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The Keep

The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

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Post Amerikan

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god; godfrey; gay prisoners; women in music; meg; nukes

BLOOMINGTON—NORMAL

25c

POST AMERIKAN

Vol. VII No. 8
Feb. 1979

I SAY THAT IT'S TIME
WE ALL TAKE A CLOSER
LOOK AT SOME OF OUR
CHERISHED INSTITUTIONS!



LOOK CLOSER,
KID, AND I'LL
DROP A BRICK
ON YOU!!



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ABOUT US

Anyone can be a member of the Post Staff except maybe ISU's Dr. Hogan. 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 is 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 and inspiration for material comes from the community.

We encourage you, the reader, to become more than a reader.

We welcome all stories and tips for stories, which you can mail to our office (the address is at the end of this rap).

If You'd like to work on the Post and/or come to meetings, call us. The number is 828-7232. You can also reach folks at 828-6885 or ask for Andrea at 829-6223 during the day.

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 us at 828-7232.

Mail, which we more than welcome, should be sent to: The Post-Amerikan, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61701. (Be sure you tell us if you don't want your letter printed! Otherwise it's likely to end up in our letters column.)

GOOD NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous--828-5049
 American Civil Liberties Union--452-4831
 Clare House (Catholic Worker)--828-4035
 Community for Social Action--452-4867
 Countering Domestic Violence (PATH)--827-4005
 Dept. of Children and Family Services--829-5326
 Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare (Social Security Admin.)--829-9436
 Dept. of Mental Health--828-4311
 Gay Action/Awareness Union--828-6935
 Gay National Educational Switchboard--800-227-0888
 HELP (Transportation for handicapped and sr. citizens)--828-8301
 Ill. Lawyer Referral Service--800-252-8916
 Kaleidoscope--828-7346
 Lighthouse--828-1371
 McLean County Health Dept.--829-3363
 McLean County Mental Health Center--827-5351
 Men's Rap Group--828-6935
 Mobile Meals (meals for shut-ins)--828-8301

National Health Care Services (abortion assistance in Peoria)--691-9073
 National Runaway Switchboard--800-621-4000 in Illinois--800-972-6004 (all 800 #'s toll free)
 Occupational Development Center--828-7324
 PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone Help)--827-4005
 Parents Anonymous--827-4005 (PATH)
 Planned Parenthood--827-8025
 Post-Amerikan--828-7232
 Prairie State Legal Aid--827-5021
 Project OZ--827-0377
 Public Aid, McLean Cnty. Dept. of--827-4621
 Rape Crisis Line--827-4005 (PATH)
 SAW (Student Association for Women, ISU)--438-7619
 Small Changes Alternative Bookstore--829-6223
 Sunnyside Neighborhood Center--827-5428
 Tele Care--828-8301
 Unemployment Compensation/Employment Office--827-6237
 United Farmworkers Support Group--452-5046
 Women's Switchboard--800-927-5404

New utility regulations: but don't get too excited!

On January 6th of this year, new utility regulations went into effect. Your utility company probably did not send you a notice of these new rules because they benefit the consumer more than the utility. Don't get excited yet; they aren't that great.

The most important new regulations include:

-Utilities may not shut off heating service on any day when the weather is predicted to fall below 20 degrees during the next 24 hours.

-Utilities may not disconnect service for up to 60 days if a resident is seriously ill and properly notifies the utility of the illness.

-Discontinuance notices must be mailed to a third party previously named by the customer if the customer requests the privilege in writing.

-Service will no longer be shut off after 2p.m. unless the service can be restored the same day, including holidays and weekends.

-For a service deposit, utilities may not request more than one-sixth of the total estimated annual bill,

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 The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main
 The Book Worm, 310½ N. Main
 South West Corner--Front & Main
 Mr. Quick, Clinton at Washington
 Downtown Postal Substation, Center and Monroe
 Bl. Post Office, E. Empire (at exit)
 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
 Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland
 Bus Depot, 523 N. East
 The Wash House, 609 N. Clinton
 Bi-Rite, 203 E. Locust
 Man-Ding-Go's, 312 S. Lee
 Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main
 Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire
 J&B Silkscreening, 622 N. Main
 Doug's Motorcycle, 1105 W. Washington
 K-Mart, at parking lot exit
 Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main
 Lay-Z-J Saloon, 1401 W. Market
 Pantagraph Building (in front)
 Common Ground, 516 N. Main
 North East Corner--Main & Washington

NORMAL

University Liquors, 706 W. Beaufort
 Pat's Billiards, 1203 S. Main
 Redbird IGA, 301 S. Main
 Mother Murphy's, 111½ North St.
 Ram, 101 Broadway Mall
 Eisner's, E. College (near sign)
 Divinyl Madness, 115 North St.
 Co-op Tapes & Records, 311 S. Main
 Bowling and Billiards Center, I.S.U. Student Center
 Baker's Dozen Donuts, 602 Kingsley
 Cage, ISU Student Union
 Midstate Truck Plaza, Route 51 North
 Upper Cut, 1203½ S. Main

OUTTA TOWN

Galesburg: Under The Sun, E. Main St.
 Monmouth: Head's Up
 Peoria: That Other Place, NE Adams
 Decatur: Coop Tapes and Records, 1470 Pershing
 Springfield: Spoon River Book Co-op, 407 E. Adams
 Urbana: Horizon Bookstore, 517 S. Goodwin

and the deposit can be paid over three billing periods.

-If a portion of a bill is disputed, the utility may not discontinue a customer's service as long as the customer pays all portions of the bill not in dispute.

If you would like to see a copy of the regulations, you can go to either the Illinois Power Companies office and ask for Mr. Aman, or you can go to Northern Ill. Gas company. All utility company offices are supposed to have a copy of the regulations, and the public can look at them. The regulation's official title is Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) General Order 172 (revised).

If you ever have any problems with the utility companies, you can call or write and send a formal complaint to ICC:

Illinois Commerce Commission
 Office of the Secretary
 427 E. Capital Ave.
 Springfield, Illinois 62706
 Phone number 217-782-2024

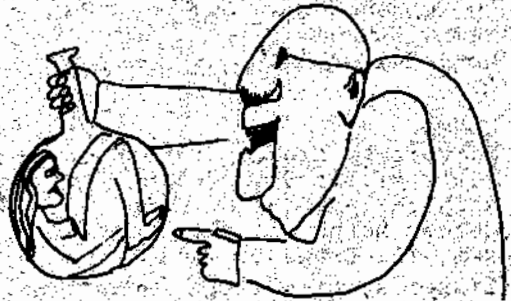
ICC is supposed to be looking out for the consumer in utility cases, but don't depend upon them too much. Keep after them, and if you need to, see an attorney.

SL

Hogan's lesbians

Two years as a graduate student were enough to show me that the Illinois State University Psychology department (like most other university departments, I suspect) is an enclave dominated by straight, white, middle-class, heterosexual, academic men. Being a radical, lesbian feminist who values her sanity, I have since dropped out of that scene and avoid such hell-holes as much as possible. Unfortunately, dropping out is no solution and my past came back to haunt me recently when the media picked up on a psychological study of lesbians co-authored by an ISU professor, Dr. Hogan.

Disgusted by the media accounts, I read that study: Attitudes, Opinions & Sexual Development of 205 Homosexual Women by Robert Hogan, Anne Fox & John Kerchner and another study by the same authors plus Kathleen Hogan entitled The Only Child Factor in Homosexual Development. After putting myself through such torture, I realized that these two studies are classic examples of how straight world viewpoints can bias research and thus promote prejudice.



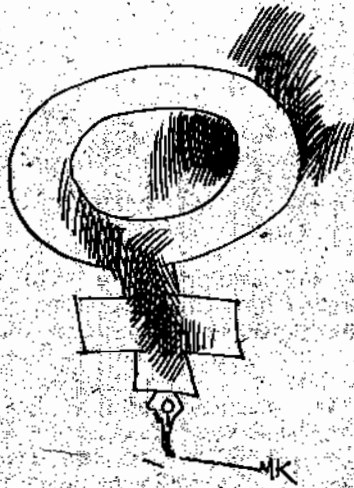
Research Group/cpf

The authors' attitudes reveal that they have little knowledge about lesbian lives. For instance, they report straight-faced (pun intended) that none of the 205 lesbians studied who were "drawn from homosexual organizations in Illinois" told her mother she was a lesbian. This statistic alone should make anyone who knows anything at all about lesbians wonder about the representativeness of this sample of women.

The authors were also shocked when 17% of these lesbians had no idea about the happiness of a "male-male marriage." They falsely assume that all lesbians must know gay men, & gay men who are "married" at that. And these people are writing a study on lesbians!

The authors display a strong heterosexual, nuclear family bias. In one study they conclude that lesbians who are only children come from cold, aloof & insensitive families & so "do not perceive heterosexual marriage as a happy relationship." They have little insight into the relationships of people, in spite of the fact that 70% have been to college." It seems to me that these women have excellent insight into the fact that most heterosexual relationships are prisons for women.

The authors also suffer from classism and sexism. They cannot understand how 88% of the women can make less than \$8,000 a year and yet say they are happy in their jobs. Obviously they believe that the more money



one makes, the happier one should be. And obviously they have not looked at recent statistics on the income levels of women workers.

Despite the fact that some of the authors were women, the studies are loaded with male-biased viewpoints. Following an old male tradition of judging the worth of a relationship based on sex, the authors conclude at one point that only-child lesbians have reduced intimacy in their relationships because they report having fewer orgasms. And, we all know that there's a direct correlation between how many orgasms one has with someone & how close one is with them!

Through out the two studies the authors display a high level of psychological academic egocentrism. When they asked 25 women to write autobiographies and received brief 1/2 page reports, they were dismayed. Rather than realize that most lesbians have better sense than to write pages and pages about their lives for some straight researchers these psychologists concluded that "this inability to communicate illustrates a lack of awareness of self or others." The authors claim that they did develop an attitude of compassion for their subjects, and this probably what led them to conclude that lesbians are merely suffering from "arrested social development" rather than "deviant emotional development."

On top of showing sexism, heterosexism, classism & egocentrism, the authors display a good amount of psychologic-stupidity. A good example of this is their conclusions.

One general conclusion reached about only child lesbians is that they are "socially isolated, introverted & followers, many with limited insight into self." The authors claim this conclusion comes from the women's responses to questions about religion, political activism & personality. Looking closer it's clear that the conclusion comes from the researchers' interpretations of the women's responses. I want to give you their interpretations because they are, to say the least, pretty wild!

The first interpretation is based on questions about religion. The study reveals that only-child lesbians attend church less frequently than do straight women

or lesbians who are not only children. So, the authors suggest that this may be because these women feel rejected for being homosexuals in a heterosexual world & for being only children in a society of larger families--to avoid a third form of rejection, they avoid going to church!

The second interpretation deals with the issue of political activism. One study reports that only-child lesbians are more likely to be involved in lesbian organizations than are their gay sisters who are not only children. The authors suggest that this may be because a lesbian with siblings can relate to her sisters &/or brothers, & thus she doesn't need an active lesbian group as well!

The third issue which the authors mention as supporting their conclusion that these women are "socially isolated, introverted etc." is based on answers to personality questions. In reading the personality dimension results, it is very unclear what the authors' point was. But it seems that the most shocking fact for them was that it is the only-child lesbians who most regard men as being inconsiderate and dominant.

If by this point you are confused, wondering what these three interpretations have to do with the conclusion that these women are "followers, many with limited insight into self," trust yourself! You ought to be confused.

Not only are these studies filled with prejudicial statements, they are also based on poor research techniques. Some of the questions use such broad terms as "happiness" "feminine/masculine interests," "marriage" & "homosexuality." At no point do the authors acknowledge the complexity of trying to define these words so that they can be used meaningfully.

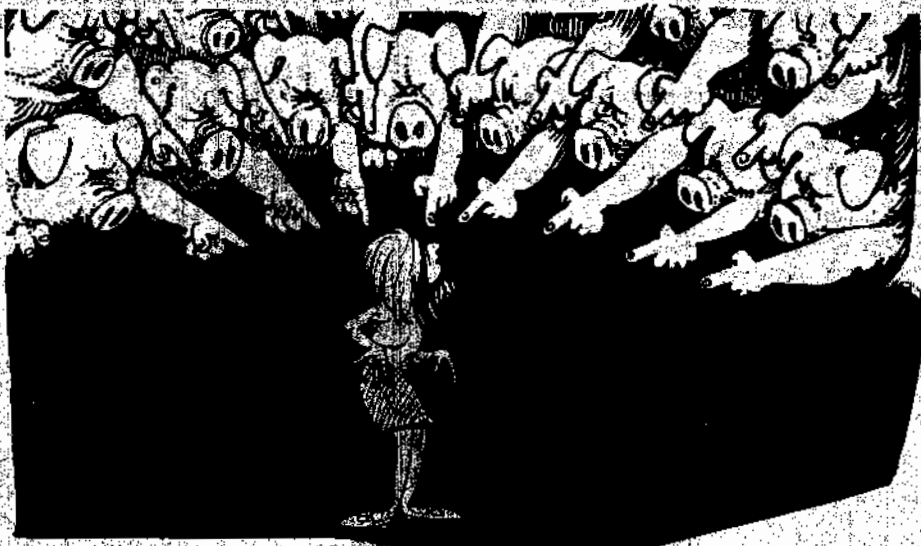
One major conclusion reached by the authors is that the lesbians studied lacked insight into themselves & others. This is based on the fact that there were a large number of neutral answers given, especially to the personality questions. But, psychological research practices require the authors to throw out such questions since it is unclear what the reason is for such neutral answers. (A neutral answer is one that falls exactly in the middle of a scale like: Are you happy or sad? On a 5 point scale 5 is happiest and 1 is saddest. Three is a neutral answer.)

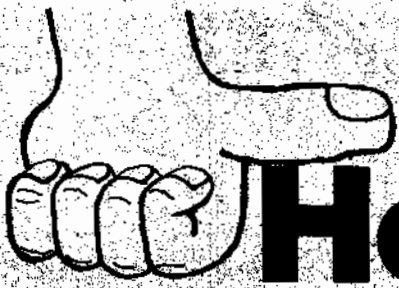
In the study The Only Child Factors in Homosexual Development, the same questionnaire was given to all 3 groups of women--the only child lesbians, the lesbians with siblings & the only-child straight women. But some of the questions were meaningless when applied to one or another of the groups. For example only children had to decide who their parents' favorite child was. The study also proudly concluded that lesbians achieve orgasm more frequently with women than straight women do with women.

There are many more criticisms of these studies but this lesbian has already spent too much time on this straight-prejudiced document.

It is scary to think what effects this so-called research may have on the lives of lesbians. Already the media has reported some of the conclusions, thus helping to spread myths about gay women. One study was also published in the Journal of Homosexuality (Vol 3(2), Winter 77), a liberal psychological journal carried by many homosexual organizations. We can only hope that reading such propaganda will increase our lesbian sisters' distrust of straight male academia. ●

--Riverfinger





How much is your

Today many women work outside the home. They account for nearly half of the civilian labor force. Studies tell us that women are breaking into all kinds of previously male-dominated occupations, and cigarette advertisements tell us we've come a long way. Some of this is true, but things are not quite as rosy for women on the job or women looking for jobs as the media might try to make us believe.

Edith Abbott's book Women in Industry reported that out of 303 separate occupations listed in the Census of 1900, women were recorded as employed in all but nine. Among the occupations women were pursuing then were farmer, lumber jack, physician, surgeon, journalist, police officer, fire fighter, and lawyer. Of course the majority of employed women were not working at any of these jobs, and they aren't now either.

The majority of working women are sales clerks, clerical workers,



and waitresses. Besides the fact that these jobs usually pay minimum wage or below, these jobs that women are forced to take are degrading in many other ways.

Managers seem to feel free to put their arms around female employees and often have an image of themselves as great lovers. One manager explained: "This is to keep employees in good spirits; it's just my way of joking around." A woman who

nice. Ironically, in the first two nights the bar was open, one waitress had two pairs of shoes ruined by some drunk throwing up on them. A woman who was employed as a bartender at Howard Johnson's told us that her boss told her her skirts were too long and that she should shop at Bergner's. He also told her she should wear lower cut blouses. She told him that if she was being paid to take off her clothes she expected to get more than \$2.50 an hour.

"You're supposed to serve them, and because they're spending two dollars you're supposed to kiss their feet. You have to smile and take shit... If they don't give you their orders coherently and you have to ask them to clarify it, they get mad... you're supposed to read their minds... Everywhere I've worked, there's that attitude," says Rozanne, who has worked for both White Castle and McDonald's.

As for sales clerks, male customers think women should listen to their life stories and problems. They expect clerks to be automatically sympathetic and understanding because they're women. They act as if these women don't have anything better to do, even if it's obvious that they're busy.

The practice of tipping is another way to exploit female workers. "Any other way of paying waitresses



worked in a small non-chain drug store reported that the owner referred to the cashiers as, "my girls."

On opening night at a local bar the manager told the waitresses not to wear wedding rings. He told one waitress to wash her hair and look



would be better," says Andrea. "It fosters competition and bad feelings among the women. The boss benefits because tipping promotes hustling. It keeps the waitresses working hard. He doesn't have to pay them out of his profits--it adds to his income."

She goes on to explain the problem of depending on tips for wages: "Lots of times bad tips are not the waitress's fault, or anything she has any control over. The manager doesn't put enough waitresses on the shift, so the service is slow or the food is cold. He buys crummy, preprepared, prepackaged food that tastes crappy because it's cheap and



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easy, and the customer doesn't like it very much. There's no way to cook that junk so it tastes like it should; the customer gets mad and takes it out on the waitress."

Customers get off on the fact that a woman is "serving" them. They often feel they can be rude if they want to. One woman who was working as a clerk was disturbed by a customer's rude remarks about another customer in the store. She asked the man in

see my tits wiggle. Finally I told them to go to Peoria."

Women are often forced to take shit jobs because it's all they can get. Even women who have gone to college have trouble getting out of the menial work scene. For some I think the system has just humiliated them to a point that they no longer have the confidence in themselves that it takes to go and seek employment at a higher level.

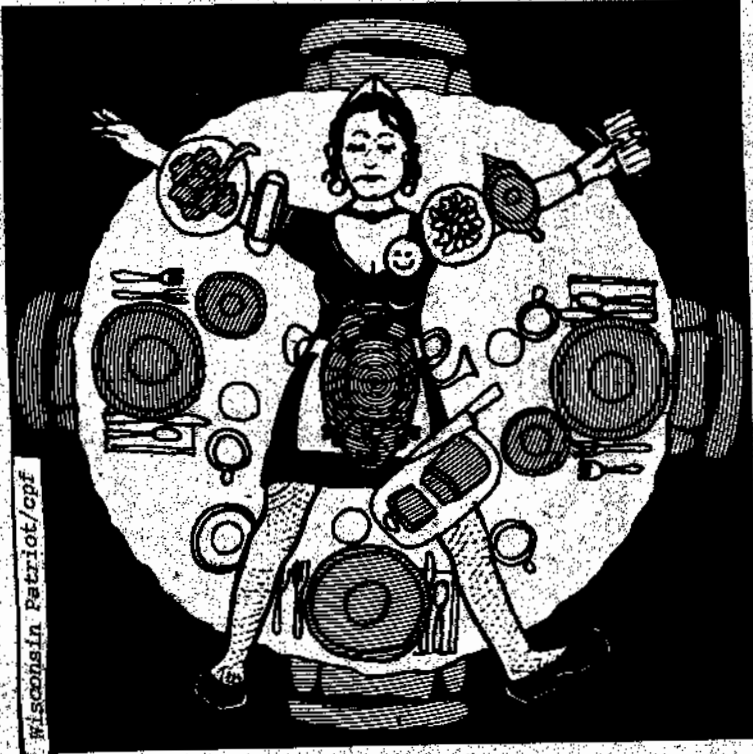


... SO, I THOUGHT THE INTERVIEW WENT GREAT, UNTIL THE JOKER LEANS ACROSS THE DESK AND SAYS "THE JOB'S YOURS, UNLESS WE GET AN APPLICANT WITH BETTER LEGS!"

tell you that women in the job force are already being treated equally. When you go to look for a job, don't let that slimy executive that does the hiring convince you that you're getting a good deal 'cause he's gonna pay you minimum wage or even a dime more. He'll try to make you feel lucky. Don't sell yourself short; your time also has value.

AFTERNOTE: This article was written from interviews with women workers. Some of the statistics in the first paragraph came from Pink Collar Workers by Louise Kapp Howe. One interview that we really wanted to get was one with a Steak 'n' Shake waitress--a classic symbol of an American female shit-worker. I approached an S 'n' S waitress who was probably 55 years old and was wearing a mini-skirt to get some tips. She agreed to do an interview but we couldn't agree on a time. She told me, "Well, I get here before 9 and I don't get off until 5. Then I have to go get dinner for my husband...."

Arielle Leaf with Eve and Phoebe



a nice way to stop harassing the other customer. He said to her, "Shut up you pizza-faced bitch." He was referring to a condition that the woman painfully recalls as being the subject of more than one rude comment by customers.

Others have no choice because of lack of education, experience or classy clothes. Women with children have a particularly hard time getting a job. Many times they have quit school or gotten married right out of high school and have little or no job experience.

A female bartender told us, "One time these men came in and they were very rich and very drunk. They were talking about how much money they were gonna make in Africa off these baboons. They would say cuss words and spell them out as if I couldn't spell. I didn't say anything to them. One of them had been hassling me all day and he asked me to shake the shaker in front of him 'cause he wanted to

We interviewed two women over the age of forty who had left their careers to raise their children. When they decided to go back to work, it took them over six months to find a job even though they had extensive job experience when they were younger. They were told that they were too old and that their job experience was no longer relevant.

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Congress keeps poor on minimum wage

If you lower the pay, more poor people will apply for the job.

That stunning logic comes from the U.S. Congress, which lowered the maximum pay for CETA public service jobs in McLean County from \$10,000 to \$6768.

Apparently, Congress thought that the CETA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) program was hiring too many college graduates and not enough hard-core unemployed.

Congress seems to have reasoned that by lowering the pay it could discourage college grads from applying and thereby make sure that CETA money was being spent on the truly hard-core unemployed.

If this reasoning doesn't make sense to you, then you're probably sane. Sane people know, for instance, that:

1. The hard-core unemployed (those nasty poor people on the unemployment rolls) don't need any less money to live on than anybody else. Nor do they deserve less for working.
2. Many college grads are hard-core unemployed, because the American economy has many more highly trained workers than it needs. Often, you can't get a job because you're too qualified.

Senseless or not, the change has been made, and the local CETA office is going to have to phase out 71 of the 77 public service jobs it was funding at the end of last year. The salaries are too high under the new rules.

Not only that, it's also going to be harder to create new public service jobs because of a quaint Catch 22:

CETA can't pay more than \$6768 a year (about \$3.25 an hour) for full-time work, but neither can it pay less than the prevailing wage—that is, CETA must pay whatever everybody else is paying for the same kind of work.

Now consider how many government jobs pay less than \$6768. Two? Three?

I exaggerate, but you begin to understand what kind of public service jobs CETA is going to be able to pay for. The worst.

That, apparently, is just what the poor, the hard-core unemployed, deserve. In fact, I suspect that was exactly the opinion Congress was acting on, because all last year the right-wing magazines churned out an incredible number of anti-CETA articles. Congress bowed under the pressure.

But I've got one more mind-blower: the McLean County CETA program has \$600,000 more this year than it had last year—about \$2.1 million instead of \$1.5 million. The government works in strange and mysterious ways.

Pretty obviously, the local CETA office isn't quite sure yet what it's going to do with all the money.

CETA Administrator Gary Cicciu says that he doesn't think there really are as many eligible for CETA jobs in McLean County as the unemployment figures indicate. (Unemployment is one factor in determining how much dough the feds give to each county.)

He does say, however, that there is a big discrepancy between job requirements here in Bloomington—Normal.

Well, as far as I'm concerned, unemployment, underemployment (people working part-time who want more work), and job mismatching are all part of the same problem.



Shiftless, lazy...

One man has made it clear who he thinks the hard-core unemployed are.

Bambridge Peterson, administrator for the McLean County board, suggested that the county government could hire people to clean up the courthouse or pick up trash along highways—two useful skills in a fast-paced modern society.

Peterson went on to tell the Daily Pantagraph that the county's department heads are afraid "they're really going to have to supervise them." "Them" refers to CETA employees hired under the new lower wage scale.

"We have enough to do, without standing around supervising extra people," Peterson concluded.

Peterson obviously keeps up with the latest stereotypes, though he seldom manages to make it all the way through the Family Weekly before a new one comes out.

That problem, put most simply, is that the American economy is geared to producing things (cars, insurance, individual wienie roasters) instead of being geared to giving people opportunities to do meaningful work.

I don't suppose Cicciu can do much about that problem, but it wouldn't hurt to think about it and give the Pantagraph a few appropriate quotes now and then.

Actually, the local CETA has come up with one good new program and that concerns part-time work, especially for the elderly. Theoretically, people of any age could be eligible for CETA-sponsored part-time work, but there are problems.

One is that many employers don't want part-time workers. CETA can, however, pay up to half the hourly wage of a worker employed by a private business. (No doubt there are rules for this program.)

The other problem is that with the low wage limits, few people could live on much less than full-time work.

Still, the local CETA office means to spend the \$2.1 million it's got. They've got lots of training programs, and they try to do good things like help women get into traditionally male-dominated jobs.

The pay ain't great, but it may be worth a call (827-4026). •

--D. LeSeure

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Pedestrians beware!

Bloomington streets unsafe-- even in the middle of day

People can't even cross the street without police harassment these days, it seems. Dan Norris, a local resident, attempted it Jan. 9, and ended up spending 26 hours in jail, paying \$200 bail, and getting charged with a felony--possession of a "controlled substance," peyote.

Norris was crossing Madison Street between the People's Bank parking lot and the Elks Club with two friends. They crossed the street in the middle of the block; the oncoming traffic was stopped at a signal light.

When the three pedestrians were half way across the four-lane street, the signal changed, and two oncoming cars had to slow down to let them finish crossing. Norris put out his arm and gestured to the two oncoming vehicles in a humorous manner, as if he were a traffic cop.

One of his friends says she may have made a similar gesture; she doesn't remember. Norris says that the drivers of both cars smiled good-naturedly at the three, and let them safely cross the street.

The police officer who had just pulled out of the People's Bank Drive-In (O'Farrell, Badge No. 0755) wasn't so amused to see this longhair aping one of his kind. The cop addressed Norris with his loudspeaker, saying, "You! With the long hair and the blue coat--meet me in that alley." The officer apparently didn't want to speak to Norris's two friends, although they were walking right beside him.

O'Farrell told Norris that you have to be officially sanctioned by either the city, state, or county government in order to direct traffic. Then he told Norris that he oughtn't be out in the middle of the street making a spectacle of himself. (Do that in the privacy of your home, Norris!) He finally told Norris that he was issuing him a ticket for jay-walking. (Norris says there's an official name for that particular crime, but he doesn't know what it is as he never saw a copy of the citation.)

O'Farrell asked Norris if he had \$35 to pay his fine. Norris didn't have any money at all, so the cop said he was taking him to jail. Norris says he had to yell out the window of the squad car in order to tell his friends where he was being taken. O'Farrell didn't seem to want to waste any time getting the hippie off the streets.

When Norris got to the Bloomington cop shop, they searched him, and found a peyote button in a small leather bag. Time to call in the detectives! When they confirmed that the small, dry, shriveled-up object was indeed peyote, they seemed to forget about the \$35 jay-walking ticket and gleefully set about booking Norris on possession of a controlled substance, which could result in up to one year imprisonment if he's convicted.

Norris was outraged by the charges and by the treatment he received at the hands of the police. He says that he hasn't consumed peyote in two years, and that that particular peyote button has

religious significance to him. He compares it to a cross or a rosary, and is offended by the fact that the police refuse to recognize a religion that is outside the Amerikan cultural mainstream. According to the law, a person must be at least 51% Native American in order to legally possess peyote.

After being shuffled from city jail to county jail, from cell to cell to holding cell, after enduring lousy conditions and even worse food, Norris went to his arraignment and discovered that he was only being charged with possession of the controlled substance.

The original reason he was pulled into jail, the jay-walking ticket, was shoveled under the bureaucratic rug. Why keep him locked up for a few hours when they could put him away for a whole year? And once they have him, who cares why?

The fact remains that Norris was singled out for a jay-walking ticket, although he was flanked by two friends crossing the street at the same place. He was searched and busted and jailed and fed practically nothing but white sugar, white flour, and meat products. So think twice before you walk out on the street. If you're even a little strange, who knows what might happen to you? ●

--Amanda Ziller

Attorney General sues Home Rentals



The Illinois Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division filed suit Jan. 10 against the owners of the Home Rentals Agency which operated offices in Bloomington, Champaign, Decatur and Belleville until last fall.

The Bloomington office has been the subject of a series of Post-Amerikan stories since August. Twelve

straight days of picketing and leafletting forced the Bloomington office to close for 9 days in September. After briefly re-opening, the office closed permanently. Offices in other cities closed shortly thereafter.

Last issue, the Post-Amerikan reported that Home Rentals owners Jack Walton and Brett Walton had ignored a subpoena to appear at a hearing in Springfield.

Attorney General Scott's suit charged that Home Rental's owners Jack Walton, Brett Walton, and Joyce Williams violated two Illinois laws: the Illinois Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act and the Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act.

Home Rentals charged people a \$40 fee for providing listings of property available for rent.

The complaint says that the Waltons misrepresented the availability of apartments and houses which they had listed.

The suit also charged that Home Rentals misrepresented the source of their listings. (Most of their listings came from newspaper ads available to the general public.)

The suit also charged that Home Rentals misled customers into believing that Home Rentals had agreements with landlords about listing rental property exclusively with Home Rentals when those agreements did not exist.

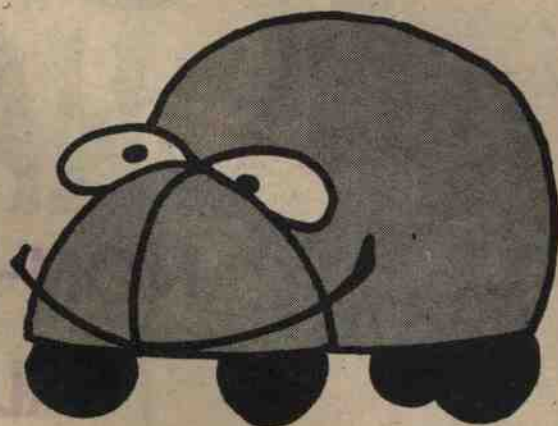
The suit asks for \$50,000 for each violation of the law, plus restitution to customers who were ripped off.

Unfortunately, the suit may never come to court--no one knows where the owners of Home Rentals have fled to.

News of the Attorney General's suit was carried by the Daily Pantagraph, finally ending a five month news blackout on the Home Rentals issue. ●

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Telecable owes

For 2 1/2 months I've been paying for the privilege of watching the Christian Broadcasting Network-- and yet I couldn't watch it if I wanted to.

You're in the same boat yourself, if you subscribe to TeleCable of Bloomington-Normal.

Starting Nov. 1, the cable TV company increased its fee \$1 a month and was supposed to add about 250 hours of new programming a week.

Most of the new programs are terrible-- sports from Atlanta, sports from New York, Christians from everywhere-- programs so terrible that it's almost worth it to pay TeleCable not to show them.

Which is basically what you did from Nov. 1 until mid-January.

Since TeleCable couldn't get a crucial part for its fancy satellite delivery system, the new programming could not be shown.

TeleCable says that only 30¢ of the \$1 rate increase was to pay for the new programming,

you 75 cents

and the rest was to go for plant maintenance and expansion and to increase owners' profits.

Yet even at 30¢ per subscriber-- or 75¢ for the whole 2 1/2 months-- TeleCable made several thousand dollars for not showing the promised programs.

Obviously, TeleCable ought to refund at least 75¢ to each of its subscribers-- but the cable TV

company ain't likely to do that voluntarily.

TeleCable is a monopoly, much like the telephone company. It must have its rates approved by the B-N city councils, and in return it has no competition. Otherwise, there is not really any effective way to control what TeleCable does.

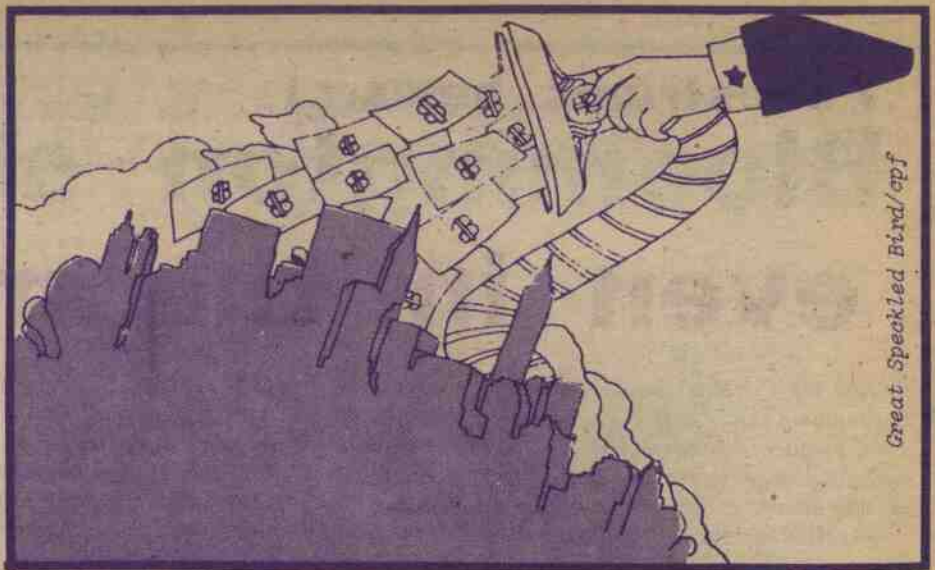
The cable TV company also has a very attractive product since it can provide more channels and (sometimes) better reception than you can get with an antenna. In fact, most apartment dwellers have no choice but to subscribe to TeleCable if they want to watch TV-- because landlords have stopped buying antennas.

Like all monopolies, TeleCable tends to be, shall we say, rather insensitive to the wishes of the people who buy its products. For instance, did TeleCable ask you or me if we wanted to pay 30¢ a month for the Christian Broadcasting Network?

Hardly. The Christians and the sports were dredged up to help TeleCable justify its rate increase. The Christians and the sports were meant to impress the city council members.

The city councils did approve a rate increase, so the Christians and the sports did their job. It doesn't matter if you ever see them, or want them. Just so you pay for them. ●

--Quark



Great Speckled Bird/cpf

Where's the 70 grand going, Dick?

Mayor Richard Buchanan has some unusual plans for the \$275,000 federal revenue sharing budget. The money usually goes to human service organizations like day-care centers, mental health services, and legal aid for the poor.

Buchanan wants to use some of the money this year to pay Bloomington's subsidy of the transit system. Last year, Bloomington's share of the cost of running the buses was \$68,449.

Bloomington will pay its share of the subsidy for the buses, no matter whether Buchanan gets to use the federal revenue sharing money

or not. So if the federal money does go to the transit system, \$70,000 or so of city money will be freed up for some other purpose.

But what? We don't argue that the transit system isn't a valuable human service. If the city spends the \$70,000 on it, that's fine. But if the city saves the \$70,000 by using federal money instead of its own, it seems only fair for Buchanan to guarantee that the city will use that savings for other human services. And we don't mean putting new sidewalks down in front of mansions on the far east side. ●

--Phoebe Caulfield

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Godfrey: I am not a social gadfly

PostNote: The following letter from Normal Mayor Richard Godfrey was sent to a Post-Amerikan writer who had sounded off about the mayor's pro-growth policies in the last issue of the Post. We thought the mayor's response was worthy of a wider audience, so we print it here as he wrote it—except for his first paragraph, which has been deleted.



Newfield News/cpf

effort to respond to the desires of many west side residents who object to having to use their costly gasoline to drive across town to buy groceries. Regardless of whether a grocery store locates there or not, there is a likelihood that the property will develop residentially, so your dog walking days in that area may be limited in spite of anyone's wishes. Certainly, if people object to having a grocery store nearby, their positions would carry great weight with the Planning Commission on any zoning change request.

I understand that it is the perceived role of the Post-Amerikan to be opposed to government. So it seems with the Daily Pantagraph. But the fact is, whether you believe it or not, the government in Normal is made up of honest individuals who are not getting anything out of their positions other than the satisfaction of trying to help people. We're not right all the time; we do make mistakes, though we try to avoid them. And we will never satisfy everyone. The real responsibility of the Post-Amerikan and other media is to ferret out people in government who are dishonest, padding their own pockets or using their position to trample over people for political advancement.

I am going to continue to do what I can to hold down costs and improve services for the people of Normal; if that warrants the Post-Amerikan's or your disapproval, so be it. I haven't won over the Pantagraph so you can begin to form a line.

Yours truly,
Richard Godfrey
Mayor

Frankly, I never thought I would see the day when the Post-Amerikan and the editor of the Pantagraph agreed on a subject, but you obviously do on the question of holding Normal to a no-growth situation. And, to some extent, I can sympathize with that position because, unquestionably, growth does bring problems with its benefits.

However, I feel that I have an obligation to do what I can to ease the financial burden on the very same people that the Post-Amerikan purports to champion, the elderly, the poor and those on fixed income. For Normal to continue in the same vein that it has for decades, growth in housing but little or nothing in business and industry, means nothing but higher taxes for those who can least afford to pay. As long as the businesses and industries locate in Bloomington, and Normal remains a bedroom community, the tax burden would be on the home owner, the apartment renter and others who cannot tie their incomes to the inflation spiral.

My main goal is to shift that tax burden to businesses and industries. I don't enjoy making developers any richer than they already are any more than you do. But by working toward the development of that land, we can avoid the situation where poor people have to sell their homes simply because they can no longer afford to pay the taxes to live in them. Heaven knows, they're getting hit hard enough by utilities, groceries, and gasoline. If government doesn't look out for them, who will?

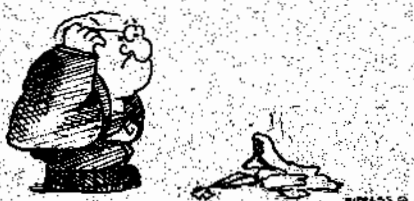
Your implication that I associate with these developers, other than through the official business of the Town, does not hold up. I am not a social gad-fly; I don't like the cocktail

party circuit; I have a disdain for country clubs and what they represent. The developers in this community have gotten rich through this community's growth, of that there is no doubt. But it would be against the best interests of other citizens, to stifle that growth because they would be paying more in the end for taxes and services.

Hayden Park was not purchased with the intent of making it into a traditional park; the intention was that it become a golf course. Obviously, a golf course is not needed, considering the many that we presently have in this area. Hayden Park is not located so as to be effective as a park for the citizens of central McLean County; parks for a city should be in an area of easy access and convenient to as many residents as possible by something other than cars. Our intention, as has been disclosed in public sessions of the Council, is to develop parks in more appropriate locations in Normal, on the east and north sides where we project a future need. The money from the sale of Hayden Park will allow us to do exactly that. I submit to you that that is a wiser plan of park development than any involving the Hayden land.

Regarding growth, it is possible to have economic growth without population growth. Normal has sufficient population for everything a complete city needs. To further stimulate population growth will only drive up further housing costs which already are beyond the reach of too many people. It is not a contradiction to note that property already zoned for a given type of development may be developed in that form, because government cannot deprive people of the use of their property. You would not advocate that anymore than I would. So there will continue to be some population growth, but hopefully not to the same extent as in our recent past.

The shopping area at Hovey and Cottage which you take issue with is really an



Legal fever confounds forum

Post staffers were sorry to hear on Dec. 25 that law school has finally gotten to our favorite lawyer, Jack Porter.

On WJBC's forum, Porter criticized the Post for putting one boycott on a par with extortion and blackmail, while in the same issue supporting boycotts to help farm, clothing, and textile workers.

The boycott we jumped on was suggested by Catholic Bishop O'Rourke; he wants a boycott of United Way because that organization gives to Planned Parenthood, which he finds offensive for giving out birth control and abortion information.

We feel that Porter's Forum showed two distressing signs of lawyerly muddle. First, we treat the two boycotts differently because there are different issues at stake: the boycott of J.P. Stevens we approve

of because it's designed to improve working conditions for textile workers; the Bishop's boycott of United Way we don't approve of because it's designed to deprive people, especially women, of individual choices about sex and parenthood.

Secondly, we treat the two boycotts differently because of their origins. One originates in the already-powerful, already-repressive stronghold of the Catholic Church; the other originates from a group of exploited workers for whom, at the present time, the boycott is their only means of putting pressure on their rich and powerful bosses.

The Post article also pointed out that the Bishop was hinting at a boycott in a sleazy attempt to avoid issuing his threats openly. The Bishop of Peoria's hypocrisy is self-evident. •

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Imagine my surprise:

I was fifteen and had played the flute in a school band for five years before I discovered Music. My new boyfriend introduced me to the likes of Laura Nyro, Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, and Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young, and I was a convert. Here was music that meant something to me.

The first couple years I was in college I had an album playing every waking moment I was home. I was a regular concert-goer. I worked at Student Stores Record Store. I spent what seems to me now enormous sums of money buying records.

I would crawl into bed after a hard day of waitressing, cutting classes, and thinking about the meaning of life, put on my headphones, and listen to Jefferson Starship's Blows Against the Empire. I played "Puff the Magic Dragon" a lot and cried every time.

My taste was still dominated by what my ex-boyfriend had liked. It shocked and dismayed me to find out during one of our rare conversations that he no longer liked Rita Coolidge. In fact, he'd decided she was never very good in the first place, although we'd probably spent more hours together listening to her than doing anything else, including talking to each other. I still buy every new Coolidge album as soon as it's released, partly out of defiance.

Somewhere during my college years, my feverish interest in music cooled. I stopped buying albums. I rarely went to concerts. I quit the record store. Lyrics (always, for me, the most important part of music) didn't seem to be talking right to me any more.

There were exceptions. One was Mountain Moving Day, an album recorded in 1972 by two "women's liberation rock bands" from Chicago and New Haven, Connecticut.

Mountain Moving Day is exciting, feminist, militant music. Its intense energy almost makes it impossible to judge by conventional standards how good the record is musically. A couple of the songs celebrate sisterhood. The rest express anger at men who have the power to make women's lives nightmares, a theme that climaxes in the last song--"Shotgun."

Mountain Moving Day is a product of Rounder Records, "an anti-profit collective that produces records and concerts and distributes other very small record labels." That quote is part of a two-paragraph rap that's included along with statements by the bands and the lyrics in a booklet that comes with the album.

I was impressed and thrilled by Mountain Moving Day. If songs like "Shotgun" scared me half to death, they also helped me think out my politics. ("A thousand women raped each day/ We ain't gonna be treated that way/ Hating them and angry now/ Shoot 'em full of holes now.")

There were a couple of other albums out by radical feminist women on small labels before 1974, but I wasn't very familiar with them.

It wasn't until I heard Meg Christian's I Know You Know, recorded in 1974, that I began to realize what was going on. I started to understand that the Music I had discovered in 1970 was, really, only music.

I Know You Know is a creative, well-crafted record, made up mostly of love songs to women. The cut that jolted me the most and caused me to fall rapturously in love with the album is "Ode to a Gym Teacher," which was recorded live at a San Francisco coffeehouse. It is a long, hilarious story about Meg Christian's most memorable crush. (And I painted big red hearts with her initials on my books/ And I never knew til later why I got those funny looks.")

Several times I have been in a room full of lesbians listening to "Ode to a Gym Teacher" for the first time. It's incredible, especially if some of the women are not quite convinced yet that they're not depraved. Here's this woman's voice immortalized in plastic talking about falling in love with a woman as naturally as if everybody else in the world were crazy. And there's a whole crowded roomful of dykes in the background screaming and laughing hysterically in agreement with her. For a few minutes everything you know to be basic facts of life--repression, fear, self-doubt--seems unreal, and it's wonderful.

After the first excitement of listening to I Know You Know, I read the rap on the cover and got even more inspired.

I Know You Know is the first album put out by Olivia Records, a national women's recording company. Olivia is owned by its women workers, and its purposes are "to make high quality women's music available to the public, to give women musicians access to the recording industry, to offer training in the technical, musical and other fields related to the recording industry, and to provide jobs with decent pay in non-oppressive conditions."

Olivia is still going strong. They show the lyrics on all their albums in both Spanish and English. They make their politics, procedures and **con't**

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Mike Arteman

women in music

finances public. They fight against developing a star system. They actively seek out and promote women musicians of color. And though many of the Olivia artists prove that the women's movement does indeed have a sense of humor, the Olivia women are serious about the political nature of their work. There is a lot of dialogue in the feminist media about how women's music can best contribute to radical change.

I Know You Know was the first in a steady stream of women's albums I got acquainted with. Next I heard Holly Near's first two albums, Hang In There and A Live Album (see adjoining article).

What follows is brief descriptions of six of my favorite women's albums.

Willie Tyson's Full Count (Lima Bean Records, 1974) is bizarre. Tyson is a very clever and imaginative

songwriter whose lyrics are usually neither straightforward political statements nor straightforward love songs/solidarity songs as are a lot of the cuts on women's records. Instead, Tyson often writes wry, ironic, witty songs about more offbeat subjects, like paranoia.

Cris Williamson's The Changer and the Changed (Olivia, 1975) is haunting and beautiful. None of the cuts are directly political, but I think the album is deeply satisfying and moving on an artistic and emotional level. The songs, built on provocative nature images, reflect Williamson's concern with women's spirituality without offering slick, prefab raps.

The Berkeley Women's Music Collective (Olivia, 1976) is hardcore. If the New Haven Women's

Liberation Rock Band had stayed together and all come out as lesbians, they might have sounded like this: "So rise up sisters we need each other/ to demand equality/ and smash the illusion every man is our brother/ we've got to struggle to be free."

Meg Christian's second album, Face the Music (Olivia, 1977), is as exciting as her first. The music that Christian writes and arranges is innovative and original, and she challenges herself to make musical form fit lyrical content.

Therese Edell's From Women's Faces (Sea Friends Records, 1977) is one of my personal favorites. Like Holly Near, it seems like Edell can write, sing, and express anything, and she has a marvelous sense for deciding just what it is she wants to express. Edell handles competently a fascinating range of emotions and subjects.

Mary Watkins' Something Moving (1978) is a breakthrough for Olivia. Watkins, a black woman, is an excellent pianist and composer with a rich pop/hymnal/jazz/classical background. Half of the album's cuts are instrumentals. The record's style is new for Olivia, but the messages are familiar. The quality of the musicianship and the recording is high.

--Alice Wonder

Holly Near sings of women's lives

Occasionally I run across an album that I can play when I'm all alone which makes me feel like I'm with one of my best friends. All of Holly Near's albums are like that for me, but most especially so is her latest release, IMAGINE MY SURPRISE. Subtitled "an album of songs about women's lives," the LP touches many, many aspects of women's experience.

Holly Near is self-defined not as a singer/songwriter, but rather as a cultural worker. IMAGINE MY SURPRISE is her finest work to date. The songs on this album are more woman-identified (dealing with women relating to each other rather than to men) than any of her previously-released music. The production of this album is also totally by women, unlike that of Near's first three albums. The results are very satisfying.

The title cut is a gentle, loving tribute to the woman-identified women, the lesbian poets and pirates that history books have neglected. "Put Away" is a bittersweet tune about a teenage misfit who wears gym socks to school and dreams of the Olympics, an outcast who ends up "put away in a safely padded room." "Nina" is a song about the daughters of free women, and how different their lives are/will be. The refrain assures these daughters that "You, my love, will bear the fruit of my pain." The promise reminds me of the "Old Time Woman" on Near's LIVE ALBUM who says, "If I had not suffered, you

wouldn't be wearing those jeans." Near doesn't let us forget that liberation has taken generations, and that we still have a long way to go.

In a clever and tender ballad, Near tells the story of the "Lady at the Piano," who plays in a club full of drunks who request the old, standard love songs and never want to hear her own music. Then, one night, an appreciative group comes in and listens to the woman's songs. The next thing we know, "the lady is still at the piano, but the clientele has changed," and she's a happy pianist in a women's bar. And who knows what other changes she's gone through?

"Fight Back" is a frightening and powerful song about rape and violence against women. Near encourages us to "fight back in large numbers" so that "together we can make a safe home." The last song on the first side, "Riverboat," is my very favorite. It's a lilting, very positive tune, complete with wooden spoon accompaniment. Near calls it a personal "Hang In There," a song to remind her what she's struggling for, because sometimes she just wants to give up and/or become rich and famous. It's a very lively, very fun, sing-along song.

The first cut on the second side, "Mountain Song/Kentucky Woman" is a song recognizing the struggles of mountain women. "You Bet" and "Rock Me In Your Arms" are both beautiful love songs to women. As Near says

simply in her liner notes, "Love is political."

"Hay Una Mujer Desaparecida" or "A Woman is Missing" is a haunting song sung a capella and primarily in Spanish, lamenting the arrest, torture, and murder of women resistance fighters in Chile. The last song on the album is called "Something About the Women." It's about women who work for and support each other in many ways, and what a world of difference that makes in women's lives. It sums up the whole rest of the album; all women are important to each other.

The album's liner notes are almost as wonderful as the music. Besides the neat graphics and photos, there are the lyrics to the songs, in both English and Spanish. There are right-on raps by Near explaining each of the songs. There are extensive artists' credits; lots of other far-out women, like Meg Christian and Linda Tillery, played on the album. In addition, there are explanations about both the recording of the album and the philosophy of the Redwood Record Collective.

As Holly Near says in her liner notes notes, lesbianism "opened many doors...emotional, spiritual, cultural, and political." The new songs came through these doors." I can hardly wait 'til she opens her windows!

--Vista Pacific



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Women's agencies outline services

The Post asked two local groups who provide services for battered women to answer the following questions.

Countering Domestic Violence is an independent group which assists battered women but doesn't yet have a house of its own.

Clare House is part of the Catholic Worker movement, which serves the needy in urban communities through "Houses of Hospitality." Clare House is open to not only battered women, but also families new to the community and transient women.

What are your expectations of women who use the services? (house rules, length of stay, are men allowed, etc.)

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

No drugs or alcohol
No violence
Must be 18 or older
In by 10:00p.m.
Length of stay determined by their needs
She will be expected to keep herself & her room clean.
If she leaves & has children, she must take them with her.

Our only expectation is that the women respect the protection of the CDV volunteer she is working with, that is, that a woman not expect a volunteer to enter into a potentially dangerous situation.

What specific services do you offer? (helping to find jobs, child care, apartments, etc.)

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

food, shelter, clothing, referral, friendship, support.

Specific services offered by CDV include information and referral. Once a victim of domestic violence has made a decision to change the situation, CDV volunteers will assist with the following:
a) transportation
b) referral to human service agencies (housing, financial, etc.)
c) peer support
d) child care

Do you need more volunteers or paid workers? If so, what are the qualifications?

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

We need lots more volunteers with open minds and warm hearts to cook, clean, do laundry, shop for groceries, watch the house, paint, answer phone, etc. The list is endless.

At this time more volunteers are needed. An orientation meeting will be held on Jan 18, 1979 at 7:30 pm at the Eddy Bldg., 427 N. Main, 4th floor. This meeting will give interested people an idea of what our services are and the expectations of our training program. A training session will begin Feb. 3, 1979, and last approximately six weeks with Saturday and one week night session per week. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.

Who is eligible for your services? (only battered women? income level? religious belief? etc.)

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

Women (over the age of 18) and families in need.

Victims of domestic violence and their children.

How can someone get in contact with you?

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

Do the services cost any money? If so, how much and which services cost?

Call 828-4035 and ask for either Tina, Barb or Virginia between the hours of 8:00am-10:00pm.

Through the PATH phone lines: 827-4005

No, but since we exist completely on contributions, we won't turn down any personal donations.

Specific CDV services are free of charge. It is possible that when a client is referred to an agency for a needed service, that that agency may charge for its services.

What information do you require from women who use your services?

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

Age and what their needs are.

The only information we require from the women who use our services are basic demographic data such as age, race, residence, and so on. This information is strictly for reporting purposes. More information may be required by other agencies to which this woman is referred.

What kind of counseling do you provide? What are the goals of that counseling? Is counseling required?

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

No. Counseling will be done primarily through referrals to agencies in town, although we do have a social worker and counselor who work here. We listen well.

CDV does not offer what is termed "counseling." We provide peer support to enhance the woman's ability to act independently. All our information is held confidential. Although we are aware we are not covered by law we will not release information about someone who uses our services without a written release of information.

Please write two or three paragraphs describing the goals and philosophies of your group.

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

We are working in a community effort to establish a shelter in Bloomington-Normal to offer free food and shelter for those in need, for we feel it is our responsibility to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give shelter to the homeless. We are a non-profit organization supported completely by donations from the community.

1. to assure the provision of basic physical needs (i.e. food, clothing, protection and shelter for victims & their families);
2. to promote positive self-identity through peer counseling
3. to promote access & provide information about options and resources within the community.
4. to make emotional support available
5. to heighten community awareness and understanding of domestic violence as a social problem.

When a woman contacts your group, what can she expect? what are your standard procedures?

CLARE HOUSE

CDV

She'll be asked her age if she's young, and she'll be asked what her needs are. We will keep our house small so we can relate to folks on a personal, one-to-one level. She'll be told the rules of the house and reminded this is a temporary shelter.

During the initial contact the victim of domestic violence can expect support as well as information about existing agencies which deal with the situation. If at that time she is willing/wanting to make a change in her living situation, a volunteer will assist her in this change: set up emergency housing, obtain food, clothing, financial assistance, and so on.



Will anyone who knows a woman named Karen Laureen, born 9-20-58, please ask her to write to C. Schaffer, 1120 E. Vogel Ave., Phoenix, AZ, 85020.

Community News

Julian Bond to speak at expensive lunch

Julian Bond, civil rights activist and Georgia state senator, will speak at the Martin Luther King Awards Brunch at Illinois State University on January 21. He will also hold a press conference at 10:30 a.m. in the ISU Union Auditorium's Circus Room.

Bond became active in the civil rights movement while attending college in Atlanta. He helped found the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights (COAHR) and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).



He was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives in 1965 but was prevented from taking his seat by legislators who objected to his anti-war statements. He won two special elections in 1966 but still wasn't allowed to take his seat until after a Supreme Court ruling in 1967.

Post-Amerikan people who attended the King Brunch the year before last said it was desperately boring. Except for Bond's speech, this year's lineup of reverends and mayors looks equally bad.

It's also something of an outrage that you have to pay to hear Julian Bond speak on an occasion that is supposed to honor Martin Luther King.

The brunch starts at 11 a.m. at the ISU Union ballroom and it costs \$4. •

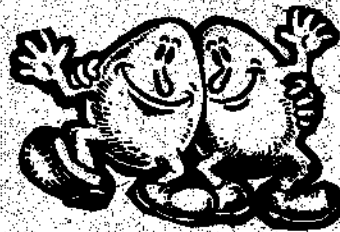
Unity through food Men's Potluck Women's potluck

The monthly men's potluck will be Feb. 11, 1979. These potlucks are open to all anti-sexist men of the community. The potluck will be held at 109 E. Locust, Normal. These are informal gatherings for men to get together and talk.

Bring any food you want, but you probably would like to know that many people are vegetarians. It's a good idea to bring your own table service, if you can. For more information, you can call Michael at 828-8988, or Jack or Chris at 828-6935. •

Bloomington-Normal women have been getting together since the summer for monthly potlucks. Any woman who would like to socialize with other women in a feminist atmosphere are welcome to join us. There's always lots of great vegetarian food!

The next potluck will be Sun. Feb. 4 at 3:00 p.m. at 306 W. Mill St. in Bloomington. You can call Small Changes Bookstore at 829-6223 for more information. •



Alternative bookstore makes good

Our spirits are high and our shelves are well-stocked at Small Changes these days. Thanks to all our friends who didn't forget us when they shopped for the holidays last month, we sold a record amount -- over \$800 worth of stuff! We've been putting as much money as possible back into our inventory, and the store is looking good.

Although the anxiously awaited Kristin Lems LP hasn't arrived yet, we have more womyn's albums than ever. Our selection includes new releases by Holly Near, Mary Watkins, and Kay Gardner.

We have a wider variety and a greater selection of books, too. Some of the new titles on our shelves include the following:

- Food Coops: An Alternative to Shopping in Supermarkets by William Ronco
- Jobs: How People Create Their Own by William Ronco
- The High Cost of Living by Marge Piercy
- Neighborhood Power by David Morris and Karl Hess
- Vagabonding in America by Ed Buryn
- The Vegetarian Epicure II by Anna Thomas
- Growing with Community Gardening by Mary Lee Coe
- The Motorcycle Betrayal Poems by Diane Wakoski

So please stop in, check out our new books, listen to our womyn's music, look over our community bulletin board, and have a cup of tea. You'll find some exciting changes. •

--The Small Changes Collective

Public action group forms at ISU

"This country has more problems than it should tolerate and more solutions than it uses. Few societies in the course of human history have faced such a situation... Our society has the resources and the skills to keep injustice at bay and to elevate the human condition to a state of enduring compassion and creative fulfillment. How we go about using the resources and skills has consequences which extend well beyond our national borders to all the earth's people."

So stated Ralph Nader in his introduction to the book Action for a Change, published in 1972. Seven years later the problems Ralph Nader speaks of remain, and the necessity of finding solutions to these problems grows more critical. We have seen the power of large corporations and other special interests influence the decisions of governmental institutions, the limited ability of political figures to make use of their authority to accomplish necessary change, and bureaucratic inefficiency tie up the effective enforcement of existing laws. An abundance of rhetoric but little attention has been paid to those values which benefit broad segments of the public, such as the need for clean air and water, the preservation of open space and wilderness areas, freedom from unsatisfactory or potentially harmful products, and the right to fair treatment under the law.

So what can those of us who are students at Illinois State do? Are the issues of nuclear power as an energy source, the price of groceries and the need for adequate and inexpensive health care (to name only a very few) of our concern?

More generally, are the concerns of the citizens of Bloomington-Normal and of the state of Illinois concerns of ISU students?

The answer to the final two questions is clearly yes. The answer to the first question is that something is being done.

A small group of students have been in the midst of organizing a Public Interest Research Group (PIRG--"I" meaning Illinois). IPIRG at ISU will be a student directed, professionally staffed, non-profit, non-partisan organization working to protect the consumer, the environment and human rights.

IPIRG will reach out beyond the "Ivory tower" of ISU into the larger community. IPIRG members recognize that students share common concerns with other sectors of society about the direction of the future.

IPIRG will formulate and advocate public policies giving students as well as other citizens an ongoing and informed voice in the decisions that shape their daily lives.

One of the unique features of a Public Interest Research Group is its continuity. PIRGs (which cover 175 campuses in 30 states) do not break for Christmas, Easter or summer.

One can easily understand why. The problems of pollution, racial discrimination and price fixing do not disappear simply because students have left campus. In addition, if an organization becomes hindered by prolonged periods of inactivity, a lot of wasted time and resources are needed just to get that organization back on its feet again.

A PIRG avoids this problem by hiring a professional staff (lawyers, scientists) and a continuous supply of committed students.

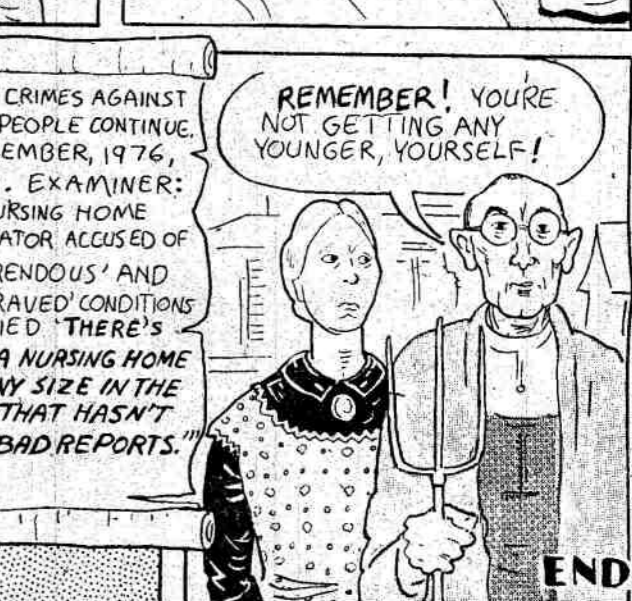
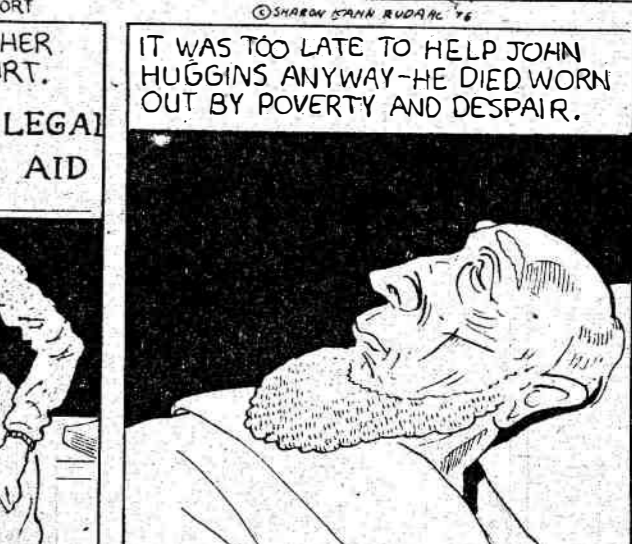
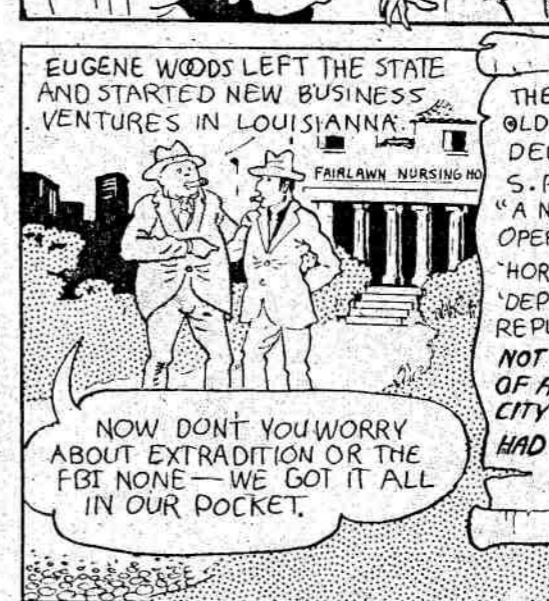
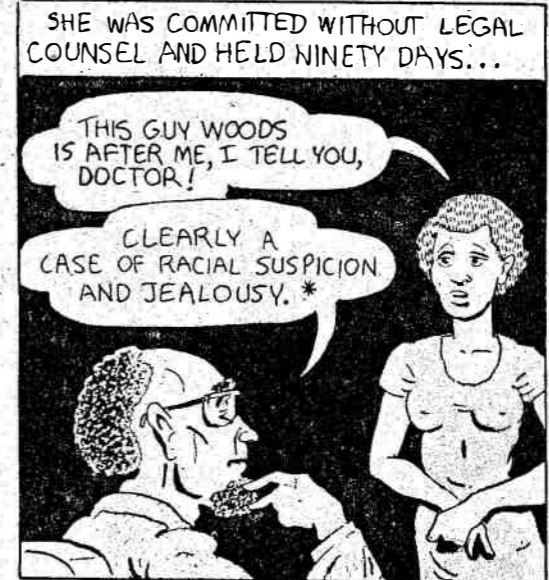
Enough said at this point. More information will be available in this paper as IPIRG gains strength and continues its drive to be a recognized group on the ISU campus. In the meantime, you can do two things: 1) attend the Ralph Nader debate with a nuclear power proponent, at 8 pm Jan. 30 at the ISU Union Auditorium; 2) if you are interested in becoming a part of IPIRG, contact Ray Taseff at 438-3098 or Bob McGraw at 828-7274.

If you have a problem contacting us, drop a note with your name and number in the graduate representative's mailbox at ISU's Schroeder Hall, room 306. We encourage students of all disciplines to become a part of IPIRG. •

--Bob McGraw

THE NURSING HOME INDUSTRY IN AMERICA IS A MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR BUSINESS OFFERING 76% PROFIT FOR THE CLEVER INVESTOR. THREE QUARTERS OF THAT MONEY COMES FROM TAXES, DISHED OUT BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES CONTROLLED BY THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY. FRAUD, KICKBACKS, BRIBES AND SUBSTANDARD CARE ADD TO THE PROFIT MARGIN. HELPLESS, BETRAYED OLD PEOPLE ARE THE VICTIMS—UP TO 80% DO NOT REQUIRE NURSING CARE WHEN THEY ENTER THE HOMES... ALMOST ALL DIE THERE. (DATA © TENDER LOVING GREED, MARY MENDELSON '74)

GOLDEN YEARS



God fails to destroy Post-Amerikan: Planned Parenthood gets money



On Monday Dec. 25, 1978, everybody who works on the Post-Amerikan—some 500 souls—gathered together in the Calvary Grace Baptist Church.

We couldn't decide whether to give thanks for the fact that Planned Parenthood of McLean County is going to get its money after all or whether to do a Sinclair Lewis number and defy God to strike us all dead.

The faithful will already know that the Post ran a story last issue that told the tale of how various God Marauders, right wingers, and rich bankers' sons managed to get the Mid-Illinois Area Health Planning Corporation (MIAHPCo) to recommend against giving \$115,300 to Planned Parenthood.

The God Marauders had accused PP of failing to teach abstinence and of failing to dispense propaganda in favor of the nuclear family.

The God Marauders' campaign had included veiled threats by the Bishop of Peoria, diatribes against free-loading students, and speeches that expressed the fear that some women might be able to gain control of their own bodies instead of being God-fearing baby factories. Most of the God Marauders admitted in public that they were disgusted by the possibility that some people, somewhere might actually enjoy sex.

The East Central Illinois Health Systems Agency headed off this religious-inspired reign of terror by voting 11-4 on Dec. 22 to recommend that Planned Parenthood receive

the federal and state tax funds. The money means that PP will be able to go on providing low-cost medical and birth control services to women in Bloomington-Normal, Pontiac, Lincoln, and LaSalle County.

Sinclair Lewis fans will already know that their hero stood up in a Kansas City church on April 22, 1926, and called on God to strike him dead. Although ministers who hadn't even read Lewis' books had been demanding for several years that God do exactly that, Lewis lived until 1951.

Well anyway--back to the Calvary Grace Baptist Church and the dilemma of the Post-Amerikan workers.

The discussion lasted nearly three hours and centered on the question of which action would be most like-

ly to get the best media attention.

In the end, someone pointed out that Dec. 25 was in fact a little-known Christian holiday called Christmas. This being the case, we decided that the media would be most interested in the action that was most directly tied to a religious issue.

An hour later we decided to call on God to strike us all dead, but nothing happened.

Later still, we learned from a United Press International reporter that God had been so absorbed in his new Five Thousand TV Games In One that He didn't hear our challenge. As this Post went to press, we were still unable to discover exactly which game it was that God had been playing.

END

Uranium-the answer to our prayers?

At this time most nuclear power plants in the U.S. are using uranium for fuel. The uranium goes through several steps before it becomes fuel for a reactor. There are a number of serious problems with each step.

Most uranium ore is mined in the western part of the United States. It is dug out of rock deposits at both surface and deep mines. Mills, which crush and grind the ore and concentrate uranium in the solid "yellowcake" form, are usually located near the mines and are operated by the same mining companies. This allows the uranium to be processed near the mine and reduces transportation costs.

Uranium dust is a major respiratory problem for mine and mill workers but most of the problems with uranium mining and milling are associated with uranium's "decay products." Through a series of nuclear reactions, uranium goes through radioactive decay to radium, which in turn decays to radon gas.

The radon gas then decays to isotopes which can cause serious biological damage, particularly when inhaled. These products are called radon "daughters."

Radon gas in nature is trapped in uranium deposits. When the ore is crushed, the radon and its daughters can escape. The chief danger is to the workers, but the radon from uranium operations has also proven to be dangerous to the general public.

The waste material called "mill tailings" left over from crushing and grinding the ore is left in piles near the mills. The tailing material is a fine granular substance similar to sand. The piles are free to blow away and contaminate the environment and the population. The tailings have contaminated drinking water in the areas of these mines and has entered the food chain. The farther this radioactive substance gets into the food chain, the higher the concentration. So the plants have a higher level of radioactivity than the water, and the animals that eat the plants have even higher levels, and so it goes.

Grand Junction, Colorado, had another problem with mill tailings. Between the years 1958 and 1966, buildings were constructed using the radioactive tailings as construction fill underneath or against the buildings. In one school the masonry itself was made with tailings. A 1971 survey in the Grand Junction area indicated that as many as 3,300 buildings may be affected.



In 1972 Congress decided that the situation in Grand Junction was unsafe and appropriated \$5 million to aid the people in removing the tailings. The levels of radiation these people were experiencing were many times higher than the standard safe level of radiation. In January 1975, after the tailings-removal program had begun, the Energy Research and Development

Administration estimated that the total costs at Grand Junction would be at least \$10.5 million.

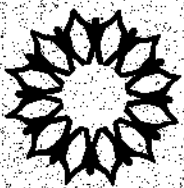
The next step in the process is conversion of the yellowcake from the mills to uranium flouride gas which is necessary for the enrichment process. Enrichment is the process by which the U235, the isotopes that fissions, is enriched to become uranium fuel.

This is a long process where the gas that originally contained 0.7 percent U235 (the percentage in natural uranium) will contain about 4% U235 when finished. The government presently owns all three of the uranium enrichment plants in the U.S. and operates them under contract with private industry. The Energy Research and Development Administration provides this enriched uranium to the electric companies at cost. Thirty-five percent of this enriched U235, which is paid for by taxpayers, goes to foreign countries.

One problem with enrichment plants is that only 1/5 of every pound of uranium that goes into the plant comes out as fuel. The rest is waste. These plants use an unbelievable amount of electricity. The plant in Ohio, for example, consumes 10% of Ohio's electricity. That's more than the entire city of Cleveland uses. The plant occupies nearly 2.3 square miles of land.

After enrichment the fuel goes to fabrication plants to be made into fuel rods to be used in the nuclear reactors. How much pollution and wasted energy have gone into this final product? More than enough, I say. --Susan

Note: This information came from *The Menace of Atomic Energy* by Ralph Nader and John Abbotts.



The Sun Spot

by B.C.

P.O. Box 463
Bloomington IL 61701

Radiation & cancer

Ever since guilt over Hiroshima and Nagasaki began plaguing U.S. officials, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) has been trying to convince the American public that exposure to radiation, or "sunshine units," as they once proposed calling it, is harmless. However, the truth is coming out, slowly and painfully, in the form of startlingly high rates of cancer among populations exposed to radiation since World War II. The AEC has worked hard to suppress unfavorable reports, to hide significant data, to block funding for research into radiation and health, and to divert the direction of promising research. But the concerted efforts of dedicated researchers and the undeniable fact that the body count is rising rapidly have led to these revelations recently:

Mormons living in southern Utah were invited in the early 1950's to "see history being made," to witness atomic bomb blasts and observe the reddish-pink clouds of fallout that drifted over their heads for hours after each test. Because Mormons do not smoke cigarettes or drink alcohol, coffee or tea, and because they live in a relatively non-industrial area of the country, their cancer rate should be 22% below the national average. It is not. Hundreds of Mormons in southern Utah are dead or dying from cancers apparently caused by radiation. Many are now making claims against the U.S. government for medical expenses and economic and personal losses.

The National Academy of Sciences has recommended that the level of exposure that atomic workers be allowed to absorb be reduced by a factor of ten from 5 rems/year to 0.5 rem/year.

Dr. Irwin Bross, a biostatistician from Buffalo, was one of nine scientists appointed by Congress to oversee the accuracy of an investigation by the Center For Disease Control into possible links between working on nuclear submarines and incidence of cancer. Bross has recently charged that a cover-up is going on and that the research is being blunted and blocked at every turn by power interests higher up. Meanwhile, workers on atomic subs have apparently been contracting cancer at a rate that is six times the national average.

In testimony before Congress, a crewmember of the Nautilus atomic sub said, "The crew that I worked with on the Nautilus are all dead. I am the last one. The machinist died of cancer only months after the spill. My fellow workers, tank cleaners, died from cancer and one from natural causes. Then in 1977, my supervisor and a machinist supervisor died only months apart from leukemia."

In the Pacific, Bikini Islanders were moved in 1946 so that their homes could be incinerated with thermo-nuclear weapons. In 1968 the AEC said the radiation danger in Bikini was "less than in Denver, Colorado," so the Bikinians were moved back. Within 10 years, tests began to show unacceptably high levels of radiation on the islands. Body tissue of the

islanders was laced with radioactive Cesium-137. Now they have been removed from their homes again.

Dr. Karl Z. Morgan, the respected scientist who invented the field of radio-biology, has testified before Congress that "no dose of radiation can be so low that the risk of it causing a malignancy is zero."

Health researchers Thomas Mancuso of the University of Pittsburgh, Alice Stewart of University of Birmingham, England, and George Kneale of Oxford studied 140,000 workers over 13 years at nuclear research sites at Hanford, Wash., and Oak Ridge, Tenn. When preliminary results showed a link between working at nuclear sites and the incidence of cancers, research funding was blocked and the study transferred to Oak Ridge. Nevertheless, the results got out, and there is a significant relationship between exposure to low-level radiation and the chances of incurring cancer.

In 1973 government estimates expected 1500 plants the size of the Clinton nuke to be on line by the year 2000. Disappointing performance and accelerating costs have burst the nuclear bubble. The latest forecasts for the turn of the century expect only 170 to 210 plants that size, of which 68 are now operating. The forecast of "maximum achievable capacity" from nuclear power in 2000 has been dropping by about 215 plants per year since 1973. The year 1978 continued this trend, with no new orders for nuclear plants plus five firm cancellations of previously ordered plants.

CWIP rate hike sought by IPC

We feel Illinois Power has operated from the heights of arrogance. First of all, they decided we need more electricity even though demand went down by nearly 1% last year. IPC had 25% more electricity than was needed during last summer's peak demand period.



Secondly, IPC decided that the way to get that "necessary" power is through the construction of the nuclear power plant at Clinton, Ill. about 24 miles south of Bloomington. And to top this all off, after making this choice without asking us, IPC now has the nerve to stick us with the Bill! Now, that is arrogance!

The Clinton nuke, besides having the full roster of disadvantages any nuke has (i.e., poor safety history, unsolved waste disposal problems, radiation emissions, transportation problems, outrageous fuel costs, etc.), is already a financial albatross hanging around IPC's neck. IPC announced they'd build two reactors for \$800 million. Now the figure has risen to \$1.3 billion for just one reactor and this figure is expected to rise! A conventional power plant costs far less to build, and is much safer besides. IPC chose a nuclear plant, and now they want us to pay for their mistake.

The fact IPC ignores is that there are other options available to them to produce the power they feel we need.

Of course, there is the option they are following now--nuclear power full speed ahead. The effect on the consumer is at least \$30 a year in higher electric bills.

If IPC gets this rate hike for the plant, the plant will be finished sooner, and we will be faced sooner with radioactive waste products and all their problems.

Another option IPC has is to continue the Clinton plant using only conventional means to raise money. Consumers would not pay for the plant through higher electric rates. This would give Central Illinois residents time to make an informed decision about the fate of the plant. However, some problems with this option are that demand may unexpectedly rise and IPC would have to buy electricity elsewhere in the 1980's. Also, safety and radiation problems would still be present, just delayed.

IPC's third option is to build the diesel and coal units they originally scheduled for operation in 1984 and 1986, and mothball the Clinton plant until it is needed, if ever. The Clinton workers could be transferred to these plants and there would be no disruption of employment. However, coal and oil have problems of their own, and rates would still be higher. A fourth option, conservation and solar power full speed ahead, could be accomplished by retraining Clinton workers to be energy efficiency experts, while using the newly freed capital for consumer loans for safe sustainable energy sources.

This solar power option would produce 2 1/2 to 6 times as many jobs. Energy bills would be lower; there'd be no chance of a disaster in Clinton, nor any radioactive wastes. More efficient use of existing capacity would mean economic growth is possible without more power plants.

There are other alternatives to the Clinton nuke. Don't let IPC tell you it's the only way. Decentralized power sources like solar, wind, and biomass are possible. Southern California Edison has ordered a wind energy conversion system which will take six months to install and produces power at the cost of \$356 per installed kilowatt. Compare this figure with the Clinton nuke cost of \$1300 per installed kilowatt.

The rate hike IPC wants to use to pay for the Clinton plant has not been approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission yet. The approval process takes about 11 months. Prairie Alliance is intervening before the ICC to stop the rate hike. You can help too! For more information call Jacqui at 438-5701 or Brian at 438-8094 or 829-5195.

Please write to the Illinois Commerce Commission and request a rate hike hearing in Bloomington-Normal. Also tell them not to give IPC their rate hike. The address is: ICC, 527 E. Capital, Springfield, IL. We want to have a hand in our own future!

--J.T.

IPC consumers finance death plant

Twenty people picketed Illinois Power Company's press conference Dec. 9. The Company held the conference in a ridiculous attempt to justify a rate hike of 14% that the Illinois Commerce Commission is being asked to okay.

Ill. Power powers distributed a slick promotional package in a tasteful brown and white folder, no doubt paid for by the 1976 rate hike. That time, IPC asked for a 15% raise in rates and the Illinois Commerce Commission granted them 11.3%. Between 1974 and 1977, in fact, IPC rates have increased 50%.

Which was a good thing for IPC, because it's gonna take a lot of sweet advertising to make the customers swallow the latest hunk of crap and think it tastes like Mounds.

In short, IPC wants its customers to pay for the Clinton Death Plant, which is going to cost over three times the original estimate of \$400 million. This is a Construction Works in Progress (CWIP) hike: it means that IPC gets to include Clinton nuke expenses in its rate base.

Now the classy IPC news release says, oh no, we're not really asking you to pay for the construction of the nuke, which you never asked for in the first place. We're asking you "merely" to pay a part of the interest cost on the money the Company has borrowed to build it.

Why in the world they think we care whether they're paying interest or graft or what with our \$2.68 extra a month is a mystery, but evidently they think it'll make us feel more comfortable if we know we're paying indirectly for their foolish dangerous half-assed project, rather than directly. As far as we're concerned, we could be paying for the donuts and coffee IPC bought for the press at this phony conference.

One alert reporter asked whether IPC knew all along they'd need a rate increase to help pay interest on the loan for the Clinton nuke.

A good question: if the answer is "yes," it means that IPC has purposely hidden this extra cost to the taxpayer; if the answer is "no," it means IPC didn't think very far ahead when they took the loan, and is that the kind of folks you want fiddling with a bunch of radioactive junk 26 miles away from you?

The answer was that IPC officials had "considered the possibility" that rates might have to be increased. IPC officials, on the other hand, refuse to consider the possibility that the plant is unsafe, even though the insurance industry has refused to fully insure it against property damages, injuries, and deaths that might result from a nuclear accident.

Another reporter asked the IPC bigwigs about the people who always show up at Prairie Alliance demonstrations, carefully taking pictures of the anti-nuke folks. The reporter asked if IPC had a security force to gather information about anti-nuke forces.

The IPC mouthpiece evidently became quite flustered, finally spluttering that there was no security force as such and there were no pictures taken as far as he knew. Everyone politely refrained from laughing.

Demonstrators against the rate hike report that it was terribly cold outside. Reporters say the donuts were okay.

--Phoebe Caulfield

Prairie Alliance calender of events

- Jan. 17: planning meeting, 7:00P.M. Newman Center, 501 S. Main, Normal
- Jan. 20: Regional Prairie Alliance Meeting, Champaign-Urbana
- Jan. 24: educational meeting, 7:00P.M. Fell Hall Lounge, Illinois State University
- Jan. 30: Ralph Nader debates Daniel Kane of the Council on Energy Independence on nuclear questions, 8:00P.M., ISU Union Auditorium
- Feb. 9-10-11: Midwest No Nukes Conference in Gary, Ind. For more information, call Jacqui 438-5701, or Brian 829-5195.

Cruel and usual being gay

Everybody agrees that Amerika's prisons are a sorry mess. Even dyed-in-the-money conservatives are calling for prison reform these days.

Our country's so-called correctional institutions do little to correct the problems of crime and violence in our society. If anything, they increase the brutality and lawlessness they're supposed to curb. In the intensified world of prison, all the ugliness and injustice of our social system surface with a vengeance that is difficult to imagine.

One prison problem that has been long acknowledged but little dealt with is the frequent occurrence of sexual assault. The horror and violence of prison rape have been extensively documented by psychologists, sociologists, and penologists alike. Why then has so little been done about the problem?

Carl Weiss and David Friar, in their book Terror in the Prisons (1974), suggest that society is callous and puritanical: it does not wish to acknowledge that the problem exists. The pious hypocrites who have so much influence in this country prefer that prison officials turn their heads instead of taking action against the brutal realities of sexual assault.

But the realities are just too horrible to stay out of sight. One gay prisoner, Christopher Lemmond, gives a graphic picture of just how bad the situation can be. He describes the sexual slavery that often occurs in prison:

I've seen what a person looks like after they have been overpowered and sold for a pack of cigarettes again and again until no one would pay. Then they become "house property." Gay men are often put up as money in poker games. They have no control over who their "owners" are or what is done to them. They are loaned out to their "owner's" friends, beaten and pimped. I know of one case in which a

man was hung because he "wasn't tight anymore." Gangs of inmates known as "Booty Bandits" line up to knowingly batter the insides of a pre-selected victim.

One thing to notice right away about this description is that the sexual behavior is essentially acted out in terms of dominance and power. Same-sex assault in prison is like rape anywhere: it is primarily an act of violence, undertaken more for the purposes of humiliating and controlling the victim than for sexual satisfaction.

This seems to be a basic distinction to keep in mind about prison sex--it is more often rape than anything else. Close gay relationships do exist in prison, but they are entirely different from the vicious physical attacks that are labelled "homosexual" by prison officials.

"The homosexual problem?"

The officials call it "The Homosexual Problem," yet rarely are the rapists gay men. Gays are often the victims, but not exclusively.

The roles that male prisoners usually assume in their sexual encounters indicate that power, not sexual orientation, is the key factor in most prison sex. Peter Buffum, a sociologist for the Pennsylvania Prison Society, identifies two basic roles: the "joker" or "wolf," who is the active partner or aggressor; and the "punk," who is the

passive victim (see Homosexuality in Prisons, 1972).

As Buffum points out, "jockers" have had little or no homosexual experience outside prison. They frequently act as aggressive and tough as they can in order to maintain their heterosexual image.

Burly bullies

Openly gay men often become "punks" unless they can defend themselves from the "jockers." But non-gay men also become victims of sexual attack, especially if they are young or inexperienced, slender or short or physically weak in any way. According to Buffum, punks "are those who don't fight, who are dependent, who are 'queer.' It is the physical weaklings against whom the masculinity of those who are stronger is pointed."

Because of these facts, it's important to avoid describing the sexual assaults in prison as "homosexual rapes." The rapists are usually not homosexual--not in their own eyes nor in the eyes of the self-admitted gays who are frequently the victims. Same-sex assault seems to be a more accurate phrase. (Surprisingly, the director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons has recently issued a policy statement to all prison staff to replace the terms "homosexual rape" and "homosexual assault" with "rape" and "sexual assault.")


One gay prisoner reports that he and other punks are forced to act as effeminately as possible,

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punishment: behind bars



NEPA NEWS/CDF

in order not to threaten the macho image of the men who are sexually abusing them. For Chris Lemmond it's like being "used as a tool for masturbation" by aggressive inmates.

Lemmond also says that when he refused to be the stereotypical "queer" that the others expected him to be, he became a challenge to them and had to endure three months of fights and beatings until he requested solitary confinement for his own protection.

Sometimes a victim or potential victim will attach himself to one man, who then acts as the punk's protector and keeps him from wholesale assault. Of course, such an arrangement may result in the kind of sexual slavery described above, but in prison there aren't too many choices. Solitary confinement, fighting back, and suicide are the only others.

In considering these roles, keep in mind that prison does nothing to ease the frustrations and rage that come from the many social, economic, and political inequities in our social system. Being locked up merely feeds such hostile feelings.

If a man feels weak or powerless outside prison, think how he must feel when he's confined. Since he's been taught to relate power with sexual performance, it's no wonder that he tries to gain some kind of power by sexually dominating his fellow prisoners.

Getting even

The use of sex to dominate is sometimes related to the terrible racism that infects our society. Racial conflicts are greatly intensified in prison, where they are encouraged and exploited by authorities. An article in *Urban Life* (Jan. 1977) reported this comment by a black prisoner about sexual assault: "It's getting even I guess. You whites been cutting our balls off ever since we been in this country. Pinking whites is just one way of getting even."

Black inmates feel victimized by a racist society, so they take revenge on white inmates. Whites in prison continue to use blacks as scapegoats for their own resentments, as they've been taught to do by a racist culture. A gay inmate explains how these hostilities oppress the prisoners and benefit the prison masters:

They stand in the hallways and tiers calling each other niggers, honkies, spics, faggots. They kill each other over a pill, a pack of cigarettes, or skin color. Of course they only degrade each other, for they call the guards sir, boss, and mister and never attack them in any way. Big-time bank

robbers and international dope dealers rape other men--no guards have been raped to my knowledge.

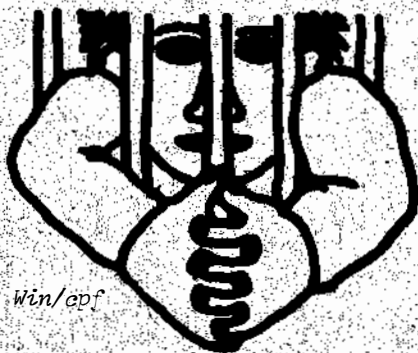
Although this seems like something of an overstatement--sometimes guards are attacked--the point is valid that racism and homophobia divide prisoners and prevent them from forming any kind of meaningful solidarity. In such an atmosphere of potential violence, prisoners are suspicious of one another and rely on individual physical strength as their only source of power. Iron bars and armed guards have no problem dealing with that kind of power.

Victims trapped

Of course, gays in prison serve as convenient scapegoats for everyone--blacks and whites, guards and prisoners alike. Jon Wildes, a gay prisoner formerly at the Atlanta Federal Correctional Facility, gives the gay perspective on victimization in prison:

Inside the fortress we are subjected to constant oppression, not merely by the keepers, but also by the straight inmates. Because the cultural norm of "male" identity consists of prestige, power, privilege, and prerogative over and against gays, we are the victims of intense oppression and exploitation at the hands of our so-called "fellow convicts" who work hand-in-hand with our keepers.

Wildes points out that the prison administration uses gay inmates as tools to pacify the violence and aggression of the other men. By tolerating sexual assault, prison officials are actually encouraging the prisoners to direct their violence at one another. If someone refuses to be bought and sold, raped and dominated, he may be punished by the prison officials for being disorderly and disruptive. Wildes claims that the guards even set up uncooperative gays to be murdered. It's a lot safer than hiring more guards and having them risk their lives; and it's cheaper than providing services or facilities to combat the problem of sexual assault.



win/cdf

Prison authorities take a typically homophobic--and irrational--attitude toward gay prisoners. Positive love relationships between men are broken up, while same-sex assault is condoned or ignored.

As with rape outside prison, the victims are blamed and have to bear the burden of whatever disciplinary action might be taken. Gay prisoners are put in isolation or segregation, supposedly for "their own protection."

But these "protective" measures are clearly punishments. Christopher Lemmond describes what it's like in the "hole" (solitary confinement):

The hole is a 6 x 9 cell kept darkened all the time. No one is allowed mail or to write, no books, cigarettes or newspapers. At 10:30 p.m. a mattress was given to me, and taken away again at 6 a.m. Sometimes the drain in the closet where the mattresses were stored would flood raw sewage, soaking the mattresses... Cockroaches woke me by crawling on my face and inside my clothes. But the worst was the long hours with nothing whatsoever to do.

Conditions in the protection (or control) units aren't much better, according to the reports of several gay prisoners. The cells are overcrowded and in disrepair. The guards know that people in protection fear for their lives and take the opportunity to abuse and berate them to an incredible extent. As John Gibbs says, "In segregation we're at the mercy of whatever kind of harassment the guards and officials choose."

In addition, becoming a protection case makes it hard to build a favorable record to show a parole board, since people in protection are not allowed access to psychological treatment, educational programs, or other kinds of "rehabilitation."

There's evidence, too, that parole boards--and other correctional big-wigs--discriminate against gay prisoners in other ways. One prisoner's interview with the parole board involved five minutes on his conduct and an hour on his sexuality. At the end he was told, "Prison is heaven for you queers with all these men around. The courts did you a favor by sending you up here." His request for parole was denied.

Continued next page



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Cruel & usual punishment behind bars

Gay fiction in '78:

This "prison-is-heaven-for-gays" line seems to be a common attitude. It's a lot like saying that all women really want to be raped--a convenient way of blaming the victim and doing nothing about the violence. It's also a cynical way of saying "We don't really want to deal with gay inmates; let the rapists take care of them."

Any kind of support for gays or education for straights is prohibited. Prison officials don't want to remedy the assault problem. Cultural, political, or religious groups that could counsel or educate prisoners about gays and gayness are strictly forbidden from coming into the prisons.

Officials also refuse to let in gay publications which might give support to gay inmates and help them organize to resist abusive treatment. A policy directive from Norman Carlson, the director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, bans all literature that is identifiable as homosexual. Carlson maintains that receiving such material would identify prisoners who receive it as homosexual and therefore subject them to sexual assault. In other words, gay inmates are penalized for being gay and for being potential victims.

But, as one gay prisoner points out, the official position against gay literature is typically hypocritical: "He didn't make punishing people his life's work because he is compassionate. He doesn't maintain an atmosphere of sexual repression in order to relieve suffering. I believe he's quite content to see gay people f**ked over."

The only help, the only hope for gays in prison is to bring these awful conditions to the attention of the public. Like most public officials, prison administrators are sensitive to bad publicity and to the scrutiny of outside citizens. A victim who prosecutes his attackers can create the publicity and scrutiny that make prison authorities nervous.

But such an act of resistance takes a lot of courage, since punks who complain are trouble-makers and are dealt with accordingly by inmates and keepers. All those who do speak out and resist--like John Gibbs, Chris Lemmond, and Jon Wildes--agree that support from the outside is vital to their efforts.

"In order to win the respect of our fellow prisoners and to secure our democratic rights, we must be coming from a position of strength," says a statement from Men Against Sexism, a multi-racial group of gay and anti-sexist prisoners who are confined in the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla.

They go on: "An important part of this strength depends upon the amount of support we can muster from the gay communities on the outside. Straight prisoners, as well as the prison administration, need to witness the way gays care about each other; they need to see our power. For it is in our love that our power lies." I'm sure that support from sympathetic straight people would also be helpful.

In spite of almost impossible odds, some positive results have already been achieved. John Gibbs writes: "One thing that has happened for gays is the officials have cut down on the number of rapes. They're putting gays in segregation... as a result of all the protest at gays and weaker prisoners getting raped and beat-up and killed."

And the Men Against Sexism group also reports some success: "The other day two prisoners 'sold' a gay cellmate to another prisoner. We moved into the situation and smashed the deal. The 'property' was moved into one of our cells and is under our escort."

Solidarity and organization can help. But, as always, the successes are way short of what needs to be accomplished. And the struggle is continuous and not very joyful. Somewhere, somehow the energy and time must be found to support gay prisoners in their fight.

--Ferdurdurke

Author's note:

The article deals with only male institutions for two reasons: 1. the "official" views contend that the problem of sexual dominance in women's prisons is far less severe; 2. I have not come across any letters written by lesbian prisoners. As usual, masculine privilege controls the situation: sociologists are a lot more interested in men; gay publications are male-oriented; and men feel less inhibited about speaking out about their oppression.

I should think, though, that prison conditions are just as oppressed and damaging to woman as they are to men. I would appreciate any material or source suggestions for material about lesbian prisoners and the problems of sexual assault in women's prisons.

At least five different books were proclaimed "major" gay fiction in 1978. Every one was a disappointment. Today's best fiction about gay people can be found in two unheralded feminist works and a long overdue paperback reprint of a 60's novel.

In order to help you save your money and time, let me dispose of the duds first:

1. Haakon by G.F. Griffin takes us back to the post-World War II years--and leaves us there. The title character is a college professor who falls in love with a young man he met in the army. They have an affair, the young man decides he's heterosexual, Haakon also tries it with the opposite sex: sexual preference was apparently easy to change in the 40's.

Simon, Haakon's longtime lover and the only consistently gay character in the book, dies of cancer in the end (his and the book's). Sorry.

2. Sorry, too, is Patricia Warren's The Beauty Queen. A thinly disguised slam at Anita Bryant, the novel is peopled with cardboard gays and contains a lot of trendy descriptions of hip New York. I've decided that Warren is the Jacqueline Susann of gay fiction--well, not quite that bad, but she exploits the subject without offering anything substantial (like insight or complex characters). But the anti-Anita stuff is fun.

3. Dancer from the Dance (by Andrew Holleran) is brilliantly written, in a literary way. Unfortunately, it deals exclusively with gay obsessions: disco, drugs, and kinky sex.

You may still want to read this one--the author effectively captures the desperation and decadence of the New York glitter scene. Just don't expect to meet any human beings.

4. Larry Kramer satirizes the same scene in his Faggots. The title isn't subtle and neither is the satire.

Need outside support

Letters of support and encouragement for gay prisoners can be sent to the following groups and individuals:

Christopher Lemmond
c/o Katherine Davenport
Lambdas de Santa Fe.
P.O. Box 2622
Santa Fe, NM 87501

John Gibbs 86976-132
Box 34550
F.C.I.
Memphis, TN 38134

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund
22 E. 40th St.
New York, NY 10016

Jon Wildes 20912-175
Box 34550 (Shelby Unit)
Memphis, TN 38134

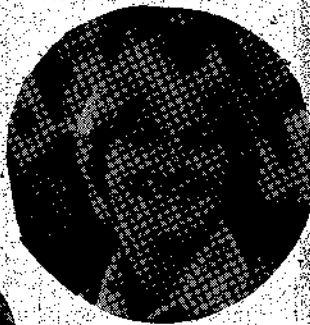
Men Against Sexism
Box 520
Walla Walla, WA 99362

The Fortune Society
29 E. 22nd St.
New York, NY 10010

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all that glitters is polyester

It's hard to tell if Kramer is attacking the excesses of gay behavior or compiling them. Sometimes the writing style is funny, but the whole thing is tedious and overdone.

5. Six of One is by Rita Mae Brown. I haven't read it, but those who have wonder what happened to the clever lesbian who wrote Rubyfruit Jungle.

If you skip the above novels, you'll have plenty of time to spend with three books that handle gay characters and gay themes with intelligence, depth, and honesty.

First there's Marge Piercy's new novel. Actually it isn't all that new-- it was released a year ago but received little attention or promotion.

The High Cost of Living is a sophisticated, carefully constructed portrayal of three misfits whose interactions with one another are sabotaged by the social forces that prohibit individuality and condemn unconventional sexuality.

Leslie, the central character, is a lesbian graduate student; Bernie is a gay man and a former juvenile delinquent. Their pursuit of Honor, a flirtatious but intriguing high school senior, involves them in a sexual minuet which has devastating results.

High Cost isn't as thorough and deeply felt as Small Changes was, but the treatment of the trio of antiheroes is vivid and compassionate. These are people whose problems and personalities will both touch and disturb you.

The story is set in Detroit, which is about as far from Fire Island as you can get, and the realism of the setting marks the entire presentation. There are very few false moves-- Marge Piercy doesn't waste time with glittering surfaces.

Like The High Cost of Living, May Sarton's A Reckoning is much more than just a "gay novel." At first it appears to be about dying. But it's also about the inner life and passions of a woman whose most intense feelings have been for other women.

The heroine is a 60-year-old widow, Laura Spelman, who is told that she has inoperable lung cancer. This grim situation is saved by Laura's toughness: unafraid of death, she wants to "do it well" her own way.

Determined to make "a reckoning" of her life, Laura attempts to seek out the "real connections" in her relationships. Her only real interest in the future is in a young lesbian writer, whose first novel Laura was responsible for as an editor.

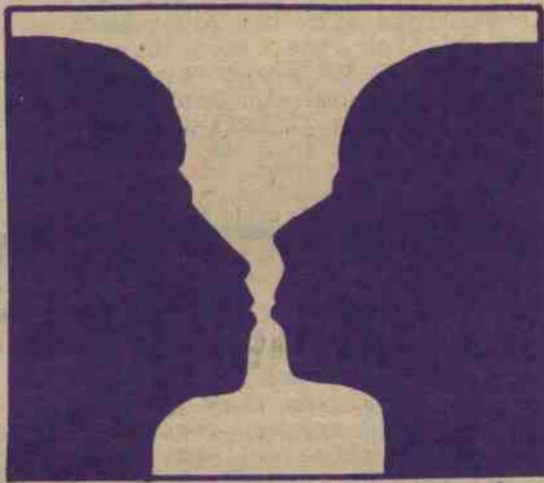
The closeness between these two women is the first in a series of emotional explorations that make this book a good deal more positive and uplifting than its subject matter might lead you to expect.

Laura recalls her dead husband only fleetingly; her thoughts are dominated by women-- her mother, her sisters, her youthful schoolmate Ella. Laura feels that her friendship with Ella was "the most important thing that ever happened" to her. And when Ella appears at her deathbed, Laura tells her: "This whole journey towards death has been in a way a joining my myself up with women, with all women."

Sarton writes so sensitively and sensibly about difficult subjects that you come away from A Reckoning with a surprising sense of triumph. The author convinces you that facing life honestly is the only way to do it.

Finally, if you haven't read Christopher Isherwood's A Single Man, you should, now that it's finally been reissued in paperback.

Written in 1964, A Single Man traces one day in the life of George, a 58-year-old professor who is very aware of age, death, prejudice, inconsistency, and meanness-- especially in his own life and character. George is also contentedly gay, witty and tender, and undefeated.



In the course of the day George relives in agony the death of his lover Jim, and finds an hour of undemanding happiness talking and

dining with a plump and lonely woman; gives an excited lecture to an unappreciative class, and reads Ruskin to help his bowels; dreams of wild and comic revenges on land-developers, heterosexuals, and senators; goes for a midnight swim with a student; drives along California highways, argues, loses his temper, hates, forgives; and sleeps again.

George's gayness remains understated and unsensational. He admires the bodies of two tennis players, talks of love and minorities to his class, copes with the seductive young man he goes swimming with (but who cuts out rather than spend the night), and drifts off to sleep after fantasizing about the tennis players having sex with each other. Most of all, Jim is always present in George's mind.

Isherwood presents all of this with such smoothness and polish that you'll glide right through to the end of the brief narrative a lot sooner than you want to get there.

Like Piercy and Sarton, Isherwood proves that the secret to writing about gay people is to remember that, first of all, we are human beings. Being gay may be the most important single fact about a person, but it's not the only fact.

Isherwood, Sarton, and Piercy understand that gayness is a part of everyday existence and is best dealt with in the fullness of its context.

--Ferdydurke



One of six Doonesbury strips killed by several newspaper editors last months on grounds of taste.

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Pot for medicinal purposes

I had the opportunity to speak with one of our illustrious state legislators late last summer, and I asked him when he would move to have pot legalized. He glared at me rather harshly and said the only way pot would be legal would be for medicinal purposes.

Well, our boys and girls in the house and senate, besides voting themselves an \$8,000 a year raise, have voted to make it legal to use pot for certain medical reasons.

It seems that pot reduces pressure in the eyeballs of people who have glaucoma and that the Federal government has available "capsules or eyedrops containing derivatives of THC." The drug is illegal in most parts of the U.S. now, though, so the doctors will have to go through piles of paperwork and present the case to a panel in order to prescribe pot to some patient who has glaucoma.

None of the doctors knows why THC works to reduce pressure in the eye, and they are proposing that a study be done where some patients will receive pot and others will get placebos. I would be in this study if they asked me real nice and promised to let me take the marijuana and not the placebo. They don't have to do the study anyway; everyone knows that pot reduces pressure all over the head--in fact, all over the body. We won't tell them, though, because I still want to be in that study.

I wonder what it'll be like when all the docs run up against the mountain of paperwork to get the stuff they need to treat their patients. If their dealings with the government are at all like mine, when they have to fill out 25 different forms and have to talk to ominous-looking clerks and bosses, I believe they'll be on the streets in a day looking

for ounces and quarter-pounds. Of course, they'll put it in little bottles and call it marajobyzene and sell it for \$10 a gram, but who doesn't know that?



The most important thing, as I see it, is the impact this new use could have on the black market. When the drug comes out, people will have to be able to get it, so it'll have to be somewhere. Now everyone knows that cocaine, codeine, ups and downs are all illegal, but they are always around for consumption. As soon as the highly refined THC comes to the market, someone will steal it and there is a possibility that it will be sold to your drug-buying collective, and everyone's eye pressure will be reduced.

Anita "bombs" - that's show biz

Utica, N.Y. - Anita Bryant sang "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and the crowd cheered. However, the biggest crowd was outside the Utica Memorial Auditorium where 500 local Gay activists marched and heard speeches at a Human Rights rally. Bryant drew what one local reporter called "a pitiful sight" of 178 supporters in an auditorium that seats 6,000.

Singer Bryant, whose fee is close to \$7,000, was well received by the small band of people around the stage, but the echoes through the empty arena were deafening. Even more telling to the sponsors of the event, The Northeast Regional Right-to-Life Congress, was the \$12,000 financial loss.

Hit that mother

Veteran TV game show producer Ralph Andrews is reportedly getting ready to premier a new game show titled Hit That Mother. Andrews reports that each week, three well-known mothers-in-law will be roasted, insulted, and humiliated, with the survivor, if there is one, receiving gifts and honors.

Andrews tells Daily Variety newspaper that the sons-in-law and the daughters-in-law will do the roasting. The producer insists that Hit That Mother will be in better taste than such programs as The Gong Show.



Chinese Coke sales fizzle

After winning the right to distribute their product in mainland China, the executives at Coca Cola were concerned when their intensive promotional campaign fizzled.

Coke was adding very little life to the People's Republic, and the bottlers finally reviewed their promotional campaign to see what had gone wrong.

What they learned was that "Coca Cola," when literally translated into Chinese pictograms, had only two possible meanings: "Female horse fattened with wax," or "Bite the wax tadpole."

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Agent quits MEG after attack

Post-Amerikan
Feb. 1979 Page 23

MEG agent Robert Lickiss, Jr., has finally had enough. He resigned from the undercover drug unit at the end of 1978.

It was about time.

He finally became convinced MEG wasn't for him, apparently, after he botched another drug buy December 20.

He had a knife held to his throat while his gun was ripped off and pointed at his head. Lickiss managed to radio police waiting outside, and he escaped with his life.

Lickiss' photo had already been published in the Post-Amerikan a few months before. He should have quit MEG then.

The Dec. 20 incident was the second time Lickiss had a weapon drawn on him while he was trying to play undercover agent.

In Monmouth last June, Lickiss fought off a knife attack by someone Lickiss had bought marijuana from.

At that time, the Post-Amerikan had not yet published Lickiss' photograph, although news reports quoted MEG officials blaming the Post-Amerikan for the attack on Lickiss.



MEG (ex) Agent Lickiss

MEG officials like to cry about how the Post-Amerikan's publication of narc photos endangers the lives of these covert operatives.

Although the Post published photos of 10 undercover narcs in May 1978, the only agent attacked was Lickiss, whose photo was not included. The Post did publish Lickiss' photo after he was attacked in Monmouth.

If MEG officials really believe that publication of agents' photos endangers their lives, then maybe agents should retire immediately after their photos appear in the Post-Amerikan. Such a policy would have saved Agent Lickiss from having to endure the Dec. 20 attack.

At present, there is no evidence that the attackers knew Lickiss was a narc from reading the Post-Amerikan. In fact, it seems more likely, since this was Lickiss' second heavily botched drug buy, that he is just plain bad at being a narc--he probably blew it all on his own.

According to a TV news report, Lickiss is now taking three months of paratrooper training as a member of the army reserves.

It's a wonder they call it bread

Last year, the consumption of white bread declined 5%, and today this category accounts for 65% of all breads sold--down a total of 7% in just five years.

There's little wonder why this is happening. White bread is one of the worst excuses for food which has gained popular use. Starting with whole wheat, the bran is separated from the wheat germ, then polished to remove virtually all of its protein, vitamins, minerals, and fiber. Out of 12 known vitamins lost in the process, 4 are replaced--this is called "enrichment."

In 1978, Wonder Bread spent over \$6.5 million telling consumers how good their product really is. A recent interview in Madison Avenue magazine with Randall Hackett, vice president of marketing and advertising for the Bakery Division of IIT bakeries, lends an insight into the corporate mentality which promotes products like Wonder Bread.

"In our current 'Kids Eat It Up' campaign the commercials make a psychological appeal to the mother who wants to be sure her kids are going to eat the bread... it's an emotional argument. We use an authority figure, a teacher's aide or a gym teacher

Brian Dillon, VP of an advertising agency called DKG, notes that since the Wonder Bread commercials are aimed at children rather than adults, the company might try advertising its "fun" properties: "The Kid appeal is there. Wonder Bread happens to be a toy with kids, the way they roll it up or squeeze it. Many of the things that adults would not like about Wonder Bread are just the things kids like."

And what about the nutritional approach to advertising? Jim Weller, another vice president from another advertising company, says, "The commercial doesn't have to talk about nutrition. The Green Giant doesn't talk about nutrition."

--Vegetarian Times



Go see the Bishop

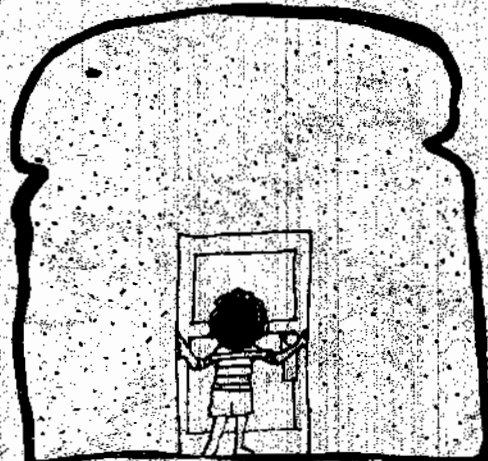
New federal regulations require that persons whose sterilizations will be partly paid for by the federal government wait 30 days before being sterilized. The old rules required a 3-day wait between signing a consent form for sterilization and actually having the operation.

The next round of federal regulations will no doubt require that the names of people who want to be sterilized be given to the Bishop of Peoria so that he can try to force them to change their minds.

GAO says meat tainted

The General Accounting Office reports that 13% of all meat goes to market containing illegally high pesticide residues. Further, says the GAO, of 3100 complaints of pesticide-tainted meat to date, government agencies have investigated only 37%. Ever generous with bad news, the investigators also point out that of the 143 drugs and pesticides known to leave residues in the bodies of animals people eat, only 46 have been tested to see if they are safe for human consumption.

--Moneysworth.



who, in effect, delivers a strong implied testimonial. We found it to be a very important ingredient. We promote Wonder Bread on a more or less opportunistic basis to kids and, over the years, we've inserted a number of baseball cards into the package.



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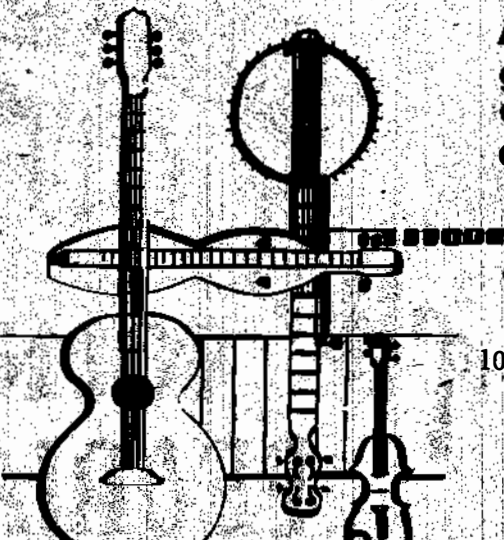
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GUITAR WORLD



PostNote: There's been a lot of brouhaha in the straight media about Abbie Hoffman's recent apology for his past activism for a revolution of untrammelled desires.

The Pantagraph actually took Yippie Hoffman's hilarious apology seriously and in a stuffy, self-righteous editorial on January 5 cautioned its readers against welcoming Abbie back into the all-American fold.

This spurred several readers to write and scold the Pantagraph for its unchristian anti-forgiveness stand.

Following is the actual apology, reprinted from Feature magazine, which stirred such hot controversy over whether the prodigal son, who's been underground for five years, should be allowed to come home.

I was wrong.

I'm sorry and I want to come home. I love the flag. Blue for truth, White for right. Red for blood our boys shed in war. I love my mother. I was wrong to tell kids to kill their parents. It was the children's fault. Spoiled, selfish brats made the 60's. We encouraged kids to leave home. Forgive me, mother. I love Jesus, the smooth arch of his back, his long blonde curls. Jesus died for us all, even us Jews. Thank you, lord. I love Israel as protector of western civilization. Most of my thinking was the result of brainwashing by KGB agents. The FBI was right; the KGB gave us money as well as training. We met regularly at the Cuban mission to the U.N.



Yippie Hoffman:



I hate drugs. They are bad for you. Marijuana has a terrible effect on the brain. It makes you forget everything you learned in school. When you smoke it's hard to work. I only used it to lure young virgins into bed. I'm very ashamed of this. Cocaine is murderous. It makes you sex crazy and gets uneducated people all worked up. My friends are kidding themselves when they say it's non-addictive. The nose knows, and the nose says no. More people should listen to their noses and not to rich rock n' roll singers. LSD is the work of the Devil. I know many crippled babies whose thoughtless mothers were hooked on LSD. Laughing gas is no laughing matter. When it comes to drugs, only your doctor knows for sure. Take his advice and pay him for his service. Stealing is a crime.

Once I burned money at the Stock Exchange. This was wrong. People work hard to make money. Even stock-brokers work hard. No one works hard in Bangladesh--that's why they are starving today and we are not. With inflation everyone works extra hard for their money. It's not our fault or the fault of our government. If anyone's to blame it's the Arabs and those knee-jerking Europeans who cozy up to them by paying their price for oil. We have no choice but to go along.

Long ago I worked for the Negro cause. It was fashionable. We meant well but got carried away. They just wanted to be left alone anyway. They love their neighborhoods so much there are crowds waiting to get in. Buses are an affront to all people no matter what the color of their skin. If blacks don't love America their ancestors shouldn't have been so anxious to come here. It's not our fault they chained themselves to ships and ended up in America. At least they could have taken the time to learn English! We are all equal: blacks, whites, even orientals and women, but the beauty of democracy is in having so many different choices. We can all go our separate ways, equally; black and white, male and female, rich and poor, healthy and sick. Free choice is fundamental to our Way of Life.



Communism is evil incarnate. You can see it in Karl Marx's beady eyes, long nose, and the sneering smile behind his beard. One-and-a-half billion people now live in forced slavery. The only good thing you can observe in communist countries is the art. When their artists paint pictures of people you see two eyes, two ears and one mouth. Our artists are all perverts except, of course, for Norman Rockwell. And another thing about communistic

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23 Duke Imatoc and the All Star Frogs 25¢ DRAFTS 8:30 to 10	24 Ten Carlyle & the Cadillac Cowboys 10¢ DRAFTS 8:30 to 10	25 CHESHA TOBIN'S PIZZA GIVE AWAY	26 michael bryan & bald ego	27 Street Wise
	31 The Dave Chastain Band 10¢ DRAFTS 8:30 to 10	THURSDAY IS GIVE AWAY NIGHT RECORDS 7-SHIRTS HATS TICKETS	Feb. 9, 10 & 22 Pork & The Havana Ducks	

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"I love the flag"

pictures: The people have their clothes on. I'm not against nudity but there's nothing pretty about naked bodies. Anatomy should be something doctors study. Keep it away from our children and women-folk. Hippies kept taking off their clothes and that's why there are no more hippies. They all got pneumonia and died. Good riddance to bad rubbish!

Freedom is a precious right, not to be abused. Violence does not belong on television unless it's the news. Murders and rapes should be reported so people will know just what's happening on their streets and will be more careful when they go out. People who commit serious crimes should not be coddled--the death penalty is too good for them.

I think our stand on the Panama Canal is a disgrace. OK, it's their country, but it's our canal. If they want us out it's all right with me, but we should take our canal with us!

Our system of democracy is the best in the world. I don't know much about other systems, but if you pick up the newspaper or turn on the TV all the others seem to be falling apart. Good governments don't fall apart so easily. South Africa's been there for 300 years. Don't get me wrong, they're not perfect down there. They work hard enough but they should be nicer to their blacks, especially those who behave. I believe what Henry Ford said, "Change takes time." Another 300 years is not too long to wait for peaceful change.

Homosexuals live in sin. It says so in the Bible. Anyone who ever took the time to have a heart-to-heart talk with one of these sorry victims of our permissive society has heard the pain they've been trying to express.

What every homo needs is a good shoulder to cry on. In the meantime, they should be kept away from our children--children easily influenced by New Yorkers. I love New York as much as anybody. I certainly admire the ambition that got those big buildings off the ground. It's amazing how New Yorkers can eat while

I believe in women's rights, but it should be done outside the family. Family is the essence of democracy--destroy one and you destroy the other.

It's mind-boggling, but being a fugitive I've seen the way other people live and it's made me realize just how wrong I was. I've grown up, too. You know how it is when you're young and not in control. I'd like to go back to school and learn how to be a credit to the community. I've always had an itch to become a certified public accountant and work with the Indians. If Keith Richards is willing to sing for the blind, I'm willing to sing for the deaf.

Of course, there's the upcoming operation. The doctors are not saying one way or the other but they can't look me in the eye. How could I have said all those terrible things about Hubert Humphrey, rest his soul? Age takes its toll but it teaches wisdom. When you're in the foxhole of life, you see things clearer than when the bands are playing and the crowds cheering. I realize I can't repair all the damage, but I'm willing to roll up my sleeves and give it a try (if the doctors say it'll be OK).

Now can I come back?

--Abbie Hoffman



they walk, but they do have strange notions. That's because the U.N. is in New York and the good people there are subjected to foreign ideas. If the U.N. was in Salt Lake City, if Puerto Ricans flooded Utah to get rich quick on welfare schemes, and if homos owned all the movie theaters and barber shops there, you couldn't expect anything different.



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Feminists fight pretrial detention

(This article is adapted from one written by the Boston Bail Project, which appeared in the Spring/Summer 1977 issue of The Second Wave.)

Pretrial detention means locking people up--setting bails too high for them to meet so that they must remain in jail before trial. It denies people the right to a trial before being punished. It supports the idea that anyone the police arrest should be jailed.

Pretrial detention is a punishment in and of itself. Attorneys and others familiar with how the court works know that defendants who come to court from the street, rather than from detention, have a better chance of avoiding prison.



They have been better able to prepare their cases, consult their lawyers, round up witnesses, attempt an out-of-court settlement, or offer to make restitution. They also have the opportunity to get involved in community programs--drug and alcohol rehabilitation, for example--which may have a good influence on the court.

In addition, the lives of defendants who are free before trial have not been so severely disrupted. They are able to keep jobs to support their families, or to remain in school. People brought to court from jail have had no such opportunities, and there is great pressure on them to plea bargain just to get out of jail, even if it means going to prison.

The most important evidence against pretrial detention comes from a study done by the Manhattan Legal Aid Society based on computerized comparisons of thousands of cases.

This study showed that whether a person awaits trial in jail is the single most important factor determining whether she or he will be found guilty and sent to prison. It is more important than the weight of evidence against the defendant, more important than whether she or he has made incriminating statements, more important than whether she or he

had past convictions for similar crimes. When all of these other factors are equal, the person who must await trial in jail is more than twice as likely to be found guilty and six times as likely to get a prison sentence than a person who has made incriminating statements or a person against whom the police have evidence but who is free before trial.

Because it is based on how much money an arrested person can raise, pretrial detention tracks poor people and minorities into prison.

A group of feminists called the Boston Bail Project/ Bail Fund began in 1969 in response to the arrests of Black Panthers, Weatherpeople, and

other radical activists and soon expanded to provide bail money for other people who lacked the money to get out of jail before their trials.

The bail funds are given to people on a first come first-served basis, with priority given to whoever has been in jail the longest, without regard to the nature of the charge, past record, family ties, etc. After the cases are settled, the bail money goes back into the fund to be used again.

Because the Bail Project can only bail out a fraction of people who need it, they feel that they must also educate everyone about how pretrial detention discriminates poor people. They write articles, do interviews, make speeches, participate in conferences, and show slides about the subject. They prepared a pamphlet for pretrial defendants and their families on how to obtain their right to pretrial freedom.

The Bail Project pays special attention to women behind bars because they feel that women are often overlooked in the general prison movement. They see poor women, who are traditionally unemployed or

underemployed, as a group whose financial insecurity often leads to arrest on criminal charges.

According to the Bail Project, the most damaging belief supporting the criminal justice system is the idea that people in prison are there because they are "criminals"--that they are a special set of people who for psychological, economic, or social reasons commit crimes.

In fact, almost everyone breaks the law. The only big difference between people who are in prison and people who are not is that for a variety of reasons, sometimes politics and non-conformity, most often race and poverty, they were arrested and others were not.

Corporate and institutional crime is practically ignored, while individual crimes that poor people commit are played up in most media. Poor people commit more noticeable and unacceptable crimes than rich people (for instance, burglary versus breaking anti-pollution laws).



The Boston Bail Project, as part of the feminist movement and part of the prison movement, is a good example of positive activism that helps individual people at the same time as it agitates for major institutional changes and changes in public awareness.



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Minimum charge for checking accounts



Several months ago I received a notice from my local bank that they had a new policy on checking accounts--either I kept at least \$100.00 in my account at all times, or they would charge me \$4.00/month. Outraged, I started looking into other banks in Bloomington-Normal, only to discover that they were all instituting minimum balance policies for checking accounts--some even steeper than my bank's (see list of banks' charges accompanying this article for details).

Now, I admit that I have trouble understanding the slimy workings of capitalist money-mongering minds, but I can recognize rot when I smell it. And when the various banks use phrases like "we are pleased to introduce a new personal banking service" and "in order to maintain the quality standards of our checking account service..." to tell me they're going to start charging me, my nostrils pick up a nasty stink.

In order to understand this latest banking maneuver I talked to an employee of the Corn Belt Bank, who gave me most of the information that follows.

A major way that banks make profit is from interest charged on loans. In order to give cut loans banks must have a dependable source of money, that is money they can count on staying in the bank for a period of time. Savings accounts and certificates of deposit provide such a source since there are regulations governing the withdrawal of money from these accounts. The drawback for the banks is that they have to pay interest out on this money.



Money put in checking accounts is not as dependable a source for loans since it can be withdrawn freely. As a matter of fact banks don't count on much profit from checking account departments. Banks offer checking accounts hoping people will also have their savings account with them.

Because of inflation people don't have as much money left over at the end of the month to put into savings accounts these days, which means their profits are lower--an intolerable situation for capitalist money-mongers. So, setting their slimy minds to work, they came up with the Minimum Balance Checking Account. This clever plan has two major points.

The first point is that if you didn't maintain a minimum balance in your checking account you must pay a service charge. The advantages for most banks are many. This increases the dependability (read loan-ability) of checking account money. It also offsets the cost of a checking account by charging a fee if the balance drops below the minimum. And lastly, the banks cut down on their savings account interest paid out, for if you have a limited amount of money you are "encouraged" to put it in your checking account to avoid the charge. Before, part of the money would have gone into your savings account.

The second point to the plan is that if you have both a savings and a checking account in the same bank and if you have a large enough sum of money in your savings, you are

BANK	MINIMUM BALANCE	SERVICE CHARGE
McLean County	\$100	\$4.00/mo.
Peoples Bank	\$100	\$4.00/mo.
National Bank of Bloomington	(average monthly balance) \$500 or more \$300-499 \$100-299 \$0-99	none \$1.00/mo. \$2.00/mo. \$3.00/mo.
(this is for the first 20 checks- 10¢/check after that)		
Prarie State	\$100 or \$300 average	\$3.00/mo.
First National of Normal	\$300	\$2.00/mo.
Bank of Ill.	\$100	\$1.00/mo.
Corn Belt Bank and American State Bank have no policy yet, but plan to develop one.		
Some banks are exempting senior citizens from service charges.		

exempted from the checking account service charge. The banks are trying to lure people to keep their savings with them, so they can increase their money for loans.

You may have figured out by now who's getting the short end of the deal with this new scheme. It isn't the bank, it isn't the rich folks--it's those of us with little money.

If you live from check to check like me, this is how this new policy can affect you:

--You will be paying a larger percentage of your deposited money (in checking and/or savings) for bank services than will people with more money.

--You will probably end up keeping less money in your savings account in order to meet the checking account minimum and so, lose interest money.

--You may have to close your checking account and revert to cash.

--You may bounce more checks than usual when the new policy first goes into effect, until you remember to subtract the service charge when you dip below the minimum balance.

Lest the slimy words of the capitalist money mongers convince you that they have no alternative but to institute this new policy, I present here three alternative policies for them. Banks could accept a lower percentage of profit. Banks could refuse to increase the pay of their officers (note: the service charge policy will not be used to increase the pay of the banks' employees). Banks could set up a service charge system whereby customers paid a percentage of their monthly average balance--so everybody would be charged the same percentage for services. But banks won't do this because it would scare off large investors who would have to pay more than they do now (which can be zero).

--Riverfinger

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Will today's truants be tomorrow's Post writers?

At Christmastime, the Daily Pantagraph ran four stories about the problem of truancy in junior high and high schools. I'd like to play the flip side of those stories, and defend truancy. I'm a happy, well-adjusted, adult sociopath (uppity woman variety) for whom truancy was once a way of life--and high school, a way of death.

I guess the people who end up writing and discussing and analyzing the "problem" of truancy are not the people who experienced the profound alienation and disgust that makes my heart sink at the very idea of seating charts and lockers and grimy bulletin boards and absence slips and history books no one could stomach reading and young frustrated ignorant teachers throwing erasers and old frustrated hardened teachers saying I hope you realize this will be an unexcused absence and you will not be allowed to make up the work you missed.

It was bad. Too many people, and too many strange systems of enemies, and friends who could at any minute be enemies. Homework given as punishment for screwing up in class, exams given as punishment for not doing homework, punishment given as punishment for nobody

passing the exams. Impossible reading assignments given as punishment for not being able to read. The teachers would forget what stage of punishment we were at, and unable to admit that they'd forgotten, they would show us a movie, any movie, only the film would break, or someone had stolen the bulbs out of all the projectors, or we could barely see the picture because they wouldn't turn out all the lights for fear that someone with a not-so-mysterious grudge would slip a switchblade between their ribs in the dark.



This was the education we missed when we skipped out of high school. And you're kidding yourself to think it's any better today. It makes me want to puke to think that anyone would try to pass off nine-

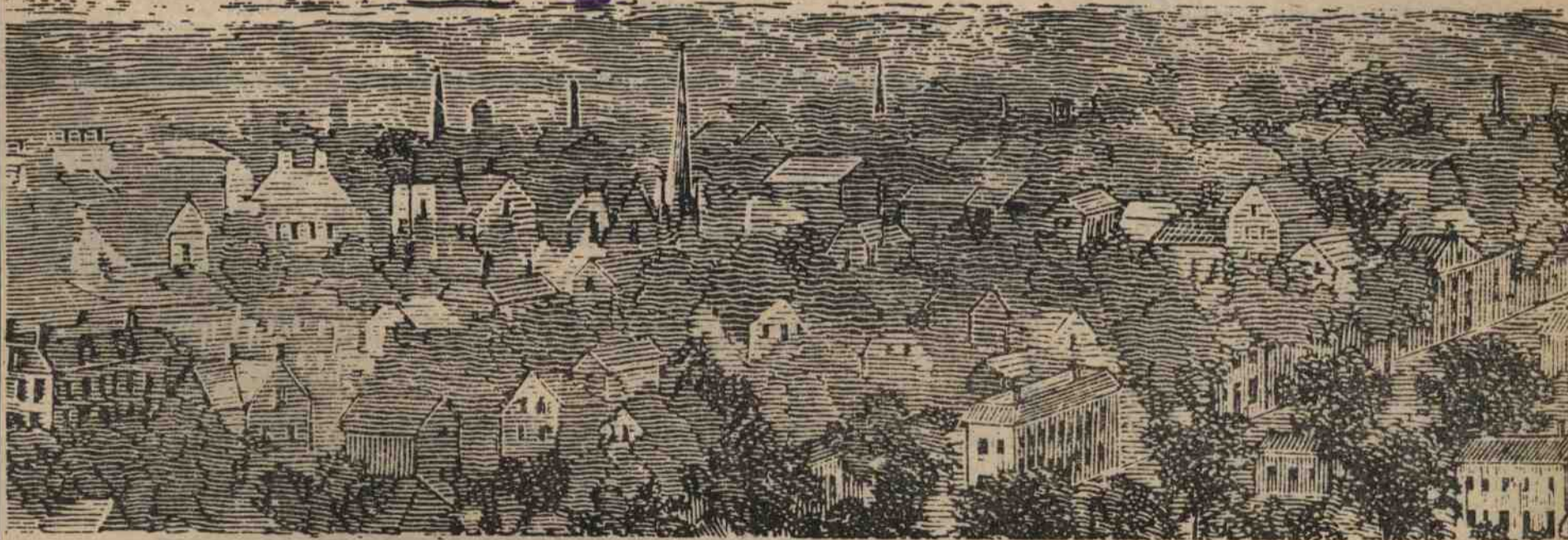
tenths of what happens inside those institution walls as education in any decent sense of the word. Maybe they learn to sit quietly under the Law, maybe they learn to bend and evade and haggle over rules, maybe they learn to lie without knowing they're doing it, maybe they learn to die enough to enter the adult world.

So the Pantagraph never even mentioned that it's no goddamn wonder that the kids would rather hang around, at almost any risk, than sit in school. What's really a wonder is that every junior high and high school is not a smoking pile of rubble at this very moment. Skipping out and hanging around is a mild reaction, dig?

And maybe some of you can say that just hanging around is a little deadly, too. But I've grabbed my coat and run for it in the middle of the day, and I've heard those heavy high school doors clang shut behind me. And the aroma of an afternoon coffee in a downtown cafe, the dirty exhaust of noon-hour traffic on Chicago Street, the crowded smoky interior of an old parked Ford--these still smell like Freedom in my memory.

--Phoebe Caulfield

looks like a sleepy, serene community.



look again.

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