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YWCA director denies ruthless mismanagement

Bloomington-Normal

25¢

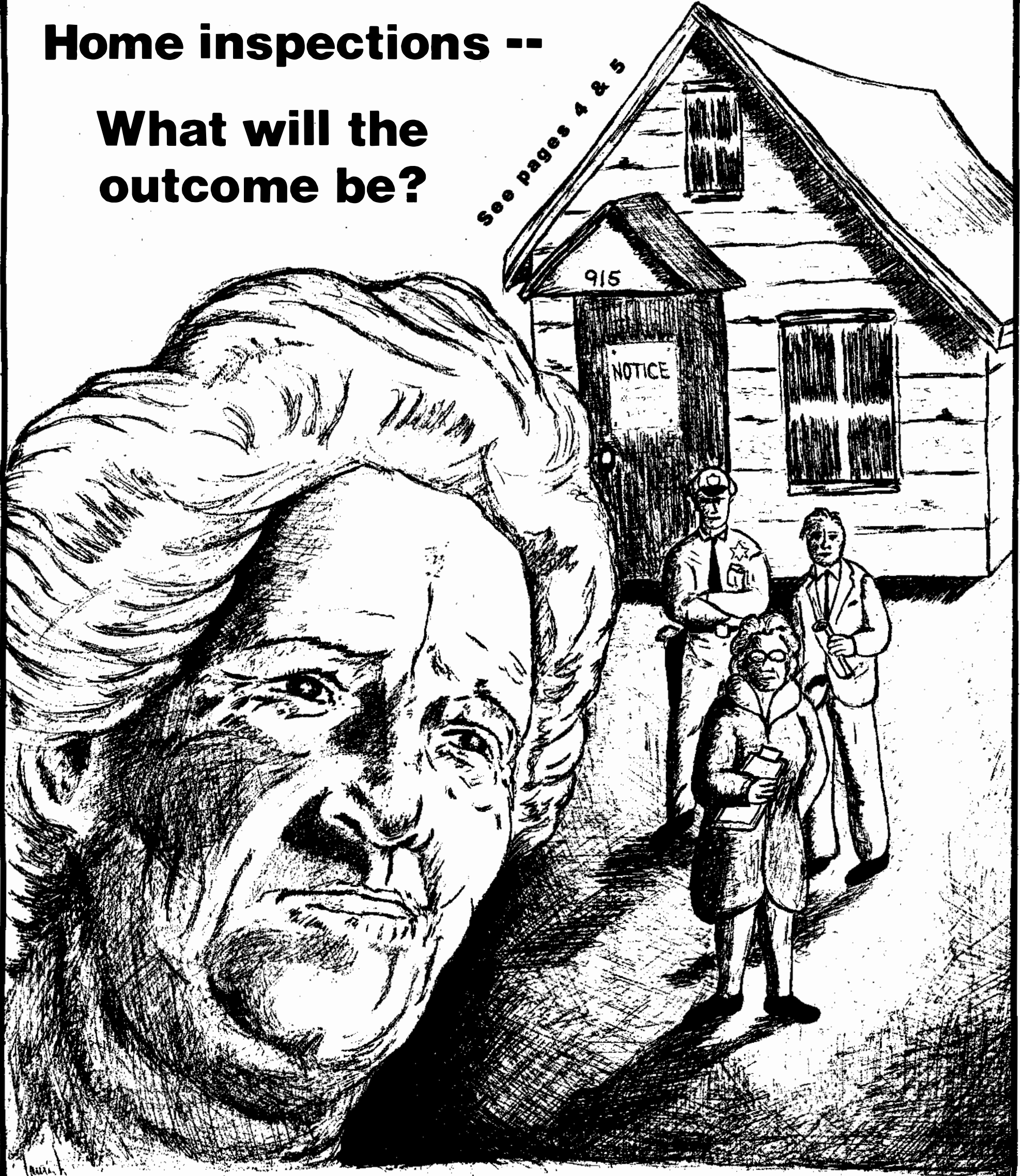
POST AMERICAN

March 1985
Vol. 13, No. 10

Home inspections --

**What will the
outcome be?**

See pages 4 & 5



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POST AMERIKAN

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The Post Amerikan is an independent community newspaper providing information and analysis that is screened out of or downplayed by establishment news sources. We are a non-profit, worker-run collective that exists as an alternative to the corporate media. Decisions are made collectively by staff members at our regular meetings.

We put out ten issues a year. Staff members take turns as "coordinator." All writing, typing, editing, photography, graphics, paste-up, and distribution are done on a volunteer basis. You are invited to volunteer your talents.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. The Post Amerikan welcomes stories, graphics, photos, and news tips from our readers. If you'd like to join us call 828-7232 and leave a message on our answering machine. We will get back to you as soon as we can.

We like to print your letters. Try to limit yourself to the equivalent of two double-spaced typewritten pages. If you write a short, abusive letter, it's likely to get in print. Long, abusive letters, however, are not likely to get printed. Long, brilliantly written, non-abusive letters may, if we see fit, be printed as articles. Be sure to tell us if you don't want your letters printed.

An alternative newspaper depends very directly on a community of concerned people for existence. We believe that it is very important to keep a paper like this around. If you think so too, then support us through contributions and by letting our advertisers know you saw their ads in the Post Amerikan.

The deadline for submitting material for the next issue is March 29.

Post Sellers

BLOOMINGTON

Amtrack station, 1200 W. Front
The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main
Biasi's Drugstore, 217 N. Main
Bloomington Public Library (in front)
Bus Depot, 533 N. East
Common Ground, 516 N. Main
D. J.'s Variety, 297 N. Main
Front and Center Building
Law and Justice Center, W. Front
Lee Street (100 N.)
Main and Miller streets
Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison
Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park
Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire
Nierstheimer Drugs, 1302 N. Main
Pantagraph (front of building),
301 W. Washington
The Park Store, Wood & Allin
People's Drugs, Oakland & Morrisey
Red Fox, 918 W. Market
Susie's Cafe, 602 N. Main
U.S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire
(at exit)
U.S. Post Office, Center & Monroe
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton
Washington and Clinton streets

NORMAL

Alamo II, 319 North St. (in front)
Blue Dahlia Bookstore, 124 E. Beaufort
ISU University Union, 2nd floor
ISU University Union, parking lot
entrance
The Galery, 111 E. Beaufort (in front)
Midstate Truck Plaza, U.S. 51 north
Mother Murphy's, 111½ North St.
North & Broadway, southeast corner
Record Service, Watterson Place
Redbird IGA, 310 S. Main
Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley
White Hen Pantry, 207 Broadway
(in front)

Good numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous.....828-5049
American Civil Liberties Union.454-1787
Clare House (Catholic Workers).828-4035
Community for Social Action...452-4867
Connection House.....829-5711
Countering Domestic Violence...827-4005
Dept. Children/Family Services.828-0022
Draft Counseling.....452-5046
Gay/Lesbian Info. Line.....829-2719
HELP (transportation for senior
citizens, handicapped).....828-8301
Ill. Dept. of Public Aid.....827-4621
Ill. Lawyer Referral.....800-252-8916
Kaleidoscope.....828-7346
Metropolitan Comm. Church.....829-2719
McLean Co. Health Dept.....454-1161
Mid Central Community Action...829-0691
Mobile Meals.....828-8301
McLean Co. Center for Human
Services.....827-5351
National Health Care Services
(abortion assistance, Peoria)691-9073
Nuclear Freeze Coalition.....828-4195
Occupational Development Center828-7324
Operation Recycle.....829-0691
Parents Anonymous.....827-4005
PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone
Help).....827-4005
Or.....800-322-5015
Phone Friends.....827-4008
Planned Parenthood....medical.827-4014
bus/couns/educ.....827-4368
Post Amerikan.....828-7232
Prairie State Legal Service....827-5021
Prairie Alliance.....828-8249
Project Oz.....827-0377
Rape Crisis Center.....827-4005
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center..827-5428
TeleCare (senior citizens)....828-8301
Unemployment comp/job service..827-6237
United Farmworkers support....452-5046
UPIC.....827-4026

Thanks

This issue is in your hands thanks to Deborah, Bobby, Diana, Nadene, Ralph, Dave, Bonnie, the Three Lauries (D., H., & S.), Diane, Sue, Susie, Mark, Chris, Bumper, J.T., X, and the coordinator, Melissa. (We probably forgot some, too--sorry!)

Special thanks to all those who attended the benefit, and to Betty for her generous donation.

Moving?

When you move, be sure to send us your new address so your subscription gets to you. Your Post Amerikan will not be forwarded (it's like junk mail--no kidding!). Fill out this handy form with your new address and return it to us, P. O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61702.

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The book behind the movie

The spies who lived next door

Christopher Boyce and Daulton Lee were not your typical spies, if there is such a thing as a "Typical" spy. "They had money, good schools, a good family and a good future. They had everything--including boredom," wrote Robert Lindsey, who covered their 1977 espionage trials.

Lindsey also wrote The Falcon and the Snowman: A True Story of Friendship and Espionage, the book about Boyce and Lee's spying exploits that is the basis for the recent movie starring Timothy Hutton (as Boyce) and Sean Penn (as Lee). The movie has gotten generally favorable reviews, but even if you see it you still ought to read Lindsey's book--and his follow-up about Boyce's escape from prison. The Falcon and the Snowman is quite unlike any other spy story you have ever read.

Boyce and Lee grew up in affluent Palos Verdes, south of Los Angeles. They had served together as Catholic altar boys, and a shared interest in the sport of falconry had made them best friends in their teens.

In their 20s, they went their separate ways. Boyce, the oldest of nine children, dropped out of college to take a job that he got through the connections of his father, a former FBI man. He became a \$140-a-week clerk at the TRW aerospace company in Redondo Beach, CA. TRW manufactures intelligence-collection satellites used in CIA intelligence.

Incredibly easy

Meanwhile Daulton Lee, adopted son of a wealthy doctor, had embarked on a profitable career as a drug dealer (which is why he's the "snowman" of the book's title). These two joined up to sell TRW documents to Russia. Why? Well, for one reason, it was incredibly easy.

Boyce, a lowly file-clerk, had no trouble getting top-secret clearance. He also found that he could just walk out of the code room--the super-secret "Black Vault"--with documents and microfilmed records. And Lee simply walked into the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City and offered information about American spy satellites. The

Russians, though delighted, found the procedure reckless and urged the young men to buy a Minox and deliver phonies instead of original documents.

This went on for a year and a half. According to Lindsey, the two amateur spies pulled off "one of the most damaging espionage conspiracies against the United States in the postwar era." How damaging? Well, the government considered not prosecuting them rather than have the secrets they'd sold discussed in open court.

Lindsey's book is fascinating on several counts. For one thing, the shadowy world of espionage goes out the window. Boyce and Lee and their activities are as domesticated, if not as wholesome, as apple pie. Security on both sides is laughable. One of the most memorable details is that at drunken parties in the Black Vault caiquiries were whipped up in the document shredder. As for the sinister KGB, on Boyce's one trip to Mexico, he was plied with vodka by his "control," Boris, who got so drunk himself that the note he handed Boyce setting up the next meeting was an unreadable scrawl.

Simply disgusted

Lindsey also engages his readers in the motives of Boyce and Lee without making excuses for them. He sees them as eccentric but representative figures of the 60s generation. Boyce simply became disgusted with his country's clandestine operations, which he learned about at TRW. When he managed, over the prosecution's objections, to testify that our government had interfered with Australia's electoral process, Boyce created a brief crisis in U.S.-Australian relations. One of the secrets he slipped to the Soviets was that the U.S. had violated an agreement to share information gained from bases on Australian soil.

Lee found in the drug world his own field of Amerikan enterprise. He was an expert businessman. Earlier in life Lee found he had an aptitude for woodworking and considered it as a career, but his high-school counselor discouraged him: "You live in Palos

Verdes; you don't work with your hands hands, you work with your brain."

Lindsey asks the \$64,000 question: "How was it possible for an inexperienced 21-year-old college dropout to get a job at the heart of one of America's most secret espionage operations?" And his answer: "No one expected a place like Palos Verdes, where young people seemed to have all the riches and opportunity that a democracy can bestow on its youth, to produce a Soviet spy."

Quiet trials

The trials of Boyce and Lee made only scattered headlines (how many of you have heard about them?). The government decided to prosecute them on one count only, out of many, the selling of "Pyramider," a project enabling agents on the ground to communicate by satellite with CIA headquarters in Langley, VA. This project had been scrapped as too expensive when Boyce and Lee came to trial.

Lindsey also raises the question of whether they may have been CIA patsies, discovered early but allowed to pass secrets that might dazzle the Russians with U.S. capabilities and give our country some psychological edge in the SALT talks. The CIA resolutely denied this charge, depriving Boyce and Lee of a defense based on entrapment, which might have got them off.

But if the CIA wasn't supersubtle, then they were amazingly inept. And if you think they were inept, you should read about Boyce's escape from prison and how he managed to elude the U.S. Marshals Service for a year and a half. They dashed all over the world in search of Boyce before they discovered he hadn't gone any further than Idaho. That unbelievable tale is recounted in Lindsey's second book on Boyce, called The Flight of the Falcon (1983). I'll try to review it for you next issue.

In the meantime, enjoy The Falcon and the Snowman. It's worth the read.

--Ferdydurke



City housing inspectors target low-income west-side neighborhoods

Beginning June 1, the City of Bloomington will begin spending a portion of a \$700,000 grant from the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development to inspect single-family houses and houses divided into apartments on Bloomington's west side.

The target area, which is bordered by Lee St., Locust, Morris and Oakland, was selected because it contains a high proportion of older buildings which the city's Urban Development department feels may have had less attention to maintenance than in other parts of the city.

The grant

Somehow the City of Bloomington got hold of \$700,000 for urban development work from HUD, despite the Reagan/Stockman disciples in Washington who control block grants to states and cities. The Urban Development Department's director, Don Tjaden, told the Post Amerikan that about 51% of the grant has been budgeted for the inspections and associated work. The remainder will be used for purchasing the old Klemm's building and another residential property, for upgrading work at Miller Park, and for streets and sewers construction in the W. Market St. redevelopment area.

Tjaden said the money for the inspections was earmarked by HUD to be used largely to benefit low-income people and neighborhoods. To effect that, he said, Bloomington's Urban Development department would offer outright grants and interest or payment deferred loans to low-income elderly homeowners, and loans with subsidized interest rates to others.

An additional inspector will be added to the city staff as of June 1 to bring the effective inspection force



to seven full-time and one part-time. With that force in place, they will proceed to inspect as many as 400 dwellings.

In progress

Once the whole endeavor is kicked off, according to Tjaden, the inspection teams will proceed block by block, street by street, randomly choosing dwellings to inspect. A list of properties selected for inspection will be available to the public. Tjaden told the Pantagraph on Feb. 21 that property owners will be notified in advance to arrange access for the inspections. The city has no way of notifying the affected tenants and so leaves it up to the landlords to provide this communication. Tjaden acknowledged there would probably be repeat attempts to gain entry for an inspection, but said the city would obtain court orders if necessary to enter a building.

I asked Tjaden for a ballpark estimate on the number of inspections and he offered 400--the figure used above.



"Now remember, if anybody asks, you're an urban displacement engineer."

He said he isn't sure of the inspection results, but he ventured some guesses.

He said he'd be surprised if 1% of the dwellings are posted for non-occupancy. That's if the building poses a serious enough threat to people's lives and jeopardizes the city with a negligence lawsuit if they don't post it. Of the anticipated inspections, 25% will have minor problems brought to the owner's attention. These are not code violations. Tjaden estimated 50% of the inspections would yield code violations.

The main thrust of the inspections will be plumbing, electrical and heating, but roofs, foundations, out-buildings, walls and ceilings, windows and even housekeeping can be in violation. Tjaden said all property owners will be given a "reasonable" time to make repairs.

"Reasonable" is one of the terms used by the city to satisfy its needs, but is vague to anyone else. A roof needing patching might be an immediate repair, venting a sewer or drain pipe might get a couple months. A partial blockage or seepage in a furnace vent might get two months to remedy if inspected in June or one day to fix if inspected Nov. 15. It sounds as if the city might be open to negotiating timetables for repairs, but it may not hurt to get the agreements in writing.

Money matters

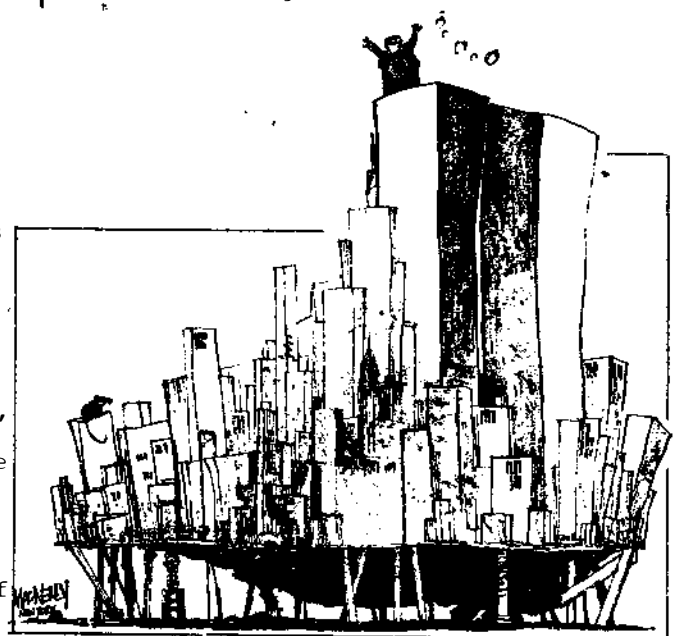
According to Tjaden, he estimates 200 properties will be cited with violations. Some will be nickel and dime fix-ups, like a remedy for some bare wires in one room or patching a leaky pipe. Some will be major--total rewiring, new roofs, all new plumbing or structural and foundation work.

The city set aside \$100,000 for outright grants and \$50,000 for low-interest loans. If the violations found are extensive enough, the city may not have enough money. If you are an inspected property owner or landlord who makes too much money, you may not qualify for a loan, although Tjaden said he'd accept a loan application from anyone.

If you are a tenant and your apartment is posted, the city, Tjaden said, would assist you in relocating. He didn't say how they would assist, but he warned, "We are not a social

service agency. We are an agency that deals with property and maintaining property values."

If your landlord must make repairs, you may expect a rent increase to cover his/her investment. In properties requiring massive repairs, say \$8,000 worth, the monthly payments even at 10% interest for 15 years is \$86/mo. If there were two apartments in the building, a landlord could



increase the rent \$43/mo. to cover the repairs.

Tjaden doesn't feel most landlords would drastically increase rent because the market would not allow any major rent increases. Unfortunately, \$43 a month is more than most low-income people can afford, and landlords probably won't absorb the cost themselves. The waiting lists for flats in the projects, Amanda Brooks, Lincoln Square and Village Green may swell.

The City of Bloomington will apply for another such grant for fiscal 1986-87. Tjaden feels it could be trimmed by the hatchetmen by as much as 20% of this year's allocation. We will watch with great interest to see how the inspections shape up this year.

--Tjeremy Timmens

Urban removal

Would your house pass inspection?

No one can argue with the City of Bloomington that people, even poor people, deserve a decent place to live. Structurally safe buildings with proper wiring, safe stairs, sanitary bathrooms, workable doors and windows, ventilation, and even smoke alarms are noble, if ideal goals to strive for, but as usual, the ultimate financial burden will be placed squarely on the shoulders of those who can least afford it. Higher rent or seeking new housing will become problems all too real for many residents in the targeted area.

Perhaps a closer look at this ordinance and some of its more vague and arbitrary sections is called for. Many of these clauses appear to be left almost entirely to the discretion and interpretation of the code official. City officials have also stated that dwellings will be "randomly selected" for inspection. Does this mean that a computer will randomly select addresses to inspect, or that the Urban Development hit squad will simply wander up and down west side streets and pick and choose by mere whim?

Here are a few of the specific selec-

preparation, cooking, and consumption of food.

Infestation: The presence of insects, rats, vermin or other pests, within or contiguous to, a structure or premises.

Public Nuisance (9): Any premises which has articles stored in a number or quantity that has a potential of becoming an insect or rodent harborage or has an adverse or degrading effect on the surrounding areas or neighborhood.

Rubbish: Combustible and noncombustible waste materials, except garbage, and the term shall include the residue from the burning of wood, coal, coke, and other combustible materials, paper, rags, cartons, boxes, wood, excelsior, rubber, leather, tree branches, yard trimmings, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass, crockery, used building materials, dust and other similar materials.

How many of us, even those of us who consider ourselves "tidy," could pass a picky code official's inspection of our kitchens or basements? What about

Clean and sanitary surfaces?

Sec. 801.1: Cleanliness: Every occupant of a structure or part thereof shall keep that part of the structure or premises thereof which he occupies, controls, or uses in a clean and sanitary condition.

Sec. 801.2: Disposal of Rubbish: Every occupant of a structure or part thereof shall dispose of all his rubbish in a clean and sanitary manner by placing it in rubbish containers equipped with tight fitting covers are required by this Code.

Note that it reads all of his rubbish. Don't get caught trying to hold back some of your favorite rubbish for sentimental reasons. Remember, one man's rubbish is another man's code violation.

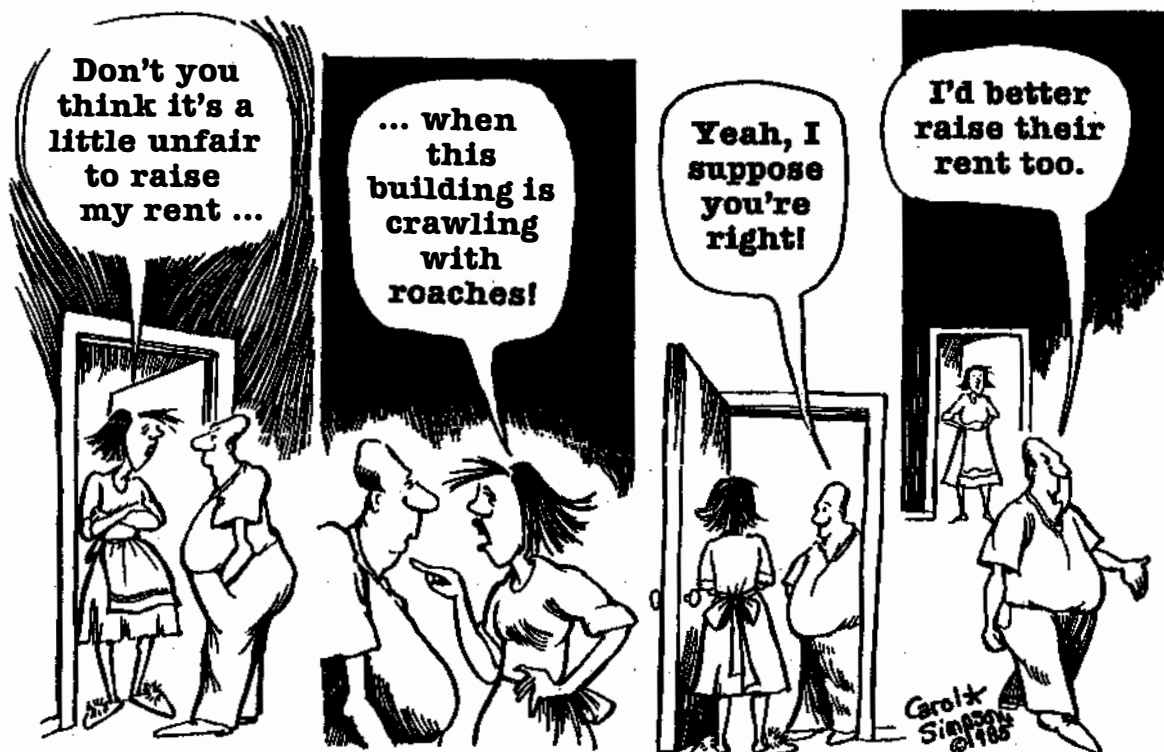
Sec. 802.2: Insect and Rat Control and Harborage: All structures shall be kept free from insect, rat, vermin or other pest infestation, and where insects, rats, vermin or other pests are found they shall be promptly exterminated by acceptable processes which will not be injurious to human health.

Sec. 802.3: Tenant-Occupant: The tenant-occupant of any structure shall be responsible for the continued rat-proof condition of the structure, and if the tenant-occupant fails to maintain the rat-proof condition the cost of extermination shall be the responsibility of the tenant-occupant.

We all know that roaches check into motels while houses are being gassed, only to return to the scene of the crime.

So those are a few of the highlights of the code. Look around you. Look at your neighborhood. Then look out for the code officials--they may come for you next.

--L.H.



tions which seem particularly vague, unreasonable, just plain silly or all of the above.

Sec. 105.3: A structure is unfit for human occupancy of use whenever the Code Official finds that it is unsafe, unlawful, or because of the degree in which it lacks maintenance or is in disrepair, is unsanitary, vermin or rodent infested, contains filth and contamination, or lacks ventilation, illumination, sanitary or heating facilities or other essential equipment required by this Code, or because its location constitutes a hazard to its occupants or to the public.

This section appears to be giving the inspector wide open personal discretion to decide what is or is not a violation according to his or her own personal concept of the code.

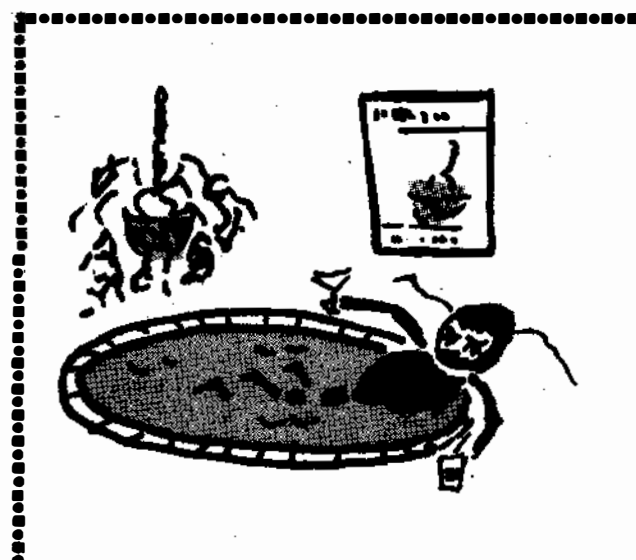
Definitions:

Garbage: The animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling,

that stack of Post Americans in the corner, a potential insect or rodent harborage? And what about all those east side garages, just teeming with "rubbish?"

Sec. 303.3: Interior Surfaces: Floors, walls, including windows and doors, ceilings, and other interior surfaces shall be maintained in good clean, and sanitary condition. Peeling paint, cracked or loose plaster, decayed wood, and other defective surface conditions shall be eliminated.

Sec. 303.3.2: Bathroom and Kitchen Floors: Every toilet, bathroom and kitchen floor surface shall be constructed and maintained so as to permit such floor to be easily kept in a clean and sanitary condition. All other interior floors must be constructed and maintained in a condition which allows them to be cleaned and kept sanitary.



Yuppie roaches?

The maker of Roach Motel has sued another manufacturer for unfair competition, says The Wall Street Journal (2/6/85). The competitor has come out with Roach Condo. The Roach Motel people say that the Roach Condo seeks to "capitalize upon the goodwill" associated with the original product.

The Wall Street Journal, if anyone, should know that if one is not going to check out, it's not fiscally responsible to stay in a motel; if one wants motel-style surroundings at less exorbitant prices, of course a condo is the right choice.

So, there goes the neighborhood.

--P.C.

What Pantagraph omitted

Another look at Wildwood Industries

Recently the Pantagraph printed a front page story about Wildwood Industries Inc.'s purchase of the former Modine Manufacturing Co. property. The article painted a rosy picture of an empty building being put to use and a local company expanding and doing well (a sure sign of the country's "economic recovery"). In addition, the prospect of 52 new jobs being created, including some for handicapped workers, sounds too good to be true.

It just may be.

Few people know anything about Wildwood Industries and its owner, Gary Wilder. Some of us know too much to be pleased with his success. It's difficult to applaud success achieved through unethical business and employment practices, and that's his kind of success, it seems from interviews with a few of his present and former employees.

As the Pantagraph stated, Wilder was executive director of Bloomington's Occupational Development Center (ODC) for 3 1/2 years. ODC solicits piecework from local businesses and employs physically and mentally handicapped people. The Center provides job training and enables many people to work who are not suited for private sector employment.

Wilder left ODC in 1978 to form his own company, Wildwood Industries Inc. By using contacts he had made during his ODC directorship, he was able to win accounts from companies who had formerly done business with ODC. This tactic made Wildwood a success and may have drastically reduced the amount of work available to ODC workers. As recently as two years ago, ODC workers had their hours reduced greatly due to lack of work. How ironic that Wilder now states "in keeping with his background the firm hires handicapped people when possible." Do you suppose this is out of the goodness of his heart--or could it be that handicapped workers are grateful to work for even a minimum wage?

Wilder's treatment of employees has

also been less than desirable. In at least two instances he has used bogus promises of higher wages, job security and chance for advancement to lure workers from good jobs. In one case, a truck driver with over ten years of seniority at a local unionized factory quit his job to work at Wildwood. Soon after he was fired from Wildwood. Wildwood is not unionized, so employees have no recourse after unfair treatment.

Another worker left a good job after Wilder promised her \$6 an hour and a supervisory position. After two weeks she received a note with her paycheck saying her wages were being cut to \$4 an hour--with no explanation. When confronted, Wilder explained that other employees had found out how much she was making and had complained. He reportedly told them he would close the doors before he allowed a union to be formed. In order to keep from increasing others' wages, he planned

The promise of 52 new jobs may not be as good as it sounds. Most of Wildwood's current employees make less than \$4 an hour. The company also has at least one employee who has been with it for over a year and reportedly earns only \$3.10 an hour. [Post-Note: The woman answering the phone at Wildwood Industries said all employees receive at least minimum wage.] Who can support themselves (let alone a family) on \$120 a week (approximately what a Wildwood employee takes home



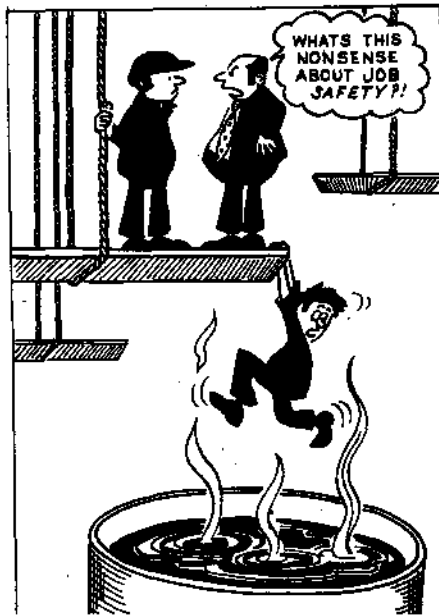
after taxes)?

The safety and welfare of Wildwood employees is also questionable. In the old plant, one machine had open rollers which several workers have had clothing caught in. Machines cannot distinguish between clothing and fingers, hands and arms. Another area had two-inch thick mounds of slick glue stuck to the floor after being in use only two weeks. No effort was made to clean it up.

All windows were boarded up, making proper ventilation and lighting impossible. Employee restrooms were filthy, and stairways often lacked adequate lighting. One employee complained only two fire extinguishers were available for the entire building, which was quite large. She also noted there were few fire exits, and the ones that existed weren't visible.

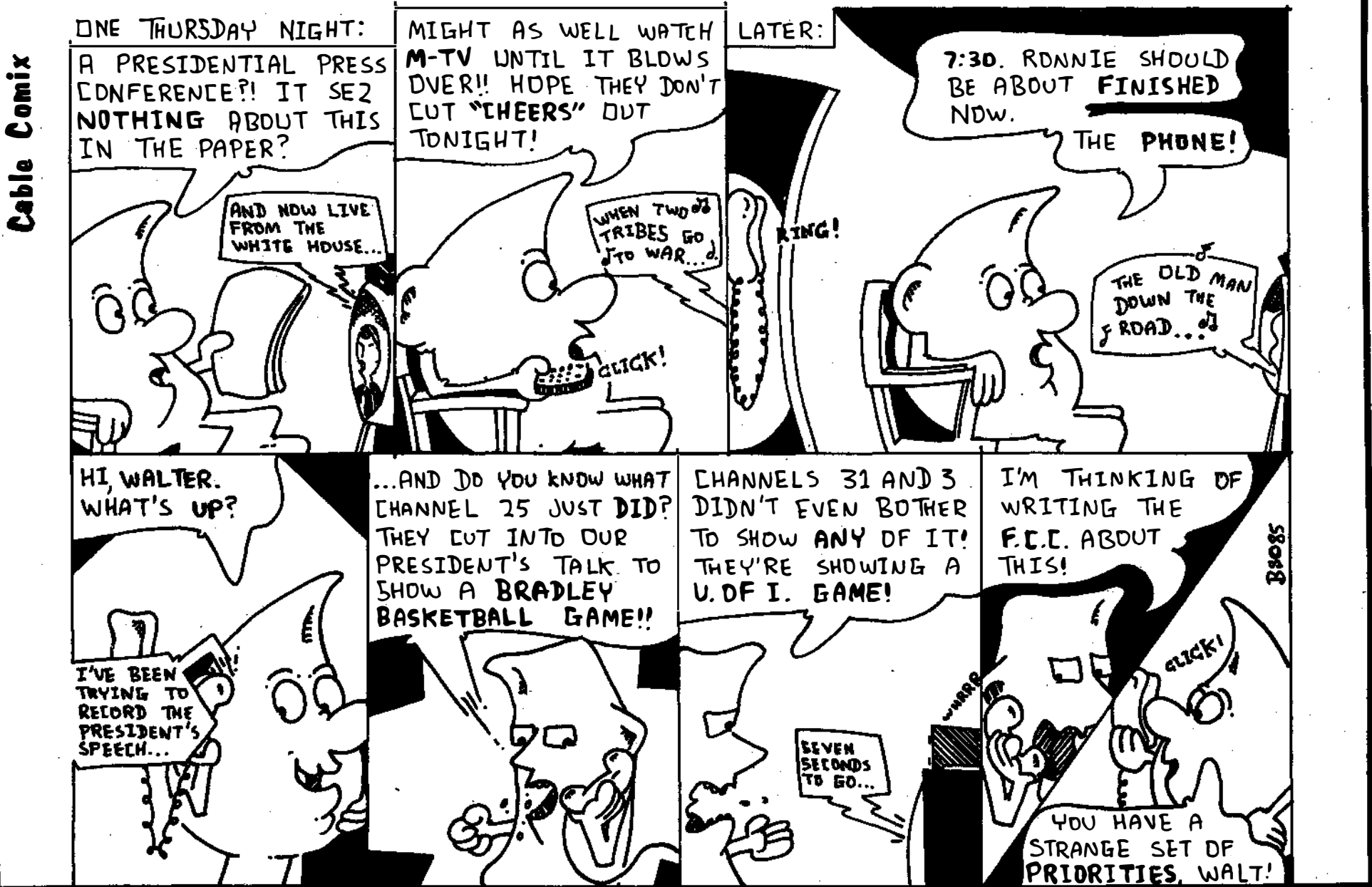
The next time the Pantagraph prints one of its "local business success" stories, remember, there is probably more to the story than meets the eye. Think of the handicapped workers' jobs that Wildwood Industries took away and of the company's current ill-treated, underpaid and underemployed workers.

--Woodpecker II



to cut hers.

When the woman protested, Wilder laid her off. She subsequently filed for unemployment benefits, which Wilder contested. After weeks of red tape, the former employee was eventually cleared to receive unemployment benefits.



Osteoporosis: 'The time is yesterday'

On Monday, January 28, Barry Slotky, M.D., told 200 people, mostly women, gathered at Bob Knapp's restaurant, about osteoporosis--a threat to every woman. This disorder, said Slotky, is more common in women over 35 than are heart attacks, strokes, diabetes, arthritis and breast cancer. Osteoporosis, which means porous bone, is a condition of decreasing overall bone mass (or density) resulting from increased porosity and thinning of the bones to the point where microfracture occurs. It is the most common disorder of the skeleton. "The time is yesterday" to begin to prevent osteoporosis.

Women at risk

Women who are white, slender, have premature or surgical menopause (removal of the ovaries), smoke and use alcohol to excess and, as important, have a family history of osteoporosis are at risk. If a woman wonders if she may be a potential victim of this disorder, said Slotky, I tell her to look at her mother or grandmother.

There are 45 million women over 40 in the U.S., representing 20% of the total population and 38% of all women. About 20 million women, 1 out of every 4 white women over 65, have osteoporosis. While men can also be victims, it is 8 times more likely to occur in women.

Bones are in a constant process of formation and breakdown; this is how our bodies grow in childhood and adolescence. Loss of bone mass begins in the 20s for the trabecular bones (honeycomb bones such as those in the vertebrae) and in the 30s for the more solid cortical bones (such as in the pelvic region).

Osteoporosis occurs when breakdown exceeds formation. The result is the "bent over little old lady." 25% of women over 65 have vertebrae fractures; 12-16% die within 3 months of hip fracture and less than 50% of women who suffer hip fractures regain normal functions. The monetary costs can be calculated: over \$2 billion per year in medical costs. The emotional costs--loss of self-esteem and self-image, disability, loss of independence, stress--are incalculable.

Prevention

The single most important thing you can do to prevent osteoporosis later, according to Slotky, is to increase bone mass before age 35. Once bone mass has started to deteriorate, it's too late.

Preventative measures are diet, exercise and hormone treatment. Because calcium is the most important element of bone, the absolute amount of calcium in your diet is the single most important factor. The Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) is 800 milligrams. But the NIH (National Institute of Health) says that 1500 milligrams daily for women 40 or over is necessary; women 30-40 should have 1200 milligrams daily. Skim milk is the best source, as well as yogurt, seafood, and vegetables such as broccoli.

Another source is calcium supplements. The best source is calcium carbonate because your body absorbs and uses 40% of the nutrient. Other sources are calcium lactate (13% used) and calcium gluconate (9% used). It is best to check the calcium content of the various over-the-counter calcium supplements. Slotky recommends to his patients that they take TUMS, which are inexpensive and contain calcium carbonate (and no sodium). In order to get the correct amount of calcium, for example, a woman would take 7½ TUMS a

day, assuming that she has no other source of calcium in her diet.

Slotky said to avoid bone meal and dolomite, which can be contaminated with lead. A diet with a high phosphorous level will cause low calcium absorption, so avoid large amounts of bread, cereal, and red meat. Slotky added that vegetarians have stronger and denser bones, and they lose less bone and develop osteoporosis less often. In response to a question from the audience, Slotky claimed that we lose more cal-



cium at night because our bodies are inactive, so it is best to take calcium supplements before going to bed.

Exercise and diet

Exercise in normal people leads to normal bone mass. Moderate physical activity, 20 minutes 3 times per week where the heart rate is increased, produces beneficial effects in recently post-menopausal women. Women under 30 with good exercise and diet can reduce osteoporosis in later age. Estrogen (the female hormone) is crucial because women lose bone most rapidly in the first 5-6 years after menopause. Assuming no hormonal therapy, 25% bone mass is lost by women undergoing natural menopause, while 50% is lost by those who have undergone surgical menopause. Estrogen therapy prevents osteoporosis and is most effective when given before

significant bone loss has occurred. Estrogen has an indirect effect on the bone mass.

One concern of women who take estrogen (such as Premarin) is the risk of cancer of the uterus or breast. Slotky said there is no scientific evidence between estrogen therapy and breast cancer; in fact, it may even be protective therapy. The risk of uterine cancer may also be less than if estrogen is not taken. Hormone treatment, once started in post-menopausal women, should last a lifetime, Slotky insisted: "Don't stop taking hormones simply because you feel fine; the results may appear later in the form of bone fractures."

Screening

There are some measures for osteoporosis screening. One is to measure the bones, but Slotky believes that this is ineffective because once bone mass loss can be measured, it is too late. X-rays and CAT scans are also ineffective because, in addition to the amounts of radiation involved, at least 20-30% bone loss must have occurred in order to be determined by x-ray.

There is, however, a new method of bone scanning--single photon absorptiometry (SPA). This method can detect 1-3% of bone loss before fracture occurs. The radiation used is less than .01% of that used in x-ray, it can screen patients without symptoms, and follow-up is easy. Basically, the patient's forearm is placed in a water bath for about 10 minutes while the SPA calculates the density of bone (amount of calcium) based on age and height of patient. It is important, cautions Slotky, that a follow-up test be taken about 2-3 years later so that loss, if any, can be measured. An SPA may be available in the Bloomington-Normal community within a month. A test costs about \$110 and at present is covered by most major insurance companies.

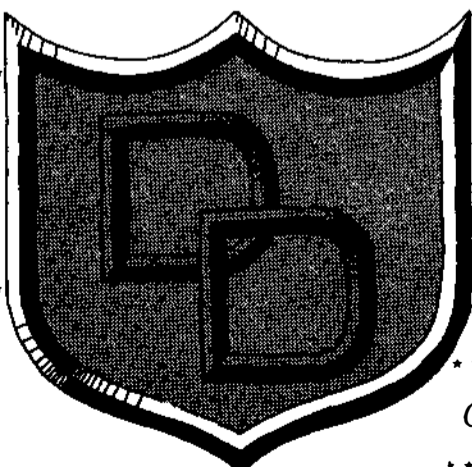
One source of information about osteoporosis is Stand Tall by Morris Notelovitz, M.D. and Marsha Ware. "By starting early you can prevent osteoporosis."

--J.M.

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Patients won in staff-administration battle

A thirteen-month struggle finally came to an end this week when the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) was certified to represent the Fairbury Hospital Professional and Technical Association (FHPTA).

The FHPTA officially petitioned the National Labor Relations Board for a collective bargaining unit in January of 1984. Following a lengthy hearing, the bargaining unit was approved, and a vote was taken in April. However, Fairbury Hospital appealed the decision, and as a result, the ballots were impounded and not counted until this month, when the hospital had finally exhausted its appeals.

No protests of the election were filed, so the certification was issued. A spokesperson for the FHPTA says they are currently meeting with INA representatives and that the Association's first step will be to ask for contract talks, with an emphasis on job security.



Surrounded from the beginning with bitterness and controversy, the union struggle had both hospital employees and community people taking sides. In the administration's view, you were for the hospital or for the nurses, and there was no middle ground. In the nurses' and technical staff's view, you were for the hospital or you were for the patients, and there was no question which was more important.

Community involvement grew to such a high level that an organization has recently formed, Tri-County Citizens for Health, Ltd., to provide health-related information and assistance to other community members. Health Ltd. will operate with support and input of a pair of local doctors, Don Kreutzer and Orville Hable, who have a private practice in Fairbury but are no longer associated with the hospital for political reasons (see *Post Amerikan* vol. 12, #8).

Also on the board of Health Ltd. is former Fairbury Hospital Board of Trustees member Carl Borngasser, who was officially relieved of his hospital position this week. Borngasser was an outspoken supporter of the union throughout the long struggle, though the administration cites "conflict of interest" as the official reason for his dismissal.

--LH

Don't drink the water

Is Bloomington headed for the cancer ward?

The City of Bloomington has issued warnings to all water drinkers that dangerous nitrate levels lurk in your faucet and mine.

Most of us have gotten used to such warnings during the summer. In July or August it is casually announced that Bloomington water exceeds permissible EPA levels for nitrates, and that caution should be taken. Usually about that time the Water Dept. announces there is nothing to worry about--it's safe--and then adds that infants, the elderly and people with respiratory problems should stay away from Bloomington water.

Now we have a nitrate warning in the middle of the winter. I don't know if this means there is a huge block of frozen bacon dripping away in Lake Bloomington, or that some farmer spread some strange fertilizer on the snow. What it probably means is that our local soil and ground water is becoming so saturated with nitrates that we have a year-round problem developing.

I don't know much about nitrates. I just know that many laboratory rats have sacrificed their existence to prove the stuff is cancerous. I know that I don't trust "EPA acceptable limits," because a few years later there are some "acceptable limits" found highly unacceptable.

The State of Illinois recently released a list of over 300 chemical substances that are known toxics. Any worker using these substances has to be trained in their safe handling, and has a "right-to-know" about their side-effects. Casually glancing at the list, in my un-scientific fashion, I count 40 nitrate compounds. Now, not all of these are in the drinking water, but that is a sign that we are dealing with some potent brew.

Our farm community with its hyper-chemicalized methods, depends heavily on artificial inputs. One of those heavily used inputs is nitrogen for fertilizer. Now there are all kinds of natural ways to get nitrogen in the soil--somewhere in my grade school science class memory bank is the tidbit that beans produce nitrogen naturally to replenish the soil.

Now there are a lot of beans out there in McLean County, but something tells me our nitrate problem has nothing to do with their natural excretions, but does have a lot to do with our style of agri-business.



The local farming community is not going organic tomorrow, but a solution needs to be found. It is not foolish to speculate that sometime soon Bloomington water will have a permanent nitrate warning. And if that continues, Bloomington might become a laboratory to study the long-term effects of nitrate consumption on human beings--thus saving the white rat population a lot of grief and misery.

Since our community is now all hyped up on growth and development, and we are having all kinds of commissions, why not a county wide "safe water commission?" Of course, that is too simple a name to attract important people, so the local government will need a suitable euphemism. But the task would be to work with agriculture, industry and us water bill payers to do what's needed for safe drinking water. I'm sure no local wheeler-dealer would like it leaked to a certain unmentioned Japanese corporation that Bloomington water is toxic stuff--that's not the clean and wholesome atmosphere we're putting on. But there's something dirty in the pipes, and we're not talking about commie flouride here, folks, just good ol' American agribusiness run-off.

In the meantime, how about a class action suit for the elderly, infants, pregnant women and people with respiratory problems, demanding bottled water delivered to the door by a city employee? And some of Wisconsin's "pure-brewed" finest for the rest of us?

--MgM

AMA wants team players

Post-note: Last month I wrote an article (13:9) about my pal's experience interviewing with the American Medical Association (AMA) as a research economist. Another friend, also an economist, wrote up a similar experience. --P.C.

I interviewed with the AMA for a research position at their Chicago office during professional meetings in December 1982. During the interview, I gave a brief summary of my **doctoral thesis, which deals with the pharmaceutical industry.**

In my thesis, I attempt to determine whether patients benefited from having the government require drug companies to prove that their drugs do what they are claimed to do. Of course, if physicians could not be misled by drug companies, there would be no need for such legislation.

When I mentioned that the two previous studies had reached very different conclusions, the interviewer's response was that the one which found a benefit to the proof requirement must have been wrong, not that this was an interesting question which deserved further research. While this was not a surprising response for someone who works for the AMA, his response made me seriously consider whether I could do any worthwhile research in their employ.

At a later point, I was given the strong impression that all AMA research is highly directed, with the aim of proving the AMA's positions rather than simply analyzing an issue with an open mind. Although the interview continued, including a half hour talk with their personnel manager, I could tell that my defense of the pro-legislation study had ruled me out.

--JL

Phoebe vs. the phone

Gen Tel dictates lifestyle again

All right, you can't get a phone number out of Gen Tel without paying for it; you can't even get hooked up easily without a savings account, a steady job, DAR references, sound dental records, and a telephone; and you can't take a long hot bath with the phone off the hook.

Now they won't let you space out when dialing.

Yes, Gen Tel wants a community of awake, alert, sober, and normal people using its services, and it makes me mad enough to spit. If you take more than 15 seconds between digits when you're dialing, the phone company hangs up on you, an institutional version of euthanasia. They figure, hell, if this poor fool can't dial a number in 15 seconds, how can they possibly enjoy phone use? We'll just put them out of their misery.

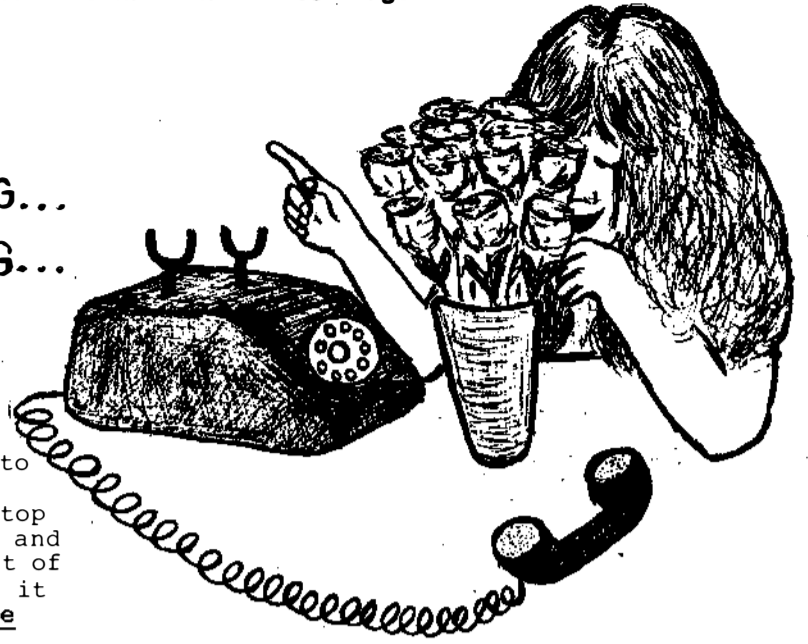
Well, I have a few words about that. First of all, many would say that decisions about the quality of phone use belong to God and God alone. And

EHNG... EHNG...
EHNG... EHNG...

let me point out that, contrary to their own posturings, the phone company is not God.

Second of all, there are people on this planet who have not given in to rush-hour, hurly-burly, faster-is-better trends. Some of us still stop and smell the roses along the way, and sometimes roses happen in the midst of dialing. Some would even say that it would be a better world if everyone dialed thoughtfully, dreamily, and leisurely.

Third of all, there are also people on this planet who, even if they would like to dial quickly, are physically or psychologically unable to do so. In these cases, the phone company is being not only obtuse but rude to hang up on them.



What next? I hate to encourage slippery-slope thinking, but with the phone company, it seems justified. How about those long, meaningful silences during phone conversations?

--Phoebe Caulfield

Book Review

Fantasy fan lured by feminist feelings

Being a typically overbooked student and a rabid science fiction/fantasy reader, political/philosophical theory books are not what I generally read in my rare and precious free time. Don't get me wrong--I like philosophy--I just object to reading about it. Most such theory books are dry. As in desert. And dessicated. I'm a fiction reader--I like my written philosophy via Frank Herbert or Ursula LeGuin. Gimme a big bowl of hot buttered Orville Redenbacher's, a cold coke and an Elizabeth Lynn book and I'm quite content.

So I was somewhat sceptical when my mother (bless her radical heart) sent

me, along with other unmotherlike xmas gifts, a book on feminist theory. She had just joined a philosophical discussion group, met author/philosopher Marilyn Frye, and thought that, despite my penchant for escapist fiction, I would be interested in Frye's book, Politics of Reality (Crossing Press, Trumansberg, NY, 1983).

Surprisingly enough, I was interested. Frye's book is not dry. She clearly has a sense of humor, and it leaks through her serious intent, giving the book vitality. Even if I disagreed with every word she writes, I would still recommend the book. It's not that often that you find a theory book that actively engages the reader's interest.

A lot of her work is basic feminist theory. While reading the first few chapters, I found myself nodding and saying "yes" and "of course." Her points seem obvious, but she supplies the reasoning and logic behind the intuitions that many of us have had for so long. It's that reasoning that is new.

Some of her analogies and comparisons are especially brilliant. I particularly like her parallel between systematic oppression and the network of wires in a birdcage in the first chapter. In her chapters on race and on anger, she makes some important points about perceptions and craziness.

Frye's book is not for the faint-hearted dilettante feminist. While much of her writing clarifies and supports basic feminist philosophy,

she often takes those philosophies to their extreme (but logical) conclusions. Her chapter on gay men and lesbians will probably outrage many readers, especially gay men, and especially if it's not read to the surprisingly positive conclusion.

I'm not sure I agree with everything she writes. I think I need to read it again. At least once. She supports issues I have known intuitively for some time, though, and she definitely gave me plenty to think about. Even when I disagree with her, I find myself grudgingly admitting that what she says needs to be considered.

Anyway, ya gotta admire a theory writer that can steal away my relaxation time. My newest Marion Zimmer Bradley sat unread for two weeks while I read Politics of Reality. Unheard of.

--Chris M.

(May still be available at Alamo and ISU Union Bookstore--it's actually being taught in one of the women's lit classes. CM)



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What you need to know

CDSV stands for for Countering Domestic and Sexual Violence, a program designed to help abused women through crisis intervention and, since February 1984, through running a safe shelter house where women and children may stay while trying to get out of threatening situations. CDSV is administered through the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), whose executive director is Jackie Macy. Her right hand woman, also a YWCA employee, is Pam Schubach.

CDSV receives money from the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV). The organization also receives money from the Township of Bloomington (Maxine Schultz, Supervisor) earmarked to contribute to the director of CDSV's salary.

Former CDSV workers called the Post-Amerikan because they knew of scandals in both the funding and service fulfillment of CDSV--scandals which all pointed toward faulty YWCA administration.

My articles are based on interviews with several women who are or have been paid staff, volunteers, and clients of CDSV, as well as on documents they've given me.

Mark's articles are based on interviews with Jackie Macy, Maxine Schultz, Jill Gleason (the Pantagraph reporter who wrote about CDSV), Bill Willis (Pantagraph Managing Editor, who refused to publish what Gleason wrote), and Carol Briggs (a former CDSV employee), and on conferences with me and my interviewees.

--Phoebe Caulfield

Workers dissatisfied with agency practices

We began our investigation by interviewing Sara Crew and Eve Reedy-Andres, two CDSV ex-employees, both now fired, who voiced some of the dissatisfactions that left the program practically workerless as of January.

Their assertions, given in this article, have been repeatedly confirmed by other former CDSV volunteers and clients.

On her work report, Sara would find some of her hours as counselor/advocate crossed out and designated "volunteer" hours; Eve worked 107 hours a week, got paid for 40 of them as shelter manager.

When she asked why she was working the extra 67 hours, Jackie Macy (director of the YWCA) first claimed that "the extra hours are in exchange for room and board." (Eve had a separate room in the shelter.) When Eve pointed out that room and board never cost her that much privately, Jackie said that the extra hours were "volunteer hours." Even on her so-called "weekends," Eve was expected to stay at the shelter 10pm-7am, which would hardly be rightly termed days off. In spite of Eve's questions and complaints that she was not an effective staff person after 107 hours a week on duty, Jackie didn't lift a finger to hire a relief person.

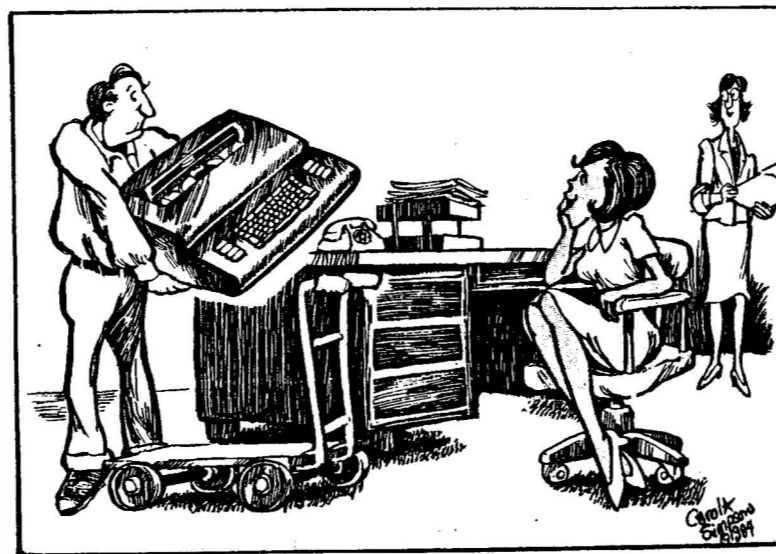
When Eve complained about the forced volunteer hours (since no one else was assigned, she could not just close the shelter and go home), Jackie finally said that they were covered by the clause in her contract that said as Shelter Manager she would perform "other duties as assigned."

However, Eve asserts, the state funding agency that supervises these shelters says that extra hours are not covered under this clause. The state

funding agency is the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV).

The women complained that Macy was extremely reluctant to put job descriptions into writing. They said that job demands shifted disturbingly--another cause of dissatisfaction and attrition. For example, the paid Client Service Coordinator, who seemingly should help clients deal with other social service agencies, was assigned evening and night hours at the shelter, hours when the other agencies would be closed.

The workers at the shelter were also disturbed by their bosses' twisted priorities: while the shelter was having problems like burnt-out staff, serious fire hazards, food shortages, and dangerous wiring, Pam Schubach (a YWCA staffer who acted as director of the program for four months) put cleanliness above all in her



"A self-correcting typewriter is nice ... now when are you going to bring me a self-correcting BOSS?"

evaluation of the shelter.

One client said that Schubach showed no sympathy for the clients and that she spoke so rudely and disrespectfully to the volunteers that, she said, "I wouldn't be a volunteer if it meant being treated like that."

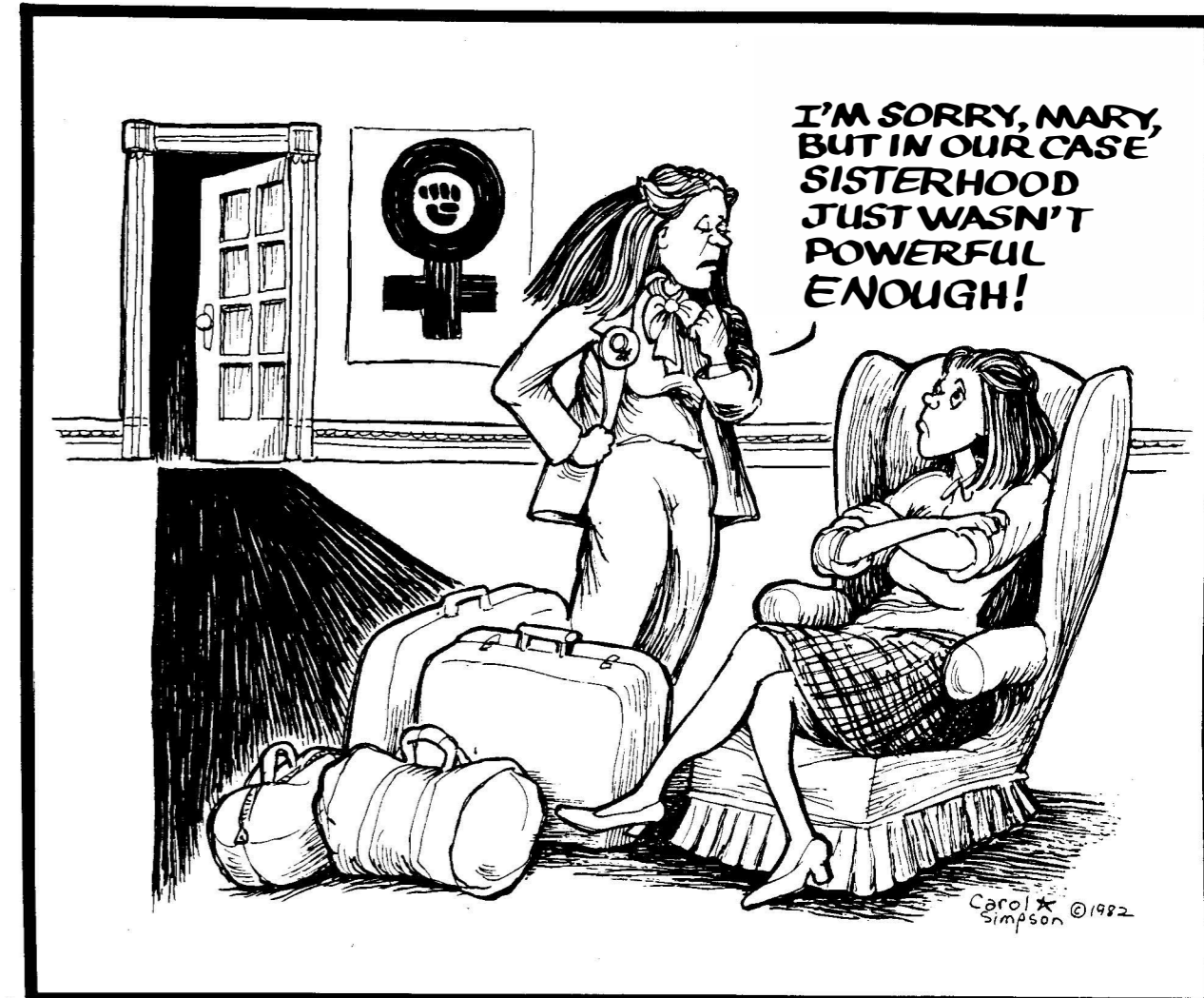
Volunteers were fired for questioning Jackie Macy's practices or going against her directives. They were reprimanded for being too emotionally involved with the clients.

The ex-employees were outraged by the number of people who had access to the shelter and clients but had never received any CDSV training. The 30-hour training program is supposedly required by the state funding body. Both ICADV and the township (who provided money for the director's salary) were promised that 17 trained volunteers would always be active at CDSV.

By 1/4/85, when Macy had to provide a list of these volunteers, she had to make up a phony document, which included people she had fired, Y employees, paid employees of CDSV (who are not supposed to be designated as volunteers), untrained people, and people who live too far out of town to carry the crisis pager. This padded list is what PATH depends on to contact CDSV for help for a woman who is in danger. All of the CDSV workers we spoke with agreed that this Jan. 4 list was a joke.

The most recent news is that CDSV's program is building back up after the severe demoralization and attrition it has suffered over the last six to nine months. However, former workers are skeptical about how long the changes will last, given their experience with unreliable and capricious management.

--Phoebe Caulfield



YWCA director opens clients' mail

P.S. Burn this letter

One blatant violation of the clients' rights and dignity was the way their personal mail was dealt with. Jackie Macy, YWCA director, insisted that it be sent to the Hershey Road YWCA address (supposedly to keep a secret of the shelter's address).

When shelter staffers would go to pick up mail for their clients, though, they would usually see a ten-day lapse since the postmarked date, and the mail would be opened.

Eve, the Shelter Manager, once had a personal letter of her own ("purple envelope and all") opened and held for ten days. Another volunteer said that she never saw an unopened letter delivered to a shelter client.

The Y secretary told ex-employee Sara Crew that "Jackie wants to see everything." When Sara confronted Jackie about the ethics of opening others' mail, Jackie told her that the mail "was Y property."

(Everyone I spoke with said that the clients' mail was opened. When Post staffer Mark Silverstein interviewed Jackie Macy, she said that there were only two instances in which shelter clients' mail was opened. She explained these two instances at length.)

Eve proceeded to give her post office box number to clients, allowing them to receive mail there and handing it over to them unopened. "Pam [a YWCA staffer who served as CDSV acting director] chewed me out for that," she reports. "That was being too intimately involved with the clients."

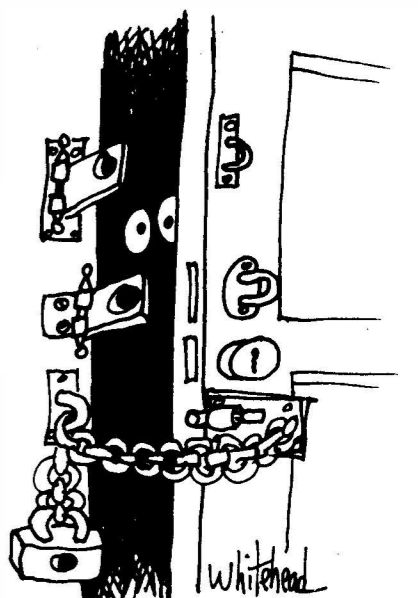
In one incident, reported by both CDSV veterans and a former client's letter to the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, a shelter client never did receive two letters from her attorney. One of the letters spelled out case details which were extremely private, and the other informed her of her court date, which she missed, causing a warrant for her arrest to go out.

In another case Eve and Sara knew of, a husband wrote to his wife in the

shelter discussing the auction of their household goods and the date of the auction (the couple was going through a divorce). But she didn't get the letter; her husband happened to mention the auction the day before it was supposed to take place, when she called him on another matter. This ugly surprise spurred shelter staffers to nag the YWCA office to find the husband's letter; it turned up for CDSV to pick up on July 23, with a postmark on it of July 13.

In early 1985, a former client filed a complaint about these mail irregularities with the U. S. Postal Inspector. In an interview, she said that while staying at the shelter, she got a notice about her husband's grand jury indictment, already opened. Though she didn't think it irregular at first ("I thought it was just regulations, like in prison"), her Department of Children and Family Services caseworker told her that she had a right to private mail and that she should complain. The postal inspector is investigating the case now.

--Phoebe Caulfield



Where did the money go?

YWCA investigated for misappropriation of funds

YWCA records claim that Carol Briggs was paid the salary of a CDSV director from July 1 to July 13, 1984. But Carol Briggs says she was paid only minimum wage when she worked for CDSV and didn't even live in Bloomington during the period she supposedly collected the director's salary.

Where did the money go?

Bloomington Township Supervisor Maxine Schultz recently ordered an investigation into charges that YWCA Director Jackie Macy misappropriated revenue-sharing funds.

The YWCA receives the revenue-sharing funds through the Township of Bloomington. The money is supposed to pay the salary of the director of Countering Domestic and Sexual Violence (CDSV). CDSV provides counseling for battered women, maintains a safe house for women needing shelter, and is administered by the YWCA.

No director

Ever since Mary Kay Ward resigned as director in May 1984, CDSV has had trouble finding and keeping a director. There was no director hired until mid-September. She lasted less than two months. The current director, Jamie Foley, wasn't hired until December 26.

During the first several months after Mary Kay Ward's departure, former shelter staffers say, YWCA employee Pam Schubach ran CDSV. Pam Schubach called the shots, and she called herself acting director of the program.

But since Pam Schubach was already

paid by the YWCA, she was not entitled to be paid as director or acting director of CDSV.

Nevertheless, during all the time that CDSV had an acting director or no director at all, the YWCA received money allocated to pay the salary of a CDSV program director.

Where did the money go?

That's what Bloomington Township Supervisor Maxine Schultz tried to find out in January. At Schultz's request a three-member subcommittee of the McLean County Coordinating Township Committee met with YWCA Director Jackie Macy.

Payment delayed

Schultz said she temporarily delayed paying a January installment of CDSV's money while the subcommittee tried to figure out what was going on.

Schultz said that the subcommittee did not find any irregularities in the answers Jackie Macy gave.

But if the subcommittee had contacted the people Jackie Macy allegedly paid, they would have found some irregularities.

According to Macy's records, Schultz said, the CDSV paid "interim people" to do the director's job while the position went unfilled. These "interim people" received the revenue-sharing money allocated to the director's salary, Schultz said.

Who got money?

I asked Maxine Schultz to provide a list of each of the people who received the CDSV director's salary

from the time Mary Kay Ward left, along with the dates that these people received the salary. (Jackie Macy had already refused to provide me with this information.)

I didn't get any records for the period before July 1, 1984. The information I received covers three periods during which CDSV was without a director.

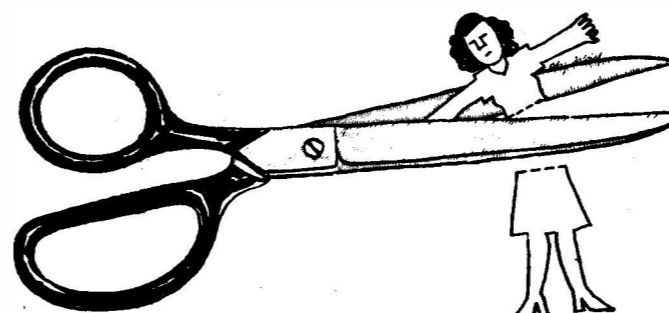
According to this information, Carol Briggs received the director's salary from July 1 to July 13; Rhonda Phipps received the director's salary from July 13 through Sept 17, and again from Nov. 22 through Dec. 26, when the current director was hired.

Not really paid

Eve Reedy-Andres, who was Shelter Manager during the summer and fall, doubts very strongly that Carol Briggs or Rhonda Phipps were really receiving the director's salary at the time Jackie Macy's records indicate.

Eve said Rhonda Phipps was hired as Client Services Coordinator, a position funded by the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence. During the summer of 1984, Eve said, Rhonda put in lots of overtime hours, but received no pay for them, at least not at that time. And Phipps' unpaid overtime hours were dedicated to staffing the shelter and providing services to clients--not to directing the program. (YWCA employee Pam Schubach was running the program.)

Eve said Carol Briggs was an intern who was later hired to staff the shelter--not direct the program--for a while. Eve thought that Carol Briggs did not even live in Bloomington during the two-week period she



YWCA director didn't squelch story - Pantagraph editor

YWCA Director Jackie Macy was not responsible for stopping publication of a Pantagraph expose, Managing Editor Bill Wills told the Post-Amerikan.

But Wills confirmed that the YWCA Director did telephone him about the pending article.

"She did call and voice some concern over what was going on," Wills said, "But she didn't see the story."

After talking with Jackie Macy, Wills said, he read the article. He said he had some problems with it himself, and it was his decision not to publish it.

The article, by Pantagraph staffer Jill Gleason, contained criticisms of Macy's administration of Countering Domestic and Sexual Violence (CDSV), the agency which counsels and provides shelter for battered women.

Contacted Post-Amerikan

The Post-Amerikan began working on these articles in mid-February, when we were contacted by former CDSV Shelter Manager Eve Reedy-Andres. Eve said that she and other former CDSV employees had been working to provide information for Jill Gleason's Pantagraph article.

But, Eve said, the Pantagraph article had been "squashed." Because Eve and her former co-workers felt so strongly that their information needed to become public, they decided to contact the Post-Amerikan.

Allegations made by the former workers included tampering with clients' mail, misappropriation of funds, violations of confidentiality, insensitivity to clients, and covered-up cutbacks of services.

Sara Crew was one of the former CDSV workers who talked with the Post-Amerikan. Sara worked three years for the agency, sometimes as a volunteer, sometimes paid, before she was fired by Jackie Macy in January.

During her exit interview, Sara said, she was informed that one of the reasons for her discharge was the "defamatory comments" she allegedly made to the Pantagraph. In mid-January, while Sara was still working for the program, she remembered a call from Pantagraph editor Bill Wills coming into the YWCA. Jackie Macy said she would take the call in her own office.

'Not my style' - Macy

When Macy emerged after the call, Sara said, Macy declared "I just got that Pantagraph story squashed."

In an interview with the Post-Amerikan, Jackie Macy denied saying anything about squelching the Pantagraph story.

"Absolutely not. That's not my style," Macy said.

Macy did admit talking with Wills about the Pantagraph story. "My only concern is that a story be able to be documented," Macy told the Post-Amerikan. "You know as well as I do that you don't tell Bill Wills not to run a story." [Typist's note: How does she know, unless she's tried?]

In the works

A Pantagraph story, somewhat diluted from the original version, might still be in the works.

Eve Reedy-Andres, who retrieved documents from Jill Gleason and gave them to the Post-Amerikan, says that Gleason has been given clearance to write about the YWCA's handling of CDSV's funding, but only if she writes

about other agencies' funding at the same time.

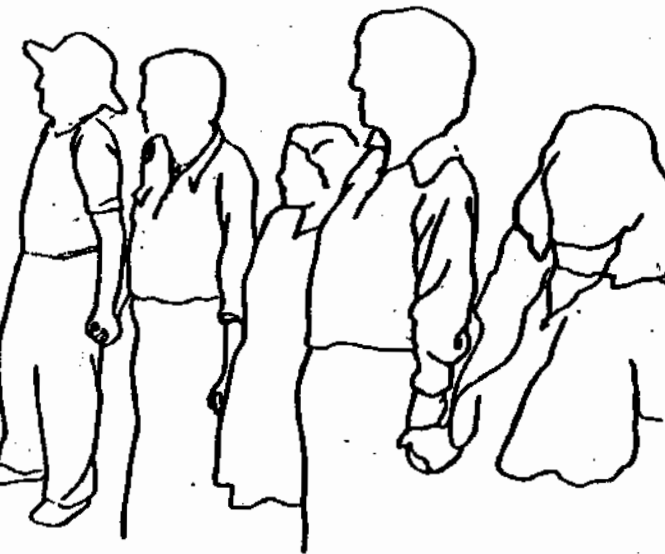
I called Jill Gleason to inquire about the alleged "squashing" of her article. Gleason said she could not comment because she was still working on an article.

I asked if, sometime in January, she had turned in an article that she thought was complete enough. Gleason said she didn't want to talk about it.

Managing Editor Bill Wills also suggested that there may be another article in the works.

"I don't mind sticking knives in places," Wills told the Post-Amerikan, "but I want it to be fair and accurate."

--Mark Silverstein



We want to hear from you

Post-note: If you've got further remarks to supplement these stories, send us a letter at PO Box 3452, Bloomington IL 61702.

If we use your statements, we can protect your identity.



Shelter manager: a declining position

The care that a social service agency takes in choosing its personnel certainly reflects its commitment to quality. Because CDSV offered only a \$11,000-\$11,500 salary to shelter managers, they clearly couldn't ask for Gloria Steinem...but the following Help Wanted ads, for the same position, taken directly from Pantagraphs, show an alarming lowering of requirements. The last ad reflects a change from looking for a full-time specialized staffer to planning to have three part-timers cover the work. Is it possible that with more rational administration, this important position could have been better funded instead of professionally corroded?

Dec. 1983

Shelter Manager--Shelter for battered women needs full-time live-in Night Manager. Knowledge in areas of domestic and sexual violence, counseling, and nutrition required. Bachelor's degree preferred or equivalent experience.

Oct. 1984

YMCA--Domestic violence shelter manager. Minimum of high school diploma required. Experience preferred. Duties: general household chores, menus, inventory. Night shift. Must be female.

Dec. 1984

Part-time help needed. To work in women's shelter. Night and weekend shifts. Experience in house maintenance, inventory and menu planning.

--Phoebe Caulfield

• Herbs • Spices • Fruits • Vegetables • Nuts

Juices • Books • Snacks • Teas



Common Ground
NATURAL FOODS

516 N. Main St.
Bloomington, Ill. 61701

Soaps • Coffees • Breads • Beans




Common Ground has a wide selection of wholesome foods, natural body care products, vitamin and mineral supplements, and books for organic cooking and healthy living.

By selling many foods in bulk, Common Ground reduces your costs on nuts, flours, spices, grains, snack mixes and many other items. You may also purchase just the amount you need! Come see the gourmet coffee beans and fresh produce section as well. Experience a new and healthier way of life!

For an additional savings of 10% on all purchases, you may purchase a discount card for an annual fee of \$10.00.

• Vitamins • Grains • Flours • Shampoos

An open letter to battered women

As a proofreader and member of the Post collective, I feel compelled to address any battered women reading this issue. Please don't feel that this expose of CDSV means you have nowhere to turn, no one who cares.

Though the director of the YWCA may not have put your needs foremost in the past, we hope that these articles will help bring about the changes that can allow the people who sincerely want to help you to do so.

Though staff and volunteers at CDSV have complained about management and conditions at the shelter and in the organization, they do so, I am sure, because they want you to have the support, safety and comfort you deserve after having made the difficult decision to seek help.

Many people in the community are working and will continue to work to make CDSV an organization that can provide you the caring, the advocacy and the support you need.

If you're living in an abusive situation and want someone to talk to, call PATH, 827-4005, and ask for CDSV. The volunteers care about you and want to help.

--Maggie



Don't tell a soul, but...

Women seek shelter from agencies like Countering Domestic and Sexual Violence because they are in specially sensitive and dangerous situations. The agency should take appropriate care that the women's privacy, safety, and dignity be built up, so that they can get control over their own lives.

But with the YWCA's administration of CDSV, it seems that altogether too many times, clients' needs were neglected in favor of programmatic idiosyncracies.

The Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) requires people who staff a shelter to go through specific training programs.

Often, though, the shelter here was staffed by people who had not had this training; in fact, for four months the whole CDSV program was directed by a YWCA staff member, Pam Schubach, who did not have training.

Though everyone who we talked to identified Schubach as the acting director during these four months, no one knows what happened to the funds allocated to pay the CDSV director during that time. (See adjoining story.) Schubach was drawing her salary from the YWCA.

The CDSV ex-employees we interviewed said that the shelter has often been staffed by untrained volunteers (or, they added, trained but burned-out volunteers). A letter from a former shelter client to Barbara Shaw (director of ICADV) expresses dismay that untrained volunteers had access to clients' files at the shelter.

Ex-employees Eve Reedy-Andres and Sara Crew both said that they knew of untrained staffers looking at these supposedly confidential, often very delicate, files.

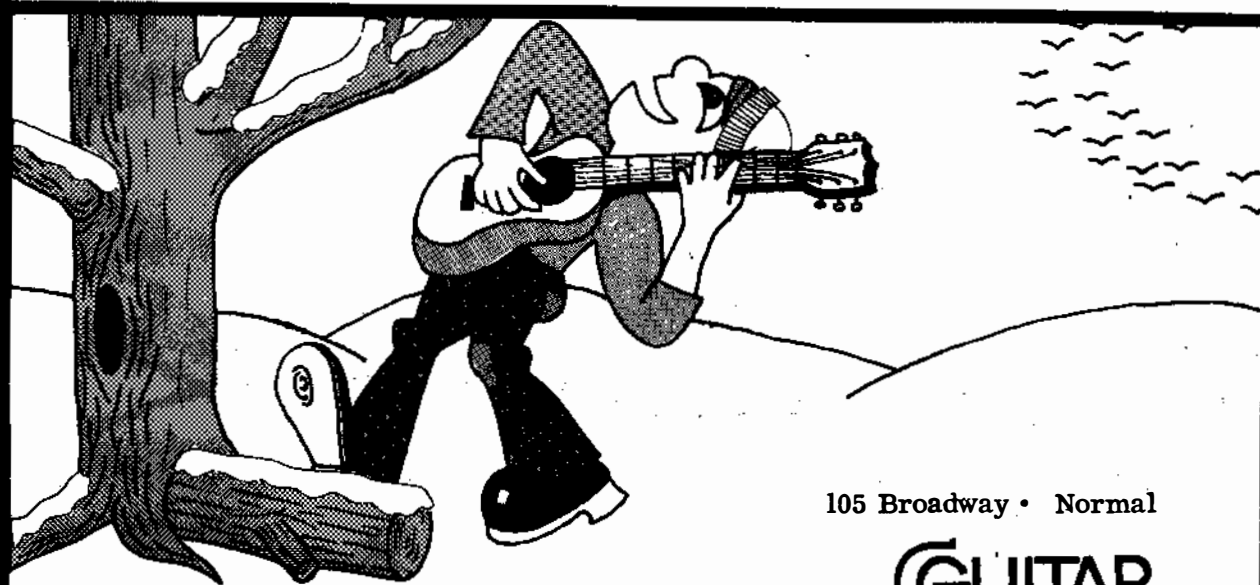
Another volunteer says that the untrained staffers outnumbered the trained during part of her time there. She pointed out that the clients were strictly required to follow the agency's rules of secrecy (about the shelter's address, the personnel, and so on) "but just anyone could look at the most private details of their problems. They didn't get confidentiality in return."

According to ex-employees, the address of the shelter and the names of volunteers were not secret enough either. "All kinds of Y people knew where it was by the time it opened," Eve says. For a woman in danger, every possibility of the safe house address being out on the grapevine is a real threat. After all, she is there because someone has been violent towards her.

The callousness of the Y directors toward the clients' situations is clear in a decision that came down through Schubach in the spring. The CDSV workers formerly drove the clients to public aid, unemployment, or other offices as part of their commitment to help the abused women rebuild their lives.

The new decision said, "We're going to stop giving transport services. Hand out bus tokens."

--Phoebe Caulfield



105 Broadway • Normal

**GUITAR
WORLD**

**We teach you to play,
then sell you the right guitar.**

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HOUSING IS YOUR RIGHT!

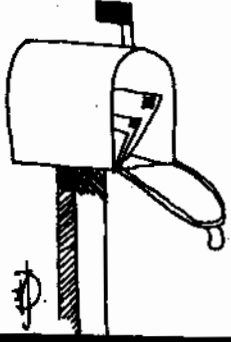
If you feel you have been denied housing or treated unfairly because of your race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry or physical or mental handicap, contact the

**Bloomington Human
Relations Commission**

at

828-7361, Ext. 218/219

*The Bloomington Human Relations Commission is
here to assist and to help.*



Letters

Reader likes Post

Dear Post Amerikan,

I just wanted to thank you for the support you give to the small people with BIG problems, such as being stupidly sued by a Normal "Pig". I really enjoy your paper.

Just wanted to say thanks.

A reader

Born to shop

Dear Post,

Ever since Ragstock closed, life has never been quite the same. I have checked a thrift shop, a consignment shop, regular stores, but no one has what I'm looking for! Do you or any of your readers know where there is a shop similar to Ragstock? PLEASE HELP SOON!

tro

Fires, DDT, and getting snipped

Dear Post-Amerikan Staff:

I wanted to commend you on your last issue. It's good to see you are still active after all these years. I have a few comments about a couple of the articles, which you may or may not consider germane.

Jay Tea's article on chimneys was good; there is no safe substitute for a regular inspection and cleaning of your woodburner's flue. Many people have asked me about the chemical cleaners on the market. I do not recommend them as a rule simply because they are all too often substituted for proper maintenance, and they are known to shorten chimney life (they are heavy duty oxidizers and attack masonry and metal flues as well as creosote deposits). As far as I know, no one has investigated the combustion by-products of these cleaners, so they may or may not add to the pollution coming out of your chimney. As Jay pointed out, a hot burn twice a day helps reduce creosote buildup, but the largest culprit in creosote deposition is banking the fire for prolonged burn, especially airtight stoves. If possible, tend to the woodstove often, keeping a small but hot fire going rather than trying to extend the burn twelve hours or so. It's not particularly convenient, but wood is not a convenience fuel like gas or oil. If you're buying a new woodstove, check out the models with a catalytic combustion chamber; they work well and are only slightly more expensive.

The reprint of Frank Graham, Jr.'s article on dicofol was timely with the gar-

dening season just around the corner. ("DDT is alive and well in your backyard," Post-Amerikan, Feb. 1985) There are other products of which you should be aware that are just as nasty, however. For example, my veterinarian was surprised when I refused to use an approved dairy dust on my goats which was plainly labeled "methoxychlor." Another name for methoxychlor is "methoxy-DDT;" an enterprising chemist attached a methoxy group (-CH₂OH) to DDT and somehow this compound avoided the EPA ban. Considering polychlorinated hydrocarbons' affinity for binding to fat, I was appalled that this product is approved for dairy use. Good culture techniques would eliminate many of the insect problems the dicofol-containing products are designed to handle and biological control will handle the rest. If you must use a "chemical sledgehammer," there are several good products containing non-persistent active ingredients (rotenone, pyrethrins, and synthetic pyrethroid compounds, among others) on the market. Read the labels carefully.

Finally, I was glad to see vasectomies discussed. One note, though--not everyone's recuperation is so painful. Even though one side was done twice on me(!), I had no swelling and the only bruises were very small where the tissue clamps had been used. After an evening of rest, I was back at work the next day, with all tenderness gone by the fourth day. I wonder if my physician being female had anything to do with that...

--Terry Miller

ME and my EGO
a Victorian Love Story

Alas, so tired was I last night
When I stole upon my bed
Memories of the day's frustrations
Still dwelt within my head...

ANOTHER LOUZY DAY!

Try though I might to lose these ghosts
Sleep seemed ever-wanting
How could I know the sleep I begged
Would bring the ghosts a-haunting?

At last sleep came to my relief
But as daily cares did fade,
Mistakes I had made in twenty years past
Were planning a grand parade.

Hi, I'M WINK MARTINDALE! WELCOME TO "IT'S YOUR MISTAKE!!" — THE GAME ABOUT THINGS YOU WISH YOU COULD FORGET!! STAY TUNED WHILE WE LOOK BACK ON ALL YOUR FAILINGS! LET'S START WITH THE TIME YOU OPENED THE BATHROOM DOOR ON YOUR GIRLFRIEND CARRIE AND EXPOSED HER TO YOUR BROTHER—BECAUSE YOU WERE JEALOUS THAT SHE HAD BREASTS BIGGER THAN YOURS!! WHAT A JERK!!

Insults spoken! Promises broken!
The secrets I had disclosed—
My own shortcomings, so many in number
Were heartlessly, cruelly exposed!

ROOM MATE'S DOG WHO YOU KICKED WHEN IT CHEWED YOUR UNDERWEAR TO PIECES!

THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S DON PARKER WHO YOU TAUNTED AS A "FAG" IN 7TH GRADE! FEEL PRETTY SILLY ABOUT THAT, NOW, DON'TCHA??

YOUR OWN SWEET MOTHER WHO YOU'VE LET DOWN OH SO MANY TIMES! SHE'LL BE GONE SOMEDAY AND THEN YOU'LL BE SORRY THAT YOU WROTE HER OFF AS A DAMN BITCH!

HERE'S JOANN, WHO YOU PROMISED TO DRIVE TO THE TRAIN STATION BUT FORGOT, SO SHE MISSED THE TRAIN!

AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR POOR BROTHER WHO YOU WON'T LEND ANY MONEY TO—JUST BECAUSE YOU KNOW HE CAN'T PAY IT BACK?

And then my potential Unfulfilled
Danced maliciously at my feet
At length when I thought I could take no
The visions began to retreat

YOU COULD HAVE BEEN A REAL ARTIST IF ONLY YOU HAD MADE AN HONEST EFFORT!!

HA! HAVE YOU EVER ONCE FINISHED ANYTHING YOU'VE STARTED?

WHAT ABOUT THOSE KITCHEN CURTAINS?

AND YOUR MAM'S X-MAS PRESENT FROM '75

Stealthily they crept away,
Making certain I wouldn't remember
They waited instead in a dark hiding place
To disturb another night's slumber.

WHY DO I ALWAYS FEEL LIKE SHIT IN THE MORNING?

R-R-RING



Another successful trial balloon... Congratulations, Stockman.

Community News

Small Changes needs volunteers

Nearly two years ago, B/N's only non-profit bookstore was forced to close, due to extreme debt and a lack of volunteers to staff the store regularly. The Small Changes collective has been attempting to stay together, to continue to provide coffeehouses for the community.

The latest coffeehouse, the first in a year, was held last month. Several local poets read their work, and one woman sang songs she had written.

After the poetry was finished, Terry Dolan, sole remaining member of the Small Changes collective, explained the status of the organization and the directions she wanted to move in and called for volunteers.

Dolan made it clear that the store would not be re-opening. She said she saw the coffeehouse as a community event now and not a fund raiser.

Because the material from the Small Changes library is now at her house, Dolan expressed a desire to re-form the library on her enclosed porch, making those books available to the public again.

"There is a lot of work to do," said Dolan, and she asked the people at the coffeehouse to sign a sheet if they were interested in participating. She said she needed a) collective members, b) coffeehouse organizers, c) mail sorters, d) shelf builders, e) book shelvees, and f) library staff.

Several people at the coffeehouse responded to this call for volunteers. There was discussion concerning the next coffeehouse, which should occur in the next few months, and several people left phone numbers with Dolan, who said she would be willing to start the organizing.

"I think Small Changes has something unique and valuable to offer B/N, but I can't do it alone" said Dolan.

For further information, call or write

Terry Dolan
1311 W. Market
Bloomington, IL 61701
829-9667

-Chris M.



B-N CISPES regroups

The B/N chapter of CISPES (Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador) is still alive and well. We haven't been heard from in the last few months because we discovered that it was necessary to take a step back and reevaluate our goals and capabilities.

We had tried to take on too much with too few people doing most of the work, and the result of this was decreased energy in membership. So we took a break over the holidays and conducted a phone survey of our contacts before our first meeting to determine our time and financial resources. We found that we had enough energy to put out a monthly newsletter and present one program a month.

We feel that a newsletter is important because it provides a means of outreach and information dissemination. We receive a great deal of literature from National CISPES as well as many groups who are with us in "U.S. out of Central America." It is our hope that the newsletter will not only keep our supporters informed, but that it will also inspire active participation in events and programs.

National goals

National CISPES has an ambitious program for the spring which we can now only participate in minimally with the resources we have. Decisions were made to expand popular support for anti-intervention, legislative work, and civil disobedience. The main areas of focus are civil disobedience, a spring demonstration in Washington, and support for other self-determination advocates.

Local goals

A major focus for the B/N chapter of CISPES in the coming months will be

Black history show slated

"The Bound for Glory Singers," a group of local musicians (amateur), will present "Free at Last," a prose/poetry/musical salute to Black History, at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 27, at Walker Hall's small lounge at ISU.

The event, sponsored by the Office of Residential Life and the Black Affairs and Activities Committee, is free and open to the public.

Do something special for "Black History Month" before it's all over -- come on out!

Free speech

Reverend Dr. Abernathy will give a speech entitled "The History and Future of the Civil Rights Movement" Thursday, February 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Lounge of the Memorial Student Center at Illinois Wesleyan University.

In 1956, along with his counterpart, Martin Luther King, Jr., Dr. Abernathy organized the successful Montgomery bus boycott for 381 days. Dr. Abernathy, the late Dr. King, Jr., and others founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and marched together from Montgomery to Memphis, being jailed more than fourteen times in their nonviolent quest to achieve justice for minorities.

His speech is free and open to all.

bringing the air war in El Salvador to public attention. This ongoing violation of human rights and international law, supported by U.S. military aid, occurs in the form of mass bombing, ground sweeps and shelling, and is aimed at the civilian population in an attempt to weaken guerilla positions.

According to recent information from both FMLN and Red Cross sources, the U.S. is now supplying the Salvadoran government with fragmentation and demolition bombs, as well as bacteriological weapons in the form of insecticides and the highly toxic white phosphorus which results in vomiting, skin lesions and respiratory infections. The U.S. is also supplying helicopters, grenades, and surveillance systems and has plans for sending in DC-3 gunships, used extensively in Viet Nam.

The B/N CISPES Newsletter is available at a price of \$9.00/year or \$4.50/ six months through our address at:

P.O. Box 4041

Bloomington, IL 61701

It includes information reported in this article as well as a calendar of events for the coming month. We are also circulating action cards which will go to a press conference on March 1 with Senator Dixon. These cards are aimed at voicing our support of discontinued aid to the contras, an issue which will be voted on in early March in the Senate and are available from Jan and Carrol Cox at 829-3707 or Diane Perris at 828-6885. We appreciate all your support in our efforts to end U.S. intervention in Central America.

--Diane Perris

Source: CISPES Update, Feb. 1985

Reflections on race: we've come

I suppose there's some truth to that expression, "My old man seems a little smarter every year." Tell you what I mean: When the Reagans moved in at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, my father belched, "There goes the neighborhood." "Why?" I asked.

"Because a man with his mind still in the '50s will pollute the rest of us with his personal brand of anachronism."

"Oh, come on, Pop. Nobody could be that bad."

Oh, if only I could take those words back. Sorry, Pop. You were right. It seems that under the reign of Mr. Reagan many social and civic causes from the '60s have been reined right back into the B-grade '50s.

The civil rights movement of those decades was our nation's verse in a world-wide hymn. Citizens of Amerika and of the world entered the fray, some to leave more socially conscious, some to leave as martyrs, all to leave much better off. Yet in 1985 I wonder if we haven't been taking a few steps backwards in the past few years.

I'd like to address the question of there being second-class citizens in this country by looking at just a few of the little twists of our society that have all the earmarks of civil regression. Mind you, like most people, I have no answers--just questions.

4 times as talented

Jesse Jackson once said, "A Black entertainer has to be four times as talented to earn one quarter as much as a white entertainer." An abridgement to that statement would be that a Black entertainer has to appear somewhat abnormal or seem like more style than substance in order to sell. Moreover, it appears that Black entertainers must somehow conform to the "wild, dancing fool" stereotype in order to get over. In the '50s and the early '60s, singers like Little Richard and Fats Domino were "kept in the closet," out of the public eye, until the demand to see them was too great. Then these artists became slaves to the public. Richard was renowned for his wild antics and equally wild hair.

A few years later, Chubby Checker found fame "twisting the night away." In those years of the '50s and '60s, it seemed that Black music was only music to party to--not to think to.

This trend continued until the early '70s with the appearance of songwriters like Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gaye. At last it seemed that mature, intelligent people could listen to mature, untelligent themes written and sung by mature, intelligent entertainers, some of whom were Black.

Then came the middle '70s and scandal and recession and despair. With these came change. Change in the form of a new conservative swing. Suddenly, there weren't mature, intelligent themes by Black artists on the radio any more. In fact, now there seemed to be very few "normal" Black artists. Instead, the late '70s and early '80s have brought us androgynous "pop stars," who swivel their hips, conk their hair, fix their noses, and howl about "partying like it's 1999."

It seems that being interestingly clad, sexy, and "different" as a Black performer has reached new heights (my mother calls them freaks). Even Stevie Wonder, the man who wrote "Superstition," "You Haven't Done Nothing," and "Living on the Front Line" has just scored his first big hit in years, and it is nothing but a harmless ditty about calling "to say I love you."

Maybe I just hit on the key word: Harmless. Black music is harmless. Prince is harmless. The Jacksons (all of them) are harmless. Lionel Ritchie is harmless. Diana Ross is harmless. Maybe it's so hip to be Black and cool now instead of Black and intelligent or militant or outspoken. Maybe since there's no longer a Stevie Wonder or a Marvin Gaye or a Sly Stone of the '70s, there's no longer an assertion of power or pride. Maybe since Tina Turner strengthens the Krugerrand by performing in South Africa many whites in this contry are thinking, "They're finally trying to be more like us."

Black comedians

It seems to me that this backsliding is reflected in Black comedians, too. Times were when there were comedians like Redd Foxx who became famous for being very dirty and seemingly happy-go-lucky. The '60s brought a new breed of Black comedians ranging from the activist-author-protector Dick Gregory, whose merits included everything from confronting racist hecklers to calling for a reopening of



the investigation of the Kennedy assassination, to Bill Cosby, who encouraged us to revisit the streets where we grew up.

Today, we have equally brilliant humorists. Granted, their work is well crafted, to the point, and often timeless, but there seems to have arisen a style of today's Black comedian that not only encourages civil regression, but helps turn the progress of the '60s on its ear. From Richard Pryor to Robert Guillaume, the image portrayed of Blacks is on the decline.

For a time, Richard Pryor, hugely popular with young white audiences, made saying "nigger" almost hip. In TV's "Benson," Robert Guillaume falls under the Smart-mouthed, Sassy Black stereotype. It's almost a return to the "shufflin' butler" image of the '30s and '40s. Much has been said about Eddie Murphy. Certainly no other comic in recent years has gotten so popular so fast, but it is Murphy's blatant homophobia, sexist remarks, and "nigger-utterances" that project yet another image of Blacks thinking with their mouths open.

An entertainer gives his or her audience a performance by which to escape the pressures of life--sure--but an artist's craft should also make a statement about itself. Undoubtedly, many Black preteens and teenagers look up to Black entertainers as role models, so it's deplorable that children of the civil rights generation have no artists to remind them of who they are or where they've been.

Though we've all no doubt heard a Michael Jackson record or seen "Saturday Night Live," perhaps a look at our everyday lives would be a better illustration of social and civil regression.

When I was a little boy, my mother used to tell me about how Black people were called names and so forth when she was young. I appreciated what she went through along with my ancestors' slavery, but I was truly thankful that I never tasted any of that. Well, it seems that over the last few years, one hears more racial slurs in public places and even in social situations (where you think that you're safe). Whether it's a "No Watermelon" button from the last mayoral race in Chicago or a student explaining to her sorority friends just why she can't marry a Jewish man, the idea of "ethnic purity" or "ethnic separatism" seems to have become vogue again.

Nancy Reagan's 1980 campaign slip ("I'm so pleased to see all the white faces...") seems to have reached even the mind of Public Radio's "Mr. Science" (Mr. Science recently responded to a question on the color of snow by going on about how people

THE GALLERY

Feb./Mar.
Entertainment

111 E. BEAUFORT, NORMAL
NEW TALENT CALL SPIKE
452-9192

February				March		
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
25 MIKE HOGAN	26 Rich Margherio	27 Third Town Comedy Show	28 TWIN CITY JAZZ QUARTET	1 Oasis	2 Serious Business	3 THE BREEDERS
4 Mitch Duerfeldt	5 Clarence Goodman	6 STEVE GRIGGS QUARTET	7 The Look	8 The Digits	9 OLD WAVE	10 P.J. and the Terrorists
11 Rich Margherio	12 JOHN WALSH	13 B. B. Brooks	14 Tumbler	15 SERIOUS BUSINESS	16 Out of Order	17 Renegade
18 To be announced	19 To be announced	20 HAPPY BLUES BAND	21 Beaufort Street Quartet	22 The Clique	23 TOXIC SHOCK	24 Velo

a short way, baby

generally prefer "whiteness" to any other color).

In our community we have many different ethnic groups, backgrounds and causes. With such potential for developing understanding and broadening communication, such blatant separatism and ignorance is very dangerous.

I began this article by implicating the Reagan administration, but in retrospect, that is unfair. Certainly Reagan's lack of sensitivity to people unlike him is harmful, but no one forces Lionel Ritchie to write meaningless love songs. No one holds a gun to the heads of millions of young white Americans and says, "you vil' buy Prinze und nothink but Prinze." The artists write and perform what they want. It sells. They write and perform more of the same stuff. It sells more. They buy six limousines and gueststar on "Dynasty." The public buys more. Seems like a pretty soothing circle.

This civil regression has hit me where I live several times in the past few years. I remember that in high school I was respected and known for my intelligence and the genuine passion I

put into my art. Nowadays, I receive recognition only for the fact that I used to perpetrate boppy dance music in a band. Going to the average party these days and going toe to toe in a discussion on Political History or Shakespeare is not as impressive, it seems, as going to the same party and being able to break dance.

As I warned, I have no solution--I merely wanted to conjure up images of the present. The idea of where we've been, where we're at and where we're going came into my head as I sat on a public loo the other day. There, upon the walls of the stall, were the words "Nigers are the dumpest of God's creatures" followed closely by "Honkies ant nothing but some dum shit" (misspellings theirs). Ain't that Amerika? Two fools had come to the table and broken bread. The important thing is that they expressed their true feelings separately yet equally. Maybe the toilet is the true equalizer. (Perhaps the US and the USSR should install a few more in Geneva, and maybe the League of Nations would have worked had Woodrow Wilson lined up all of WWI's participants in the local W. C.).

I wanted so badly to weave a little



grey between the two extremes as I sat there, but as fate would have it, I had no pen. It could have been that fate was telling me one of two things: either that in spite of the blistered hands and feet of the Freedom Riders and the slain leaders of the '60s, things really haven't changed, or that one, in today's world, should leave ideas like the excrement on the bathroom walls where they obviously belong: in the toilet.

--TBC

New FM frequencies available

Snatch your rays now - Summer too late

Sometime later this year the FCC will begin the process for determining who will be awarded ownership rights to 689 new commercial FM radio opportunities. The allocation of previously unused frequencies on such a large scale is a very rare occurrence, as is the opportunity to acquire the rights to a frequency for free.

Under FCC Docket 80-90, 689 frequencies, including 26 in Illinois, will be offered to the public. The original idea was to give preferential treatment to applicants who were women and minorities, thus adding more diversity to available programming sources, but some dissent exists on the FCC concerning that policy. Commissioner Dennis Patrick, with support from FCC Chairperson Mark Fowler, has gone on record questioning whether the FCC's ownership rules are the proper vehicle with which to structure incentives for minority ownership. The FCC should have adopted an official policy by this writing, and is tentatively scheduled to start accepting applications sometime in March.

In the past, applications that are

accepted are placed on "cut-off lists," which notify other parties of the filing and give them time to file competing applications and petitions to deny. What that means is if a frequency were available in Bloomington (which it isn't) and the Post Amerikan decided to go high tech and apply for that frequency, the FCC will announce that fact to all interested parties. Suppose the good folks down at the Calvary Baptist Church get wind of what the Post was up to? They will probably send the FCC a petition to deny the Post's application on the grounds that the Post will not serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. They may also decide that they might like to have that frequency for themselves, and file their own application. At this point a second cut-off list will be published, and a new deadline for filing petitions to deny the new applications will be set. Eventually the FCC will hold hearings to decide who will best serve the public interest.

Another possible method which the FCC may adopt this time around is the "application window." All parties interested in applying for vacant channels would be able to do so for a window period of 45 days. Now if the

Post Amerikan is sneaky and gets their application in quietly and without too much fanfare, and the Baptists aren't paying attention and miss the deadline, they are out of the ballgame. They might still have a chance to screw things up for the Post, but they won't get another chance to get that frequency themselves. That is unless they try to purchase it for a lot of money at some future date.

If you think you might want to have your own radio station and can come up with the funds to build a studio and transmitter, go ahead and give it a shot. This opportunity will probably never come again. Communities in Illinois where frequencies will be available are: Bushnell, Carrier Mills, Carterville, Casey, Champaign, Coal City, Decatur, Dwight, Eureka, Farmington, Galena, Galva, Henry, Kankakee, Mahomet, Marseilles, Marshall, Morrison, Nashville, Newton, Oregon, Peoria, Pinckneyville, Polo, Spring Valley, and Woodlawn. Interested folks in other states should write your congressperson, write the FCC, or write the Post Amerikan--we have the complete list, and besides, we just like to get letters.

--LH

SAM, THE UNGONSCIOUS TELEPATH!



'Consenting adult' showed gays in a new way

At 8 p.m. on Monday, February 4, 1985, prime-time tv showed gay people in a way they've never been shown before. Without excuses. Without ridicule or regrets.

"Consenting Adult," aired by ABC, told the powerful story of what happens to a nice, middle-class family after the college-age son tells his parents that he is . . . he is . . . he is--"Just say it!" his mother says--a homosexual. "You've got to let me be what I am because I can't change," says the gay son (played by Barry Tubb).

"Won't change!" yells his father (Martin Sheen).

"I'm the same person I've always been only now I'm accepting the fact I prefer to have sex with men," the son counters.

"No!" screams the mother (Marlo Thomas).

And so it goes: he wants their acceptance; they want him "cured." The anguish and struggle that resulted from this conflict spoke to millions, all brought to them with the very best taste by those same concerned adults at ABC who brought them nuclear catastrophe ("The Day After") and father-daughter incest ("Something about Amelia").

Ten years ago

Producer Ray Aghayan says that when he first tried to sell "Consenting Adult" no one would touch it. That was in 1975. Aghayan was trying to make a career change, from a big-time costume designer ("Funny Lady," "The Lady Sings the Blues") to a film producer. The first project he optioned was Laura Hobson's novel about the coming out of her own son and her painful journey to acceptance. "She'd written Gentleman's Agreement and that was a great movie that won lots of awards." (Gentleman's Agreement was about anti-semitism.)

"So I decided to read Consenting Adult," Aghayan says. "I thought it was wonderful!" He pitched it to some film studios, but they took a pass. "Historically," says Aghayan, "films about homosexuals have never made money."

Then he took it to tv--all three networks--but it was dead meat there, too. Some tv execs saw it as too hard, too controversial. Others told him it was too soft, not controversial enough. "The climate just wasn't right," he says.

Now, 10 years later, the fog is lifting--just a little. "Our notion of homosexuality has changed," Aghayan says. "There are new groups, new laws and a new awareness that it's not a disease, not an illness to be cured."

Changes on TV

Finally, television is seen as beginning to reflect those changes. Recently, in an episode of "Kate and Allie," the title characters posed as a lesbian couple in order to keep their apartment after the rent was raised. In the course of the show, the landlady produced her female lover.

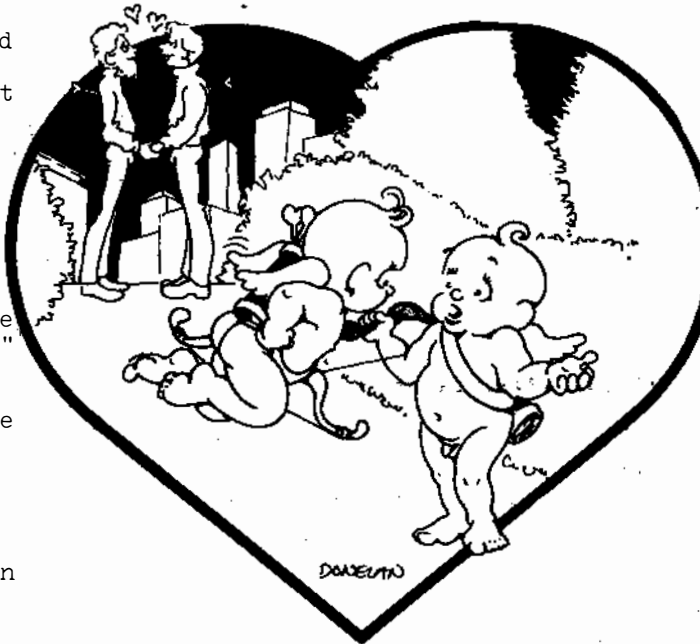
On "Hotel," Robert Reed played a homosexual sportswriter whose wife discovered his gayness. In a more subtle scene Chris Cagney ("Cagney and Lacey") phoned her long estranged gay brother and greeted his roommate warmly. NBC's new series "Sara" also has a gay character, a lawyer played by Bronson Pinchot, the gallery clerk in "Beverly Hills Cop." Will the lawyer have a lover? "No," NBC says flatly. "This is a comedy--we don't get into that." Pinchot's comment: "He is a totally straight gay person." Shades of Tony Randall's "Love, Sidney," an NBC series a few years back that made

a veiled attempt to do a gay guy. The veil was so thick you couldn't see the character for the cheesecake--and, besides, the writing stunk.

Last year Donna Pescow played a lesbian on "All My Children," but that was less than three months' work. Meanwhile, one funny sitcom, which the networks rejected because one of the brothers is gay, turned out to be the tv success story of 1984. After the networks backed off from "Brothers," the Showtime cable channel took a chance and is so pleased with the response that it has just committed to a record-breaking order of 50 new episodes.

Hands off

Then there's "Dynasty." It's touted as the first prime-time network show to allow a major character to be gay, but Steven is so confused about who he is and what he wants, the closet he keeps coming out of is equipped with a revolving door. And what about



...Nobody ever said anything about boy-girl, boy-girl, to me!

his gay friend, Luke? It's okay for prime-time tv to crash, kill, burn, and maim dozens of victims a week, but when it comes to Steven and Luke getting physical, it's strictly hands off.

"Hill Street Blues," "St. Elsewhere," and even "The Love Boat" have taken a flying lately with gay characters. But only in minor roles, and only in a minor key.

"Consenting Adult" was major. It explored the subject without exploiting it. The only other major tv movies on the topic that have come close in the last 10 years were "That Certain Summer," with Hal Holbrook and Martin Sheen (1972) and "A Question of Love," with Jane Alexander and Gena Rowlands (1978).

"Certain Summer" was a leap ahead of anything else that had been done, but it still seemed to be a negative view --it ended with Holbrook's telling his son he was gay, being all sorry and apologetic. In "Question of Love," the strong portrayals of Alexander and Rowland saved the show from being pure soap. Rowlands' soliloquy at the end excused her sexuality: "I know a lot of people think that two homosexuals can't really care about each other for a long time. I don't know about anybody else, but it's not that way with us."

Hard truths

While "Consenting Adults" had some soapy moments, it kept its hard edge. Yes, the gay son was an athlete (a swimmer), a pre-med student who finally settled down with a fellow intern, but the story also put down some hard facts. It told about acceptance, about parents who didn't want to accept homosexuality but had to--or lose their own child.

The film also told parents that they can't change their children and make their kids extensions of themselves. And it wasn't just about children, but friends, too. It said: if you love someone, you accept them for who they are; you can't change them; it doesn't work.

What did work was facing the truth. But that takes time. In the novel version of "Consenting Adult," the mother takes 13 years to reach acceptance. In the tv version she went from rejection to repulsion to reconciliation in a year and a half. Indeed, if there was a flaw in the film, it was that the mother's final acceptance of her son happened inside her head--off screen.

Marlo Thomas, who was surprisingly effective as the mother, said she wishes more time had been given to the process of accepting. But overall, she was pleased with the project. "I don't see homosexuality as a choice," said Thomas. "I don't think I chose to be heterosexual, and I don't think gays choose to be gays. Society forces you to think of it as a choice, but in fact, it's in one's nature. The choice is whether one expresses one's nature truthfully or spends the rest of one's life lying about it."

In this family, Thomas says, the moment one member of the family dares to tell the truth about himself--"I am a homosexual"--the whole family is shaken up. "But the son's courage eventually gave the mother courage to stop telling her lies, to face up to the sexual problems in her marriage. The whole thing is we shouldn't try to 'cure' them. Homosexuality is not a disease. We should just let people be."

--Ferdydurke

Sources: "The Televised Gays," The Advocate, 5 Feb. 1985; Chicago Tribune, Feb. 3, 1985.

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Gay film nominated for Oscar

The Times of Harvey Milk recently received a nomination for Best Documentary Feature from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Some observers say this splendid documentary--about the San Francisco city supervisor who was assassinated along with Mayor George Moscone in 1978--has a good chance to win the Oscar. The film already took the New York Film Critic's award for the Best Documentary of 1984.

According to Andrew Kopkind, film reviewer for The Nation, The Times of Harvey Milk is a "beautiful and powerful documentary," which is "instructive, uplifting, sad and enraging."

Produced by Robert Epstein (who also produced the gay documentary Word Is Out) and Richard Schmiechen, The Times of Harvey Milk chronicles the remarkable career of one of America's first and most famous gay politicians. Harvey Milk's story is, in some ways, the story of gay liberation and gay politics in this country.

Typical closets

Consciously gay at 14, Milk spent his adolescence and early adulthood in some typical closets: a middle class Jewish family, college, the Navy, a respectable job (on Wall Street). Then, like countless other gays of his generation, he began the long journey of escape from repression into the counterculture of the 1960s. Long hair and protest politics led to "immigration" to the growing gay ghettos of both coasts--first Greenwich Village, then West Hollywood, finally Castro Street in San Francisco.

But merely moving wasn't enough for Harvey Milk. He began to develop an explicitly gay politics. The personal issue of gay legitimacy became the basis of his public campaigns. He ran for office and lost several times before winning the supervisor's seat. His support in the Castro area joined with allies among the ethnic and ideological rainbow of San Francisco politics to gain his historic victory: one of the first openly gay candidates to be elected to such a visible position.

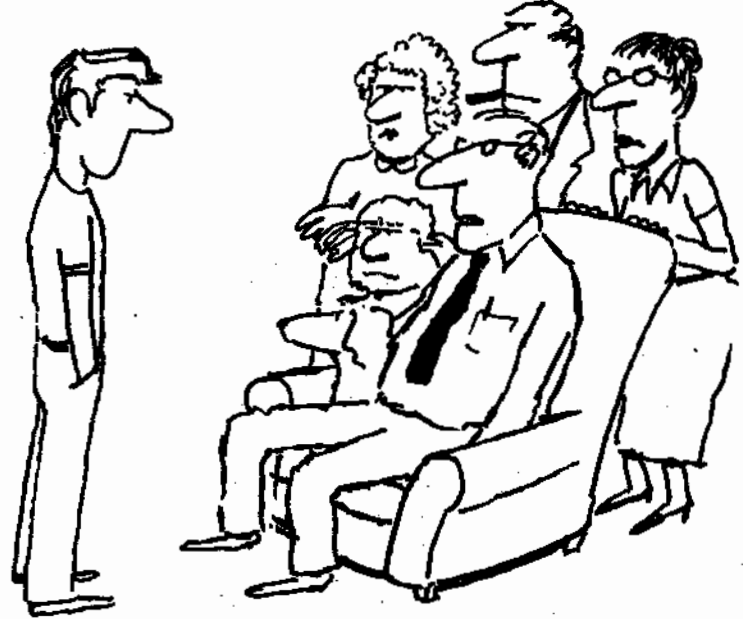
Milk spoke to and for his gay constituents, but he also believed he was working for an even greater good--the liberation of society in general. He thought that repressive forces not only damage gay men and lesbians, but they also deform the hearts and minds of the sexual majority. Enter Dan White, the perfect representative and dupe of that monstrous majority.

Political clash

White was a young San Francisco fireman who rode the same populist wave as Harvey Milk and was elected to the Board of Supervisors at the same time. He and Milk clashed openly in that political arena. White proposed a series of softball games between teams from the supervisory districts, so that "the old-fashioned values that built this country" could be tested on the playing fields by the bay. Milk pushed for--and won--an antidiscrimination ordinance protecting sexual minorities. White's was the only vote against it. Milk helped to defeat the infamous Briggs Amendment (that masterpiece of repression that sought to bar gays and pro-gays from teaching in the public schools). White supported it.

Their public clash was resolved in one intensely personal moment. Dan White had resigned as a supervisor a few days earlier and was about to be

"Jimmy, we've thought it over and decided that it's okay that you're gay. Just as long as you realize that we're not."



rebuffed by Moscone and Milk in a bid for reappointment. He crawled into City Hall through a basement window, shot and killed the Mayor, and did the same to Harvey Milk.

The Times of Harvey Milk brings these urgent events to life. It must be one hell of a film. According to Vito Russo, author of The Celluloid Closet, it's gotten the best reviews of any major documentary since The Sorrow and the Pity (1969). Several commentators have remarked that the film makes audiences laugh and cry at the same time.

No punches pulled

When the film depicts the angry response to Dan White's light sentence, the anger fills up the theater, too. The Times of Harvey Milk doesn't pull its punches about that verdict--it clearly states that the jury let Dan White off because one of his victims was a gay man.

The Times of Harvey Milk opened in February for limited engagements in Minneapolis, Dallas, Sacramento, San Diego, Denver, Madison, St. Louis, Houston, Tucson, New Orleans, Milwaukee, and Pasadena. Open-ended runs are also scheduled for Chicago, Seattle, Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Detroit, and Portland. The film will continue to play in San Francisco, New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, where it opened last year.

If it wins the Academy award, the documentary may wind up on PBS. And there's also talk of another dramatized Milk biography being prepared

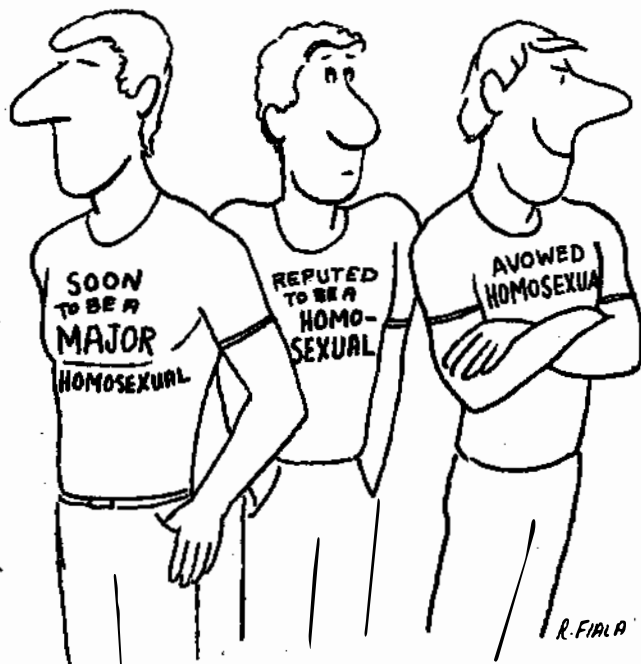
for network TV or HBO by veteran TV producer Joe Hamilton.

--Ferdydurke

Sources: The Nation, Nov. 24, 1984; The Advocate, Feb. 5 and Feb. 19, 1985.

Gay man sues area college

A gay man has filed suit against Lincoln Christian College. He claims he was not allowed to graduate when the fundamentalist school found out about his sexual orientation. Greg Johnson, 26, is also asking for \$200,000 in damages from the college, which describes itself as a "New Testament" school. The suit was filed on behalf of Johnson by the National Gay Rights Advocates, a San Francisco based organization.



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Toeing the landlord/tenant line

The late, great movie mogul, Louis B. Mayer of MGM, once said that "an oral promise ain't worth the paper it's written on." Mr. Mayer was not a lawyer, but his analysis of contracts is as succinct as any by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes.

Lease-signing season is already upon us, and landlords are taking early aim in hope of quickly bagging their quota of tenants. The following advice may help you avoid becoming an endangered species.

FIRST: Suppose that you and three friends, Larry, Moe, and Curly, sign a lease for the fall semester on the penthouse suite at Niagra Falls Apartments for \$3000 or \$750 per person. Subsequently, Curly gets poked in the eye and drops out of ISU. Efforts to find a stooge to sublease Curly's space prove fruitless.

You, Larry, and Moe all pay your \$750 share of the rent. **QUESTION:** Who is responsible for Curly's share of the rent? **ANSWER:** Any or all of you. Your landlord may sue all of you, or pick and choose defendant(s).

A landlord's oral promise prior to the lease-signing that only Curly will be pursued for the rent is worthless. It is virtually certain that after your landlord gives Curly's case to an attorney for collection, all of you will be sued.

There are two ways to avoid being taken for a stooge in this situation. You and your roommates can all sign separate leases on the penthouse suite. Your liability for rent will then be limited to the amount called for in your lease. Alternatively, if all sign the same lease, you should add a clause to the lease which states: "Each lessee's liability for

rent is limited to \$750 per semester." The dollar figure should be changed to reflect your actual rent.

SECOND: Your February inspection of the penthouse suite at Niagra Falls Apartments turns up a large hole in the roof, and sundry other items in need of repair. "Not to worry," says your landlord, "just sign this lease, give me a \$1500 deposit, and I'll have this place looking as good as new before you move in next August." Eternally gullible, you sign and pay.

Upon your arrival in August, you find that your landlord has installed a new towel bar in the bathroom and left Comet cleanser sprinkled in the kitchen sink, but has made no other repairs. The hole in the roof has you taking more cold showers than you like. Slowly you turn, step by step, inch by inch, discovering more defects as you go. What recourse?

You could sue your landlord for breach of contract and you'd probably win. It is unlikely, however, that you'll be satisfied by the size of the money judgment the court is likely to give you. Alternatively, you might be able to break your lease and find another apartment. But why apartment-shop now, in February, when you'll just have to look again in September, when the pickings are slim?

The solution, once again, is not to rely upon your landlord's oral promises. Put it in writing. Insist, before signing, that your lease include an itemized list of repairs which must be made before move-in. Be sure the lease provides a deadline for getting the job done. Finally, demand that the lease include rent reductions of, perhaps, \$20 for each day that the landlord misses the deadline. The job will get done on time.

THIRD: Every time you return from class to your penthouse suite you find your landlord, Mr. Fine, "inspecting" the contents of your refrigerator, or otherwise poking around your apartment. When you suggest that he has no right to just walk in unannounced, he refers you to paragraph nine of your lease. It permits your landlord or his agents to inspect, clean, repair, or show your suite to prospective tenants at "reasonable" times.

A brief discussion with Mr. Fine reveals that he has a novel concept of what is reasonable. He thinks that a reasonable time is any time that he, or any employee, is awake. And he does not sleep during a month containing the letter "R." There is little you can do, short of changing the locks in violation of your lease, to keep him out.

Most of the form leases employed by campus area landlords permit their entry at reasonable times. Before signing such a lease, you should amend it to define "reasonable." Example: "Landlord agrees to provide tenants twenty-four hours written notice prior to entering apartment. Notice is not required in emergencies involving threats to persons or property."

What if your prospective landlord refuses even to consider amending the sacred lease? That's easy. Find another landlord. A landlord who will not discuss the lease is probably a bad landlord. Unlike Curly of the Three Stooges, you need not be a "victim of soycumstance" (sic). Don't sign the lease just to find out how many ways your landlord can shaft you. There are lots of other landlords out there.

--D. Phillip Anderson



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