

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

10-1975

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Post Amerikan

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October 1975

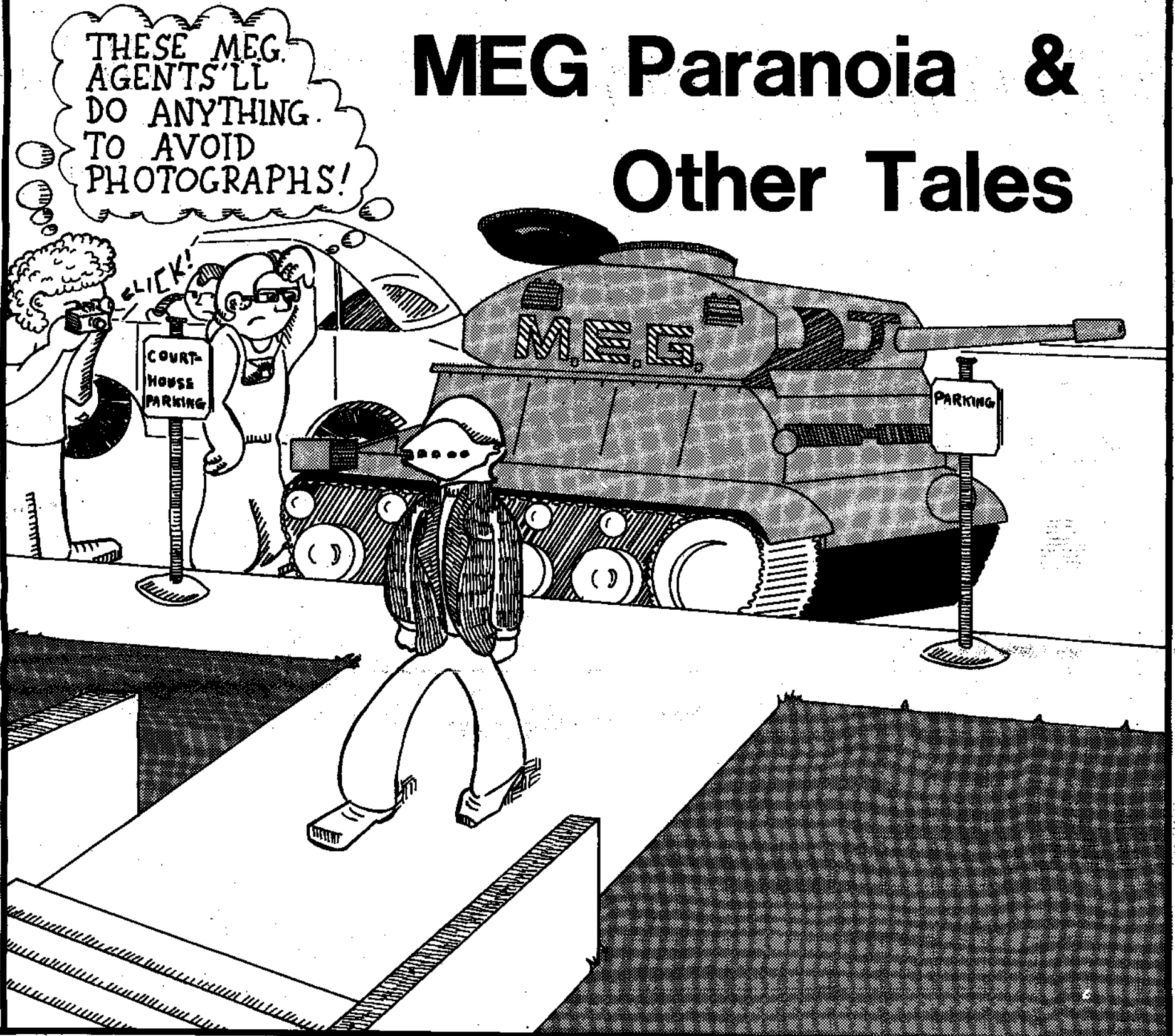
Bloomington...Normal

15¢

POST AMERIKAN

VOL. IV
No. 7

MEG Paranoia & Other Tales



**YOUR NEXT ISSUE
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(SEE PAGE 6.)**

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ABOUT US

Mall, which we more than welcome, should be mailed to: The Post-Amerikan, 101 North St., Normal, Illinois, 61761.

Anyone can be a member of the Post staff except maybe Sheriff King. All you have to do is come to the meetings and do one of the many different and exciting tasks necessary for the smooth operating of a paper like this. We have one brilliant, dynamic, underpaid coordinator; the rest of us don't get paid at all, except in ego gratification and good karma.

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

Anybody who reads this paper can tell the type of stuff we print. All worthwhile material is welcome. The only real exception is racist and sexist material which we will vehemently not print.

Most of our material or inspiration for material comes from the community. We encourage you, the reader, to be-

come more than a reader. We welcome all stories or tips for stories. Bring stuff to a meeting (the schedule is printed below) or mail it to our office.

MEETINGS

Friday, October 3, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, October 10, 6:30 p.m.

Wed., October 15, 6:30 p.m. DEADLINE

Sat., October 18, 12:00 noon layout and Sunday same time also

These meetings are held at the Post-Amerikan office, 101 North St., Normal.

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Our number is 452-9221, or you can reach folks at 828-6885, or 829-7908.

MEG (Monthly Eager Guzzlers)

I would like to add my story to the ever-growing list of tall but true tales about the MEG unit headed by Jerry "Lawsuit" Lagrow.

In the last week of April 1975, I decided to attend the board meeting of the Peoria-based crack drug enforcement unit in Illinois. Owing to the shortness of time, I decided to call them for the meeting place and was astounded when the telephone company was unable to connect me.

I then called my local police force, who contacted them for me in an amazingly short period of time. (For those readers who may wish to know, my own private research revealed "Lawsuit" Lagrow's private office number is 673-3465 in Peoria.)

Back to my story. The May MEG board meeting was not in the infamous room #23 of the Peoria County Courthouse during business hours. Nor was it in the basement of some post office late at night. It was at noon at plush Highland Hills Country Club near East Peoria.

I arrived a few minutes early to acquaint myself with the meeting place. After a short frantic search for meeting rooms, I became worried I was at the wrong place, for I saw nothing even remotely resembling a police agency gathering.

To resolve the matter, I stepped into the lounge to ask the bartender what he knew and there they were... lined up at the rail pouring down hard liquor like ice water.

Elliot Ness would have turned in his grave to have seen these sheriffs and police chiefs guzzling the booze like thirsty men. They had to drink fast because the meeting was supposed to start.

Standing near the bar were "Lawsuit" Lagrow and a tall uniformed man, the police chief of East Peoria, or was it Peoria Heights? I heard fragments of a conversation through the barroom bantering of board members.

"Jerry, I've got an informer... I've been working on him for a couple of years... I got him now... for a hundred bucks he'll finger anybody... all I need now is buy money... he'll do it for me... Is that entrapment?"

True to form, Lagrow advised him to seek an attorney's opinion before act-

ing.

Everybody is finishing up their drinks; it must be time to start. A few minutes of business, the treasurer's report, and in comes the food. Mouths stuffed with bites of fist-thick steak. All MEG members must agree: Isn't crime fighting fun!

Mike Richardson,
Galesburg Correspondent

GRASS ROOTS



by
Ray Ryburn

It is that time of year when that old question, "Why can't Johnny read?" is being dusted off and examined again. The purpose of this column is not to settle this issue, but to help the others involved in the discussion keep it alive until this time next year.

This year I am going to give Johnny a rest and explore the possibility that Dick and Jane may have had a hand in his downfall. Weren't they always trying to get him to watch a dog run when he should have been studying his lessons?

And how about that dog? When I was that age, a dog would have been considered eccentric if he acted as Spot did.

A sensible dog worth writing about would have been resting, walking, chasing something or being chased, but not Spot. He was always running after nothing or from nothing, an indication of mental imbalance.

Those who created this character should have taken him to the proper specialist and if nothing could have been done for him, should have at least isolated him from children of an impressionable age.

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Mother Murphy's, 111 1/2 North St.
Ram, 101 Broadway Mall
Al's Pipe Shop, 101 Broadway Mall
Hendren's Grocery, 301 W. Willow
Co-op Bookstore (in front)
Sugar Creek Book Co-op 115 North St.
The Gallery (in front)
Lobby Shop, ISU Union
Cage, ISU Union
Recreation Center, ISU
Midstate Truck Plaza, Rt. 51 North
Hottie House, 1402 S. Main
SW Corner, University & College
Radio Shack, Raab Rd. (in front)
Dairy Queen, 1110 S. Main
Old Main Bookstore, 207 S. Main

BLOOMINGTON

The Joint, 415 N. Main
DA's Liquors, Oakland and Main
Medusa's Bookstore, 100 blk. W. Market
News Nook, 402 1/2 N. Main
Book Hive, 103 W. Front
Cake Box, 511 S. Denver
Gaston's Barber Shop, 202 1/2 N. Center
Sambo's, Washington & U.S. 66
DeVary's Market, 1402 W. Market
Harris' Market, 802 N. Morris
Hickory Pit, 920 W. Washington
Biasi's, 217 N. Main
Discount Den, 207 N. Main
SW corner, Morris and Washington
Madison St. Cafe, 317 S. Madison
Produce-A-Plenty, 1409 S. Main
J&L Gas Co., 1402 S. Main
U-I Grocery, 918 W. Market St.
U-I Grocery, 608 S. Lee
Krogers, 1110 E. Oakland Ave.
Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park
Bus Depot, 523 N. East St.
Park Store, 909 S. Allin
Nierstheimer's Drugs, 1302 N. Main
Pantagraph Bldg., (right in front)

NOTE: YOU CAN FOCUS ON THIS BOX AND SPACE OUT IF YOU LIKE.

Johnny may be more fortunate than he knows. We now have a generation of writers that watched that poor mutt run when it should have been evident to anyone of compassionate nature that he belonged in an institution.

Picture, if you can, this scene; the writer at his typewriter banging away completes his first page, and the principal character appears. Is it some heroic character that Horatio Alger would have been proud of, you hope? No such luck. It is a born loser like that poor dog the writer was watching when he should have been learning to read.

Does our writer stop here and try again? He does not. He types another page. Does a specialist, or an institution capable of caring for this misfit's needs appear? Wrong. Guess again. A bunch of oddies who are able to make it because they are just barely able to clip born losers.

Finally in desperation our hero (?) must depend on mugging and purse snatching to get by, and his first victim is his old teacher. As she picks herself up, bruised, battered, and minus her life savings, a policeman appears, a former student of hers. She sees a tear in her dress, and pointing to it says, in a quivering voice, "Oh! Oh! Oh! Look! Look! Look! Damn! Damn! Damn!" And the officer takes her in for using obscene language in a public place.

I contend that none of the above would have taken place if only the writer had learned to read. I am sure if he had read the first page, he would have placed the typewriter in a sack and dropped it in a remote body of water some dark night.

Next year at this time we will discuss further why Johnny can't read, and explore in depth why he should be glad he can't.

BLOOMINGTON MAN ARRESTED FOR DISPLAYING FLAG

Marsik wasn't even given a copy of the charges that had been written up-- he has no personal records of being arrested and having his picture and prints sent to Washington, D.C. The desk sergeant instructed Marsik to show up in the Courthouse basement the following morning at 9 a.m. for a bond hearing.

Still, one must question the value of two cops spending their time enforcing these "weird laws" which don't really deter crime.

George Marsik was visiting friends in the 600 block of West Market St. on September 3 before he was to leave town two days later to take a job at the Grand Canyon in Arizona. Imagine his surprise when he went to his van and discovered a note from officer Charles Frank which stated that Bloomington Police had confiscated a flag which was hanging from the roof of the van and across the back window

Marsik was instructed to visit City Hall to find out about it.

When he arrived at the BPD, Marsik was read his constitutional rights and was charged with desecrating an American flag--a class IV felony defined by Chapter 56 1/4, section 6 of the Illinois Revised Statutes. If convicted, Marsik could face one to three years in prison.

ENTER BRAD MURPHY FOR THE STATE

Marsik showed up for the bond hearing, but none was scheduled for him. After a few minutes, Assistant State's Attorney Brad Murphy appeared and asked for Marsik. Marsik saw the charges against him for the first time, but Murphy was uncertain about filing them in circuit court until "some legal as well as factual questions" are answered by the grand jury. Meanwhile, the charges will sit in the State's Attorney's office.

Murphy further told the Pantagraph that serious flag misdemeanors include displaying a marked-up or altered flag or selling merchandise which displays the flag in a desecratory manner. (Imagine, suing local retailers for selling coffee cups with flag emblems because coffee drips down the cup onto the image of the flag.)

In a more humorous tone, Murphy told the Pantagraph that "we have all kinds of weird laws," which is "very consistent with what comes out of our legislature in Springfield." Through the grace of the state, Marsik was allowed to leave Illinois.

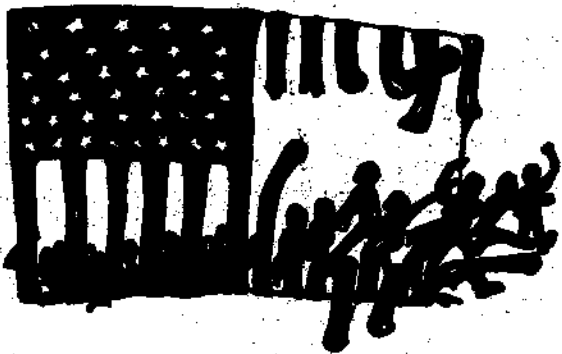
WHAT'S NEXT?

Before Marsik left Illinois, he had contacted Tom Eimermann, president of the Tri-County chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. Eimermann told the Post-American that Marsik's request for ACLU assistance would be dealt with at an upcoming meeting of the ACLU Steering Committee.

Eimermann said the incident was exceptional for a number of reasons: Marsik was given no receipts for anything; it is rare for police to release someone charged with a felony on his own recognizance; and the possibility of an illegal search of Marsik's van seemed clear.

How did Marsik feel about the incident? "Besides everything else," Marsik told the Post, "it's strange how one is denied the freedom of displaying the symbol of the land of the free."

Thomas Pain



POLICE CONDUCT REALLY STRANGE

BPD officers Brien and Frank clearly saw the activities of a dangerous felon. So they invoked the "clear view doctrine" to make their own activities legal.

As the two cops "cruised by," they claim they noticed holes in the stripes, which were visible through the van's back window. Marsik told the Post-American that if there were holes, they were small ones, and they wouldn't be detected by someone cruising by. But Brien told the Pantagraph that "other officers had seen the van around." Why hadn't other informed officers noticed the flagrant desecration of the flag after they spotted Marsik's van from time to time?

Perhaps the two have a soft spot for unique drapery in vans, and they just had to get closer to properly admire it. They saw the flaws in the stripes, so the two daring officers, doctrine-protected, opened the van door to get a closer look.

Outraged by the way Marsik's 48-star flag was torn by wire, Brien and Frank confiscated it, and left a message for Marsik to report to the authorities. (Marsik also had a plastic replica of marijuana in his van. It's a wonder officers Brien and Frank didn't arrest him for possession of a substance which impersonated marijuana.)

Marsik was booked for the crime, mugged and fingerprinted. However, instead of spending a night in the city jail like most alleged felons, Marsik was released on his own personal recognizance by one of the desk sergeants. He was given no recognizance bond receipt (which in most cases would have been given to him by a judge following a bond hearing.)

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ISU Security, Dorm Manager

Not much time has passed since the hectic days last spring at ISU when students staged a massive protest demonstration against presence of MEG-agents on campus. The demonstration took place in response to a May 1 drug raid which nabbed mostly ISU students and to allegations by Professor Roger Easson that IBI and MEG personnel had spied on persons enrolled in his Poetry of Rock class.

Demands were made that ISU President Gene Budig confirm for students that ISU will not cooperate with MEG. Student leaders finally coaxed Budig to speak to the crowd. Budig again asserted that he would not donate any University resources to MEG. He also claimed to have not met with MEG, and that if such a meeting took place, students would be represented.

Unbeknownst to ISU students, an attempt to recruit an undercover narcotics informant, using ISU facilities, was made during the week of August 15. It took place, possibly without ISU President Gene Budig's knowledge, but with the total cooperation of ISU Security Police and the hall manager of Manchester Hall.

On August 11, Bruce Peterbaugh, an ISU civil service employee who works in dormitory food services, was arrested for growing marijuana in his back yard by Bloomington Police. It was a first offense—a class IV, misdemeanor for production of cannabis. Nothing was outstanding about the arrest, and Peterbaugh, who had worked at ISU steadily for two years, expected nothing else related to the arrest to confront him.

THE CONTACT

A few days after his arrest, Peterbaugh's supervisor Hal Gullett told him to leave the Vrooman kitchen to

report to hall manager Dave Colee's office in Manchester Hall. Charles Judge, director of food services for ISU, instructed Gullett to excuse Peterbaugh from work to attend the meeting. When the Post-Amerikan asked both Gullett and Judge if they knew what the meeting was about, both expressed ignorance. Judge said he was asked by ISU Security for a place where Bruce and other persons could speak privately with a Bloomington detective. Judge insisted that the meeting was to be held privately "so Bruce wouldn't be embarrassed." Judge couldn't remember whether he had made any contacts with Colee that day, but for some reason knew that Colee wasn't supposed to have been directly involved in the meeting.

Peterbaugh told the Post-Amerikan that Gullett excused him from work saying some gentlemen wanted to see him. Peterbaugh went directly to Colee's office and was introduced to Lt. Sprague who is head of the Investigative Division for the BPD and who was present during Peterbaugh's bust. Peterbaugh also was introduced to Dave Colee.

Sprague was to the point. He asked Peterbaugh to "make it easy on yourself and become an informant." Sprague made it clear that he wanted Peterbaugh "to work for us." In his remarks, Sprague implied that the State's Attorney could be persuaded to "go easy" if Peterbaugh cooperated.

Peterbaugh asked what Sprague had in mind.

Both Sprague and Colee told Peterbaugh that they wanted to get "those pushers."

Peterbaugh flatly refused to cooperate with Sprague, suggesting that Sprague's game was dirty business. Sprague got defensive and insisted that recruiting narcotics informants is not a dirty business and that he'd been doing it

for twenty years. Colee stepped in to coax Peterbaugh to become an informant. Again, Peterbaugh refused, telling Colee, "I'll take my chances." (Colee's and Sprague's recruitment dialogue according to Peterbaugh was well synchronized.)

Colee apparently got hot under the collar. He told Peterbaugh that a conviction for an offense like pot production was grounds for dismissal from civil service work. He continued the badgering with threats of making inquiries about Peterbaugh with ISU Personnel Office and threatened to use his "influence" as a hall manager. He suggested that if Peterbaugh would cooperate with authorities, Colee would keep quiet about things.

Actually, Colee couldn't use his influence anywhere. And despite the intimidating atmosphere, Peterbaugh refused to cooperate. "Do yourself a favor," Sprague and Colee again chimed in. Finally, however, Sprague conceded, telling Peterbaugh, "it's your decision." Peterbaugh left the office and went back to his job.

COLEE'S ROLE

The Post-Amerikan contacted Colee twice to get confirmation of Peterbaugh's allegations. The first contact netted nothing but firm denials about everything. He stressed that he was never present during the meeting, and that he never called or threatened to call Personnel about Peterbaugh. He did ask the Post to come back the next day after he's "had a chance to think some more."

The next day, Colee's office was empty and locked. A secretary in Manchester Hall told the Post-Amerikan that "Dave has had a nasty day today and he's playing recluse." The Post arranged a meeting in Colee's apartment. Colee

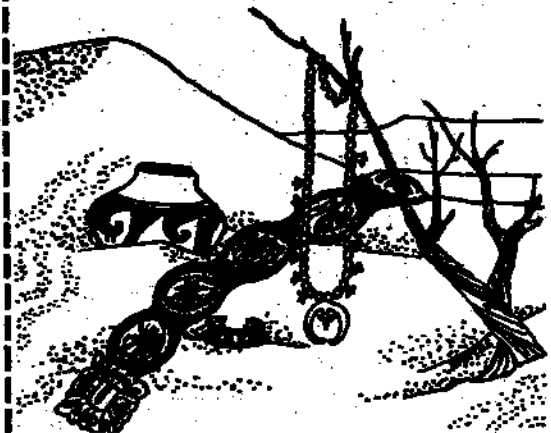
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see page 6

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BAREFOOTZ FUNNIES

It's difficult for me to discuss Howard Cruse's "Barefootz" without getting extravagant in my praise. I admire the man's cartoons the same way I admire many of the groundbreaking underground cartoonists—the important difference being that Cruse is a relative newcomer.

"Barefootz" has appeared in a number of Krupp titles, particularly Comix Book, but this is the book to get for an introduction to the character. It includes some of Barefootz's incarnations, explanations of sorts for the presence of various series regulars, and a scene where a cat gets turned into a golf ball.

Barefootz is hero of the strip, a comic strip goodfellow who is kind to the roaches in his apartment. ("They tip well," he says.) His pet "Glory," a strange beast of unknown powers and form, lives under the bed and has the peculiar ability of "making frogs" appear all over the room when he(?) is angry. Also present are Dolly, the sexually frustrated girlfriend of Barefootz, and Headrack, an artist who looks to Glory for inspiration. In addition are the roaches, a veritable chorus of countercultural clowns that mercilessly satirize youth culture faddishness.

Help MEG Recruit Spies

appeared to be in good health and insisted he didn't know anything more. He insisted that when the meeting between Lt. Sprague, ISU Security Investigation Officer Don Knapp, and Bruce Peterbaugh began, he had left the room. When the Post-Amerikan asked Colee's opinion of using University facilities for recruiting narcotics informants, Colee replied that he can't speak for the University or for himself "because what I really feel might be confused for the University's position."

ISU SECURITY'S ROLE

John Newbold, director of ISU Security, told the Post-Amerikan that police officers from various departments come to the ISU campus and ISU Security extends the "courtesy to (those) officers to facilitate their getting around campus." When asked if ISU Security would cooperate with narcotics enforcement groups' recruiting campaigns, Newbold flatly denied that his department engages in that activity. Anyway, he said, "It's not our business what a visiting law officer's business is on campus."

Don Knapp, Investigator for ISU Security, remembered that he was present during the meeting in Manchester Hall. He insisted that he did not know what Sprague wanted, but sat through the entire meeting. Knapp also told the Post-Amerikan that Colee was not present for the meeting and that nobody threatened Peterbaugh's civil service position. Knapp also said that Colee had "just recently" talked to him about the incident.

SPRAGUE'S THE KEY

Lt. Sprague has worked with the Bloomington Police Department for nearly 22

years. Last December he was promoted from heading the Narcotics Division to lead the Detective Division. He told the Post-Amerikan, though, that he still does work with narcotics violations: "Once you get in, you never get out."

Sprague admitted that he's "contacted some" persons to become narcotics informants. But he added, "Any officer is capable of doing this. It's part of their duty." Sprague contacted Stephen Dennison a few years ago to become an informant for the IBI. Dennison is now in a federal penitentiary on a conviction following sales to federal narcotics agents. For a while, Dennison cooperated but then quit. A number of other persons have told the Post-Amerikan that Sprague had contacted them to do informant work. One person indicated that several of Sprague's contacts are still active in the community.

What is alarming is that Sprague has been known to meet with John (Bill) Stephens--a former Bloomington policeman who now heads the Bloomington MEG branch in Towanda Plaza. (For the latest in Stephens' shenanigans, see adjoining article.) Several persons witnessed Sprague's meeting with Stephens in the infamous black Ford Econoline van. Working in the Narcotics Division as long as Sprague has, it's a sure bet that he has developed extensive ties with many drug enforcement units.

Asked if he remembered whether Colee was present in the meeting in Manchester Hall, Sprague also said no. Stating he didn't even know whose office he was using, Sprague also disavowed having met Colee before.

SOMEBODY IS LYING

Sprague has been active and known as instrumental in narcotics control for years. His ties with the IBI, MEG, and other drug enforcement agencies shouldn't be neglected.

He went to ISU Security and asked for some aid in getting a meeting together on campus. If Peterbaugh had agreed to inform on ISU students, he'd have been in an ideal position to do so. Though Sprague was vague, he said an informant would work with an agency best suited for the job. Though he lives in Bloomington, Peterbaugh's work provides numerous contacts with ISU students, whom Bloomington Police have no jurisdiction over. But MEG and the IBI do.

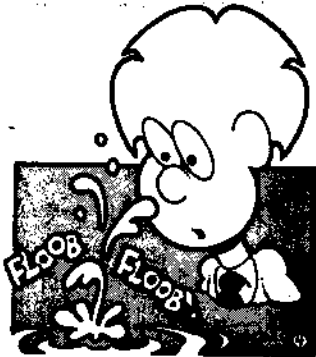
ISU President Gene Budig has, in essence, not reneged on his promise to ISU students. He still has probably had no contact with MEG. But Sprague has, and his being allowed on campus to recruit informants (probably for MEG) violates the spirit of Budig's edict.

ISU Security can be let off the hook because they played dumb. But perhaps future visits by Sprague should be scrutinized more carefully, and perhaps students should be allowed to attend such meetings if Sprague comes again.

Knapp's and Colee's "forgetfulness" of the situation Peterbaugh described can only serve to cover up the recruiting of potential M.E.G. agents at ISU. When the busts start again, ISU students can explain away Knapp's and Colee's roles as an exercise in malicious amnesia.

--Thomas Pain

All of this is done with a charm that is partly created by Cruse's marvelous cartoon style: using big-eyed, smooth and simple forms he is able to present stinging commentary to us without being needlessly offensive. Too often these days, comic artists and satirists rely on shock to get their messages across, shock that is rapidly being nullified by its over-use. Cruse has enough confidence in his abilities to avoid such a crutch.



An example of Cruse's clean style.

I recommend Barefootz to anybody who enjoys good satire and well-drawn comics. There I restrained myself better than I thought I would.

In brief:

The First Kingdom

The First Kingdom is cartoon artist Jack Katz's attempt at creating a comic book epic. Planned in twenty-

four installments, two a year, the series is set in a future Earth full of wizards, strange gods and the like: in brief, the mainstays of sword and sorcery fiction. It's a Quixotic scheme; Katz's story at the rate he's planning will take over a decade to tell. For that reason alone, it's worth supporting. I'm not sure what I think of either art or story yet. Katz has a style that takes getting used to. The use of typewriter type for lettering doesn't help much

either. Still, I've only read the first two installments, and I'm interested in the characters--which portends well as far as my involvement is concerned.

Star Reach

Star Reach is an underground produced by establishment cartoon writers and artists eager to explore the freedom of underground format. With two issues out, it's still promising. Most of the art (with the notable exception of a triviality done by comic writer Steve Skeates) is impeccable. Not all of the writing is as notable. However, with the appearance of "Stephanie Starr" in issue two, even that is redeemed. Influenced by the comic strip "Modesty Blaise," the strip has a violently cathartic feel in its depiction of futurized militaristic sexism and one woman's attempt to overcome it.

--BS75

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In the lush, central mountain regions of Luzon, Northern Philippines live the Bontocs and Kalingas, tribes of simple farmers, who have self-sufficiently subsisted for centuries, growing rice on high terraces.

Their life-style, independence and existence is now threatened by martial law dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who has proposed relocating them for the Chico River Dam, an electrification project which would drown their lands and terraces, the vital link in the people's culture.

For thousands of years these people have inhabited the hillsides, the plots of rice land passed down through generations. Culture and tradition has grown, enriched with a deep respect for the earth.

The rice terraces have been called the "Eighth Wonder of the World". Built thousands of years ago by free labor, these intricate mountainside terraces have withstood years of toil and labor, growing richer under simple and careful cultivation. Completed with stones and without cement, the terraces would wrap the world's equator eight times if laid end to end. They are irrigated by mountain rain water, through an intricate system which functions without modern machinery, revealing an understanding of the sciences of gravity and hydraulics which would put a modern engineer to shame.

The Bontocs and Kalingas want only to be left alone; they trace their history back long before the Spanish Conquistadores, the American imperialists or the Republic of the Philippines. They have accepted the various "governments", as long as their lives were not interfered with. But now Marcos, who declared martial law and abolished civil liberties in September, 1973, has marked their land for "progress and improvement", telling them to prepare to relocate, offering cash in return for centuries of loving cultivation.

The land would be lost, along with culture and tradition which is intimately bound with the land. As Bishop Claver of the Philippines, a descendant of the Bontocs wrote to Marcos, "The President assures us that the government will recompense us double whatever we lose in the destruction of our fields and villages. Perhaps it will and can. But our ukhali (tradition)--this cannot be replaced. We are steeped in this tradition from the soles of our feet to the crowns of our head. Essential to this tradition are our patayan (sacred groves). These cannot be transferred with us to the new relocation sites..."

The Bontocs and Kalingas love and wish to remain with their land; it is their roots, their life. They travel to Manila to protest to Marcos, but the President offers them canned goods, and promises them the wonders of modern electricity, offering them a false dependence and insulting their independence.

The conflict is between powerful bureaucracies and simple people. But even more, it is a conflict between "progress" and "simplicity". The government, full of plans and mighty schemes, encouraged by Western industrial nations, seeks to dislocate a people, deeming them "primitive and backward".

Yet the Marcos regime might do well to look to the people's simple knowledge for solutions to its own pressing problems. For the first time, the Philippines had to begin importing rice under Marcos. The Bontocs and Kalingas have been self-sufficient for centuries, always with enough rice. Through centuries of development and experimentation, they have achieved a rich knowledge of the soil, and how to grow enough food without artificial fertilizers and pesticides. They have found their place within the process, safely and humanely living within the ecological balance.

This proud people refuse to bow to the government. They are considering armed resistance, or perishing with the land when the waters begin to rise. The project is in the developing stages; it is not too late to step it.

PLEASE HELP. Collect petitions, and write letters of protest to President Ferdinand Marcos, c/o AMRSP, P.O. Box 2722, Manila, Philippines. Your international solidarity and aid will be most crucial to the future livelihood of a proud and timeless people.

POLLUTION WORSE FOR POOR

Families with high incomes contribute more than their share to air pollution, while geographic areas inhabited by poor people are "the areas most heavily polluted by carbon monoxide," a recently released study by the Washington Center for Metropolitan Studies reported.

The study, undertaken by the Washington based research group, studied the levels of carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons (mostly caused by cars), and sulphur dioxide and particulate matter (mostly caused by electrical generation), in various areas of metropolitan Washington D.C.

The report stressed that low-rent areas inhabited by blacks are frequently adjacent to freeways and industrial zones where the pollution is worst. And while nearly 20 per cent of the nation's population is classified as poor, these families consumed only 5 per cent of the nation's gasoline.

---Liberation News Service



Post-Amerikan to Raise Price

As we have announced every issue since last August, the Post-Amerikan will cost 25¢ beginning with our November issue, which is the issue after the one you are reading now.

We have been announcing the price increase several times in advance so that people will not be taken by surprise. (We don't really like raising the price, and we figured our readers don't like it either.) Folks who will really feel the increase in their pockets can still subscribe for \$1.75 a year (until next issue).

Income from the price increase, plus income from an ad rate increase which went into effect last issue, will go toward printing a fatter, more comprehensive paper each month.

Instead of a minimum of 24 pages, the Post will contain at least 32 pages each issue. As always, we will print even more pages when we have enough ad revenue.

Besides paying ever-increasing material and printing costs, we always have to leave things out of each issue. The Post collective has been wanting to include more national and international news and analysis, in addition to expanding our local coverage. With the extra pages the price increase lets us print, we will be closer to having the room we need. We hope to include material from several alternative news services, as well as our present local reporting.

Most alternative newspapers, even those which print as few as 16 pages, already cost 25¢. We've put off our hike as long as we could, economically and philosophically.

If you really feel like 25¢ is too much to pay for the Post-Amerikan, subscribe now at the present rate. And if you really don't like the price increase, write us a letter.

(No one has written since we announced the increase last issue.) If you have other legal ideas about

how to raise extra money, we'd like to know.

ARE YOU PAYING MORE

(FOR THE SAME OL' JOKES?)



It's no secret that the cost of humor is going up. You, the humor consumer, know this as well as we. You know the rising cost of Woody Allen movies, the high price of glossy gazettes, the sky-rocketing tuition rates. Not only is much of today's high-cost joking about getting dearer, it's getting more common and predictable. Pick up an issue of your favorite humor magazine and you know what we mean: same old cartoons and photos of nude women. Well, we at Ludicrous Situations, Ltd. not only sympathize, we have endeavored to come up with an answer for all you jaded humor fans: with a new, inexpensive, and original humor periodical.

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A NEW HUMOROUS PERIODICAL

50 cents

On sale at discriminating bookstores and head shops everywhere! (Right next to the National Enquirer.)

OR you can order a copy (or many copies) by sending 50¢ plus 25¢ for postage and big envelope to: P.O. Box 822, Bloomington, Illinois 61701.

THE \$500 A MONTH SLUM

What would you do with a landlord like this? He casually walks into your apartment at any hour of the day or night to complain about something or just to pass the time of day. When you move into your room and ask for the key, he says, "Oh, that lock is broken. You'll have to fix it." (This scene takes place only if you're lucky enough to get one of the rooms with a door, let alone a lock.) He comes in periodically and turns off the water heater to save a few pennies when you pay for the utilities. You go away for a two-week vacation and come back to find that he has moved someone else into your room. In front of two witnesses he tells two black women that there are no vacancies when in reality there are three rooms open.

What's that you said? Such a landlord couldn't exist in 1975? I'll admit he sounds more like a character out of industrial London in the 1840's, but he certainly does exist. His name is Glenn Bouseman and the property in question is 114 1/2 North St. in Normal.

For this complex of six tiny units with two kitchens above Greta's Fabrics and The Men clothing store, Bouseman receives \$500 a month. Bouseman also rents the space to the two above-named businesses.

For that kind of money you would think a landlord would be willing to make at least minor repairs. Bouseman, however, seems determined to become a real slumlord just like in the "big city."

One of the first things the tenants complained about when I visited them was Bouseman's penchant for unannounced visits. It appears that because he owns the building Bouseman thinks he can walk into any apartment at any time without even knocking.

One woman said Bouseman walked into her bedroom one morning, nudged her on the leg with a yardstick to wake her up and asked her to get up and clean one of the other apartments.

Another tenant told that he was lying in bed one morning when Bouseman waltzed into his bedroom with a hammer and nails and proceeded to nail up a new piece of moulding on the wall!

The other tenants I spoke with also related several incidents of Bouseman walking into their rooms without knocking either to complain or just to pass the time of day. The fact that most of the apartments don't have locks could help explain how Bouseman can get away with this time after time.

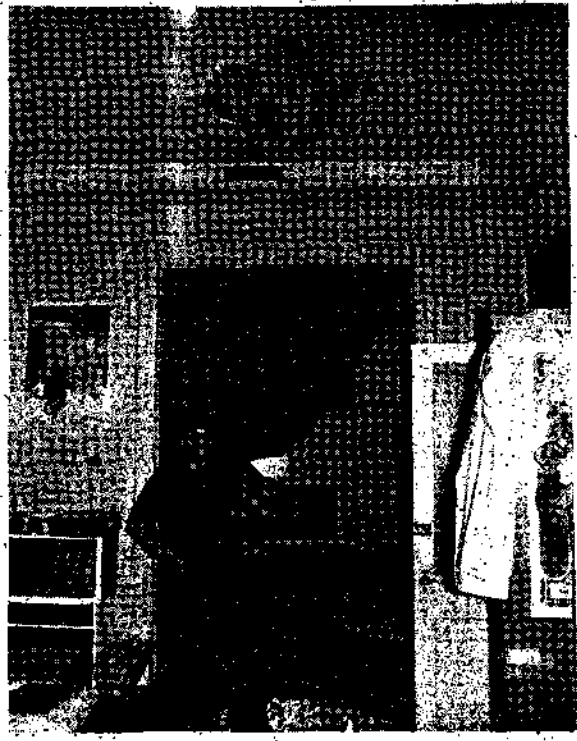
And this brings us to the next part of our story:

Bouseman's lack of concern over his tenants' privacy extends not only to the lack of locks (the tenants have asked him several times to install locks, but he has refused) but to doors as well. One of the single room apartments is right off the common kitchen and has no door at all. Consequently anyone can walk into this tenant's room and apparently someone has done so because the current tenant has had several things stolen. Bouseman has simply ignored this tenant's request to put a door in.

Another apartment has a 3' x 3' opening above the door which Bouseman has refused to cover, so a lock would do no good even if he installed one.

We now come to the saga of the teetering air conditioner.

One of the rooms that overlooks North St. had an air conditioner mounted in the window. It was one of the type that has the majority of the works hanging outside the room. Well, this one weighed 300 pounds and hung right over the sidewalk on North St. The tenants noticed the mountings were loose and getting looser every day. They told Bouseman about it but he ignored them. In fact one day a city inspector came by and told the tenants to tell Bouseman



Tenant displays misplaced piece of ceiling in Bouseman-owned apartment.

that the air conditioner was unsafe and should be removed. They relayed the message to Bouseman, but as usual he did nothing.

One night about one a.m. the tenant living in the room noticed the air conditioner had tipped even more and was on the verge of falling. He and a friend got a ladder and attempted to tip it back and tighten it. They couldn't do anything with it so they called the Normal Fire Department. A truck came and the firemen confirmed the fact that the air conditioner was about to fall. They then pulled it inside the room.

So far so good. But the next day Bouseman came in, saw the air conditioner on the floor, and demanded that it be put back in the window! By the way, the air conditioner didn't work and never had. Of course the tenants refused to put it back and there the matter and the 300 pound air conditioner rested.

Another former tenant then told me about his experience with Bouseman. It seems that he had rented one of the rooms in question for the summer. Bouseman told him that the room had already been rented for the fall when school began but neglected to say exactly when the new tenants would be moving in. The tenant dutifully paid his rent through August 25. About the beginning of August our renter decided he would take a vacation. That was his first mistake. When he came back on the 17th of August, he found that two new

people were living in his room. It turned out that they were the new fall tenants and had been rented the apartment from the 15th of August. The summer tenant had to find a new apartment and moved out over the course of the next week.

Perhaps the most serious part of this whole story, however, is Bouseman's racist rental policy. One person told me about an incident he witnessed in the hallway in early July. Two black women came up the stairs and asked if there were any rooms for rent. Bouseman quickly told them no even though there were three obviously empty rooms in view with the doors wide open. While the women were stopped at the downstairs landing and presumably still within earshot Bouseman told the embarrassed tenant, "If any more blacks come in, tell 'em all the rooms are rented. I don't rent to niggers. If you let one move in, they all move in with 'em." The tenant reported that Bouseman made remarks on several other occasions about how he refused to rent to blacks. Apparently Bouseman didn't like Jews either because he has been known to warn tenants to "watch out for those Jews. You just can't trust 'em." This reporter wonders just who Bouseman does get along with.

It's certainly nice to know that we took care of the racism problem in the sixties.

After talking with the people at 114 1/2 I came away almost laughing at some of the stories I had heard. But the people who live there aren't laughing. They have to live in these conditions every day along with thousands of others who have to put up with uncaring, racist, do-nothing, or down-right greedy landlords. What can you do about it? For a start talk to your neighbors. See if they share your problems. Form a tenants' union. Find out about rent strikes. Talk to the city inspectors about unsafe or unsanitary conditions. Write a short article about your problems for the Post-American and maybe we can put a little public pressure on these people. But first of all, know one thing: YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS.

—dave nelson

NOTE: Just before this issue went to press this reporter went back to 114 1/2 to see if any progress had been made. After three months of complaining by the tenants Bouseman has finally installed at least one door and one lock. It is unknown whether he has reformed his racist rental policies.



We live in a rat-infested sanctuary.



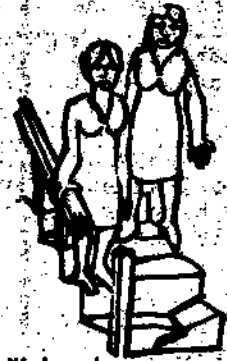
Mayor Falls.



A rat-infested hell.



We hibernate in the winter.



We travel over hazardous ground.



Only difference is, the vultures don't go south in the winter.

Someville Free Press/cps

DRUGS AND REPRESSION

8

POST NOTE: Our regular contributor to the Middle Earth II column which concerns itself with drug-abuse and specific drugs commonly abused in our community was unavailable for this issue. Instead, we offer our readers an overview of the hard drugs problem compiled by the White Lightning Organization in New York City. White Lightning is an ex-victim organization which struggles against the bull-headed efforts the government and law enforcement agencies use to "combat" the real problems of drug abuse. Putting pushers behind bars does not and never will eliminate the social condition which forces people into drug abuse.

from the White Lightning Collective NYC

DRUGS CAUSE POOR PEOPLE TO DESTROY EACH OTHER.

Drinking especially causes street fights, bar brawls, and a constant atmosphere of suspicion in all public places. Oppressed victims of alcoholism often become the enemies of everyone. Inter-racial tensions tend to explode when people have been heavily drinking. Most homicides in poor communities are related to drug use or sales.

DRUGS ARE A MAJOR WEAPON OF COLONIALISM AND GENOCIDE.

Alcohol and heroin have caused widespread submission and death in black and Latin communities in the U. S. As strong protests developed against racial oppression in these communities, narcotics were brought to black and Latin areas in gigantic amounts.

Opium addiction, promoted by European colonialists, was very common in China before the revolution. In some communities 90% of the adults were addicted. Massive famines occurred because opium was grown instead of rice.

DRUGS ARE USED TO HELP PEOPLE ADJUST TO OPPRESSIVE JOBS.

Stimulants and amphetamines (ups) are pushed a lot in certain jobs requiring high performance--such as assembly

line work and truck driving.

Housewives are given billions of tranquilizers yearly.

The worse the job is, the more workers use drugs and the more they personally get messed up. The oppression of the job is transformed into the suffering of the worker. This suffering appears to be his or her fault.

DRUGS SUPPRESS FEELINGS AND VALUES THAT CHALLENGE OPPRESSION.

Drug addiction breeds the values of individualism and greed. Drug addiction tends to destroy all social units, unions, youth groups, community organizations, friendships, families, political groups, etc.

Advertising in all areas tries to convince us: buy something and you'll be happy. Advertising also specifically gets people to buy chemicals to escape.

"DOCTORS" TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO ADD TO THE DRUG PLAGUE.

Methadone maintenance doctors make huge profits for little or no work.

The AMA squashed all attempts to regulate excess production of barbituates, and it acts quickly to try to stop any change in doctors' profit-making ability.

DRUGS ARE THE MOST COMMON CAUSE OF UNTIMELY DEATH.

Heroin overdose has killed tens of thousands of young people, some under ten years of age.

Methadone deaths now outnumber heroin deaths by 5 to 1 in New York City.

Alcohol is the most common cause of fatal traffic accidents. It is a main cause of malnutrition, liver disease, nerve damage, cerebral brain damage, and fatal bleeding from the stomach and the esophagus. Many "home" and "job" related accidents are also due to drinking or other drugs.



DRUGS ARE ONE OF THE MOST PROFITABLE BUSINESSES IN HISTORY.

\$5 billion worth of heroin was imported in 1972, making it the largest consumer import.

Drug profits are a major source of untaxable, untraceable money that can be used to finance crime and corrupt politicians.

THE GOVERNMENT IS A DOPE-PUSHER.

After 1950 the CIA financed the organization of a Nationalist Chinese guerrilla army in Burma to stop the spread of popular revolt. With the knowledge, protection and assistance of the CIA, this "army" spent most of its time developing fields of opium poppies which today provide 1/3 of the world's illegal supply.

Nixon gave 1.7 billion dollars for methadone maintenance in 1972. Federal funds for methadone programs outnumber funds for drug-free programs by 20 to 1.

DRUGS ARE A MAJOR WEAPON OF SPECIFIC

Unemployed, desperate Vietnam-era veterans are still an active threat to the status quo. The VA urges methadone treatment almost exclusively, even for those men who had no drug problem before entering the military.

Children in grammar school are labelled hyperactive, rebels, etc. are referred to guidance counselors and clinics and virtually forced to take mind-altering drugs if they want to stay in school. Hundreds of thousands of children are given Ritalin which is similar to speed, or Thorazine, a strong tranquilizer. Advertisements by Ciba-Geigy, the Swiss company that makes Ritalin, and owns Funk's Seeds, state that 10% of all school children and 20% of ghetto children should have medication for their behavior. In a school in Virginia, thorazine is mixed into the desserts to keep the kids quiet.

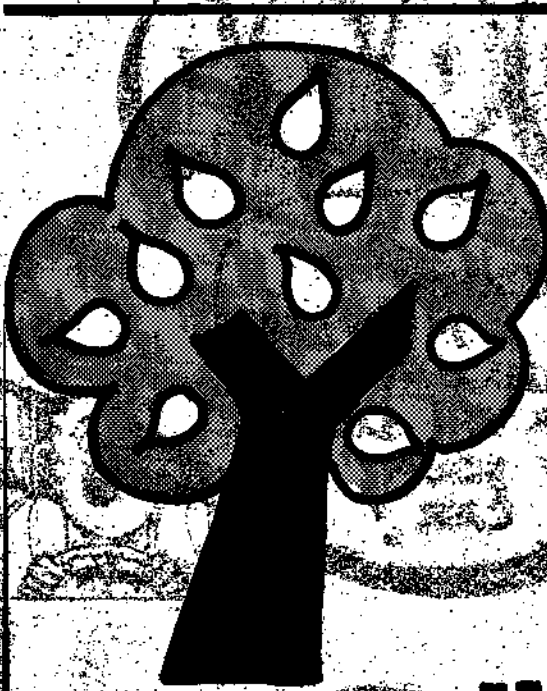
DRUGS PAVE THE WAY FOR EVER INCREASING FASCIST CONTROL.

The government's Methadone Maintenance Treatment Manual states: "the fact that methadone is addicting is essential to allow therapy to occur." It helps develop trust between the patient and the doctor. That's the kind of trust Hitler built.

Federal funds for methadone are channelled through the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), which is also responsible for supplying tanks to local police departments and sponsoring psycho-surgery and behavior modification programs in many prisons.

Methadone maintenance victims have often been forced to change their standards of dress, hair length, cultural expressions, manners, and the wearing of certain political buttons. Some people have been forced to be informers and provocateurs. The computers system makes it easy to find a particular methadone victim on a certain day. If someone is needed to testify for the prosecution in court, the threat of withdrawal tends to produce whatever testimony is needed.

STOP THE PLAGUE SERVE THE PEOPLE.




THE HONEY TREE

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TWIN CITY 3 GETS THE SHAFT

Lotsa people get kinda uppity when the police start poking around. They get arrested for it. Police language for "getting uppity" is "obstruction of a police officer."

Often, when a person gets charged with obstruction of a police officer, s/he agrees to plead guilty to "disorderly conduct" instead, which is a lesser charge. Then s/he gets convicted and pays a fine of 25 bucks or so.

Six people were arrested for obstruction of a police officer at the Nov. 3 march against Sheriff King. One man's charges were later dropped. Two got acquitted at the trial.

The remaining Twin City 3 got convicted of "obstruction of a police officer." They got sentenced on September 18 to a weekend in the County Jail, \$100 fine, and four months probation each.

And it's pretty clear why.

These folks just outright refused to admit that their efforts to reason with rioting police during the Nov. 3 demonstration against Our Sheriff could be defined as obstruction of a police officer.

These folks just outright insisted that they had the right and the duty to stand around right on public streets and say bad things about Our Sheriff, whose brutalities in the County Jail are well known.

And then (talk about getting uppity) even in court, these folks still insisted that what they did was right.

Brent DeLand didn't say, "Oh, Mr. Judge, I'm really sorry that I asked that plainclothesman for his

credentials when he arrested my friend. I thought that since he'd told me earlier that he would show me his credentials when he made an arrest, I should follow up on it. But now I understand that I was really inconveniencing him by asking him who he was, and I will never do it again."

Pete Black didn't say, "Oh, Mr. Judge, when I stood there on the sidewalk and asked the policeman why and where he wanted me to move, I didn't realize what a bad boy I was being. Now I see that if this country is going to stay free, we all have to do exactly what an official seems to want us to do, and never ask why or how."

Bobby Reyes didn't say, "Oh, Mr. Judge, I'm really sorry I fell down on the ground right under where the police wanted to swing their clubs. I know now that I was really impolite, and I should've run faster instead of stopping to help my friend. I just hope I didn't hurt their equipment."

And none of the original Twin City 6 ever said, "We're really sorry we made such a big thing over this little misunderstanding. We understand now that the police have to push us around and beat us with clubs in order to protect our freedom. We apologize for bringing all our grubby friends and supporters into your nice clean courtroom. That must've really made a bad impression. From now on, we're going to act like good citizens: we're going to stay home and watch TV to get our minds off the atrocities in our County Jail. And maybe if we get really angry, we'll write a letter to our congressman."

There's a lesson to be learned from



"Don't worry about it. One day you're feeling down and you dish out 20 years to some poor devil. The next day you feel great and everybody gets a suspended sentence. It all evens out in the end."

all this. Remember, this great country was built on compromise. And if you're not willing to compromise your ethics and your convictions, you'll end up with a weekend in the county jail, \$100 fine, and four months' probation. Then maybe you'll learn to read the Constitution the way those in power want you to, and you'll never get in trouble again.

—Phoebe Caulfield

FLASH! FLASH! Two of the Twin City 3 have obtained a stay of sentence pending their appeal.

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CITY BOWS TO LEGAL PRESSURE

Under pressure from the American Civil Liberties Union, the Bloomington City Council has passed a new ordinance allowing Post-American vending boxes on the sidewalks.

ACLU was prepared to challenge the city's old ordinance, which had never been enforced until councilman S.S. "Joe" Schneider used it to suppress distribution of the Post-American.

ACLU said that an ordinance which completely forbids placement of newspaper boxes on all sidewalks everywhere in the city violates the Constitution. Such ordinances have been used to harass radical newspapers in other cities, and courts have supported the papers.

When Bloomington Corporation Counsel Stanczak realized that Bloomington would be sued, he hurriedly pushed through an amendment to the city's existing sidewalk ordinance. The council passed it unanimously.

The new ordinance restricts anyone from placing machines where they would block the sidewalk.

The provisions are similar to those of Normal's ordinance, which allows newspaper boxes as long as they do not obstruct the sidewalk traffic.

Classy Fried Ads

HELP THOSE WHO CANNOT HELP THEMSELVES

Volunteers needed to work with handicapped persons of all ages, exceptionalities, and ability levels. Transportation provided.

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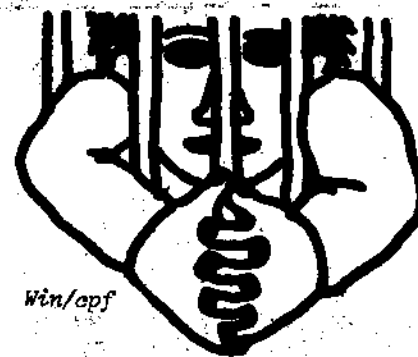


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letters

The Post-American more than welcomes letters from the readers. Send them to 101 North Street in Normal, and don't worry about the word limit that most newspapers have. When a letter is longer than the traditional letter-to-the-editor, we often give it a headline and lay it out like a regular article. So write to us!



Win/cpf

Another March?

Post:

I believe it is time for another grand march on the county jail to show our illustrious Sheriff how much we disapprove of the actions he and his deputies have taken against various prisoners incarcerated at the jail. Justice Dept. officials declined to prosecute the sheriff even though several prisoners have told the Post-American of their nightmares in the King's dungeon.

Three of the six men arrested during the last march (Nov. 3, 1974) have been found guilty even though a vast majority of the people who listened to the testimony given in the trial would say these men are clearly innocent. King beats prisoners and goes free; three men don't run at an unheard order to run and they are found guilty.

People of Bloomington-Normal, how can you let this kind of injustice go on in your city? Let us come together again and show the city government and the sheriff of McLean County what a democracy is.

--a concerned citizen

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PICKETS ATTACK "CO-OP" BOOKSTORE; ONE ARRRESTED



Lively picketers display their expressive signs in front of the "Co-op" bookstore.

ISU's fall semester opened militantly August 25, as ISU students trying to buy books found pickets and leaflets in front of the "Co-op" Bookstore.

Picketers asked students not to patronize the "Co-op" Bookstore.

The building itself did not look popular. Several spots showed spray paint, some of it unsuccessfully rubbed off. A couple windows were broken. Workmen were repairing one of them while leaflets were handed out.

Across the street, two Normal cops in an unmarked car watched the scene. Their car stood in a reserved parking spot under ISU's Eastgate Hall.

The leaflets listed reasons for asking students to boycott the "Co-op" Bookstore.

A price survey recently conducted by the ISU Student Consumer Affairs Office credited the "Co-op" with the town's highest book and school supply prices. Student stores, the real co-op, proved to have the lowest prices. Jeff Kolassa, who conducted the price survey, handed out copies to passersby during the picketing.

The leaflet handed out also criticized the Bookstore for calling itself a co-op. The "Co-op" Bookstore is a privately owned operation which tries (very successfully) to make a profit. Real co-ops, which are non-profit and cooperatively run by workers making collective decisions, strive to be an alternative to places like the "Co-op" Bookstore. The bookstore's name mocks the whole co-op movement.

The leaflets, as well as the spray paint on the building, informed students that the "co-op"'s owner, Orval Francis Yarger, is an agent

of the Central Intelligence Agency. Though the Post-American has revealed Yarger's CIA ties before, the picketing and leafletting sparked the "Co-op" Bookstore's first official public admission of the CIA connection. In a Vidette interview during the picketing, the younger Yarger, who runs the "Co-op," admitted that his father had worked for the CIA. The father is allegedly retired now. However, just last spring ISU President Budig conducted a secret internal investigation of charges that the senior Yarger had been obtaining university records on foreign students. Yarger claimed to have been only "running down some bad checks."

Picketers were having an effect. Students turned away from the Bookstore, taking the picketer's advice to shop at the worker-run non-profit Student Stores.

In fact, picketers were having enough of an effect to force the "Co-op" owners to take action: they had one student busted on what picketer Ken Johnson called a "bogus arrest."

Johnson explained that the "Co-op" owners were upset from the beginning. Only a few minutes after picketing began, Johnson said, two of the Yarger family stormed outside. Bill Yarger's shirt pocket bulged with a fat wad of money, looking for all the world like a cartoon fat cat.

The Yargers attempted to intimidate the picketers into leaving. The elder Yarger threatened one young woman with serious trouble if she carried the sign identifying him as a CIA agent. According to Johnson, she was intimidated by this threat enough to give up carrying that particular sign. Yarger did not say who would bring about the "serious trouble."

The owners could not talk the picketers into stopping, so they went back inside after indirectly accusing the students of carrying out the window-breaking and spray-painting which has plagued the store recently.

After a few hours of picketing, the Co-op owners had Jeff Kolassa arrested. The arrest was supposedly based on Kolassa's "intimidation" of a "Co-op" employee. Ken Johnson, who witnessed the entire encounter between Kolassa and the employee, said the arrest was "totally bogus." Johnson said that Kolassa was not guilty of either intimidation or disorderly conduct. (Kolassa was originally arrested for intimidation--a felony. That was too much even for State's Attorney Paul Welch, who reduced the charge to disorderly conduct.)

Johnson did volunteer the statement that "the arrest is a perfect example of the power of the Co-op Bookstore, since Kolassa was arrested just on the word of a Co-op employee. I feel that if I had made the same complaint against the Co-op employee, no arrest would have been made."



Orval Francis Yarger, in his long career as agent of the state, has worked in the FBI, AID, the CIA, and the "Co-op."

COP THREATENS REPORTER

A Post-American reporter covering the picketing of the "Co-op" Bookstore was threatened by Normal Police who were observing the picketing from an unmarked car across the street.

The Post reporter noticed the car parked in a special ISU parking lot in a space reserved for decal #93.

The reporter went over to ask the officers if they were owners of decal #93.

Conversation began thus:

"Hi," the Post reporter said, approaching the driver's side of the police car.

No answer.

"Hey," the reporter continued, "Are you guys..."

"Just get over on the sidewalk," the driver (later identified as officer Frank Zayas) interrupted. "I don't want to answer any questions."

The Post-American reporter tried several times to ask some questions of the driver, but the cop did nothing but order the reporter onto the sidewalk.

The lot the reporter was standing in, need we point out, was ISU property, hence public. (It's an interesting jurisdictional question, in fact, whether the taciturn officer Zayas even had the right to give orders to the Post reporter since Normal cops allegedly are supposed to do their duty only in Normal, not on university territory.)

The reporter didn't budge.

Then the other cop ordered the reporter to the other side of the squad car.

This cop (later identified as Sgt. Filipponi) looked like he wanted to talk. The reporter went to the other side of the squad car.

"What do you want?" the irritated Sgt. Filipponi asked.

"I just wanted to ask a couple of questions," the reporter answered.

The officer apparently misunderstood, thinking the reporter was asking for the time: "I wouldn't give you the time of day," the Sgt. stated.

When Zayas had been asked his name, he replied "Get away from here." Filipponi was more helpful. He helped the reporter spell. Zayas, though, was getting impatient. He wanted to throw his weight around.

Referring to the reporter, Zayas adopted a threatening tone and warned, "He'd better get away from here cause I'm about to get out of this car."

Zayas did not get out of the car, though. The real owner of decal #93 arrived, and the police had to move their car.



MEG Recruiters Invade ISU Campus

Disguised as a MEG agent, this CSA member pretended to recruit future narcs on ISU's first day of school. Costume was not far off, as photo on opposite page attests. (Vidette Photo)

Recruiters for the Multi-County Enforcement Group (MEG) occupied a booth at ISU's University Union on the first day of school August 25.

MEG is a six-county undercover narcotics police force. Recruiters asked questions like, "Could you turn in a friend?" to determine whether prospective MEG agents could cut the mustard.

Most couldn't, since the questions also included queries like: "Could you turn in LOTS of false reports to get pay raises?" and "Could you have sex with persons to gain their confidence, then convince them to buy dope from you, sell you dope, and BUST 'EM?"

The booth was actually a humorous attempt to educate the public about undercover narcotics agents performing police state functions. It was sponsored by Community for Social Action.

At the booth, SSA workers asked students, "Do you have what it takes to be a MEG agent?" The prospective recruit was asked whether she/he was prepared to violate the constitutionally guaranteed civil liberties of fellow citizens, to engage in

clandestine and illegal activities, and in general to enlist in a Gestapo-like secret police agency.

Assuming an affirmative answer to all of the above, the recruit was officially accepted as a MEG agent and invited to choose from a complete variety of beards, moustaches, and false noses to facilitate spy work in the community.

A CSA spokesperson explained:

"We, of course, are not really trying to recruit agents. Our purpose is simple. We believe that once our fellow citizens know what MEG agents are required to do and have done in our community, MEG agents will no longer be tolerated.

"Any reasonable American who reviews the MEG record is forced to conclude that this agency is a dangerous threat to our already endangered civil liberties."

Also available at the booth was a fact sheet with documentation from both the Peoria Journal Star and the Daily Pentagraph detailing MEG's secret-police type illegal activities.

Here is the list of outrages supplied by CSA. The newspaper mentioned in the last point is the Post Amerikan.

"In doing its thing, MEG has broken laws and violated the constitutional rights of citizens:

**It has solicited the commission of illegal acts (which is illegal).

**It has resorted to entrapment to gain "evidence" to make arrests.

**It has coerced people to become undercover agents by busting them, getting them up against the wall, and then making a "deal" with them. (People making deals with MEG are expected to narc and spy on their friends and help gather evidence.)

**It has attempted to obtain convictions with fabricated evidence.

**It has been involved in spying on people's political beliefs and sexual practices.

**It has resorted to forging documents to misrepresent an agent as a high school transfer student.

**Through negative pre-trial publicity it has hindered the defense of defendants and violated their constitutional rights to a fair trial.

**It has attempted to intimidate the advertisers in a Bloomington-Normal newspaper which has printed matter unfavorable to MEG--thereby attempting to stifle the newspaper's exercise of its First Amendment rights to freedom of expression.

Who is that masked man?

Masked man in these photos is MEG agent Ford Conley, whose camera-shyness could be a metaphor for MEG's entire secret police super-spy mentality. Two County police (one shown in photo) were needed to help this narc sneak himself out of the courthouse, into a waiting Sheriff's car, and away to points unknown.

Conley had just testified in the trial of Dale Stillwell, who Conley had roomed with for a year before setting him up for a pot bust. On the witness stand Agent Conley admitted that he gave a barbituate capsule to Stillwell to gain his confidence. But, Conley

maintained, he removed the drug from the capsule before delivering it. Sure.

Stillwell argued (successfully) that he was a victim of entrapment, resulting in a hung jury. It's the 1st case we know of where a jury has refused to convict a MEG-accused defendant. (Other MEG losses were at the hands of judges.)

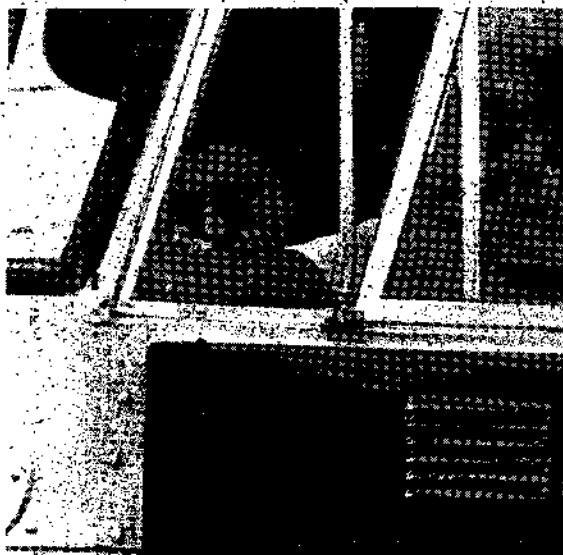
Conley testified the next day in another court defeat for MEG. (People v. Rink was a directed verdict of acquittal because MEG didn't keep the evidence intact.) Though no Post reporters appeared, Conley reportedly wore his ski mask both to and from the Courthouse.



Conley is known to have a perverted fascination with guns. Is that a concealed firearm he is holding as he runs across the Courthouse lawn?



SECRET AGENT DRIVES YOUR KIDS TO SCHOOL



Disguised as a clean-shaven school bus driver (above), MEG agent John "Bill" Stephens still wears the same sunglasses he had in a court appearance last June (below).

Undercover narcotics agent John "Bill" Stephens has a new set of wheels, his fourth since the Post-Amerikan has been keeping track.

Stephens drives school bus #16, in the morning and afternoon, in a route that includes Bloomington High School and Sheridan Grade School.

Post-Amerikan reporters encountered the secret MEG agent while on a routine story about traffic safety conditions for school children. As part of the story, Post reporters sought an interview with a school bus driver.

We were shocked to find the driver of bus #16 so tired that he wouldn't lift his head up off the steering wheel as he waited for Sheridan students to get out of school. (See photo.)

It was only when we got a closer look that we realized that the bus driver was none other than our old friend, Bill Stephens, the head of the Bloom. MEG office. Stephens apparently thought that by shaving, he could disguise himself enough to spy on school children riding the bus.

We took a few photos, but Stephens is kind of camera shy. Eventually the Sheridan School principal emerged, demanding to know what was happening. We told him we were taking photos. The principal spoke with bus driver/narc Stephens. We heard Stephens advise the principal that we were trespassing on school board property.

Happy to follow advice from a school bus driver, the Sheridan principal



MEG agent/bus driver Stephens takes a snooze after his all-American meal of 6 Big Macs and 4 large orders of GoldenGrease fries. Do sleepy drivers make safe drivers? Do they make good spies?

turned around and advised us that we were trespassing on school board property, and had better leave.

Since we were on the public sidewalk, we refused to leave. The principal went inside and called the police. We continued taking pictures of the narcotics agent/school bus driver.

A policeman arrived, answering the principal's frenzied call. He saw we were on the sidewalk. He did nothing.

Meanwhile, Stephens' bus filled with kids. It left. So did we.



Meet MEG's Photographer

Fred Blievernicht Jr., pictured here, works for Hawkins Camera Shop.

He also works for the Multicounty Enforcement Group (MEG) as a photographer and photo consultant, a very exciting job for Blievernicht.

He's so excited about working for the undercover narcotics agents that he can't keep his mouth shut about it, even when surrounded by strangers in public.

When someone starts bragging in public about working for MEG, word of it is likely to reach the Post-Amerikan. It has.

Blievernicht has claimed that he worked in Peoria helping MEG set up darkroom facilities.

He also says he has shown MEG agents how to use their brand new infrared telescopic lens, which allows agents to photograph people a block away in the dark.

Blievernicht has also bragged about helping MEG by taking pictures of people out of the back of MEG's van.

When a Pantagraph article in July recounted Post-Amerikan attempts to photograph MEG agents, Blievernicht blustered, "They're going to put a stop to that paper."

Jerry LaGrow, MEG head (for want of a better term), was quoted in that Pantagraph article as threatening Post advertisers with a lawsuit if anything ever happened to a MEG agent.

Just why MEG needs a part-time photographer, darkroom equipment, and a superspy lens is not clear. It may be merely the standard secret spy mentality at work. Or there may be a more sinister operation on MEG's agenda.



ABOVE: MEG agent Dennis Garret getting as he looked in November '74.

BELOW: Here's a sketch of how MEG Agent Garret appeared in a mid-September court appearance.



With Gonorrhea --

Getting Over is a regular column by the Bloomington-Normal Men's Group.

More than 50% of the people with gonorrhea in the United States are under 25. About the same per centage live in big cities. In urban areas 10% to 20% of the people between 15 and 25 have gonorrhea. These epidemic proportions are due to widespread misunderstanding and inadequate health care.

The bacteria causing gonorrhea is called "gonococcus." Outside the human body, it usually dies within a few seconds, so it is rare to catch gonorrhea from public toilets, towels, cups, etc., used by an infected person.

Gonococcus grows well only in mucous membranes, such as the moist linings of the mouth, throat, urethra (passage from the bladder), vagina and rectum. The common feature of all forms of sexual intercourse is that mucous membranes come into contact--the primary way that gonococcus survives transfer from one person to another.

PENIS INFECTION

Most men who have a gonorrhea infection of the penis first notice symptoms 3 to 5 days after the infecting sexual intercourse. However, symptoms can appear in 24 hours or as late as 2 weeks. Symptoms do not always occur if there is an infection. About 10% to 20% of men are asymptomatic. (shows no symptoms)

Symptoms are a thin, clear mucus discharge seeping out of the meatus (opening of the urethra). The discharge can become heavy, thick and creamy. It is usually white, but may be yellow or yellow-green. Don't confuse this with a spotting on underwear or whatever that occurs after an abrupt decrease in the frequency of sexual activity. This is semen that a man's body is overproducing for a short period of time. It's the prostate attempting to adjust.)

In gonorrhea the lips of the meatus become swollen. There may be pain during urination, perhaps severe, and urination may be difficult. The urine is hazy with pus and may contain a little blood. (in some uncircumcised men, gonorrhea bacteria may multiply under the foreskin, causing irritation of the glans (tip) of the penis.

Before oral-genital intercourse both partners generally have a good opportunity to view the other's genitals. If a thick, white yellow or yellow-green discharge is seen coming from the penis, sexual intercourse should be postponed. The normal, thin clear mucus discharge from the cowper's glands released from the penis during sexual excitement in a healthy male should not be confused for gonococcal discharge. Unless one person has a venereal disease, oral-genital sex is harmless.

VAGINA INFECTION

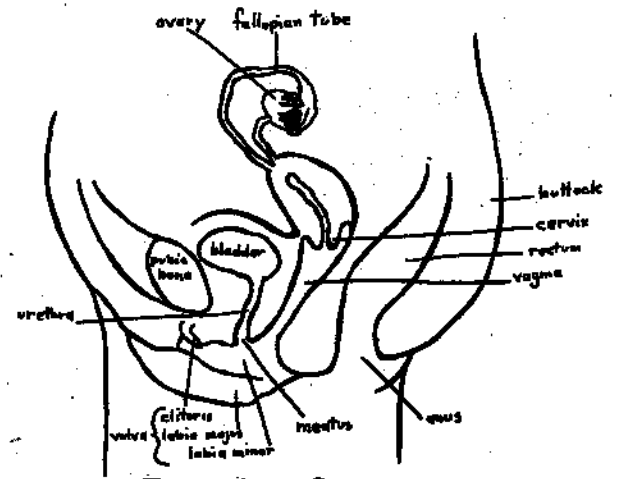
Ninety per cent of women show no symptoms of vaginal gonorrhea. For many women the first sign of their own infection is gonorrhea in a sexual partner. Gonorrheal infection starts in the cervix (opening to the uterus). Within a few days of the infection, pus is discharged through the cervical opening. Since the cervix lies high in the vagina, it is difficult for most women to observe the early sign of infection. Some women notice a vaginal discharge which may be green or yellow-green and irritating to the vulva (external genital area). This discharge should not be confused with the normal, healthy vaginal discharge during sexual excitement and intercourse, which is white or clear and non-irritating.

A gonorrheal discharge is rarely heavy or even noticeable, unless some other infection is present at the same time.

For unknown reasons, as many as 50% of the women who have gonorrhea also have an infection of the vagina called Trichomonal vaginitis. This infection causes an abundant, frothy, watery, yellow-green discharge and severe genital itching. "Trich," as it is sometimes called, is extremely common and occurs in many women who do not have gonorrhea.

Although the cervix is the main site of an infection, the urethra and its opening (the meatus) are usually infected as well. Some women feel a burning pain on urination and occasionally the lower lip of the meatus becomes red and swollen.

As gonorrheal infection of the cervix progresses, the vaginal discharge may become heavier. Some women feel a continuous low backache or vague pain in the lower abdomen.



Female Pelvic Region

PHARYNX & TONSIL INFECTION

The pharynx (throat cavity) and tonsil can be infected by the gonococcus as a result of contact with the sexual organs of an infected partner. The transfer of gonorrhea from mouth to mouth is probably not possible. Oral gonorrhea usually does not produce any symptoms, but sometimes there is a sore throat and a low fever beginning a few days after oral-genital contact.

EYE INFECTION

If a pregnant woman has gonorrhea when her child is born, bacteria may enter the baby's eyes as it passes through the mother's cervix. Within 48 hours of birth, one or both eyes become red, swollen, and painful. Pus discharges from between the eyelids, which may be swollen shut. If treatment is not started immediately, the infection destroys the eyes within a few days. This is why silver nitrate, penicillin, or some other antibiotic is dropped into a newborn baby's eyes. This procedure is controversial, however.

ANAL GONORRHEA

Gonococcal proctitis can develop in people who have anal intercourse. Also, 40% to 60% of women with vaginal gonorrhea develop gonorrhea of the rectum. Approximately 60 to 80% of all males and females with anal gonorrhea show no symptoms. Some infected people notice an anal mucus discharge, or mild irritation, and in some cases, burning pain in the anus and blood or pus in the feces. Since most men and women are asymptomatic, they can unknowingly give their infection to their sexual partners. Unless one partner has a venereal disease, however, anal intercourse is not unsanitary and can be enjoyed without fear of infection.

COMPLICATIONS

Untreated gonorrhea can cause lots of complications. It can infect whole reproductive systems and eventually cause sterility. It can invade the blood stream and affect the joints causing arthritis. It can also affect the heart, liver and central nervous system.



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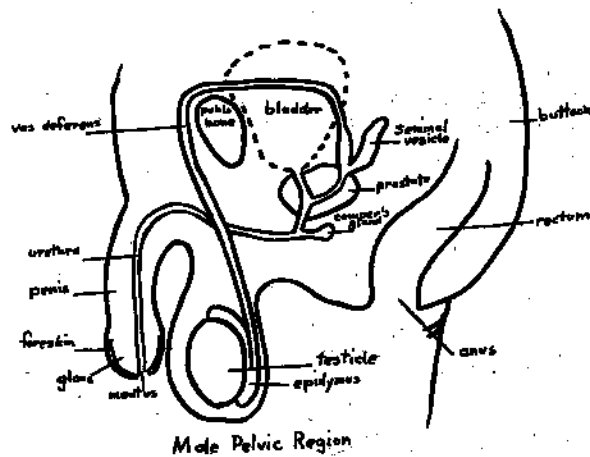
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Taking Charge of Your Body



DIAGNOSIS

Examinations for gonorrhea are serious and involved. They may be uncomfortable at times, but are generally painless. They should not be done quickly. Tests for gonorrhea included inserting a cotton swab into the patient's penis, cervix, throat or anus, to obtain a sample of any discharge.

The simplest test conducted on these discharges is called a gram smear. A glass slide is smeared with the cotton swab, and then coated with a series of dyes. The gonococcus present show up under a microscope as light pink, bean shaped bacteria lying in pairs, usually within a white blood cell. This test is only 85% accurate for men with penile gonorrhea, and almost useless for women. Several bacteria are present in the vagina and/or anus of a healthy person which appear to be gonococcus, thus giving a "false positive" test.

The best test for gonorrhea is a bacteriological culture, which means growing and identifying the bacteria from the discharges under laboratory conditions. The cotton swab is either immediately streaked on a culture plate or placed in a small bottle with a transport medium and sent to a laboratory.

Culture tests must be done by experienced technicians and are expensive, which may be why they are so difficult to get on demand at McLean County Health Department.

All patients with gonorrhea should have blood tests for syphilis. A small percentage of people have both diseases.

A man is examined by first of all looking at his penis. If there is a foreskin it is pulled back. The meatus is checked for the thick white or yellow discharge that is characteristic of gonorrhea. To obtain a sample of the secretions, the doctor inserts a cotton swab about half an inch into the man's penis. This causes a moment of burning discomfort that is not hard to tolerate. According to some sources, inserting the swab any further does not improve the accuracy of the test. McLean County Health Department says that asymptomatic men have to be tested with a further penetration of the cotton swab. There seems to be a discrepancy here.

The rest of the penis is checked for swelling or sores. Each testicle is squeezed to see if the infection has spread to the epididymus, which is a duct attached to each testicle where sperm mature. Unless the patient has epididymitis (inflammation of the epididymus) this should not be painful. Each side of the groin is felt for enlarged or tender lymph glands. If there are any complications present, the man's temperature should be taken.

If the man has had oral-genital sex, with an infected partner he should ask for a swab to be taken of his throat and tonsils. If he has had anal sex, he should ask for an anal swab. Both of these tests should be relatively painless and should be cultured.

There are other diseases that produce symptoms that are similar to gonorrhea, but do not respond to the same treatment. Do not accept any treatment or attempt to treat yourself until a culture test is done and you know for sure that you have gonorrhea.

FEMALE EXAM

The examiner begins by examining the vulva for irritation, sores or discharge. Both sides of the groin are checked for enlarged or tender lymph glands. A speculum is then inserted into the vagina. Since a cold speculum is uncomfortable and because a lubricating jelly would contaminate any samples taken, the speculum should be kept in warm water before the examination. The warm water will warm the speculum as well as provide a non-contaminating lubricant. With the speculum in place, the cervix can be observed. If there is a discharge from the cervix, it is wiped away with cotton and a cotton swab is inserted into the cervix.

This is uncomfortable, but shouldn't be really painful. The speculum is removed. A woman's anus should also be checked. In 40% to 60% of women with vaginal gonorrhea, the infection spreads to the anus. Both of these samples should be cultured.

A woman should also have a pelvic exam as well to check for inflammation of the fallopian tubes. Her temperature should be taken. A fever can indicate other complications.

TREATMENT

Penicillin given by deep injection into the buttocks is still the best treatment for gonorrhea. The aim is to introduce a large amount of penicillin into the body for only 12 hours. Penicillin is the safest antibiotic used but it can cause some side effects, most of which are not serious. The shot should be given under careful conditions and the patient should be under observation for one half hour after the administration of penicillin.

Tetracycline is the second choice for treatment of gonorrhea. It can be used by people who are allergic to penicillin. Tetracycline should not be taken by pregnant women. It can produce liver damage and can affect the teeth and bones of the fetus. There are other drugs to treat gonorrhea for people who cannot take either penicillin or tetracycline.

Widespread use of tetracycline as a first choice treatment for uncomplicated gonorrhea and the self-administering of the drug in proper dosages has led to development of a tetracycline-resistant gonococcus.

Do not take penicillin or tetracycline as a preventative, "just in case" you get gonorrhea. Repeated indiscriminate use of antibiotics can lead to an allergic reaction. If you are relatively certain that you have gonorrhea, do not attempt to treat yourself with these

drugs. What might happen is that you may not kill the gonococcus bacteria, but will only succeed in developing a drug resistant form of gonorrhea, and you will continue to infect your sexual partners.

All people who have gonorrhea should return for follow-up examination, and culture tests after receiving treatment, to make sure that the disease has been cured.

The carefree attitude that "if I get it or if I give it to someone else, it can be cured" is irresponsible. V.D. diagnosis and treatment is not easy. Although culture tests are very accurate and there are antibiotics useful in treating gonorrhea, the disease itself is painful, and all sexual activity should be curtailed until a complete cure is assured, which takes some time. It makes sense for people who are at all sexually active to have a thorough V.D. check for gonorrhea and syphilis at least every 6 months.

Most of this information is available in a pamphlet called V.D. Handbook written by Donna Cherniak and Allen Feingold. The address is:
VD Handbook/ BirthControl Hand-
book
P.O. Box 1000 Station G.
Montreal, 130, Quebec
Phone (514)844-5838

The book is excellent and so is their birth control book. Everybody should have copies of both pamphlets. They are also available from Planned Parenthood, Bloomington.

Other Books I used for this article:

Health and Venereal Disease Guide for Gay Men, Gay Men's Health Project
74 Group St., 2nd Floor, N. Y., 10014

Venereal Disease, Treatment and Nursing, Hazel Elliot and Kurt Ryz.

Venereal Disease and Their Audience, Robert N. Richards, M.D.

Epidemic Venereal Diseases, from the proceeding of the 2nd International Venereal Disease Symposium, St. Louis, MO. 1972

Human Sexuality, 2nd ed. James McCary

SUPPORT A FREE V.D. CLINIC FOR MCLEAN COUNTY.

Next week: More on V.D. symptoms and treatment.

Jack

POST NOTE: Women can be treated for gonorrhea at Planned Parenthood, and the atmosphere is not quite as uptight as the Health Department.

INTRODUCTORY LECTURE FOR, TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION

ISU

Stevenson Room 251

Tuesday Sept. 30

4:00 pm 7:30 pm

Tuesday Oct. 14

3:30 pm 7:30 pm

Tuesday Oct. 28

3:30 pm 7:30 pm

Withers Library

Wednesday Oct. 8

1:00 pm 7:30 pm

University High

Wednesday Oct. 8

Room 240 7:30 pm

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454-3029

BICENTENNIAL POLL: PUBLIC

The PEOPLES BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION (PBC) has announced the results of a nationwide opinion poll which reveals with startling clarity the American public's dissatisfaction with the present economic system, their lack of confidence in the existing political parties or candidates to solve present economic difficulties, and their belief that the time has come for major changes to be made in the economic structure, including increased worker control of corporate policies and production. PBC was itself startled by the results of the poll. It shows that citizens are far more fed up with things-as-they-are than anyone had guessed.

The PBC-commissioned poll was conducted by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, a major public opinion polling firm. Mr. Hart is a former vice president with Louis Harris Associates and Oliver Quayle and Company. Among his clients are The Washington Post, for whom he has conducted 10 surveys in two years, and CBS News, whom he serves as a key election-night analyst. In 1974 he worked for 17 gubernatorial and senatorial candidates with a success rate of over 85 percent. For PBC, Hart Research Associates in the week of July 25, 1975, conducted a nationwide telephone poll of a sample of 1,209 Americans on issues relating to our present economic system and possible alternative solutions. These are the results:

33 percent of the public believe that our capitalist economic system has already reached its peak in terms of performance and is now on the decline; only 22% believe that it has not yet reached its peak and is getting better. Another 30% believe it is neither getting better nor on the decline.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH OUR ECONOMIC SYSTEM

61% agree that "there is a conspiracy among big corporations to set prices as high as possible," while only 32% disagree.

56% agree that "the increases that labor unions have gotten for workers are too large," while 36% disagree.

57% agree that "both the Democratic and Republican parties are in favor of big business rather than the average worker," while only 35% disagree.

49% agree that "big business is the source of most of what's wrong in this country today," while 45% disagree.

58% of the public say that "America's major corporations tend to dominate and determine the actions of our public officials in Washington," while just 25% believe the reverse is true and that "public officials in Washington tend to dominate and determine the actions of our major corporations."

68% of the public believe that "profits mainly benefit stockholders and management," while only 23% believe the reverse is true.

54% say that if "corporations had an opportunity to sign a contract (with a foreign country) which would be profitable to the corporations but harmful to the interests of the United States," the corporations "would sign such a contract," while only 31% believe that the corporations "would not sign the contract."

HOW MUCH CHANGE IN OUR ECONOMY IS NEEDED?

When asked which of three alternatives they favored to improve the economy, a plurality of 41% of the American people favor "making a major adjustment to try things which have not been tried before." By way of contrast, a smaller 37% favor "making minor adjustments to correct for current problems." Only 17% feel that the economic system ought to be "kept as it is, allowing it to straighten itself out."

72% of the public agree that "profits are the major goal of business even if it means unemployment and inflation," while only 24% disagree.

66% agree that "generally people don't work as hard as they could, because they aren't given enough say in decisions which affect their jobs," while only 29% disagree.

67% agree that "company management and stockholders are the people who benefit most from increased productivity," while only 27% disagree.

58% agree that "local community interest and needs are not represented in making company policy," while 31% disagree.

56% of the American public would "probably support" or "definitely support" a candidate for President who favored employee ownership and control of U.S. companies, while only 26% said they would "probably not support" or "definitely not support" such a candidate. 18% volunteered that their presidential decision would be based on other factors or were not sure.

67% of the American public feel that there has been "too little discussion" about employee ownership and control of U.S. companies, while only 10% feel there has been "too much," and just 9% feel that there has been "about the right amount."

RATING THE PERFORMANCE OF AMERICAN BUSINESS

69% of the public give American business a negative rating in "keeping profits at reasonable levels," only 26% give business a positive rating.

59% give American business a negative rating in "providing good quality products," while 43% give business a positive rating.

59% give American business a negative rating in "enabling people to make full use of their abilities," while only 35% give business a positive rating.

Mayaguez Revisted

The Mayaguez incident has been described as a "great victory" for President Ford's policies. In view of some of the later details, maybe this conclusion needs to be revised, to say the least.

According to Time, May 26, President Ford learned about the seizure of the Mayaguez at 5:30 A.M. May 12, on Monday. The ship had been seized without harm to the crew at 2:00 A.M. Ford demanded immediate release at 1:30 P.M. that day, claiming that the seizure represented "piracy on the high seas."

Yet, according to the Christian Century, "Cambodia impounded a ship and its crew that had sailed within 8 miles of an island claimed by both Vietnam and Cambodia, neither of which would welcome into their waters American ships which might be carrying military cargo... One might note that the U.S. has, on many occasions, captured Russian fishing boats fishing more than 8 miles off Alaska and has released them only after payments of heavy fines..."

According to Time, May 26, Cambodia had temporarily held or warned 25 ships recently that had passed through the same area the Mayaguez had passed through. Although the President knew about these incidents, he made no attempt to warn the Mayaguez crew.

Less than a day after Ford's demand for immediate release, he ordered "F-4 Phantoms, A-7 Corsair light attack planes, and F111 fighter bombers to try to keep any Cambodian boats from moving between Koh Tang (Tang Island) and the mainland. When the gun boats moved... (they were) attacked with rockets and machine gun fire, sinking 5 boats and hitting 2 others." To say the least, these attacks did not help out the negotiations that were being attempted at the time with the Cambodian government.

Is it not quite possible that these attacks on Cambodian ships during negotiations with Cambodia hardened Cambodia's position and made an agreement more difficult?

On May 14, the U.S. attacked Koh Tang, despite, according to the New York Times, the fact that U.S. intelligence had reason to believe that the crew was not on the island. 7:07 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, the crew's release was publicly agreed to by the Cambodian government. 8:45 the actual release occurred.

Yet, according to Time, May 26, shortly after 10:50, over two hours after the crew's release, "U.S. planes began bombing Ream airfield (near Kompong Som or Sihanoukville)... U.S. planes destroyed an oil depot." According to Cambodian officials, these bombings of the Cambodian mainland over two hours after the release of the Mayaguez crew "caused very great losses in human lives."

In Time, May 26, the captain of the Mayaguez described the attacks by U.S. planes upon the Mayaguez: "We were bombed and strafed 100 times... they... teargassed us... a second time... Everybody on the ship vomited. Their skin was burning."

A key contention of Ford was that the Mayaguez crew was in danger and needed to be rescued immediately. Yet, according to the captain in the interview cited above, "The only worry we had was that we would not be recognized in the fishing boat and our aircraft would blow it out of the water."

The captain did not express any fear of harm from the Cambodians, who never harmed the Mayaguez crew; he only expressed fear of possible damage inflicted by U.S. planes.

From the viewpoint of saving lives,

the Mayaguez rescue attempt was a dismal failure. Although the 39 crewmen were rescued alive, 40 Americans were killed and many others were injured in the rescue attempt, and many Cambodians also lost their lives or were wounded when the U.S. sunk 5 Cambodian ships, damaged two others, and attacked Koh Tang and bombed the mainland of Cambodia extensively.

It is reasonable to assume that, in the Mayaguez rescue attempt, twice as many lives were lost as were saved, at least.

The U.S. attack on 7 Cambodian ships in, at best, international waters, is also a blatant violation of International Law; the same goes for the bombing of the Cambodian mainland. It must be kept in mind that these actions were taken in response to something the U.S. has itself frequently done in response to Russian ships off the Alaskan coast--that is, seized them.

The damage to relations with Thailand and Cambodia cannot be underestimated. U.S. use of Thailand's bases to launch attacks on Koh Tang island and the Cambodian mainland and Cambodian ships was in obvious violation of recent agreements between the U.S. and Thailand. This caused the Thai government to seriously protest the action and that it hurt U.S. standing in Thailand there can be no doubt.

Since the Mayaguez rescue attempt led to the loss of over twice as many lives as it saved (lives that probably were not in danger anyway), and since it entailed obvious violations of Cambodia's sovereignty (as well as Thailand's) and international law, it is extremely hard to see it as any kind of victory.

--Dave Burdette

WANTS CHANGE IN SYSTEM

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGING THE ECONOMY

Only 25% of the American public feel that it would do "more good than harm" to "eliminate all welfare and aid benefits except social security," while 67% feel that it would do "more harm than good."

A plurality of 44% of the American public feel that it would do "more good than harm" to "institute public ownership of oil and other natural resources" while 42% feel that it would do "more harm than good."

66% of the American public feel that it would do "more good than harm" to "develop a program in which employees own a majority of the company's stock," while only 25% feel that it would do "more harm than good."

A plurality of 49% feel that it would do "more good than harm" to "develop a new political movement to challenge the influence of big business," while a smaller 39% feel that it would do "more harm than good."

74% of the American public feel that it would do "more good than harm" to "institute a plan whereby consumers in local communities are represented on the boards of companies that operate in their local region," while only 17% feel that it would do "more harm than good."

13% feel that it would do "more good than harm" to have "government ownership of all major companies," while 81% feel that it would do "more harm than good."

52% of the American public feel that it would do "more good than harm" to "institute a plan in which employees determine broad company policy," while only 38% feel that it would do "more harm than good."

CHOOSING BETWEEN THREE DIFFERENT ECONOMIC SYSTEMS

In exploring different approaches for our economy, the American public was given three types of companies and asked which one they would like to work for.

66% of the American people would favor working for a company that is employee owned and controlled. Only 8% say they would want to work for a company that is owned by the government. Just 20% of the public say they would like to work for the now-dominant type of American business, the outside investor owned and controlled corporation.

WOULD EMPLOYEE OWNED AND CONTROLLED COMPANIES IMPROVE THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY?

50% of the American public feel that employee owned and controlled companies—where the people who work in the company select the management, set policies and share in the profits—would improve the condition of the economy, while only 14% say that such an arrangement would worsen the economy's condition. 29% feel the institution of employee ownership and control of companies would not make much difference in terms of the country's economic condition.

WHAT IS THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING EMPLOYEE OWNED AND CONTROLLED COMPANIES WITHIN THE NEXT TEN YEARS?

44% believe that there is a "great possibility" or "some possibility" that our country will have employee owned and controlled companies within the next ten years, while 49% believe that there is "little" or "no possibility."

72% give American business a negative rating when it comes to "really caring about the individual," while only 25% give business a positive rating.

84% give American business a negative rating when it comes to "keeping down the cost of living," while only 12% give it a positive rating.

75% give American business a negative rating when it comes to "preventing unemployment and economic recessions," while only 18% give it a positive rating.

55% give American business a positive rating when it comes to "paying good wages and salaries" and 41% give it a negative rating.

INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS OF THE POLL

The American public has clearly lost confidence in our economic system. In every major area of performance except one (wages) the public gives American business an overall negative rating in terms of performance. This disenchantment goes beyond just the immediate economic situation of the country, with one out of three people believing that the capitalist system itself is on the decline. In terms of political process, the public goes further, with a majority feeling that both the Democratic and Republican parties are in favor of big business rather than the average citizen. A majority also feels that America's major corporations "tend to dominate and determine" the actions of our public officials in Washington.

By a plurality of 49 to 45 percent, the public feels that "big business is the source of most of what is wrong in this country today." By a margin of 49 to 45 percent, the American public favors a "political movement to challenge the influence of big business."

This lack of confidence in big business has led a plurality of 41% of the public to favor major adjustments in our economy "to try things which have never been tried before." Specifically, 66% of the public said that they favored employee ownership and control of U.S. companies.

The Hart Poll indicates that on the eve of the Bicentennial, a majority of the American public favor basic changes in our economy that will promote democratic participation at the work place and direct employee control over company policies, constituting a fundamental and sweeping change in the economic system of this country.



CALENDAR

October

- October 3, 1838. Death of Black Hawk, leader of vain effort to prevent white takeover of Indian lands.
- Oct. 5, 1854. Republican Party of Illinois— an anti-slavery party—holds its first convention in Springfield.
- Oct. 9, 1930. Woolworth chain eliminated discriminatory hiring practices based on race in its Chicago stores.
- Oct. 9, 1969. National Guard called into Chicago to keep "order" during the trial of the Chicago 8.
- Oct. 11-12, 1898. Virden Massacre. Seven strikers, four company guards killed as employers import black strike breakers in deliberate attempt to exploit racial tension. Since 1899, Oct. 12 has been spent honoring the coal miners buried at nearby Mt. Olive, Illinois. As many as 30,000 have attended the ceremonies.
- Oct. 14, 1964. Martin Luther King, Jr. awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. He gave the \$54,600 to the civil rights movement.
- Oct. 16, 1859. John Brown and 22 other men, 5 of them black, raid Harper's Ferry, West Virginia arsenal to arm slaves for struggle that would overthrow slave owners and their system. Brown was hanged. The incident caused Henry David Thoreau to write the angry essay, "A Plea for Captain John Brown."
- Oct. 23, 1945. Jackie Robinson signed contract and became the first Black man in modern times to play major league baseball.
- Oct. 26, 1837. Elijah Lovejoy, abolitionist newspaper editor, organized the Illinois auxiliary of the American Anti-Slavery Society. He was later killed and his printing press destroyed by a mob in Alton, Illinois.
- Oct. 29, 1929. Stock Market crash ushers in the Great Depression.
- Oct. 29, 1969. Black Panther Chairman Bobby Seale ordered bound and gagged in the courtroom by Judge Julius Hoffman at the Chicago 8 Trial.

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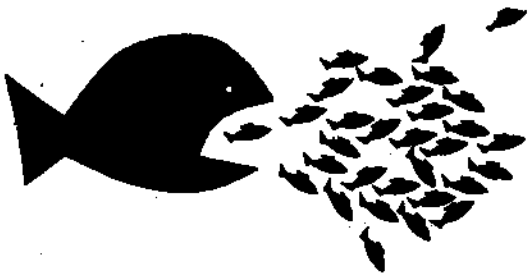
Elections Held in California Fields:

18

Under the California Agricultural Act which went into effect on August 28 elections have begun among California Farmworkers with the United Farm Workers (AFL-CIO) the clear-cut victor, outdistancing the rival International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

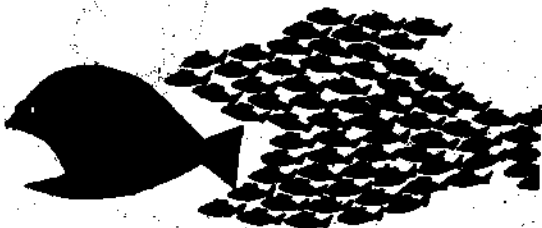
As of September 9, there are 16 victories for the UFW, 3 for the IBT, and five elections are being disputed. Even though the growers have mounted a strong campaign of threats and numerous Teamster "organizers" are flaunting weapons, the workers continue to vote for the UFW.

The first election was held in Delano at the M. Caratan vineyard where the UFW won, 121-41. The Teamsters were unable to get on the ballot. It was in Delano that the first grape strike was called on Sept. 18, 1965, almost exactly ten years ago.



In the next few days there was a rush of elections. Many growers were armed and threatened to close their ranches and fire everyone if the UFW won. Growers' organizations have successfully evaded the new law. The Western Federation of Growers which covers three states has gained a federal court injunction blocking all elections on its members' ranches, claiming to be a single bargaining and economic unit. Even though some workers at some WFG ranches are organized, the majority are not; those that are organized are denied the right to elections. This is being appealed.

Workers throughout the states are enthusiastic about the new law, and are seeking elections in numerous fields. So far, elections have taken place among grape, lettuce, mushroom, tomato, nursery, dairy, row crop and artichoke workers. Cesar Chavez, president of the UFW, recently completed a 1,000 mile hike through the fields, explaining the new law to the workers. Many of the UFW victories were at ranches where there have been Teamster contracts for 3-5 years; at some of these, the IBT could not even collect the necessary petitions from 20% of the workers to appear on the ballot.



However, no growers have signed contracts with the UFW, even though they are the clear-cut victors. Instead they have resorted to intimidation and evasion. At E & J Gallo, INC., in Modesto, California, the home of Gallo wine, security guards posed as farmworkers and voted. Gallo also imported 50 Hindus who were kept in isolation and voted in the election. Gallo is attempting to sabotage the free elections they've continually called for in high intensity anti-UFW media campaigns.

At Egg City, near Oxnard, striking poultry workers who walked out on their inadequate Teamster contract in April and appealed to the UFW have been replaced by Vietnamese refugees who are kept isolated and are a ready voting block for the grower.

UFW 16, IBT 3

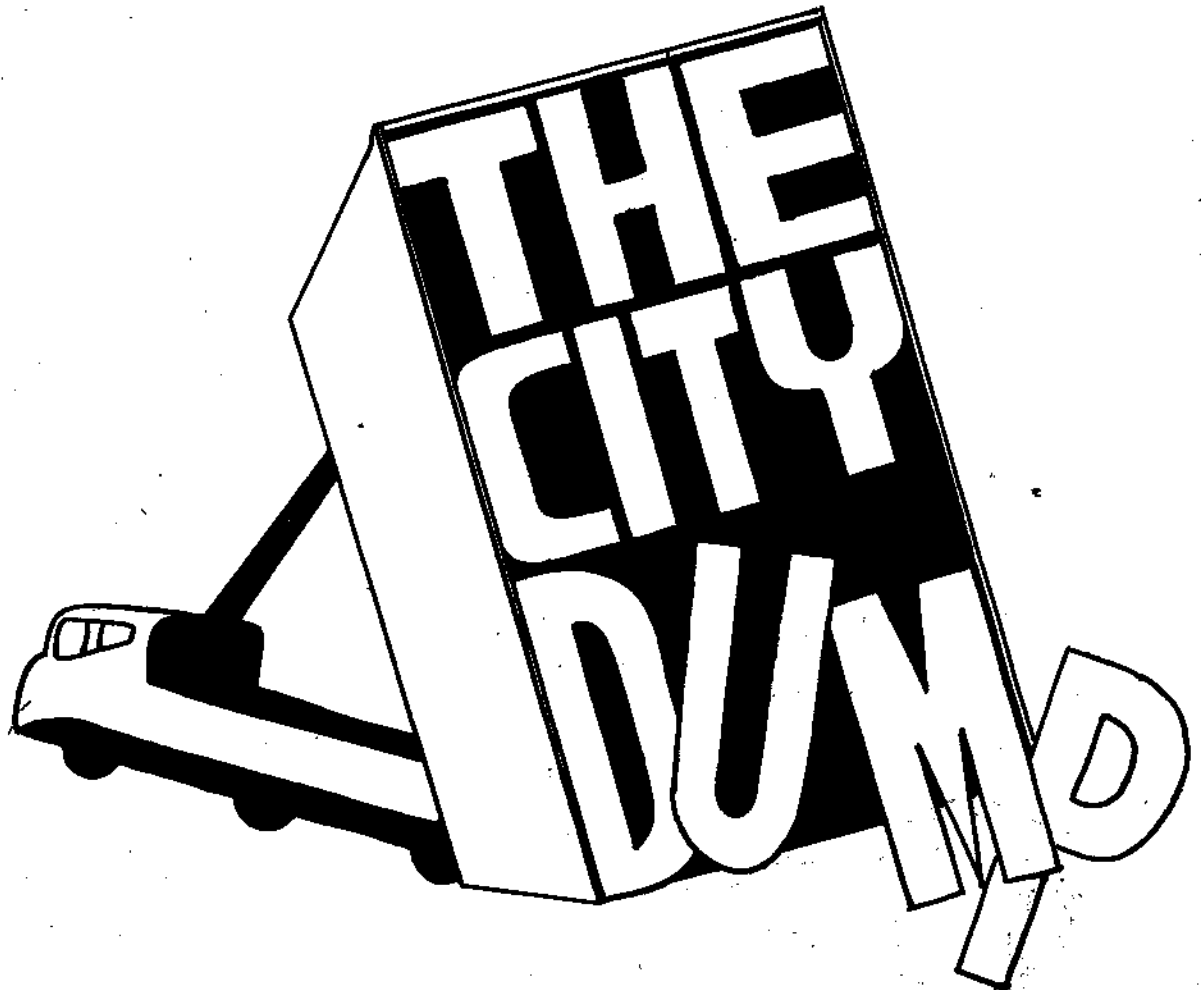
However, the UFW is confident of final victory. The growers will eventually have to recognize the new law and the State of California uphold it. Crucial to getting the growers to recognize the UFW and winning decent conditions for farmworkers is the boycott of non-UFW head lettuce, grapes and Gallo wines. Only with the economic leverage of the boycott will the growers recognize the workers' union. Please help! 1975 - Hasta la Victoria! Que Viva la Huelga!

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One Short Step to Police State

Although few people are aware of it due to a virtual absence of news coverage, a 753 page law'n order bill cooked up by none else than John Mitchell (remember?) and Robert (can't tell a kid with a beard from a kid with a bomb)Mardian is to be voted on in September by the Senate. S(enate Bill)1, as it is called, would if passed go a long way towards bringing about a police state in this country.

S 1 would have put newspaper editors in jail for carrying the Pentagon Papers. Four sections (1121-24) form the heart of what would be an Official Secrets Act which would cover and cloak a vast array of government information limited only to the imagination of the prosecutor. The penalty for providing another country with such information in "time of war or national defense emergency" would be a life sentence. The war would not necessarily have to be declared by Congress so presidential adventures like the Vietnam War would do. Also, the country is at this moment under four separate states of "emergency," declared up to a quarter century ago and never rescinded. Disclosing "national defense information" to an unauthorized person such as the Pentagon Papers would net you thirty years. Failure to return such material to the government would earn you another seven. Finally, anyone disclosing classified information could get seven years. How long would Jack Anderson be around, I wonder?

S 1 would provide the death penalty for treason, sabotage, espionage and many types of murder.

Wiretappers would be given carte blanche under the bill. It allows for "emergency" wiretapping without court order and has a provision authorizing such illegal bugging when

"an emergency situation exists with respect to conspiratorial activities threatening the national security." S 1 would also legalize use of evidence of crimes other than those specified in the court order. As Justice Douglas said, it permits spooks "to rummage for months on end through every conversation, no matter how intimate or personal," in order to gather evidence of any sort of crime.

Section 1103 reenacts the infamous Smith Act, with subtle changes in wording and could imprison people for merely talking about revolution.

Section 1302 would make physical interference with a federal government function a felony and would expose the leaders of just about any mass demonstration to imprisonment.

Sections 1111 and 1112 would define sabotage as any damage to or delay or obstruction of any United States property, facility or service or that of an "associate" nation which could be used in national defense. Under these terms, anti-Vietnam war demonstrators who "interfered with" public transportation by their very numbers could have been condemned as saboteurs.

One of the worst provisions is section 1114 which would criminalize the news media for making mistakes in war reporting and outlaw as a major felony information (such as My Lai?) which might create panic or disruption. This section would put the press in government service for the full duration of a war.

--Pat McCarthy

WOMEN MARCH AGAINST ASSAULT



August 26 was the anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment, which gave women the right to vote. Rape Crisis Line and the local National Organization for Women sponsored a rally and march here on that date.

Theme for the event was "Make the Streets Safe for Women."

In keeping with this theme, women marched down Main St. from Normal to Franklin Park in Bloomington, carrying lanterns and flashlights. At Franklin Park, twenty-five women camped out overnight in a symbolic gesture to make one place safe for women for one night.

Before the march, around fifty people gathered to hear speeches by several women who are involved in different areas of women's liberation. Subjects included rape, ERA, women and religion, lesbianism, and middle age.

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WHAT YOU CAN DO CALL 1-800-252-8903: SABOTAGE THE WELFARE "CHEATERS" SNOOPLINE

SPRINGFIELD OKAYS 1984

At a time when people are still feeling the bite of the recession, federal bureaucracies, hoping to shift public attention from their own big-money escapades and inefficiency, have been forcing state governments to crack down on what they refer to as "welfare cheating." Shrewd politicians hoping to gain favor with taxpayers/voters, are crying out about the amount of welfare fraud that is perpetrated against "honest taxpayers."

Springfield's response to the federal pressure has been to institute a "welfare cheaters" hotline number which citizens can use to rat on people who are, in the caller's opinion, misusing welfare monies. In radio spots from Peoria and in Gen Tel's Line publication, potential stool-pigeons are assured that all information will be kept confidential. (Those who wish to be known informants are asked to leave their names so the State can "properly thank" them.)

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Ever since public assistance to those in need began, the rich and comfortable, whether politicians or corporation heads, have done their utmost to sabotage funding and follow-through for needed public assistance programs (see adjoining article.)

Because a caller can report persons receiving public assistance benefits anonymously, it is possible that recipients' privacy will be violated whether they are "guilty" of welfare fraud or not. Because a legal action to cancel the use of this hotline is costly and time-consuming, there are more effective ways to get the message to state and federal bureaucrats:

1. Direct sabotage--call the toll-free number, and once you receive the "beep" to begin recording, take all the time you need to insult the higher echelons for allowing this abuse to continue. Or you can call from a pay phone (for free) and just leave the line off the hook.

2. Turn the tables on them--report the real welfare chislers. Here are some examples of corporate welfare fraud the Post-Amerikan had compiled. This is by no means the complete list.

Dr. Roland Hutchinson of the Kalamazoo State Hospital received \$500,000 over the past seven years to determine under what conditions rats, monkeys, and humans bite and clench their jaws.

Richard M. Nixon received over \$500,000 in "severance pay" after he was forced to resign. He still resides in San Clemente and is known to do part-time work directing traffic and appearing in court.

During World War I, the U.S. govt. financed the building of a number of factories for the DuPonts. The DuPonts realized profits of \$237 million from WWI.

Report the following Aerospace industries:

Gruman Aircraft
Boeing
General Dynamics
Fairchild Industries
Lockheed Aircraft
Northrop Corporation
McDonnell Douglas
Litton Industries

Post-Note: If you've been following the daily papers, you'd have noticed that Lockheed has admitted to paying off Saudi Arabian officials to the excess tune of \$106 million dollars. Lockheed receives millions from the federal government annually, and was bailed out by the Nixon administration with millions in federal aid. Northrop Corporation had also been implicated in bribery schemes with the Saudi government. This bribe money was made available by U.S. taxpayers so Lockheed and Northrop could convince Congress that a demand clearly exists for their products. Unfortunately, bribes had to be made to create the demand. Litton Industries reported to Congressman Les Aspin "cost overruns" of \$835 million on their original \$1.8 billion contract. They needed more money because they claim their original contract figures were "theoretical."

Here's some more defense spending cheaters:

Alcoa--appropriations of more than \$5.5 million
AMP Inc.--appropriations in excess of \$27 million
E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Co.--explosives (excess of \$7.8 million) contract
Eastman Kodak--explosives contracts
Ford Motor Co.--appropriations in excess of \$79.0 million

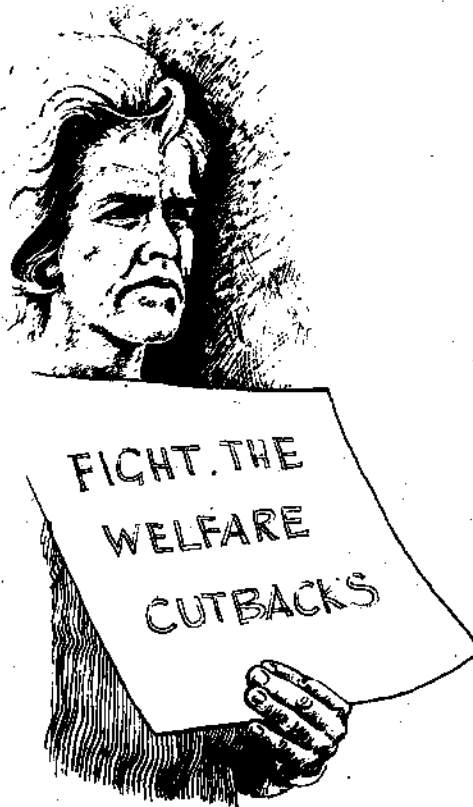
and the list goes on.

Our own General Telephone and Electronics Corporation received \$6.7 million for classified electronics systems for warfare, \$8.9 million for support systems for Minuteman missiles, and \$10.2 mill for Minuteman missile command and control. And these figures are dated; they do not reflect new defense department contracts for worthless equipment which will be scrapped in just a few years from now.

The next time you hear politicians deriding assistance expenditures as being too costly, please think about the expenditures which really drain our resources.

Rather than cutting a couple billion dollars upon which people depend to survive, how about some welfare cuts which will save taxpayers tens of billions of dollars? Instead of spending taxpayers' money to provide a telephone hotline which turns people against each other, how about some accountability from the rich and powerful for how they spend our money?

Thomas Pain



The tax rate for large corporations is established at 48% of profits by Congress. Claiming the coal depletion allowance, the following corporations were able to butt out of paying their fair share and stick taxpayers with the brunt of the burden:

Eastern Gas and Fuel	paid only 23.1%
Westmoreland	paid only 23.5%
Pittston	paid only 38.3%
North American	paid only 26.4%
Falcon Seaboard	paid only 24.6%
Utah International	paid only 0.2%



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[Sorry, Gabby, but it's a coupon like the one below.]

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\$1* off any small or medium pizza—
pitcher of beer combination.
Expires 10/15/75

WELFARE ADMINISTRATION: CUT-BACKS & POLITICS

Vice-president Nelson Rockefeller commented recently on the high costs of public assistance programs. He blamed the Judaeo-Christian ethic of charity and good will for the needy as the reason state and federal welfare costs have ballooned in the last few years. Throughout the summer, Rockefeller, Ford, and other prominent politicians have systematically attacked this so-called religious heritage, threatening to cut back public assistance benefits to "acceptable" levels--acceptable, that is, to those who don't rely on public assistance to survive.

STORMS AHEAD? — THE MASSACHUSETTS EXPERIENCE

Welfare cut-back threats turned into action in Massachusetts. In mid-August, the Massachusetts legislature approved massive public assistance cuts which will force thousands of people off welfare and will cut back medical services for welfare recipients. On August 21 a Massachusetts court eliminated Initial Needs and Hardship Benefits and restricted Emergency Assistance for people who need it. The court action prevents people from receiving any assistance for thirty days after applying for welfare. Emergency financial help for persons victimized by fire, evictions, or threatened electricity shut-offs for unpaid bills will also be more difficult to obtain.

Earlier this year, the Massachusetts legislature cancelled an 11% cost of living increase for welfare recipients and approved reductions in daycare spending. Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis was supposed to have heard the concerns of a welfare advisory board before giving his most recent recommendations to the legislature, but spokespeople for a number of citizens' groups maintain that Dukakis' cuts were planned to exclude input from the advisory board.

The legislative action is expected to throw 18,000 people off welfare in a state which is currently experiencing a 14% unemployment rate. And Medicaid regulations have been changed so that persons with chronic illnesses and colds won't be treated. Chances for persons in poor communities to become sicker will increase because most serious illnesses begin with chronic symptoms like heart trouble, anemia, and chest colds. Ambulance workers (possibly by directives from higher-ups) are refusing to take welfare recipients over five miles for emergency treatment. This recent series of events in Massachusetts has become a state of emergency for public assistance recipients--and it raises possibilities for serious cut-backs elsewhere in the U.S.

THE REVISED "WELFARE FRAUD" CARNIVAL

The 1950's were the most repressive years ever when it came to receiving badly needed public assistance. One reason the poor were discouraged from actively seeking public aid was the success of social propaganda which asserted that there is virtue in work and self-reliance, and that such virtues are rewarded in the marketplace. Certainly, all who should have had public assistance from 1950-59 weren't dissuaded from seeking it because they would be treading on the sacred "American Dream," but during that era, acknowledging one's poverty meant acknowledging one's failure.

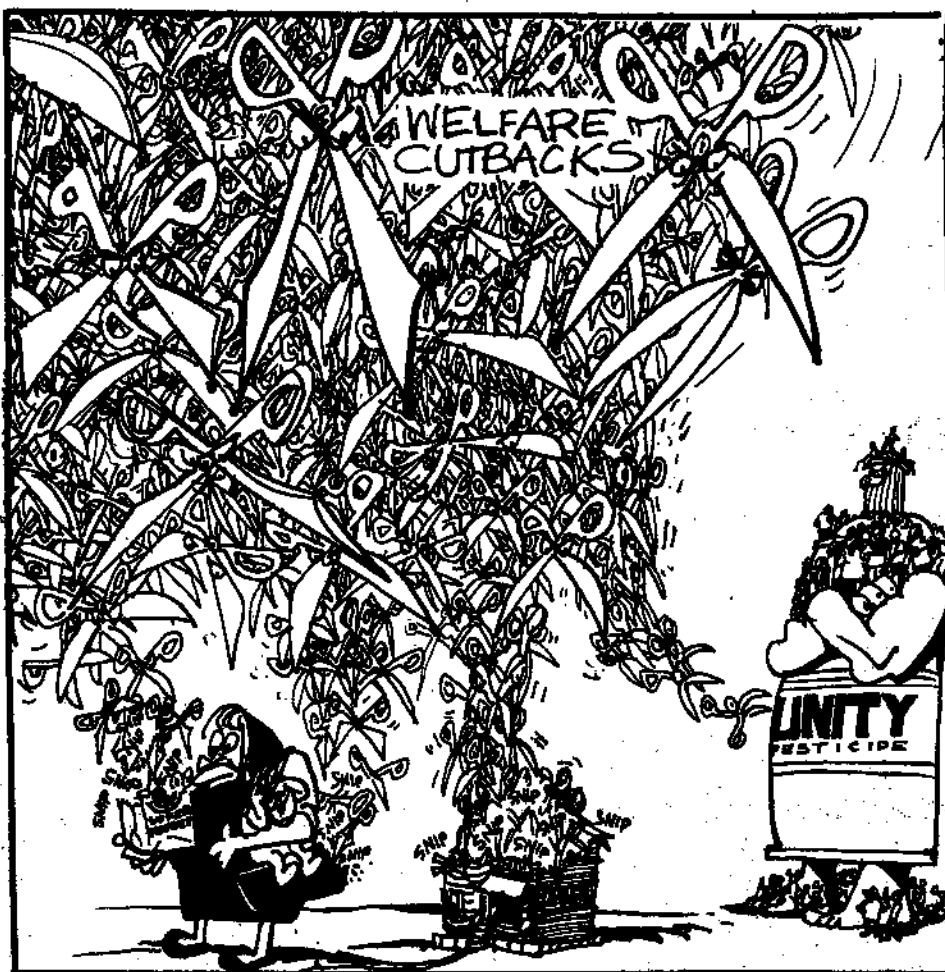
If one did go so far as to acknowledge his/her poverty, a life or death struggle with the welfare bureaucracy would ensue. Surprise raids by welfare inspectors for violations of restrictive rules were commonplace. Investigators questioned recipients' neighbors, usually with no legal authority to do so. If the father of a family couldn't find work, he would have to leave the household so the rest of the family would be eligible for aid benefits. Welfare regulations

were complex, detailed, and rarely publicized which kept people from getting even aid they were qualified for. If a person actually applied for assistance, s(he) was often verbally challenged to produce a credible reason. If a credible reason was provided, the actual assistance was weeks and sometimes months away. Many people just gave up.

Richard Cloward, writing for the Civil Liberties Review, gave an account of what he called the "welfare fraud" carnival. This tactic achieved about the same effects as any amount of welfare bureaucracy ineptitude. He writes:

First, an ambitious local politician would 'expose' wholesale cheating among welfare clients. The press would carry the charges prominently. Next, an investigation would be launched with recipients coerced into 'cooperating' on the threat that their checks would be terminated. The investigating committee soon would report that there was indeed widespread welfare 'ineligibility.' This slippery term

"With the erosion of due process, fraud investigations have been started in many states and, just as before the period of liberalization, the fraud investigators are beginning to report high percentages of 'ineligibility' among welfare recipients. On closer inspection 'ineligibility' turns out, as it did in the 1950's, to consist mainly of departmental errors, of inadvertent and minor deviations from the numerous technical requirements involved in qualifying for welfare, or of differences of opinion among auditors working for competing political leaders. Some of the fraud reports themselves are fraud. A highly publicized 1971 report by George Berlinger, the New York State fraud czar, asserted that one-third of the caseload in New York City might involve fraud. The report received front-page publicity. Closer inspection of Berlinger's report shows, however, that his statistic was based on an investigation of a sample caseload made up mainly of addicts and alcoholics, whose fraud consisted largely in the fact that the investigators could not find them at the addresses given.



meant that fraud investigators differed in judgment with welfare officials about whether various families qualified for aid under the numerous and detailed regulations; only a few people were ever found 'cheating.' But the public typically was led to believe that 'ineligibility' meant 'fraud.' In the glare of continuing publicity, welfare administrators would then begin to cut people from the rolls without even the barest semblance of due process. The much-publicized scandals made other people reluctant to apply for aid they were entitled to, and the number of welfare applications would drop dramatically.

The 1960's were years of struggle. Protest demonstrations, marches, Resurrection City in Washington, D.C., and finally, some federal and state responsiveness. But that "responsiveness" was forced by people who would no longer accept the degradation of going hungry or homeless. Welfare bureaucrats, not the people in need, were the ones who were fearful--fearful of losing their jobs after their department was slapped by a major suit or fearful of street riots if they didn't give people what they needed.

What's happening now? As Cloward sees it, welfare rights are rapidly diminishing.

A report by New York City's Human Resources Administration acknowledged that almost two-thirds of the case closings in 1972 were 'not clearly related to need,' nor was there the slightest implication of fraud in them; rather the cases were closed because of alleged non-compliance with various minor administrative technicalities, such as the failure to get an ID picture. Some of the people discharged on such grounds finally get back on the rolls, but not many. Only one in five people removed from welfare in 1972 was restored to the rolls by the end of the year, thus helping to fulfill the goal of the fraud scare tactic."

What we are experiencing is a steady drain of welfare rights. Police departments in major cities like Los Angeles have beefed up their resources to put down major food riots if the poor discover that they simply can't get enough. Hopefully, people will use lessons learned from the 1960's to reclaim what is being taken away by others who do not suffer from lack of decent housing, sufficient diets, and proper medical care.

--Thomas Pain, with thanks to Liberation News Service and Civil Liberties Review.

ARABS IN ISRAEL : POLITICAL

Israel as an ancient kingdom was established about 1100 B.C. It consisted of 12 tribes, only one of which was Judah (the tribe of the Jews). Historically, Israel never was an all-Jewish state, and Israel today is seven times as large as 1848 Israel and many times larger than biblical Israel, let alone Judah.

The Jews in Palestine were expelled by the Roman Empire in 133 A.D., and not allowed to return, curiously enough, until the Islamic empire conquered the area in 638 A.D. Until the 20th century, Arabs and Jews, who were both semitic in origin, lived together in relative harmony. Islamic religion, based on Judaism and Christianity, and referring to Jews and Christians as "people of the book," was basically tolerant of other religions. The greatest anti-semitism existed in Europe, among Christians, and in the 1930's and 1940's a great exodus of persecuted Jews populated Palestine. Before this 93% of Palestine was Arab, and only 7% was Jewish.

Peter Buch, a Jewish Israeli author, states, "Up until 1948 the Arabs were a great majority in Palestine. The UN partition resolution of November 1947 divided the area into a Jewish and an Arab state--over the strong objections of the Palestinian Arabs who still constituted 2/3 of the population, even after the large post-war Jewish immigration. But this UN resolution still left about as many Arabs as Jews within the new Jewish boundaries, about half a million each, with the Arabs owning 3/5 of the cultivatable land!"

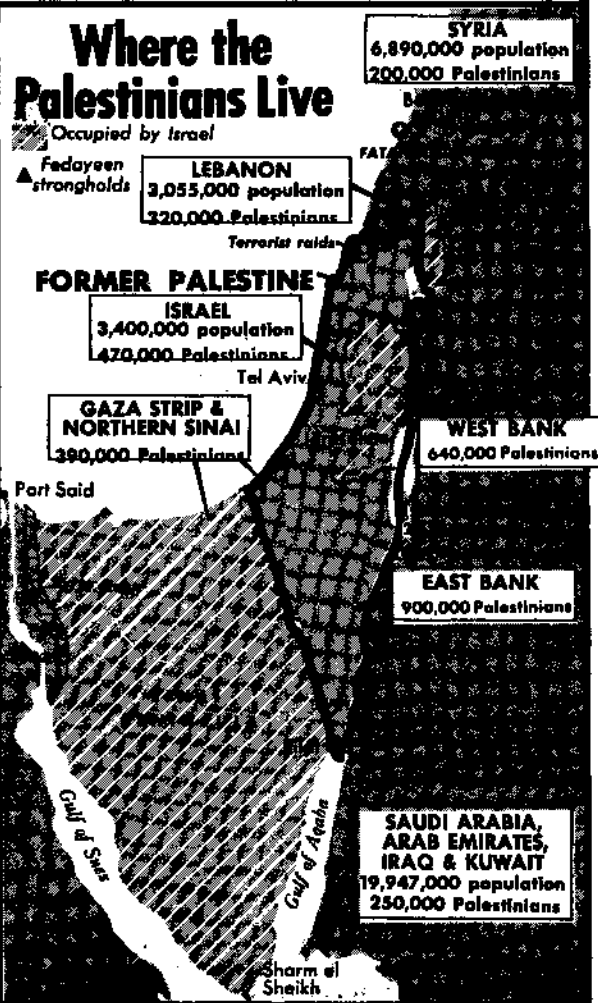
"So, there were only two ways to guarantee the Jewish character of Israel. One was to expel the Arabs, since most of them weren't willing to sell out their holdings. The other was to deny them equal political rights, to make them second class citizens...Both options were pursued...before as well

as after the founding of the state in 1948...They opposed land reform, because Arab peasants might get ownership of the land instead of them...they turned it over (the land bought and confiscated from the Arabs) to Jewish settlers with a restrictive covenant forbidding resale to Arabs forever."

According to I.F. Stone, a leading Jewish journalist, "The argument that the refugees ran away voluntarily or because their leaders urged them to do so until the fighting was over, not only rests upon myth but is irrelevant. Have refugees no right to return? Have German Jews no right to return to their property because they too fled?"

"Jewish terrorism, not only by the Irgun, in such savage massacres as Deir Yassine (and the bombing of the King David Hotel--ed.), but in milder form by the Haganah (regular Zionist Army) itself 'encouraged' Arabs to leave as the Jews wished to take over... They tried to make as much of Israel as possible as free as possible of the Arabs...We cannot say that Jews have a right to yearn for Palestine after 1,900 years and deny the Arabs the right to yearn for their homes after nineteen years."

The discrimination against Arabs in Israel is attested to by Israel Shahak, chairman of the Israel League for Human and Civil Rights, who says that Arabs are denied fee exemption for higher education granted routinely to Jews for financial reasons, and "Arab students have to learn an enormous amount of Hebrew literature...All Arabic literature after the year 1800 is prohibited...there is a negative quota against Arabs in many faculties...In some faculties...Arabs are completely forbidden to enter. In others only a few are allowed. And the number of Arabs who can live in student housing is zero."



According to Shahak, Arabs are excluded from 90% of all housing in Israel by law, and face widespread employment discrimination. In the territories, "Arabs have no rights at all. In particular, they have no right to organize. All committees, parties, organizations, trade unions, and so on are completely forbidden in the occupied territories. Any political activities...are prohibited. The number of people arrested is really enormous."

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AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

23

During demonstrations in the conquered territories, authorities are quite capable of arresting 10% to 20% of the adult male population...Unification of families only applies to USSR Jews and it doesn't apply to Palestinians...The people in the occupied territories are horribly tortured."

Noam Chomsky states, "Non-Jews are not permitted to lease or work on extensive lands owned. Exclusively Jewish settlement areas are established by law."

The following interview is conducted with an Arab Israeli and Palestinian, who prefers to remain anonymous because he fears recrimination as a result of his statements.

Post: From your own experience and that of others you have known, what kind of discrimination against Arabs exists in Israel?

Palestinian: There is political and racial discrimination against Arabs. An Arab often gets stopped by the police for little apparent reason. Police are suspicious of the Arabs and may interrogate them (and torture them in the process) without bringing charges. An Arab may be put in prison for up to 6 months without being able to get out on bail or have a trial. Trials are conducted under martial law (no trial by jury is allowed) and are weighted heavily against the accused.

An Arab who has been arrested faces employment discrimination and is often unable to get a decent job, even if he has a university degree (as a significant number of Palestinians do). Arabs are generally excluded from the better jobs.



Post: It seems like people are a lot more aware of Arab terrorism than they are of Israeli terrorism. At the same time, Arab terrorism against Israeli civilians seems to be inhuman and hardly productive of a just peace, instead only making Israel become more rigid. What is your reaction to Arab and Israeli terrorism?

Palestinian: It is hard to justify terrorism. But I don't see how the western world can justify the Israeli acts of violence against the Palestinians and Lebanese. Israeli jets were indiscriminately bombing Palestinian villages. In 1967, Israel levelled completely a number of Arab villages in the occupied territories and told its occupants to go to Jordan. Israel confiscation of Arab owned land has been widespread.

The Palestinians have the right to resist this violence and fight for their survival. Palestinians are fighting for their rights and land.

Post: In the present conflict, some are calling for an international conference which would include the Palestinians to produce a comprehensive solution, rather than making step-by-step agreements between Israel and individual countries. What is your opinion of this?

Palestinian: The Egypt-Israel negotiations have an impact, but they are only two countries out of many. The U.S. wants to make Egypt the representative of the Arab world, even though other parties are involved. This agreement completely avoids the problem of the Palestinians, which will have to be dealt with in any lasting solution.

Jordan cannot be the representative of the Palestinian people, although Kissinger and Israel want this. Jordan has made repeated attacks and committed a number of massacres against its Palestinian population. The Palestinians still clearly distrust Hussein.



Palestinian prisoners in an Israeli jail.

Jerusalem Post

The idea of an international conference is a good one, but Israel should first recognize the Palestinians. This is vital. The Palestinians should be able to participate independently and on an equal basis with the other nations in the conference.

Post: Do you think that a solution in the Middle East can be accomplished without changing the present situation regarding Palestinians?

Palestinian: The Palestinians should be able to return to and participate equally and fully in the governing of their land. They should have the same rights as any Jew, and not be discriminated against or have their land confiscated. These things are a definite pre-requisite to

a genuine peace. We should have peaceful coexistence between both parties based on trust. I think this is what the Palestinian people are asking for right now.

Post: Do you think a democratic Palestinian state should be set up on the west bank of the Jordan River?

Palestinian: The west bank is not too big. How can you create a small Palestinian state between two more powerful and hostile countries such as Israel and Jordan? It would continually be threatened. Many resources are necessary to create an independent state. The creation of this state would not benefit the Palestinians that much. Conflict would not be ended by this measure.

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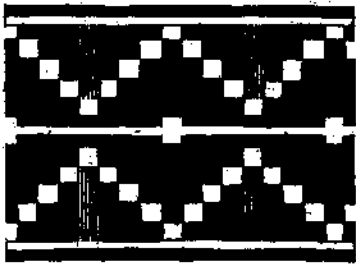
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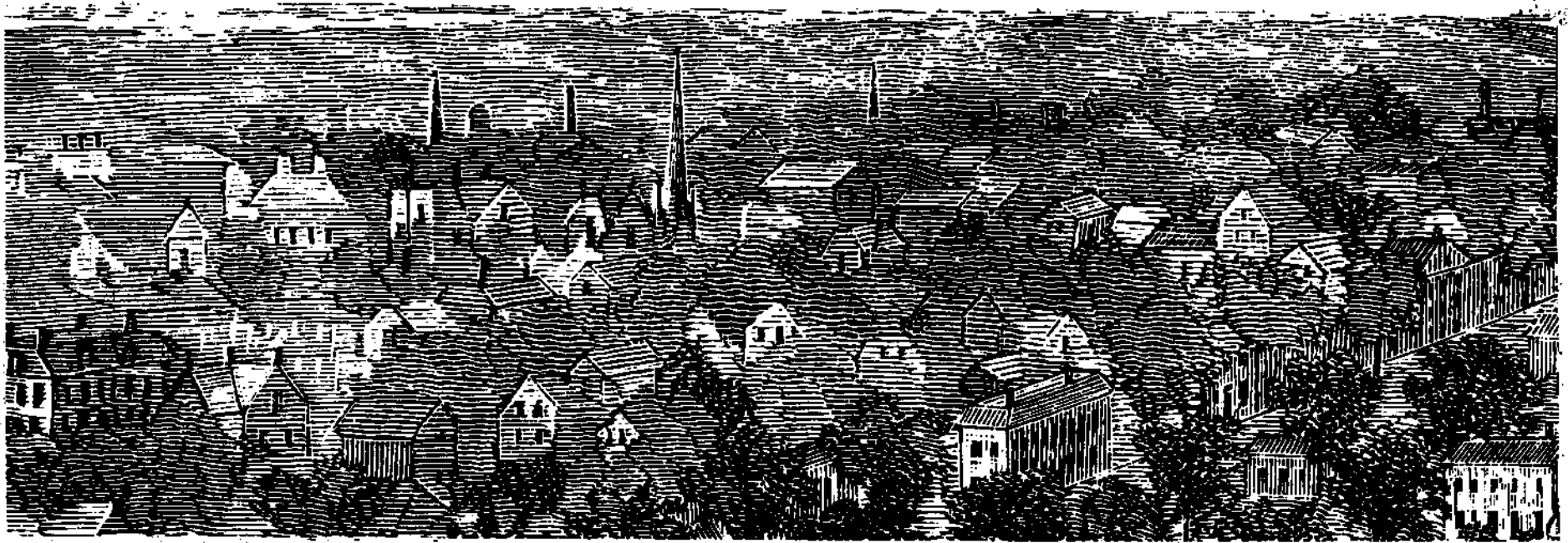


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