yr. old books,

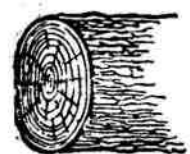
Civil War books

*printers' trays & printers' etchings

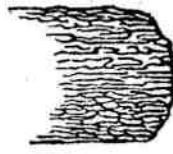
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PATH Needs Summer Volunteers

PATH Crisis Center, McLean County's 24-hour information, referral and crisis response service, needs 14 volunteers who will be in the community over the summer and next fall. Currently, PATH has only 33% male volunteers and 3% non-white volunteers. In a plan of affirmative action, the organization is actively recruiting men and minorities to join the volunteer staff.

PATH training is a rigorous 6-week course which takes a minimum of 9 hours per week to complete. It includes outside reading, large group activities, small group interaction with role plays, and supervised phone-room experience. Topics covered in the training include sexuality, drugs, suicide, family problems, special problems of adolescents and the elderly, legal hassles, communication skills, handling manipulative callers and responding to emergencies.

In spite of the amount of time and energy the training consumes, there are some advantages to becoming a

PATH volunteer. First, the volunteers-in-training learn information and skills that will be available and valuable all their lives-- communication skills, problem-solving ability, responding to manipulation, handling emergency situations; information about sex, drugs, alcohol, suicide, the law, family conflicts, and the social service delivery system. This knowledge is especially useful for people who intend to enter a helping profession.

Second, PATH trainees learn a great deal about themselves as a result of the small group interaction. This personal growth occurs as a "side effect" of training as people examine their feelings about the various topics in training.

Third, it is possible for ISU and IWU students to earn academic credit for their PATH training and volunteer service. This must be specially arranged after the applicant is accepted for training.

The summer training class begins with a group interview on June 21. The deadline for returning applications is June 15. All of the sessions will be held on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

To apply, call PATH at 452-4422 and request an application. Return the application to the PATH business office at 210 W. Mulberry, Normal, as soon as possible. Each applicant will participate in the group interview June 21, where he or she will be scheduled for a personal interview.



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ABSURDITY OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS

Editor:

Like the Holy Ghost, the Federal Bureau of Prisons moves in mysterious ways.

You are perhaps familiar with Kafka's novel, The Trial, in which the leading character, Joseph K., is arrested but not informed of his crime. Joseph K. fights a long battle with the mysterious authorities to determine what crime he is accused of. It becomes increasingly difficult for Joseph K. to present a defense, as he has no idea of what he is accused. His defense is reduced to his struggle to determine the crime he is accused of. Despite his long struggle, the mysterious authorities never inform him of his crime. In the end, during the dark of night, he is taken to the edge of town, his head is placed upon a stump, where, before he is murdered, he makes his final sigh of protest, "Just like a dog."

It seems that the Federal Bureau of Prisons has taken Kafka's absurd, existential novel as their policy guide. Let me explain: Like Joseph K, I am accused of a 'crime' by mysterious bureaucratic authorities, who will not inform me of the specific crime, but who, nonetheless, have found me guilty and 'sentenced' me. I cannot present a defense, as I do not know the crime. My struggle, therefore, is to force the absurd bureaucracy to state its case and bring forth specific charges. My intention in writing this letter is to expose the absurdity and irrationality of the Bureau of Prisons, and, if possible, to achieve public support for my struggle.

After serving twenty-five months of my ten year sentence for bank larceny, the K-Unit team at the Federal Correctional Institution in Lompoc, California, reduced my custody to "minimum," which made me eligible for furloughs, town trips, and a transfer to camp. However, the unit team turned me down each time I asked, pointing to certain information they had about me.

I will quote a request for Administrative Remedy that I sent to Warden Farkas:

"On Jan. 13, 1976, K-Unit team gave me mini-

Dear Post,

First of all I want to congratulate you on your April, 1976 issue. I detected in several places in that issue a dedication to the responsibilities of alternative journalism that I have found seriously lacking in a city I have called home for the past two years; Madison, Wisconsin.

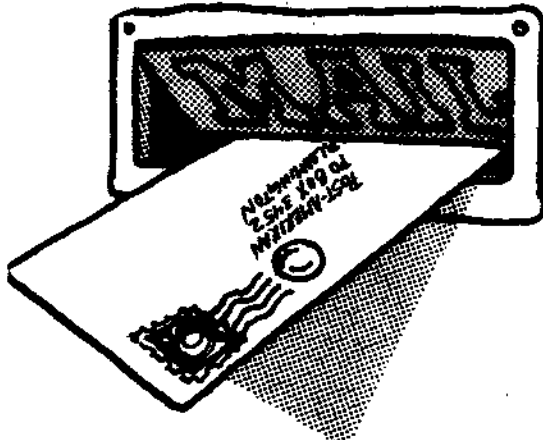
I want to encourage you to continue developing your own responsible guidelines of American journalism. I hope that you will continue your work and prosper within those traditions.

I could say a great deal more about why I personally liked your last issue but I hope that will be done by your local readers, your primary audience, who you will continue to serve. Dedication to local issues is "where its at" in journalism, I believe, not in trying to outdo major dailies or the newsmagazines with national or international "news."

mum custody, but when I asked for a furlough, the team turned it down for the following reasons:

- 1) I had too much time left before going to the Parole Board.
- 2) They had received some information about me.

"On April 7, 1976, I asked the team to let me go to camp and to let me have a furlough, but one again was turned down. When I asked Mr. Torres why, he said, "I don't think you're camp material." I asked him if that was the only reason and he said "No," that another reason was that he had received "information" about me from a reliable source. When I asked him what the information was, he said, "I can not tell you because it is confidential." I asked him who the information came from and he said he could not



tell me, for the same reason. I then asked him if this information was in my Central File, and he said "No." I asked if there was a separate file being kept on me and he said that the information did not necessarily have to be written down anywhere; that they could just keep it in their heads or remember it.

"Since that time I have tried to rectify this supposed confidential information by talking with my counselor, Mr. Bertram Peterson, but as yet have been unable to get anything done about it.

"I would like to know what, exactly, this informa-

tion is, and where it came from. I want the information to be proven as fact, or found to be false, and if found to be false, I want the team to quit holding it against me."

Here is the answer I received:

"On April 7, 1976, you appeared before your classification team for a 90 day review. Your request for camp referral and a furlough were disapproved unanimously by the team members present. Their decision is based on the following factors: 1) length of sentence, 10 yr. reg. adult; 2) initial parole eligibility 4-4-77; 3) a written confidential report that indicates you would not comply with the conditions of a furlough and questions your suitability for camp; 4) In summary, in the team's opinion, you cannot handle the responsibilities required of camp placement or furlough. You were told by your unit mgr. that you were not suitable for camp and that he had confidential information about you which he could not divulge to you. This information is verbal and relative to your recent request to participate in a community activity in Santa Maria, Ca., and it questions your sincerity in relation to community activities. This information is considered factual and confidential."

At this time, I am still seeking administrative remedy from the Bureau of Prisons. Also, I have asked the A.C.L.U. and the National Lawyer's Guild for legal assistance. You can help by writing letters to the Director of the Bureau of Prisons and to the Warden at the Federal Correctional Institution at Lompoc, Calif., requesting information about the specific charges being held against me, and by whom; information as to why I am not allowed camp and furlough privileges.

Norman A. Carlson Warden Gerald Farkas
Director PO Box W
Bureau of Prisons Lompoc, Ca. 93436
Washington, D.C.

Thank you,
Ronald A Derr
03441-156 B-Unit
PO Box W
Lompoc, Ca 93436

TOWNIE CONGRATULATES POST

Keep your eyes and ears open to the pulse of your readers and serve them. That is how every good newspaper I know got its start and even though many have lost sight of their first principles, try to keep your gaze focused on your readers. When the local press and media do not stick to their stated objectives of fairness and objectivity, call them on it and let your readers decide who is being responsible.

When you do investigative reporting, do the best job you can, "in the Woodstein Tradition," and try to lead community opinion, as you see it, in your editorializing. Make as many good contacts with responsible citizens as you can in this community- I believe you will be surprised to know how many people actually respect what you are trying to do, even though they may get

to read it at only 2 a.m. in their closets with their Ho-Ho's and their Twinkies. Don't worry, if people can stay hooked on junk-feed, surely your paper can create an appetite for responsible journalism.

Finally, as a native who grew up in this city, and who has many fond memories of the people and institutions that exist here, I hope that you can continue to serve non-conformists.

This cuckoo is flying over the nest today to head for San Francisco and Berkeley, the original home of Citizen Kane. I hope that you can keep one eye always peeled on your principles and philosophy. If you do that, it may be more comfortable to return to my nest, too.

--George M. Wetzel



RAM

SALE ENDS
JUNE 30

JUNE SALE
 TURQUOISE JEWELRY - 30% OFF
 (NAVAJO, ZUNI, HOPI)
 ALL IMPORTED CLOTHING - 20% OFF
 (BLOUSES, KAFTANS, DRESSES, ETC.)
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 BAGS MARKED DOWN
 \$1.00 OFF ON ANY BELT BUCKLE
 LEATHER BELTS & SUSPENDERS - \$1.00 OFF

Located in the new Broadway Mall
 RAM 101 Broadway Normal, Illinois 61761

OWENS DROP-OUT DESCRIBES WORKING CONDITIONS

Dear Post Amerikan,

While reading the most recent Post-Amerikan I came across an article that was most intriguing to me. Why was this article intriguing? I was one of the many stupid people who apply for a job at Owen Nursery every year. Now you may think that there are worse jobs on the face of this earth. Let me tell you about this job.

First of all I had seen their ad in the paper for a long time. It said no experience needed, and sounded like just what I was looking for. After filling out a routine application form, I was asked to take a test to see if I was suited for this type of work. The test consisted of a row of letters in alphabetical order (abcd...). Under each was a number that was to correspond with each letter (abcd). I was given about 100 questions on the test where letters would be listed at random and I had to put down the corresponding number.

Easy? Every 10 or 12 questions the letters were given again with different numbers under them so by the end of the test you were totally confused. I was also given twenty minutes to complete it, and had to have a score of between 60 and 79 to pass. What this had to do with packing plants, I will never know.

After I had passed the test, I waited to talk to the warehouse manager. She asked why I was interested in this particular job. Should I tell her that I didn't have a job and desperately needed money to pay rent? I just said that I thought that it looked like it was going to be an all right job because I didn't have to get up in the morning and get dressed up to go to an office job. So I was hired and told to report the following Monday at 7:00. The hours were 7:30 to 4:00 with a half hour lunch break, and two fifteen minute breaks, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Monday morning I set out, confident that I had a good job. The pay wasn't so great (\$2.10 an hour) but it was a job and money. I lived on East Monroe, just two blocks from the old post office, and didn't have a car. That meant getting up at 5:30 or 6:00 to be ready by 6:30 so I could walk to the bus stop to catch the 6:45 bus. If the bus ran late and I took the 7:15, I might be late for work and get docked 15 minutes, whether I was one minute late or fifteen minutes late.

I wore jeans and an old shirt plus a pair of hiking boots and heavy socks to work in. I had worn a jacket because the morning was cool for my walk to the bus stop. Now I'm glad that I had that jacket. Although the weather outside was between 60 and 75 degrees, we, the employees would never know it. The packing room where I worked the first day was like a large garage with fifteen long tables in two rows set up in it. Also there were no windows at eye level so that employees could look out. Although it was nice out, the temperature in the warehouse was about 60, and it got to me the first day I worked. I was told the cool air helps to keep us on our toes so production is good.

EX-OWENITE SPEAKS OUT

Dear Post:

In your May issue I read about Owen Nursery. Well, I'll swear on a stack of bibles that every word of it is ABSOLUTELY TRUE!! I, too, am a former employee of Owen Nursery. That place isn't fit for dead rats!

When I first told my mom I was going to apply there, she almost died. My mom worked there part time. It will be ten years ago this fall. Mom was lucky because she worked in the office area. The reason she quit was she worked in the office and was required to wear a dress, and when they ran out of office work, the boss made her go downstairs and pack plants in the "mud room" in her good clothes. She said that she just couldn't take that. She warned me, but I wouldn't listen. I applied and was hired on the spot. I applied March 21 and started work March 22. They were desperate for help then, are desperate now, and always will be as long as they are in business (which won't be too much longer if they aren't careful, because someone is eventually going to nail their ass!)

Another point of interest: my mom said in 1957 after James Owen was released from jail, he had to pay a large fine. State Farm Insurance Company had invested in Owen Nursery at the time. He was required to pay State Farm Insurance a large sum of money. He could not make the payment. Therefore, State Farm took their pay in land. That is how they obtained the land for their office on Oakland Avenue next to Owen Nursery.

This, of course, was what was in the newspapers and may just be hearsay.

One more point: Carolyn. That woman has got to be the most unorganized woman on this earth. She ran around out there like an escaped psycho! In my opinion, I think Owen should ditch Carolyn. I would estimate that Owen loses 90% of their employees because they get sick of Carolyn's "b.s." That is the reason I quit. Just in case Carolyn picked up a copy of this issue, here is a special message to Carolyn from me: **STICK IT, CAROLYN!**

In signing off, I would like to warn all the other suckers, like myself, to stay away from Owen Nursery, alias House of Wesley, alias Plantron.

- 1) The wages are minimum.
- 2) The working conditions are "s---" to the max.
- 3) And last, the supervisor Carolyn has got recognition all over the world by being defined in the 1974-1975 edition of Webster's New Handy Pocket Dictionary: p. 32--bitch (bich) n. Female dog, wolf

Thank for listening,

Lorie Lane

TYPIST'S NOTE: I don't think the Post-Amerikan should allow the sexist stereotype of "bitch" to be perpetuated by allowing people, even if it is in the letters column, to use the term in the paper.



As late summer drifted into fall, for the few weeks that I worked in that plant factory, it got cooler. On rainy days, it would be so damp in the plant room that I would later develop a sinus condition that I probably would have never got. Also a contributing factor was the heavy dust in the air. Sometimes it was really hard to breathe, and at night when I went home, I would blow my nose and my kleenex would have all the dust and dirt that I had to breathe all day.

I was also told that I would have to do some light lifting. I was an able bodied female, and I thought it wouldn't bother me. I was wrong. I had to go over to the greenhouses and bring flats of plants back with me. I had a handtruck to take with me, but by the time I had several flats of plants on it I could just barely push it. I had a lot of bending and lifting to do: that's what really got to me, so I was totally exhausted in the evening.

All the different jobs at the plant ripoff place are boring, but the most boring is separating sedum. Sedum is a clover-like ground cover that when planted spreads out, and is usually planted where grass is hard to grow. You are given a case of sedum weighing about 25 to 30 pounds. In this case is sedum, dirt, mud, rocks, and any kind of animal and insect that was inhabiting when the sedum was cut. We had to knock the dirt off a clump of the sedum and then separate it into individual plants. When you got done with a case, you had about close to 1500 or more plants. This job was for the women who just started. I have seen one person work on one thing for as long as three weeks.

So now all you waitresses, janitors, scrub persons, and slaves, you have it really good. In this article I have tried to express my own feelings towards this place where people get trapped into working. I don't care how hard up for money you are; you can't need it as bad as to have to go work at Owen Nursery, because that place is the pits, and a health hazard to most healthy people.

I leave you with this thought in mind: You always get what you take out of life. If you have talked to your superiors about it and they have done nothing, then fight back. If you can't fight, at least quit so they have to go through all the hassle of training someone else.

-- Owens Drop Out

Michael Thomas presents....

MANDING-GO'S

A Store for Body and Soul
Rated "G"

Starring: *L.P. Record *S.T. Tape

*L.P. Record Jr. (45's)

*B.L. (black light) Poster

*A.K. (all kinds) Jewelry

*M.F. (male/female) Fashion

V.K. (various kinds) Pipes & Paraphernalia

and many other crowd pleasers

Now Happening: 312 S. Lee (Ye Old Ice House) in Bloomington
4-9 pm weekdays --- 12-6 pm weekends

AN EXPERIENCE YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO PASS UP

Postal Workers Write In

Dear Post,

I wanted to thank you for your fine article "Postal Workers Speak Out." It was a very comprehensive rundown on that tyrant, Tom Magill.

For some strange reason, Magill left for Chicago the same weekend that this article came out, and he never returned for a full week. Magill has done so many underhanded things that this article just scratched the surface on his exposure.

On Wed., May 5, just a few days after the article came out, Postmaster Burhke held a swift gestapo-style locker inspection, informing no one in advance. He took master keys and searched all of the male employees' lockers, for GUNS and KNIVES, he said. Maybe he took it literally when you said we were "at war" with the P.O. To my knowledge, this type of locker inspection has never occurred before at the Bloomington P.O., and I feel that the true reason for the inspection was to search for clues to who had written to the Post, or maybe he was wanting an extra copy of the article!

Now that Magill is back, he has been overheard saying, "Those Dirty Communists," when speaking of the news article authors and the Post.

Also, PM Burhke has informed the maintenance craft that there will almost definitely be an "excessing" of "a few" maintenance employees, but it would be extremely difficult to prove that action is tied to the writing of the article.

Again, many thanks,

Mike Floyd
Union Maintenance Steward

Dear Post,

I enjoyed your Post Office article very much last issue and I hope to see more such articles written in the future. You sure tell it like it is and we at the Post Office are grateful to you for printing what our own Union newspaper is afraid to print because of management reprisals.

--Anonymous

DR. PREJUDICE

To whom it may concern:

I recently went for a routine orthopedic examination to who I thought was reputable physician.

I went in with the understanding that being completely open and honest with the Doctor as far as my previous health was concerned would be very instrumental in helping the Doctor with his diagnosis. Well as it turned out, my previous history includes seven years of drug addiction, from which I might add that I have been recovered for two years.

After his examination, he said, "Anyone who was on drugs was not qualified to work with children and that anyone who had my problem would be a bad influence on young children." (I've been a teacher of pre-school children for over one year and come highly recommended.) Then he added that I was a "BAD" person because I took drugs and I smoke cigarettes.

I did not go to this so-called "professional" with the expectation that anything like this would happen. I was appalled by this "Medical Doctor" and I was shocked by his unprofessional performance. I was also very surprised that a man of his so-called "Professional Understanding" could be so naive.

I wish that there were something that I could do to prevent this from happening to any former addicts of any kind. I suggest that if you have had or do have any kind of hang up at all, no matter what kind it is, that you do not go to Dr. Schultz. It may prove to be more harmful than helpful to your health. I now feel that I would have been better off going to a first year medical student!!

Regretfully yours,
Terry Knox

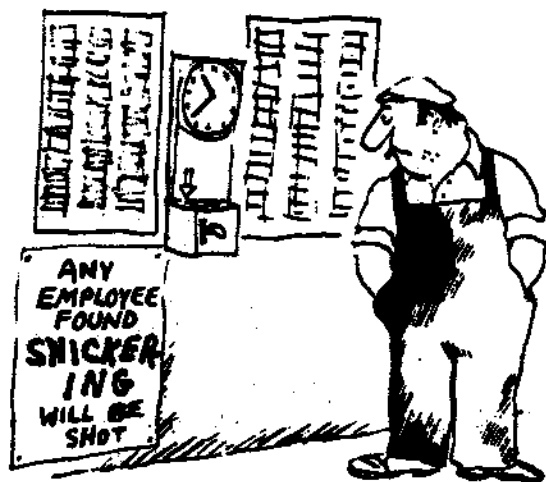
Dear Post,

I am a Postal Worker and I would like to make comment on the 3 page spread in your last issue of the Post.

First, I think it was a well written article and it was not a bunch of garbage, everything I read was the truth.

MaGill really does say those kind of things and he really acts like a stupid S.O.B. 99% of the time.

Since you printed the outstanding article, we have gotten another man by the name of Bill Ball. He is a truly dumbheaded jay bird. He doesn't even know his butt from



his head. Perhaps that is because they both are identical. The average Postal Worker can't tell either.

The first thing Ball did after arriving here was to start threatening the letter carriers. This Ball is so ignorant it wouldn't surprise me if he would run into a letter carrier some night in a dark alley and he would try to hit the letter carrier in the fist with his eye.

Your article said it sounded like a war at the P.O. I am ready to be one of the leaders on labor's side, so just sign me,

General Patton

Post Amerikan,

I am a clerk at the Bloomington Post Office and I'm writing to tell you how much all of us (All but Tom MaGill) enjoyed your articles.

Practices such as Owen establishes as well as Postal "Fat Cats" should be exposed and you're doing a civic deed in doing so.

Your sales are probably reflecting the contents of such articles, for I've seen many employees with copies, as well as a few managers who try to hide their copies so nobody can see that they even know the paper exists.

We are all trying to guess who told you about Tom MaGill and Tom MaGill is trying too. He calls you "Dirty Communists" but I'm sure that you've been called worse.

With Great Appreciation
Thank You.

Editor, Post Amerikan,

Concerning your article "Postal Workers Speak Out" -- everything stated in the article is painfully accurate, and the incidents mentioned have all been suffered by we employees. Tom Magill is nothing but a "barroom bum" brought in for the express purpose of hassling the hell out of us. MaGill and Postmaster Robert Burhke are the one-two punch that keep things in a constant uproar.

However, I think it is to be pointed out that the postal service management attracts these types. MaGill is considered by many here to be racist, an alcoholic, all the things as stated in your article. Burhke, on the other hand, talks on one side of his face about the Bible, good Christian lifestyles, etc. On the other, he's as devious as MaGill.

Thanks for the outlet, and inasmuch as I value my job and would truly like to continue to serve the public, I must withhold my name.

P.O. Employee

More Mail

SUPPORT FOR LESBIAN PARTICIPATION IN ISU ATHLETICS PROGRAMS

See article on page 10.

Post-Amerikan:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I have just sent to Laurie Mabry, Director of Women's Athletics at Illinois State University.

Since it concerns itself with the recently exposed discrimination against gay women within that department, I thought it might be of interest to your readers.

Sincerely,
Terrence Deignan Farrelly

Here is that letter:

Dear Ms. Mabry.

I cannot begin to describe to you my reactions towards learning of the discrimination against gay women in Women's Athletics at Illinois State University (as related in the May 3rd Monday Morning Sun).

Since the reason given for keeping gay women off the teams was that certain straight women could not handle the situation, it seems quite reasonable to me that it is the straight women who should not be permitted to play.

After all, why penalize a qualified athlete because the homophobia of certain other athletes

interferes with their performance?

Clearly, it is the homophobes who have the problem, not the gays. I hope that you will take swift action on this situation.

Sincerely,
Terrence Deignan Farrelly

Dear Post-Amerikan:

I was really disturbed by the letter in the Monday Morning Sun dealing with the women's P. E. department at ISU. I believed that sports had nothing to do with sexual preference. It was disappointing to realize the women P. E. coaches are discriminating and not more conscious of feminist issues. I plan to discontinue my support of ISU's Women PE program until they stop discriminating against gay women.

I hope more people discontinue their support of ISU's women's PE program till a change is made and they stop all discrimination against gay women in their program. It is a relief to know there are a few women brave enough to bring this to the public's attention, and I back them all the way.

--Sally Friedman

More Mail (cont.)

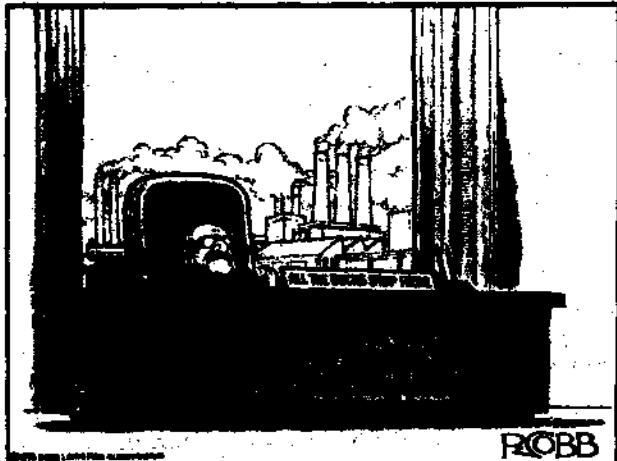
JACK PORTER REBUKED

Dear Post:

Who is this idiot Denny Colt who wrote about the City of Bloomington Township meeting? By calling me "ex-Community for Social Action leader," he tried to do with two letters what Fred Tepper's been working at for years. Looks like a conspiracy to me! But unless there's been a coup CSA didn't tell me about, it's not true.

Jack Porter

P.S. Rather than cancel my subscription, you can send me another copy free.



FOOD STAMP ABUSE

Dear Post Amerikan,

After reading your article in last month's issue, "Postal Workers Speak Out," I thought I would share with you a similar experience I had in picking up my food stamps at the Post Office a month ago.

To begin with, food stamps are only sold Monday through Friday, 9 to 3. This particular time we went in at 8:58 and when we told the guy at the counter we wanted to buy our food stamps, he said sarcastically, "Oh, is it that time of month again? I don't know why they had to send all those people here anyway." (Referring to the location to buy food stamps being moved from downtown.) Then he eyed the clock and told us quite smugly that it was only 8:58 and we would have to wait till the designated hour, 9:00. So for two minutes we stood there, and for two minutes he stood there nonchalantly doing nothing, and it wasn't till 9:00 that he ever even started setting up food stamps to be sold, which takes a few minutes as it is.

When he finally got done taking his time and I bought my food stamps, he looked at me and said insultingly, "It must be nice..." Fighting back the urge to shove those food stamps down his throat, I simply smiled and said, "Oh, but it is!!"

-- L.

INSECURE DEPOSIT

Dear People:

This letter is about my efforts to get my rent deposit back. My apartment manager is John Newberry, who also manages Next Door Apts, and my landlord is Sam Zimmerman. When I asked John Newberry about my deposit, he said that my deposit had been applied to last summer's rent. There was only one thing wrong with that--it was contrary to what I remembered and to the lease. The lease had given me credit for a deposit after the summer period. Then he changed his story, and said it was applied to this year's rent, and my rent was \$80/month. Only one problem: I knew for a fact that I'd paid only \$70 per month and my lease showed it. Then he changed his story again: He had credited the deposit to last spring's rent: again I knew his statement that I paid \$80 a month for rent was wrong, and I only paid \$60, and my lease disproved this contention. When I brought this up, he threatened to charge me another \$60 if the deposit was accredited in the lease. He said I had been a "troublemaker," because I insisted on filing official complaints about obvious housing code violations--6 cracked windows and 6 windows that would not stay up. The cracked windows were fixed, largely because of continual follow-up by myself and the tenants' union.

By a combination of threats and distortions, my manager, John Newberry, has justified not returning my rent deposit, and Sam Zimmerman, the landlord, has gone along with it.

Sincerely yours,

Dave Burdette

Into the Mouths of Babes

by Leah Margulies
(Thanks to Seven Days, April 19, 1976)

Every day, health workers in Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi struggle to save the lives of approximately thirty desperately dehydrated babies; nine out of ten have succumbed to "bottle illness" syndrome. The symptoms are severe diarrhea and dehydration, which often lead to fatal malnutrition.

"Bottle illness" syndrome is contracted from the inadequate preparation of infant formula--a product now being vigorously promoted all over the developing world. A cemetery in Zambia bears poignant witness to the tragedy; the graves are decorated with empty formula tins and bottles which the mothers believed to be their children's most valuable possessions.

Bottle feeding is a relatively safe process in the developed world, but it can become deadly in countries where existing social and economic conditions make proper use virtually impossible. In these areas, the infant mortality rate for bottle-fed babies is reportedly double that of breast-fed infants.

The reasons are straightforward; over-dilution by mothers who cannot afford to buy an adequate amount of formula; dirty water; lack of refrigeration; inadequate means for sterilization for bottles and nipples, and misuse or mispreparation by mothers who cannot read directions--such as the Nigerian who bottle-fed her baby with water, thinking that the bottle and nipple by themselves had magical qualities. In Chile, an investigation in 1973 revealed a bottle contamination rate of 80 percent.

Advertising Barrage

The recent, rapid rise in this "commercial malnutrition" is linked to the aggressive advertising and marketing strategies of the multinational companies who produce prepared infant formulas. The decreasing birth rate in the developed countries, as well as an increasing trend toward breast feeding, have made the vast and still largely untapped market in the Third World more attractive than ever.

So far, mothers there have proved highly vulnerable to an advertising barrage which includes radio and TV spots, calendars, billboards, baby contests, and widespread distribution of free samples. The product is presented as an accessible symbol of Western sophistication and affluence--even though the formula can still cost as much as a third to a half of the family's monthly income.

Perhaps the most insidious merchandising technique is the practice of hiring "mothercraft workers"--outfitted in crisp white nurses' uniforms--to visit mothers, doctors, clinics, and other health workers in order to promote the product. In one Jamaican hospital, for example, nearly one-fifth of the mothers have been visited shortly after delivery by these commercial representatives, officially not even permitted in the hospital, and given samples. Their employers say that they are providing health care, but in fact these companies are draining the real health-care resources of the country by hiring trained health-care personnel, at higher salaries than public-health facilities can afford, to sell commercial products.

in on a burgeoning and largely unexploited market.


The opposition to the marketing practices of these companies has recently become increasingly vocal. The companies have had various responses. Bristol Meyers has denied using any mass advertising, although the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility has revealed an ad published in Barbados which features a nurse and reads, "The Mead Johnson (subsidiary of Bristol Meyers) family of formula products answers every infant's feeding needs." Similarly, after claiming for over a year to do no general public advertising, American Home Products was discovered to be promoting itself on television in Taiwan. Abbot is not involved in mass advertising, but does market extensively to medical professionals, which many argue is far more efficient.

In Switzerland, Nestle, the largest manufacturer, is embroiled in a libel suit against the Third World Action Group, publishers of a pamphlet entitled "Nestle Kills Babies."


Company Effort

In response to the mounting tide of criticism, the companies have presented several different "Codes of Marketing Ethics." However, compliance remains problematic, and none of the codes really represents significant progress. The most-subscribed-to code does not even mention advertising, and all codes specifically legitimate the use of mothercraft personnel, merely requiring that the company insignia be displayed somewhere on their uniforms.

The vital first step is to stop the marketing of infant formula in developing countries. However, the problem does not end there. The damage already done will be with us for years to come, since even if a baby survives early infancy, malnutrition takes a devastating toll on later development.



Baby D
2nd President.



Baby d
2nd President.

FREE DUMEX FEEDING BOTTLE

Buy two tins of Dumex Baby Food and get a FREE Feeding bottle now!

Dear Dumex Mothers and Babies,

Buy two tins of Dumex Baby Food and send the paper discs from inside the tins to me and I will send you a 250 cc feeding bottle specially made for members of the Dumex Babies Union.

Join the Babies Union now by feeding your baby with Dumex Baby Food so baby will grow fat and strong.

Issued by Dumex Limited, Makers of DUMEX BABY FOOD.

DUMEX BABIES UNION.

Please send a FREE Dumex Babies Union Feeding Bottle for my baby. I enclose two paper discs from two Dumex Baby Food tins. Offer closes 31st December 1972.

Name:

Address:

Send this application to:
The Dumex Babies Union President,
P. O. Box 2104, Lagos.

The corporations currently active in pushing infant formula in the Third World range from such international giants as Bristol-Meyers, Abbot, and American Home Products (the three major American companies), the Swiss giant, Nestle, and several other large multinational corporations to local fly-by-night manufacturers eager to cash



HOT WAX

TURNSTILES...BILLY JOEL

After two years, Billy Joel has released another album. It has been a long wait, but well worth it. For those of you who never heard of Billy Joel, here is a little history.

Billy Joel is one of the best contemporary pianists around today. He is from Hicksville, New York, and his three influences are Beethoven, Brubeck, and the Beatles. He has had three other albums out before this one. Gold Spring Harbor, his first, had good music on it, but was not produced very well. His next album was much better, containing his best song, Piano Man, which is the name of the album too. On his third album, Streetlife Serenade, he adds a Moog to his keyboards and produces some very interesting music with it. Anyway, enough with the history, let us get on with the present.

His new album, Turnstiles, is an extension of his Streetlife Serenade album. He adds

a saxophone to his new ensemble, and it provides excellent solo work on some of the tracks. The album starts out with "Say Gookbye to Hollywood," which is sort of a Mexican rocker complete with castanettes. The music quickly progresses into a mellow song called Summer, Highland Falls.

Billy must love New York, because he is always singing about it. New York State of Mind is great blues with a touch of jazz in it. The second side contains some great piano work. The prelude to Angry Young Man is real fine piano playing.

The last song on side two is Miami 2017 (Seen the lights go out on Broadway). The tune starts out with some electronic effects, then progresses into a great piano passage. His voice on this song sounds like John Lennon's "Instant Karma" "echo" effect. The song takes place in the year

2017 and shows how New York was destroyed and nobody noticed. The song (and album) ends with the piano passage that began Miami 2017.

Billy Joel is always progressing into new and different styles of music. With his new album now out we are all going to hear a lot more from this piano man.

--Dynesdale



DR. ATOMIC No. 3 by Larry Todd

22



Dr. Atomic's a second string underground comix character to Mr. Natural's first.

Nothing wrong with being a second stringer, of course. Regular comix have had 'em for years. Superman's a first string character; Flash and Green Lantern are second string. And in their own way, the latter pair can be more interesting than their more grandiose brother.

The Freak Brothers are first string underground; Nard 'n Pat are second string. I like Jay Lynch's Nard 'n Pat generally more than I do the Freak Bros.

What separates the two categories is a spark of charisma, a special uniqueness that carries a character through even the weak periods and keeps him important to his readers. Superman's gone through some really godawful periods of writing--even for comics--yet there's never been a moment since his inception that he wasn't around. The concept Superman/Clark Kent is just too strong to die. Both Flash and Green Lantern have had more erratic histories; at one time neither had a comic to his name, and, well, nobody but the comics fanatics really missed 'em.

I can already imagine the magazine eulogies, though, if Superman stopped being published.

I'd genuinely miss Mr. Natural if R. Crumb ever stopped writing about him; I wouldn't feel all that bad if Todd stopped drawing Dr. Atomic.

Don't get me wrong, I like the strip, particularly in its unique manner of blending slapstick satire with science-fiction. I'm not completely enthralled with Todd's drawing style, which comes across a little too dark and cluttered for my tastes at times. But I do enjoy reading Dr. A stories, even when Todd fritters away a punchline. (As he does in this issue's "Pot Bust," which takes a marvelous idea--biker Billy develops size 36 breasts after too much dopin'--and doesn't fully use it to the point of not even giving his story a real ending.)

Most of the time Todd's use of "freak science-fiction" (i.e. cult type flying saucer stuff, mystical drug tales, the Loch Ness monster) is effective, if not always as satirically hard-edged as I'd like it to be. Best story in this issue involves a charisma spray that instantly attracts crowds to whoever's wearing it, but a tale involving the Loch Ness monster is nicely frenetic.

If you're hunting for quick reading, nothing does better than a good second string comic.

In brief:

Authentic Visionary Comix (Available for \$1.00 from Prairie Tales, 327 N. 6th, Springfield, IL 62701)

Thinking about it, I find I'm a lot easier on comix of neophyte artists than established ones. There's no question in my mind, for instance, that Dr. Atomic is better drawn and written than this book, but I think I like this one better. Maybe it's local

chauvinism--Authentic Visionary Comix is the work of Illinois artists--but I think this book has a stronger feeling of freshness. Tucker Petertil, who did last year's Boxl-Sativa, seems to be the moving force behind this book; he did the cover and opening 24-page story. Petertil's drawing style is scratchily illustrative, most effective when there are no words (his word balloons are intrusive). As a writer he favors the mystical; this issue's story is largely one drug-induced vision and it's effective.

Bill Cook, somebody I've never seen before, does the book's second longest story, an ecological story starring Donald Duck's nephews. While the plot is clever and germane (the duck trio kidnap Uncle Scrooge to prevent the opening of an atomic energy plant) the art doesn't come close enough to the intricately detailed original--funny animal artist supreme Carl Barks--to be a total success.

--BS76



FOOD ROTS IN FALLOUT SHELTER

NEW YORK (PNS/LNS)--While one out of ten people in the world lives on the brink of starvation, the U.S. government continues to allow over 300 million pounds of ready-to-eat food to rot in fallout shelters.

Valued at \$150 million and reportedly enough to feed 10 million people for sixty days, the wheat biscuits and candy balls have been stored for the last 15 years in the basements of schools, offices, hospitals and churches for use in case of an A-bomb attack. About half the food is still good, according to the scientists who conduct annual tests on samples.

ON SALE

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For the Time of Whose Life?

POST NOTE: Ruthie Wantling wrote this after seeing Kodak's "Profile '76," a patriotic promo film they're showing across the country.

Ah, Kodak came to Bloomington to show us america--

we saw sailboats in southern calif. adorned with a physically beautiful, almost naked lady. we didn't see any sea mammals.

we saw hawaii & again a beautiful, almost naked lady swimming, her ass crack showing.

we didn't see any male surfers in jock straps with their ass crack showing. we didn't see the land or the hawaiian slums.

we saw back packers drive to their destination in a super four-wheel drive land rover - again we didn't see the wild life or the destroyed land.

we saw men killing trees & hailed as brave & rugged individualists.

we saw a woman cooking lobster - ALIVE - we saw fishermen we saw handicapped children being taught in harlem, in the parks. we didn't see the destitute - we didn't see harlem.

we saw the comfortable retirees in florida - we didn't see the retirees who are abandoned, lost in homes for the aged, the retirees who are almost starving.

we saw, we saw, we heard, we heard lies. we heard there is a silver lining for each of us. and it was sold to us with the female sex symbol. it had the appearance of the nineteen-fifty's kodak ads.

we didn't see, we were not told about the lost, the mutilated, the sick, the poor, the starving, the animal life being killed and buried under america's asphalt.

you can't show that with women's breasts & shining teeth, & long shaven legs. NO, sex can't sell us those mistakes - the mistakes without silver linings!

-- ruthie wantling

classified ads

For FOR SALE: CHEAP HERBS, SPICES, TEAS, AND DRIED FOOD on a NON-PROFIT basis. Savings of 30% to 85%. To find out more call Dave at 452-5526.

Wanted: 2 bedroom house in Bloomington near Illinois Wesleyan campus for 2 females and 1 large dog. Rent and utilities under \$200 only. Call Virginia--827-6784 if you know of a place. Will consider apartment, provided we can keep the dog. Needed by July 1.

Roommate wanted, Male (liberated), share apt. with same. \$70/month, \$35 deposit. Call Stephen, 828-3610.

For Sale: Convertible. '66 Rambler, call anytime. 827-8001.

Mobile Home -- 12' X 60', fenced yard, furnished, priced to sell. Owners re-locating to Southern California. Call 828-0767 before 2:30 pm or after 11 pm.

Any interested people: we have many books left over from Sugar Creek Book Co-op. which went out of business earlier this year. If you're interested in buying any or all of them, or if you have any ideas as to how we can get rid of them and make some money to pay up our past due bills please call Virginia at 827-6784.

Middle Earth II.

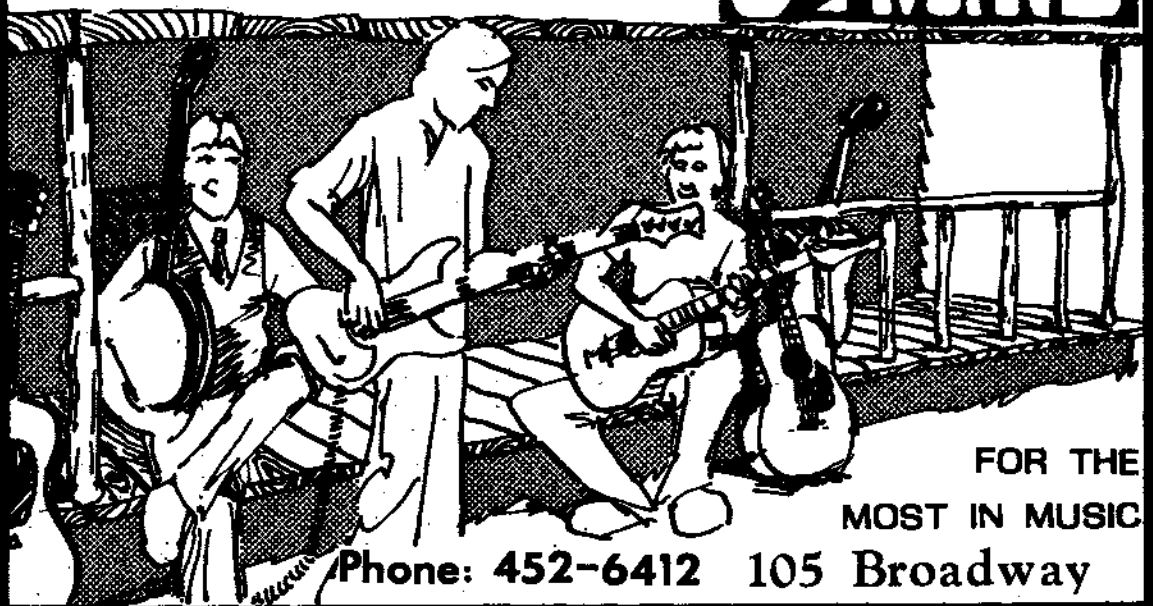
Know What You're Taking

It is common knowledge within the Drug Community that street drugs are often misrepresented. The best example of this is T.H.C. or "Tic". There is not any T.H.C. on the streets and what is being sold as T.H.C. is usually P.C.P. There are many organizations in Illinois doing street drug analysis. One of these organizations is Alternatives, Inc. based in the Chicago area. Below you will see a break-down of drugs they analyzed during February and March of this year.

DRUG SOLD AS	DRUG ANALYZED AS
Amphetamine (Speed) 65 samples analyzed	2 were Amphetamines 22 were Caffeine and Amphetamines 24 were Caffeine 1 Caffeine, Amphetamine-Barbituate combination 2 Caffeine and Barbituate 2 Tedral (Asthma medicine) 1 Ephedrine (Asthma medicine) 1 Phentermine, similar to Amphetamines 1 Phenylpropanolamine (Decongestant) 1 Aspirin 7 Unknown drugs 1 No drugs present
M.D.A. 3 samples analyzed	1 was M.D.A. 1 was P.C.P. (Animal tranquilizers) 1 No drug present
Cocaine 15 samples analyzed	8 were Cocaine 3 were Cocaine and Procaine (Local Anesthetic) 1 was Cocaine and Benzocaine (Local Anesthetic) 1 was Methaqualone (Quaaludes) 1 Aspirin 1 No drug present
Mescaline 5 samples analyzed	4 Unknown drugs present 1 No drug present
L.S.D. 14 samples analyzed	9 were L.S.D. 3 Unknown drugs 2 Insufficient amount to analyze
Angel Dust 8 samples analyzed	4 were P.C.P. 2 were P.C.P. and M.D.A. 2 were P.C.P. and Unknown drugs
Barbituate (Downers) 2 samples analyzed	1 was Tetracycline (Anti-biotic) 1 was Unknown Drugs
Soper (Quaaludes) 3 samples analyzed	1 Tranquillizer 1 P.C.P. and M.D.A. 1 Tetracycline
Opium 2 samples analyzed	Both were hashish
Pot 4 samples analyzed	All were Pot.
T.H.C. or "Tic" 5 samples analyzed	2 were P.C.P. 1 impure P.C.P. 1 M.D.A. 1 Unknown drugs

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Russell Stover Boycott

Candy Workers Picket Local Stores

Union pickets from Local 342 of the Bakers and Confectioners Union took their case against Russell Stover Candies to the public on April 31. Several area stores which stock Russell Stover candies were targets of picketing, including Thrifty Drugs in Towanda Plaza and Bergner's Department Store.

Ed McGrew from the Bakers and Confectioners local told the Post-American that just a few stores in town stocked Russell Stover candies. When a spokesperson for the union approached Merle's Pharmacy, the owner said the candies would either be taken off the shelves or they wouldn't be reordered. The owner of Ault's Pharmacy took the candies off the shelves. Only Bergner's and Thrifty Drugs had Russell Stover candies for sale.

McGrew cited several reasons for the Bakers and Confectionery Workers Union's action. "Russell Stover pays workers right at minimum wage, whereas Beich's pays at least twice that for all scales of pay," he said.

"Such a practice really hurt Beich workers when the sugar prices went up," he continued. Demand goes up for Russell Stover candies when Beich's candies go up in price. Beich employees' jobs are on the line wherever non-union shops make similar candies.

What really irks the Bakers and Confectioners, according to McGrew, is that Russell Stover Candies Co. is engaging in some of the most ruthless union-busting activities. The Bakers and Confectionery Workers Union president, Daniel Conway, was quoted in the March, 1976 B & C News as saying, "In the spring of 1974, the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America was asked to help organize the workers at the Montrose, Colorado plant of Russell Stover.

"During the course of the organizing campaign, the company denied to its workers a wage in-



Union members picket local drug store.

crease that it had previously promised them. The union assured the company that it would file no objections if the company gave its workers this increase.

"A charge was filed by the union, and the National Labor Relations Board by unanimous vote ordered the company to pay its workers the wage increase retroactive to April 1974."

Russell Stover has not responded to the NLRB's order, and is refusing to grant the Montrose plant workers the wage increase.

The B&C's Conway also said that the National Labor Relations Board's General Counsel exposed Russell Stover's unlawful use of labor spies. In one instance, Russell Stover fired a supervisor in one of its plants for refusing to participate in the company's surveillance activities. The NLRB responded by ordering Russell Stover to reinstate the supervisor. Naturally, Russell Stover refused to obey the order.

When the workers at the Stover plant in Lincoln, Nebraska, asked the Bakers and Confectionery Workers Union to represent them in summer 1974, the federal government conducted an election which showed that 60% of the workers wanted union representation. But Russell Stover management engaged in some tricky legal maneuvers to stall representation.

Many further examples of Stover obstinance can be cited. What the union asks for is a boycott of Russell Stover Candies until the company complies with orders from the NLRB. Until such time, the union is planning to continue its informational pickets at sites where the candy is still stocked.

Jack Porter, on WJBC's Forum on April 19, reviewed the reasons for the picketing at Bergner's and added:

"The union wants all Bergner's customers not to buy Russell Stover candy. The manager of Bergner's told me that if his customers stop buying the candy he obviously won't be ordering any more.

"An interesting sidelight is that the Union is doing its picketing by the frontage road entrance to the mall instead of on the sidewalk in front of Bergner's. One of its leaders told me that Bergner's insisted that since they owned the sidewalk they could keep pickets off. Apparently Bergner's didn't realize that Marion Tate, the manager of Eastland, tried to have picketers supporting the United Farm Workers arrested in front of the A&P store. Bloomington police and State's Attorney Paul Welch refused his request, because such picketing has been upheld by the United States Supreme Court."

"In his zeal to control the public, no doubt Mr. Tate has neglected to inform the store managers that the first Amendment is recognized on the outside of the mall at least."

"I'm personally going to honor the boycott of Russell Stover. It especially makes sense for us here to support the boycott because Russell Stover competes with Beich's, which does recognize the Union and pays those wages and benefits which a Union contract represents."

BACKGROUND STATEMENT ON SITUATION AT RUSSELL STOVER CANDIES, INC.

1. Over a period of time efforts were made to organize the workers in the Russell Stover plant located in Lincoln, Nebraska.
2. In September of 1974, the workers at Lincoln by a vote of 392 to 216 voted for the union. There were 643 eligible to vote in that NLRB election.
3. Following their 1974 election the company engaged in dilatory tactics; it filed objections which were dismissed by the Regional Director and, on appeal, were dismissed by the full NLRB in August, 1975.
4. The company has failed to engage in any meaningful bargaining.
5. An election was held at the Russell Stover plant in Montrose, Colorado, in June, 1974. The union lost this election by a vote of 101 to 133.
6. The union filed unfair labor practice charges and election objections which were fully sustained by the NLRB.
7. The Board ordered a new election at Montrose and also ordered the company to pay back wages plus 6% interest on increases promised by the company and supported by the union.
8. The company has refused to comply with the Board's order and is obtaining further delays by that refusal.
9. Most recently, in Montrose, Colorado, the NLRB Administrative Law Judge has found the company guilty of violating the law by ordering supervisors to determine the union feelings of workers. One supervisor was fired for refusing to carry out this unlawful order and the NLRB Administrative Law Judge has ordered his reinstatement after finding the company guilty of illegal activity. The company has refused, within the specified time, to comply with this order of the Administrative Law Judge.

CSA/UPFW PICKET

On May 3, members of the Community for Social Action gathered in front of the A&P store at Eastland Shopping Mall to pass out leaflets asking people to boycott non-UPFW grapes and head lettuce, Gallo wine, and Sunmaid and Sunsweet products. The following is reprinted from CSA's press release:

Community groups in the USA and Canada will celebrate the Third Annual Farm Worker Week May 2-8, 1976. Groups around the country are planning social events to focus attention on the needs and struggles of America's two million seasonal and migrant farm workers. This week is a time to remember the people who harvest much of the food we eat.

Locally we would like to take this time to remind people that the struggle of the farm workers is not over and that they continue to sacrifice and use non-violent means to bring about change in America.

The current situation in California, thanks to the efforts of the United Farm Workers and millions of supporters around the nation, revolves around the State Agricultural Labor Relations Act. Since the first month of elections, the UPFW has won 126 elections to 24 for the Teamsters, but few contracts have been signed and many elections have been challenged. The Election Board has run out of money and the growers have lobbied heavily to prevent further funding of elections. There is a difficult legislative struggle going on with the whole election issue at stake. For these reasons, the United Farm Workers need everybody's help and continued effort.

What we can do to help is to continue our financial support of the farm work-



CSA member offers leaflet to A&P shopper.

ers, and please stay loyal to the boycott of non-UPFW grapes and head lettuce and all Gallo wine. Due to the strong efforts of the Sunmaid and Sunsweet Company in lobbying against the ALRB Act, the UPFW are asking us to boycott those products as well.

For further information:

Community for Social Action-
452-1456
or
Newman Center (Mike or Verna) at
452-5046

Pine Ridge Murders

(The information for this article comes to us from the Early Spring Issue of Akwesasne Notes, the official publication of the Mohawk Nation. The article entitled, "Pine Ridge--1976... and it's coming to your hometown--watch for it," reports the truth of the police oppression against traditionals at Pine Ridge, and we are grateful to Notes for the job they are doing and the information used here.)

(Pine Ridge, Lakota Nation)--An exposed and embarrassed FBI is now trying to cover up the part they played in the cover-up of the "investigation" of the death of a Native American woman who was reportedly found seven miles northeast of the village of Wanblee.

The FBI reported Annie Mae Aquash's death February 24. A Scottsbluff, Nebraska, coroner's report said that she had died of "exposure" some 10 to 14 days earlier.

Ms. Aquash's hands were cut off and sent to FBI headquarters in Washington. She was buried in an unmarked grave in Holy Rosary Cemetery.

Ms. Aquash's husband in Minnesota, and her parents in Nova Scotia, were not notified of the death until her body had already been in the morgue for at least ten days, and had then been safely buried. They immediately sought and obtained a court order releasing the body to Bruce Ellison, an attorney with the Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee, for a new autopsy.

The new autopsy, by an eminent examiner, shows that Ms. Aquash was shot in the back of the head behind her ear, at close range, probably with a .32 or .38 caliber weapon.

Ms. Aquash is one of seven Native American people who have died violently on Pine Ridge since January 27, when Dick Wilson was defeated

in the election for tribal chairman by Al Trimble, an Oglala. Her death is one of thirty that have occurred here since Wilson took office in 1972.

Trimble assumed control of the duties as chairman in April; "however, indications are that the goon squad," who is responsible for the reign of terror against traditionals and American Indian Movement (AIM) members, "will continue to be a problem on the reservation with guns and ammunition coming in from ultra-rightwing groups."



Agnes Lamont, a Pine Ridge activist whose son was killed at Wounded Knee in 1973, said that while she hoped Trimble would be able to make some progressive reforms, the real campaign for the future would be to "get rid of the Tribal

Government system altogether." That system was established by the U.S. in the 1934 Wheeler-Howard Indian Reorganization Act, which ignores the traditional government structures.

Akwesasne Notes reports, "Trimble is considered to be a marked man. Should anything happen to him, the man who would succeed as president would be the newly-elected vice president, Johnson Holy Rock, active in the John Birch Society, and a Wilson supporter."

In the week following Wilson's defeat, two AIM members were murdered--one was shot, and the other found dead after a brutal beating.

On the Saturday following the election, 15 Wilson supporters drove into Wanblee whose 500 residents supported Trimble by a 3-1 margin. They wore U.S. government-issue, bullet-proof vests and carried sophisticated weaponry, such as AR-15 police automatic rifles.

The goon squad began shooting at the home of Guy Dull Knife. When he called police for protection, he was arrested on a minor charge that had happened two years earlier. The police did nothing about the people responsible for the attack on the Dull Knife house. However, police did confiscate the lawfully-registered, but unloaded, gun of Byron DeSersa, who was murdered a few hours later by the same assailants.

DeSersa was shot three times in the leg by shots that came from a car, one of five chasing him, about a mile south of Wanblee. DeSersa's car, which contained five other people, rolled in the ditch as it went out of control with a wounded driver. Due to the pursuit by the attackers, DeSersa could not receive immediate medical attention, and was unconscious due to loss of blood by the time he could be taken to the Wanblee clinic, and he was dead-on-arrival at Pine Ridge hospital, 85 miles distant.

Only one person, Charles David Winters of Wanblee, was arrested. He admitted to FBI and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) police that he fired the shots which killed DeSersa. He was the only one charged as late as mid-March although the identities of the other attackers are well known.

Only two FBI men came to investigate the shooting, although there are hundreds of FBI men assigned to the Pine Ridge area. The agents refused to arrest any of the attackers, saying that they lacked "probable cause," even though the cars chasing DeSersa's were specifically identified to them.

Notes said, "The police reaction to DeSersa's death was in sharp contrast to the reaction when two white men--FBI agents--were killed at Pine Ridge last June 26. These deaths brought an invasion of 300 law enforcement personnel within hours, and an intensive investigation was conducted, lasting for four months."

Trimble said, "The FBI has been obsessed with tracking down AIM during the current wave of violence, while overlooking the needs of the traditional Sioux for protection against harassment by Wilson's goon squads."

Notes reports, "Despite the evident police under-reaction, the UPI played it up big. 'FBI and Pine Ridge Indian Reservation authorities swarmed over the reservation trying to find the killer,' reports read in distant cities. 'FBI and BIA spokespersons Sunday said they had no suspects.'"

These events are only a small picture of the total situation that exists on the Pine Ridge reservation. The white press has tended to ignore these atrocities and has supported, at least indirectly, the total black-out of news by authorities of Indian-related events and tragedies. We are safe from similar types of police-government oppression as long as we continue to keep our mouths shut. Anyone interested in further information on the Native American situation should contact the Post Amerikan at 828-7232.

-- Todd Tecumseh

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Jelly Bean Psychology

A letter appeared in last month's Post-American criticizing some of the teaching practices in a local first grade classroom. One is a behavioral modification technique—giving children jelly beans as a reward for learning the alphabet. I am a teacher myself, and I had an immediate bad reaction to this practice for several reasons. I decided to try to analyze my negative feelings and share my analysis with Post readers. I also talked to my mother, a third grade teacher, and my father, a high school teacher, about using the jelly bean type of reward system in the classroom. They helped me articulate some criticisms of this technique.

All teachers, of course, use positive and negative reinforcement. That's nothing new. All of us, as schoolchildren, were encouraged by our teachers' smiles and nods, by high grades and gold stars stuck on charts (positive reinforcements), and we were all discouraged by low grades and scoldings and sometimes even smacks on the bottom (negative reinforcements). And any good teacher can tell you that positive reinforcement is much more successful, not only in creating good attitudes toward learning, but also in plain learning achievement and retention. Negative reinforcement, by itself, only lets a child know what not to do, and also may scare and embarrass him or her, and this is not that good for children's attitudes and achievement in school.

JUMPING SEALS

Some educational psychologists came up with this so-called new application of behavior modification, which is based on the superiority of positive reinforcement. They figured that whenever a child does something right, or does something more right than s/he did yesterday, the teacher could immediately reward the child with a piece of candy or a snack. I've heard of M&Ms, jelly beans, pretzels, popcorn, peanuts, and oyster crackers being used this way.



OK, so it's based on sound psychology. If you've ever seen a trained seal show, you know it works. Those seals just jump wherever the trainer wants them to; they balance balls and shake hands and dance on demand—and their minds are really on that yummy fish they get after each trick. And this is where I start getting nervous about bringing seal show psychology into the classroom. By handing out those jelly beans, the teacher implies that the rewards of learning are jelly beans. Now, I know it sounds pretty idealistic to say that learning is its own reward. But I do think that it's wrong to make children think that you learn the alphabet so you can get candy. That reward is completely divorced from the real purpose of the task. A teacher should get across that learning the alphabet is meaningful in itself, as part of a process that ends in being able to read. Children already know that adults are unreasonable, arbitrary, and capricious: why make learning the alphabet seem like one more grown-up whim they have to go along with, when it's one of the few things we want them to do that actually makes sense?



I also strongly object to the nature of the rewards used in schoolroom behavior mod.

Another teacher told me of an experiment she took part in while she was teaching at University High School in Normal. In this experiment, students were rewarded for orderly behavior and for knowing the lesson with slips of paper allowing them five minutes out of the class. Think of what that reward implies! It implies that the high school class is painful and/or boring, and that students will do things they wouldn't otherwise do, just in order to gain a reprieve for five or ten lousy minutes! Now of course this implication is true, and it's funny (if you aren't a high school student), but I wonder if the designers of the experiment knew what they were admitting about school. I doubt that they would design an experiment in which a child is rewarded for eating his or her vegetables at supper with a slip that allows him or her to skip dessert. If the U-High experimenters didn't realize the assumptions about school that their reward tacitly accepted, they were stupid; if they did realize it, and didn't care, they were unscrupulous by working to make an oppressive system more efficient.



The nature of junk food as a reward is also suspect. I've read articles recently about how "having a sweet tooth" as an adult is a real condition, caused by eating a lot of candy in childhood. Being addicted to candy leads to tooth decay and to poor nutrition in adulthood (if you satisfy your hunger and need for energy with sugar, you're more likely to neglect other foods that give you protein and vitamins). Also, one commonly-cited cause for obesity in adults is that psychologically, the adult associates food (especially treats and snacks) with love, comfort, and reassurance—positive reinforcement—because grownups around him or her as a child expressed these feelings with food as a reward. And this is exactly what the teacher who uses the jelly-bean system is doing: showing approval by giving a child candy. On top of all this, my mother told me that in her school, teachers who use snacks in their classes submit the bills to the school system, and the taxpayers are buying even more junk than they suspect!

BUILT-IN AGEISM

One of the first things both my mother and father condemned about the jelly bean system when I brought it up was its built-in attitudes about children. My father said, "It assumes that children are a lower form of the organism." It assumes that children's psychology is somehow simpler and more primitive than adult psychology. Both of my parents felt that the jelly bean system is some kind of attempt to trick children into doing things—and the kids can see through it. They can put their intelligence and creativity into figuring out ways to get that jelly bean without doing what they know the teacher wants them to do. They know that the jelly bean means nothing to the teacher, that it's not really worth a lot of work, that this is just another con game, and everybody, children included, likes to out-con a con artist. So maybe there's hope—maybe the jelly bean giant will stumble and fall due to its own clumsiness. Let's just hope it doesn't step on too many kids first.

-- Phoebe Caulfield





Fun Fur No Frolic



27

"Fun fur" means one thing to fashion-conscious consumers in Milan, Frankfurt, and London, where the craze for long-haired wild fur has made a coyote or bobcat pelt worth \$250 to \$400 to U.S. trappers.

It means another thing to the U.S. Department of Interior, which runs the world's largest trapping industry and reaps the benefits of pelt sales.

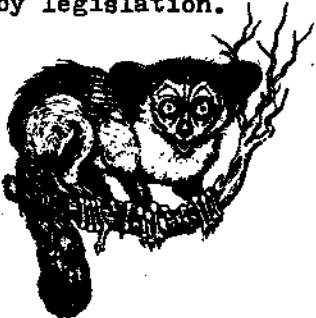
It means another thing entirely to the animals--beaver, coyote, bobcat, badgers, dogs, cats, rabbits, deer, etc.--who number among those trapped.

To the animal, it means being a victim of one of the cruelest instruments ever used against animals--the leg-hold trap.

The trap has two steel jaws which closes on an animal's leg and can hold it trapped, but very much alive for days and even weeks. If the trapper (who is paid by Interior) doesn't come along to kill the animal, it will slowly die from starvation, loss of blood, or other causes.

Leg-hold traps are so painful to the animal that "wring-off" is a common term among trappers. It means that the trapped animal chewed off its own leg.

The Committee for Humane Legislation and other citizens' lobby groups have tried to get Congress to ban the leg-hold trap, as 14 other countries have. However, those 14 countries evidently did not find the trapping industry as lucrative as the Interior Department has. Interior proposed that their trapping practices should not be controlled by legislation.



Hearings to approve the use of the steel-jaw, leg-hold trap by Interior were aborted because of citizens' letters to Congress.

Congressperson Anderson's trapping bill, H.R. 66, a so-called "humane-trapping bill," would establish a federal commission in Interior to determine "degrees of painfulness" and which traps are "painless."

Congressperson Anderson stated at the hearings that he had hoped that the padded leg-hold trap would be one of the traps that could come within the term "acceptable means of trapping."

Department witnesses testified, however, that the padded trap is unacceptable to Interior because the padding wears out fast and the material used emits an odor that repels the animal. (It is unacceptable to the Committee for Humane Legislation because it does not relieve the animal of its prolonged mental agony and physical pain suffered as a result of being held in the powerful jaws of the trap.) Additionally, the "padded trap" idea is as unenforceable as are current state laws requiring periodic inspection of traps.

Mr. Rost, Interior's chief trapping expert, added that, in the opinion of the Department of the Interior, there is no such thing as a "painless" trap.

It is already on record that the Department of the Interior favors the leg-hold trap. If the Anderson bill should become law, the perpetration of these barbaric devices is ensured.



At hearings before the Fish and Wildlife Subcommittee of the House of Representatives under sustained questioning by Chairperson Robert Leggett, it was revealed that the Department of the Interior is the "chief administrator of traps, perhaps in the world." The Interior's own trapping expert, Mr. Rost, agreed that "our (Interior's) operational program in the Fish and Wildlife Service probably is that!"

In careful and prolonged interrogation by Chairperson Leggett, the Interior Department's Director of Fish and Wildlife admitted they own 20,000 offset (steel-jaw) traps, they employ 437 professional trappers, and these trappers set each of these 20 thousand traps approximately 42 times a year!

Thus 840,000 creatures may have been trapped by Federal agents, although the USDI gave out the official figure, impressive enough, of "over 375,000."

The Department of the Interior admitted that the skins of the principal target animals, the fur-bearing animals, are sold to collect money to pay the trappers' salaries.

It is a folly to believe that the Department of the Interior would willingly remove itself from such a lucrative fur industry or ban the use of the steel trap.

If enacted, the Anderson bill, H.R. 66, would legalize the Department of the Interior's fur business and authorize that Department to set its own "rules and regulations" for trapping and to do its own policing.

What economic impact Interior's involvement has on the nation's fur market was not discussed at these hearings. CHL was not able to obtain the names of the private companies which benefit from Interior's sale of fur skins.

Senator Birch Bayh has now introduced the Anderson bill to the Senate as his own. His remarks of December 11, 1975 (Congressional Record) spoke of the bill as a ban on the steel-jaw trap. But nowhere in the provisions are the words "steel-jaw" or "leg-hold trap" used and therefore his bill bans them NOT.

Congratulations to the sponsors of these humane bills--Senate: Mathias (S1602) (Md.) Williams (S1830) (N.J.) House: Broomfield (HR134) (Cal.) Long (HR2327) (Md.)

These are legislators who do not reject their Congressional responsibilities by shoving off their duty onto the bureaucracy. The firm direction to the administration in all of their bills provides for a specific ban on the manufacture and shipment of leg-hold steel-jaw traps. They also prohibit shipment of furs from any state or nation which had not also banned the use of these barbaric traps.



Letters Are Urgently Needed

The nation's licensed trappers are sending in piles of protests over these good bills. Trappers number about 40,000 but this statistic of sadism-in-motion can be offset by the good action of as many of the 220,000,000 non-trappers as CHL can reach. PLEASE send your letter, co-signed by friends and neighbors, to each of our bill's sponsors. They deserve encouragement and support. Address Messrs. Broomfield and Long, House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C., 20510. Photocopies will be satisfactory and we'd appreciate receiving one also at CHL's Washington headquarters: 910 Sixteenth St. N.W., Washington, D.C., 20006.

FOOD FOR LAZY PEOPLE

NO KNEAD WHOLE WHEAT BREAD

Have you ever desired to make bread, but dreaded the thought of all the work involved? Or are you tired of the constant kneading, punching, waiting for the loaf to rise, punching it down again...do you fantasize a bread that is as easy to bake as a pre-mixed cake? Well folks, this is a fulfillment to those fantasies. This recipe was originally for a white bread, taken from a very old cookbook. Not wanting the white flour and sugar in my diet, I changed the recipe to whole wheat, and made a loaf of quick bread. It is a little sweeter than regular whole wheat bread, and it doesn't look like your typical loaf; it doesn't rise as high. There is no yeast in the recipe. The baking powder does it all.

- 2 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup honey

Mix together the whole wheat flour, baking powder and salt. In a separate bowl mix the egg, milk, and honey. (Or just add the honey after you've mixed the dry ingredients with the wet ones). Blend the two mixtures well, until they are mixed together to form a fairly smooth, thick dough. Put in a greased bread tin, spreading evenly. Let sit for 20 minutes. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bake for one-half hour or until a knife inserted into the loaf

comes out clean. When done, remove from bread tin by turning it over onto a plate. The loaf should come out easily.

Your bread will resemble banana bread in shape and size. If you want it to have more protein, you can add wheat germ to the dry mixture. But when adding more than 1/2 cup of wheat germ, be sure to omit some flour, or else your bread will taste too dry. But be warned, this bread tends to lose its flavor when kept over long periods of time or when frozen. Eat it quickly, and enjoy it.

--Shorty

POST NOTE: When we tried this recipe at the Post-American test kitchen, it took about 50 minutes to get done.

ALTERNATIVE NEWS

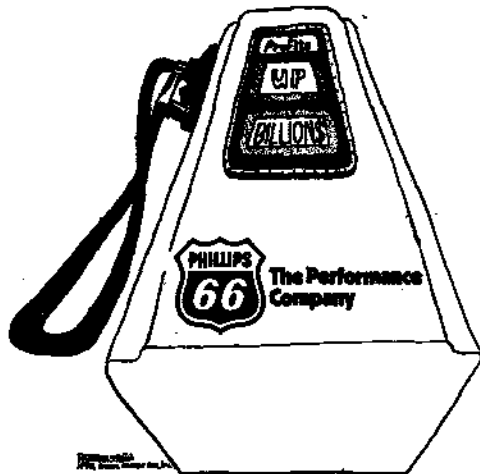
PHILLIPS TELLS WHITE LIE

NEW YORK (LNS)--The Phillips Petroleum Company is under fire from environmentalists protesting the scheduled airing of a television advertisement which they maintain is misleading.

The ad shows a deer, two cougars and a golden eagle apparently thriving in an environment dotted with oil wells pumping petroleum in the northern Utah oil fields.

But as soon as the company finished filming the commercial, the deer, the two tame cougars and the golden eagle were placed in crates and shipped back to the California farm from which they had been rented.

Phillips insists that the commercial is not misleading, claiming that there is nothing in the ad that indicates that the animals are wild.



DOCTOR CATCHES BLACK STEALING THREAD

NEW YORK (LNS)--The Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners has declined to revoke the license of a white doctor who removed freshly sewn stitches from the arm of a young black patient who was unable to pay the doctor's \$25 fee.

The Board merely censured the doctor and placed him on a year's probation, which requires him to appear before the board four times during the year but does not interrupt his practice.

Dr. Bobby Merkle, the only doctor in the small, predominantly black, rural community of Uniontown, Alabama, was sued for \$50,000 for removing the stitches from 14-year-old Melvin Armstrong in July, 1974. In April, 1976, an all-white jury awarded Armstrong's father \$20--the cost of having the wound restitched by a doctor in nearby community.

ECONOMICS QUIZ

NEW YORK (CPF/LNS)--The Union for Radical Political Economics offers the following quiz on facts about the economy that you might not have learned in school.

1. How long ago could you buy for \$1 what now costs \$3?
2. Of the world's 100 largest economic entities, how many are nations and how many are corporations?
3. What percent of the world's population lives in housing inferior to that of the average farm animal in the United States?
4. In which years since 1950 has unemployment been less than 4%? What common characteristic distinguishes those years?

ANSWERS: 1) 1943 2) 49 are nations, 51 are corporations 3) 80% 4) 1951-53 and 1966-69. All were war years.

MILLIONAIRES PAY NO TAXES

NEW YORK (LNS)--Two hundred and forty-four people with incomes of over \$200,000--five of them millionaires--paid no Federal income taxes in 1974, according to statistics released in early May by the Internal Revenue Service. This represents an increase in wealthy tax escapers for the third straight year. In 1973, 164 people in the over \$200,000 group paid no income tax, and in 1972 the number was 108.

Not only the number but the proportion of high income persons not paying taxes is also rising. According to the figures, 78 per cent of those with incomes in excess of \$200,000 paid no Federal tax in 1974, compared to 64 per cent in 1973 and 47 per cent in 1972.

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Hell, I'd use anybody if it was to the furtherance of our objectives. I've used Buddhist monks, Catholic priests, and even a Catholic bishop."

--CIA operative quoted by John Marks, co-author of "CIA: Cult of Intelligence."

SWAT GETS DESPERATE CRIMINALS

NEW YORK (LNS)--In two separate incidents in Miami and Los Angeles in early April, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) police officers nearly had shootouts with teenagers who were armed with toy guns.

The first incident was in Miami April 7 when a retarded 14 year-old boy, pointed a toy gun at some elderly neighbors and told them, "don't move, this is the police." About two dozen armed police officers, including nine SWAT snipers, surrounded the building for two hours before the boy's step father arrived and explained to police that it was probably only his son in the building.

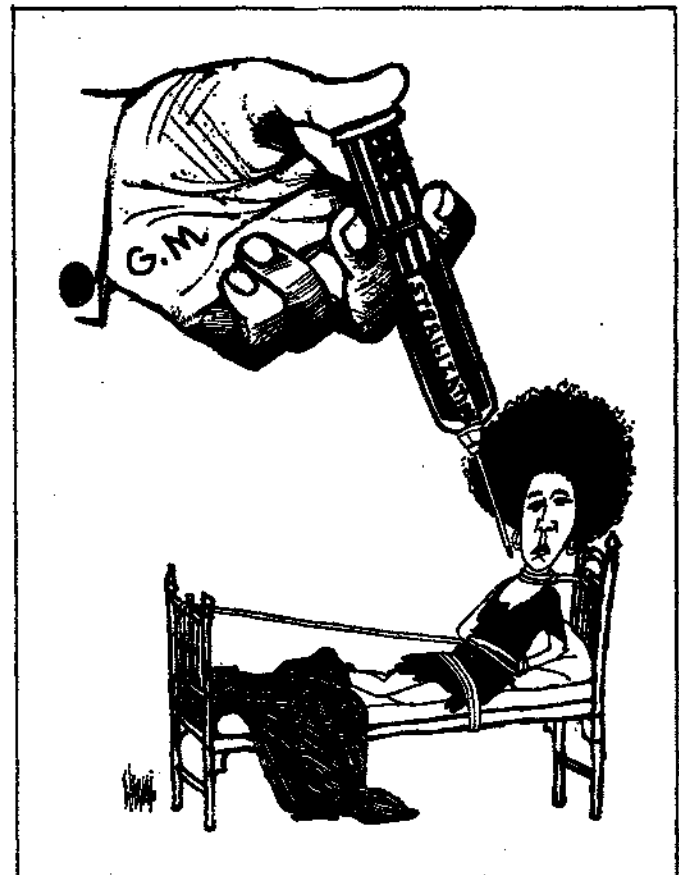
An equally frightened 15 year old girl was surrounded by 40 police officers, including 20 SWAT snipers, in Los Angeles on April 13. The girl, who had fired a starters pistol (which makes a noise but doesn't shoot bullets) she had found in her apartment, was too terrified to respond to police commands to surrender. The seige finally ended when SWAT members, backed up by machine guns, broke down the door to the apartment.

GM SAYS GET STERILE OR LOSE JOB

NEW YORK (LNS)--A woman employed in a plant run by General Motors of Canada Ltd. says she had herself sterilized in order to keep her job.

"I shouldn't have done it," Norma James said, "because I know it's not right that they should tell you you're not going to have any more children or else you can't work here any more."

James works in battery assembly, where lead oxide emissions are potentially harmful to unborn children. She was one of six women at the plant who were told they would be transferred to another department unless they could prove they cannot bear children. Four of the other women have filed a complaint with the Ontario Human Rights Commission, charging the company with sex discrimination.



SUIT CHARGES PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION UNSAFE

NEW YORK (Law & Poverty/LNS)--A company hired to check the safety of the Alaskan Pipeline has filed a \$40 million suit against the pipeline builders, charging that the 700-mile pipeline is unsound and the project's engineering is riddled with inconsistencies.

Ketchbaw Industries says it discovered numerous flaws in the welds, but that final reports on the pipeline were somehow falsified. Ketchbaw Industries' services were later terminated by Aleyska officials.

The suit has been filed by Ketchbaw Industries, which was commissioned by the Aleyska Pipeline Service Company to x-ray welded joints along the pipeline route.

Three Views of "Cuckoo" Review

30

VIEW NO. ONE

Post:

Perhaps, Alice in Navyland's response to One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest is correct, and if it is then it is quite illuminating. I certainly never viewed the movie, or Ken Kesey's novel, in terms of sexist male annihilation of a woman who assumed dominant and commanding status. I agree with Alice that the movie was "subtle and powerful" and this even though it failed in some ways to develop the breath of theme that Kesey's novel managed. It did, however, catch the sense of despair that is our collective ordnance in the face of electric America's institutional repression, where on every street corner there seems to be a police car, parked and watching, and scratching some static into the air.

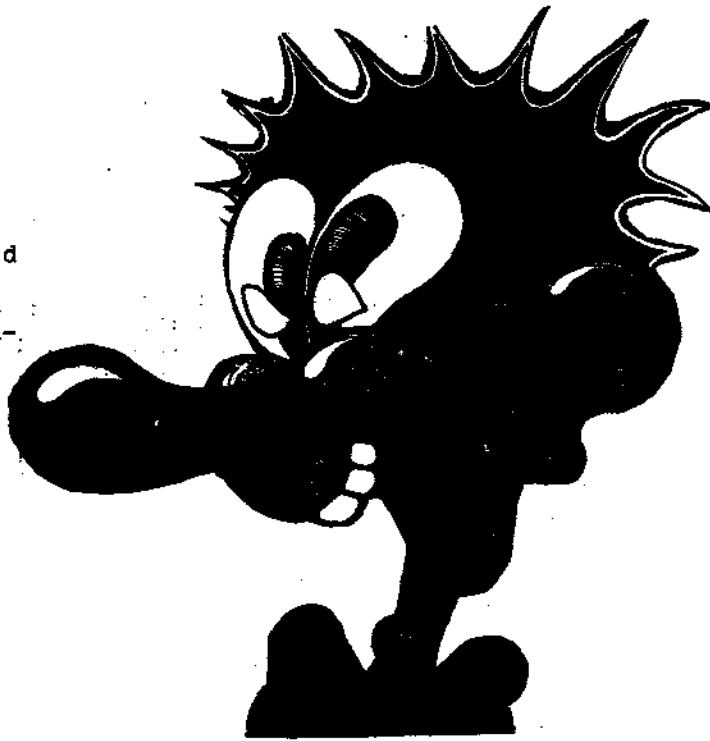
But, to the point: At the end of Alice's powerfully-written essay-review, she commented about the film, "It's a movie designed to put woman in her place, and show her the consequences of usurping the male role.... They have upheld, with passion and violence, the myth of male superiority..." (All quotes of Alice's article taken from May's Post-American; page 29.)

Well, we can all agree that the field of aesthetic interpretation is indeed a murky one; and further, that two intelligent people can arrive at totally divergent and perhaps even mutually exclusive opinions when interpreting the same work of art, in this case a film. But still, and I will attempt to explain, I find Alice's argument palpably absurd. I say that in full awareness that I may simply be unconsciously responding to sexist views and predilections so deeply ground into me that I am not even aware of them. That is, as I say, a possibility, but I don't believe in this case that it is true; and instead believe that Alice, in her virulent attack on the film, is the one who is acting in too-automatic a response to her orientation, which is, apparently, an active feminist.

Alice argued that One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest was a demonstration to men that they should rebel against and attack dominant women; she termed McMurphy, the film's protagonist, "a violent and adolescent ass-hole," and saw the movie as a broad allegory attempting to show that women's only control is over children and that the theme of the movie was "in the real world, women do not boss men."

I feel that Alice did not misinterpret a theme the movie dealt with, but that she instead invented a theme the movie didn't even bring on the field, and then she proceeded to attack a theme which existed nowhere except in Alice's head. Which is to say, I don't think that male-female roles were on any level discussed in Cuckoo's Nest. First I will outline what I believe the movie is about, and then try to explain why I believe Alice's interpretation borders on paranoia.

Cuckoo's Nest was a movie about a whole system of thought our society has adopted. This system demands that people, both men and women, become units, and if a person insists on his or her own rhythms and particular world view, then the system will crush that person. McMurphy initials are, and this is no accident, R.P.M.s. (Randle Patrick McMurphy) revolutions per minute. The movie effectively portrayed Kesey's intention of showing McMurphy as a revolutionary in the sense that McMurphy demanded to be recognized as not a functional unit to be manipulated by society, but instead as an autonomous and unique entity; as such McMurphy represented a true threat against totalitarian thought, and hence was a real revolutionary. The society was represented by not only Nurse Ratched, but also by the compliant



hospital doctors and administrators, by the black aides, by the police outside the hospital walls who were shown when a McMurphy-masterminded excursion took place, and by the fences and walls and locked doors of the institution itself. Nurse Ratched happened in this instance to be a tangential figure of the repressive society, but it is clear that all the other components of the society stand behind the repression even if and when she is not there. McMurphy reacts not against women but against a real and encroaching threat to his survival as an individual which the society poses.

Hence, to call him "an adolescent asshole" is to miss the point of the film completely. All of the other human components of the repressive society were men; the doctors were men, the aides were men, the police were men. Yet all, just as actively as Nurse Ratched, posed a threat to McMurphy. Alice says that "The fact that she (Nurse Ratched) has real power over a group of men is a clear violation of what men call the natural order." Admittedly, Ratched has real power over the men inmates, but the (male) doctors have more power over them; the (male) aides have more at least physical power over them; the (male) police who brought McMurphy to the hospital were armed with guns and could have shot him. It is not a woman who is keeping the inmates in their places, it is the system of thought instilled in the society and supported by the police and the aides and by the hospital doctors and by the hospital walls as well as by Nurse Ratched. It is quite clear that if Ratched is a symbol for a larger body, then that body is not women but society. To argue that the film illustrates black dominance, since all the aides were black, or to say that Hemingway's A Farewell To Arms illustrates that women should die in childbirth, as the novel's female lead did. All three commit the same fallacy: They demand one character be a synecdoche. Alice demands Ratched be a representative of dominant women, and all the other women in the film be obverse images or shadows of her selected synecdoche. Alice's argument is false at its own core, and hence rather completely absurd.

A closing note: I too would find abhorrent any effort to put women back into the pigeonholes of social expectation they were assigned in a Victorian time. But what I find dangerous is when an intelligent and concerned member of the woman's movement insists on finding an attempt at male dominance in a work of art completely innocent of any such attempt. To force one over-categorized and self-limiting view of the world over another equally over-categorized and self-limiting view of the world is no real gain. If Alice insists on finding male conspiracy in each mov-

ement of any man, she will end in a social orientation that is paranoid, and may well be as crippled as men who insist on finding failure in each movement of any woman. Neither a male sexist or a female sexist is any more aware than the other, at least in the book I look at, the world I see.

Dominic Suprenant

VIEW NO. TWO

"It's a movie designed to put woman in her place, and show her the consequences of usurping the male role."

--Alice in Navyland

I must take exception to Alice's central thesis as to what "Cuckoo's Nest" is about because I feel she is expressing a tendency to identify personal struggles too much with the art forms one experiences. I would only register this variance from Alice's view to point out broader themes in the movie, not to discredit Alice's many good points and fine exposition in any way.

The central theme of the Milo Forman adaptation of the Ken Kesey novel, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, is the interweaving of Orwellian control, sacrificial intervention to make the victims of control aware of it, and flight from this insidious control. This becomes apparent when the film is seen as an art form, not a sexist battleground, and when the protagonists are seen as the conveyors of human themes, not as "real people."

Nurse Ratched, it is true, bears the brunt of audience antipathy because she is the hospital administration's contact with the crazies. She is a castrating woman bent on rigid control, but it must be remembered that this posture conforms with "staff policy," promulgated by the predominantly male doctors.

Thus, I suggest that the sexist polarity in Cuckoo's Nest is more in the previous reviewer's eye than on the screen. This is why this reviewer cannot find a "real woman" in the film, only the extremes of one who's uptight and one who puts out. The failure to find a genuine female amid stereotypes should have clued Alice in to this point--Man vs. Woman is not what this film is about.

Before McMurphy, staff control over the crazies is quised in a deadly game involving condescension, sugary sympathy, and emasculation. McMurphy's response to this might be paraphrased, "What you're doing to these people--and they are people first, patients second, is making them worse, not better, and more dependent upon you, not more self-reliant." McMurphy stands out as the only real rehabilitator in the movie; Nurse Ratched and her staff are only surly babysitters in comparison. The difference? McMurphy saw the crazies as people, subject to change, and able to change. The staff saw the crazies as patients, primarily, locked into an unfortunate status quo that required professional maintenance. It was inevitable that one who opposed in such a fundamental and vociferous way the "treatment" of himself and his fellows would have to be silenced. In another context I recall words that are germane here, "It was expedient that one man die for the sake of the whole." The lobotomy was a legalized murder, the suffocation a merciful deliverance.

As McMurphy proceeded to seal his fate, he was simultaneously stimulating The Chief to action. McMurphy's outright refusal to accept The Chief as a "dumb Indian" impelled the latter to confide in McMurphy and exhibit his real self increasingly more.



Letters ("Views" cont.)

The Chief's flight, as well as his bondage, speak to all of us--the sexist controversy is dwarfed and subsidiary to the encompassing theme of the working out of human freedom. There are myriad forces--government, Church, media, school, parents, employers--who are on more secure ground when they control rather than lead and inspire. We must be independent, ideologically footloose on this earth, if we are to create another, better way of living together. Control and flight from control are themes to keep in mind, as well as the potent symbol of McMurphy dying so The Chief in us may fly.

Tom Leising

VIEW NO. THREE

Alice in Navyland,

Just read your review of One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest and don't quite agree with your opinions. As in most things, I find it true that movie reviews say more about the reviewer than about the movie. You tended to focus, which was your right, on the man vs. woman conflict, which was clearly there. To me there were two, more sophisticated perhaps, levels on which this movie could be judged.

One, who did nurse Ratched get her power and authority from? Who keeps or allows the Ratcheds of this world to act out their karma? Why not the chief psychiatrist who is responsible for the whole institution (and who happens to be male)? And can it rest on man's shoulder, being responsible for all this cuckoo business? I think not,

for where does the psychiatrist get his power and money and authority? Sure from the society that wants in 1963 to protect itself from the McMurphy's of this world. That is all of us who authorize by taxes and elected officials the dumping of non-conformists in institutions like cuckoo. Yes, man vs. woman conflicts take place on that stage, but look at who built it and how it is so expensively maintained. I, personally, would have been more threatened if the chief psychiatrist had been a woman.

Two, I'm wondering if this movie and the book are not about the human mind and how we selectively seal ourselves in from realities we do not want to deal with. I was especially moved by what I consider the most dramatic statement I have ever seen on film of the effects of alcohol abuse on the mind:

There is McMurphy, just about to gain his freedom, which he says he wants more than anything else, taking one last slug of rum and then slinking down to sleep next to the open window! Is the Cuckoo's Nest outside of us or inside of us? Do we really want to be free or is it more comfortable to be drugged and insensitized to our feelings? That is what the movie says to me and that is why I thought it was the most brilliant movie of 1976. Those are themes that I would like to see discussed and wrestled with. But your view is OK too. Thanks for listening.

George M. Wetzel
1368 Fulton
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Awesome Notes

national nude beach day

august 8, 1976

As an outgrowth of the development of clothes-optional beaches both on the West Coast and on Cape Cod together with the official (and officious) efforts to suppress them, a decision has been reached among some people around the country to coordinate efforts and gain some useful publicity for civil rights and the cause of skinny dipping by sponsorship of a National Nude Beach Day on August 8, 1976.

To be informed about the where and how and why and with whom, the events and tactics and reasons, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope and if possible a couple of bucks or more to help defray expenses of NNBD and the information campaign to Free Beaches, Box 132, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901. Information will be mailed as it is prepared.



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Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope

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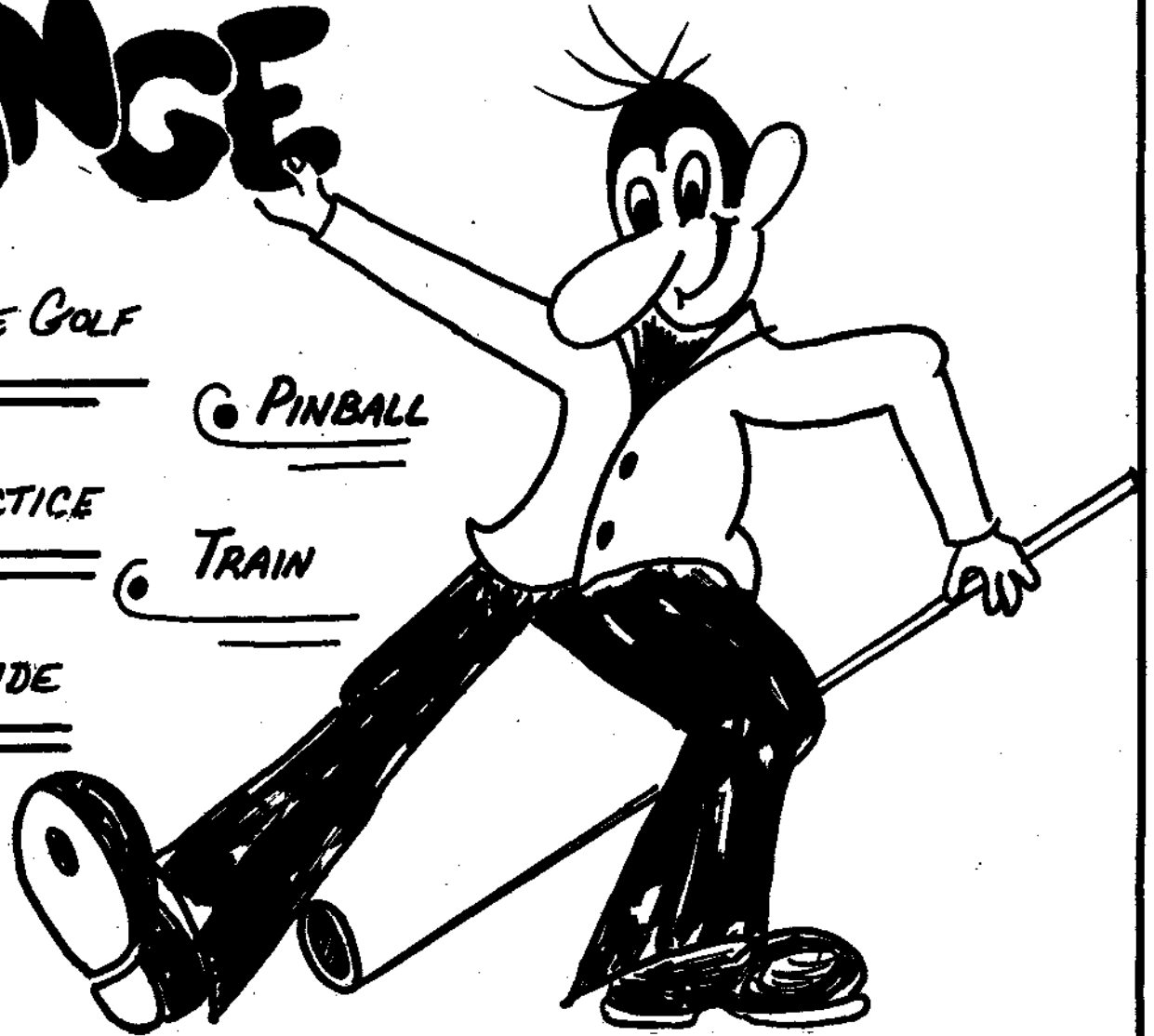
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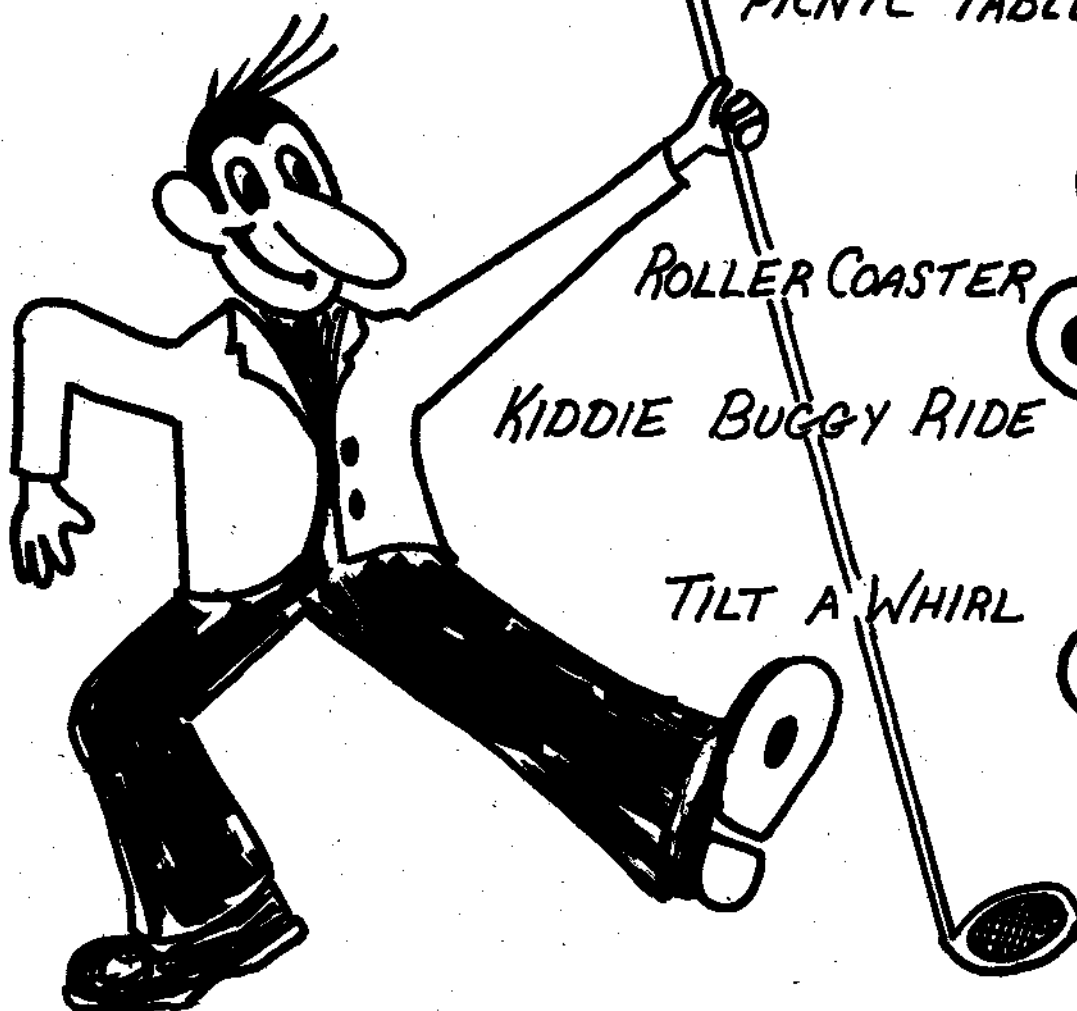
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