

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

12-1976

Volume 5, Number 8

Post Amerikan

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INSIDE:

HOME BIRTH--I.P.C.--KING--SMALL CHANGES --SEX ROLES --M.E.G. AGAIN

Bloomington-Normal

25c

POST AMERIKAN

Vol. 5 No. 8

DECEMBER 1976



HOHOHO!!! AND WHAT DO YOU WANT, LITTLE GIRL?

A JOB FOR DADDY!!!!

NONONO! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

A JOB FOR MOMMY???

NOOO... WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS?

FREE FOOD, HOUSING, ENERGY, AND HAPPINESS FOR EV-ER-Y-BO-DY!!!

NONO! GUESS AGAIN...

A PUPPY DOG?

NO! TRY ONCE MORE!

I DON'T KNOW... WHAT DO I WANT?

WHY YOU WANT "WHAT EVERY GIRL WANTS: A BIONIC LADY® BEAUTY PARLOR AND CHILDHOOD INDOCTRINATION SET! (BATTERIES NOT INCL.)!"

I DON'T WANT THAT!

SHUT UP, KID!!!

DEATH WHEELZ BOOM!

EYE SUCIION KIT

GI. JOSEPHINE "GIRLS CAN KILL, TOO!!"

THE GAME OF Rapoff A CAPITALISTIC GAME!

LITTLE NAZI BAKERIES

FOR BOYS!!! DIRTY HARRY TORTURE KIT!!

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 168 BLOOMINGTON ILLINOIS 61701

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

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

Anybody who reads this paper can tell the type of stuff we print. All worthwhile material is welcome. We try to choose art-

ABOUT US

icles that are timely, relevant, informative, and not available in other local media. We will not print anything racist, sexist, or ageist.

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

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

MEETINGS

Friday, Dec. 3..... 6:30
 Friday, Dec. 10..... 6:30
 Friday, Dec. 17..... 6:30
 Friday, Dec. 31..... 6:30
 Deadline--
 Wed., Jan. 5..... 6:30
 Layout begins--
 Sat., Jan. 8.
 Layout continues--
 Sunday, Jan. 9.

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

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

Post Sellers

BLOOMINGTON

Book Hive, 103 W. Front
 Cake Box, 511 S. Denver
 The Joint, 415 N. Main
 Medusa's Bookstore, 109 W. Front
 News Nook, 402 1/2 N. Main
 The Book Worm, 310 1/2 N. Main
 Gaston's Barber Shop, 202 1/2 N. Center
 Downtown Postal Substation, Center & Monroe
 Bl. Post Office, Empire & Fairway (at exit)
 DeVary's Market, 1402 W. Market
 Harris' Market, 802 N. Morris
 Hickory Pit, 920 W. Washington
 Biasi's Drug Store, 217 N. Main
 Discount Den, 207 N. Main
 U-I Grocery, 918 W. Market
 U-I Grocery, 608 S. Lee
 Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland Ave.
 Bus Depot, 523 N. East
 Park Store, 909 S. Allin
 Pantagraph Building, in front of it
 Eddy's Market, Washington & Allin
 Bi-Rite, 203 E. Locust
 Mandingo's, 312 S. Lee
 K-Mart, at parking lot exit
 The Blue Room, 803 Morrissey Drive
 Dairy Queen, Main & Miller Sts.
 Econ-O-Wash, 708 W. Market
 Washhouse, 609 N. Clinton
 Apache Junction, 204 S. McClun

OUTTA TOWN

Galesburg: Under the Sun, 188 W. Main
 Peoria: That Other Place, 901 NE Adams
 Springfield: Spoon River Book Co-op, 407 E. Adams
 Pontiac: Semmens Drug Store, 123 Madison St.
 Fairbury: The Grey Goose (Newstand)

NORMAL

University Liquors, 706 W. Beaufort
 Welcome Inn (in front)
 Redbird IGA
 Divinyl Madness Records, 115 North St.
 Mother Murphy's, 111 1/2 North St.
 Ram, 101 Broadway Mall
 Al's Pipe Shop, 101 Broadway Mall
 Hendren's Grocery Store, 301 W. Willow
 Co-op Bookstore (in front)
 The Galery (in front)
 SW corner, University and College
 Radio Shack, Raab Rd. (in front)
 New Age Bookstore, 101 Broadway Mall
 Co-op Tapes and Records, 311 S. Main
 Bowling and Billiards Center, ISU Student Union
 Cage, ISU Student Union
 Midstate Truck Plaza, Rt. 51 North



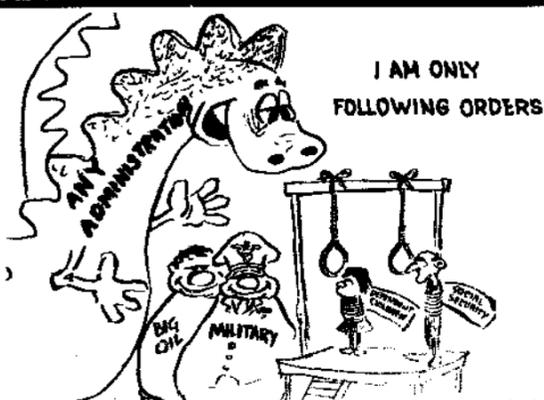
*BELTS & BUCKLES
 *COLUMBIAN PURSES
 *MOROCCAN BOXES
 *BASKETS (AFRICAN)
 *IMPORTED JEWELRY
 *MEXICAN SWEATER COATS
 *BOLIVIAN HOODED
 SWEATERS
 *PERUVIAN RUGS
 *NAVAJO & ZUNI
 TURQUOISE
 *ECUADORIAN X-MAS
 ORNAMENTS
 *COMPLETE MACRAME
 SUPPLIES
 *THOUSANDS OF BEADS

RAM HAS IT ALL....

at 10% off everything
 in stock for ISU and
 Wesleyan students!
 It's our way of saying

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

RAM
101 Broadway Mall
Downtown Normal



POWER TO THE PEOPLE

ANTI-RATE HIKERS

The McLean County Citizens Against the Rate Hike held an organizing meeting at Wood Hill Towers November 18, 1976.

The group issued a summons for grass-root organizing to oppose the proposed 15% rate hike by the Illinois Power Company.

The McLean County Citizens Against the Rate Hike is a local off-shoot of the Illinois Power Project, Urbana-based citizens who research utility issues and organize public action.

The McLean County group will present a four-point argument against the rate hike to the Illinois Commerce Commission at a hearing to be held during mid-January; the date is undetermined at this time.

The four points, presented by the McLean County group, are:

- 1) Company expenditures for "construction work in progress" should not be counted in the rate base. In other words, we don't want to pay for the power company's expansion, particularly construction of nuclear power plants, by an increase in our power rates. The traditional method of financing construction is by bonding.
- 2) Company expenditures for advertising, propaganda, lobbying, and other self-promoting activities should not be included in the rate base. This point is aimed at stopping the use of advertising to promote energy consumption, that IPC is so well known to do.

Illinois Power will be glad to provide a speaker or film for your club or school...



If you belong to a club, you know it's often difficult to provide an interesting program. Perhaps Illinois Power Company can help. We offer speakers and films for club meetings and school programs.

We have speakers who can talk about a variety of subjects such as wise use of energy in the home... how utility bills are computed... safety in the home... availability of fuels for the future... and how a power plant is built.

Illinois Power also has a library of nearly 100 films on subjects such as energy and the environment, cooking, the American business system, baseball, safety, the American presidency and careers in business.

These community service programs are available without charge. If you need a program for your club or school, call your nearest Illinois Power Company business office. Let us help you.



This ad offers you a free speaker from IPC for your group or club. You can bet that speaker isn't going to tell you how business and industry electric rates are half as high as yours, or about the dangers of nuclear power plants, or how you're paying for propaganda ads like this one when you write out your check to IPC.

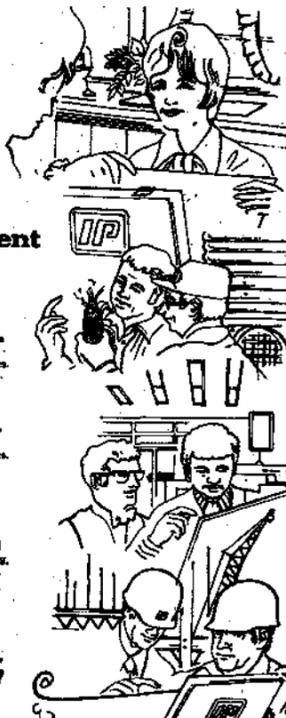
ORGANIZE LOCALLY

ENERGY? Wise Management is today's best answer.

Today America is searching for new sources of energy. At Illinois Power, we're very much involved in our country's long-range search for new energy resources. At the same time, we're using the best technology available today to create energy sources that will be needed very soon.

And we're working on a third way to provide more energy—now! That is, the wise management of present energy sources. We think the best way all of us can cope with the ever-rising demand for energy is to make more intelligent use of the resources we now have.

So, while we're hard at work on new resources, we're also hard at work in our customers' homes... on the farm... and with businesses large and small... helping our customers manage their use of energy. With wise management, all of us can make energy go a long way.



In this ad, IPC claims that "wise management" is the answer to "ever-rising demand" for energy. Illinois Power Project statistics show that peak demand last year only used 63% of IPC's existing capacity. Also, IPC's support of energy management wasn't evident when the company leafletted elderly Woodhill Towers residents, trying to convince them they all needed to buy and use night lights. By the way, your electric bill payments paid for this ad. So who's the wise guy?

3) That due consideration be given to the question of rate restructuring with regard to present undue discriminations in rates to various classes of users. At the present time, places like State Farm that are lit-up continually like Christmas trees are paying a lower rate for power than the average household. And they call that promoting conservation! At the present time, your rates are twice as high as commercial or industrial rates.

4) That Illinois Power Company develop adequate conservation programs encouraging a decreased use of electrical power.

Besides the rate hike affecting the areas mentioned above, if you're an average residential user, this increase will cost you more than \$50 per year. And that ain't much fun!

So you have two choices: 1) move to a different section of the state, because two-thirds of the people in Illinois do pay less for their electricity than IPC consumers do, 2) or you can oppose the rate hike by attending the anti-rate hike meeting in mid-January. We shall have the date and time in the next issue. It's up to you to stop this rate hike.

--S.L.

Note: Marilyn Sutherland is the chairperson of the local anti-rate hike group. If you'd like to participate, call her at 452-4831.



Bob Hathaway leads organizing meeting at Wood Hill Towers

PUBLIC PRESSURE FORCES OPEN ICC MEETINGS

As a result of constant pressure from the Illinois Public Action Council and other citizen groups, the Illinois Commerce Commission announced on November 10th that it would open its commission meetings to the public.

"For the first time, we who pay the bills will be able to witness the decision-making proceedings," said Warren Friedman, Co-chairperson of Public Action's Utility Campaign.

ICC is one of only five commissions in the country that exclude the public

from all deliberations. In launching the Public Action campaign to open up the meetings of the commission on August 9, 1976, Friedman said, "There can be no progress without accountability, and no accountability without open meetings."

In issuing the results of the vote by the ICC Commissioners, Marvin Lieberman, Chairperson of the ICC, said, "It is in the public interest to change the procedures of the Illinois Commerce Commission. It will be enlightening to the public to be

able to observe such deliberations."

The other priority voted by Public Action's Utility Campaign is to restructure utility rates in Illinois. Public Action groups are in the process of drafting "Lifeline" legislation. Twenty-two groups from throughout the state are participating in Public Action's Utility Campaign. One of these twenty-two groups is a local group, Citizens Against the Rate Hike, featured in the adjoining article. For information, contact Marilyn Sutherland at 452-4831.

BETRAYAL

In May of 1923, Val Simshauser, socialist and trade unionist, was first elected to the Bloomington city council. A native American born in Indiana, he admired progressive Robert LaFollet, read Carl Sandburg's "The Prairie Years" and "The War Years," studied Karl Marx, and voted for Debs for president. As a machinist and foreman at the Chicago and Alton railroad shops, he went on strike with his men, although he did not have to.

After the strike, he left the shops and started his own business, a garage and gas station. He used his business to lobby with his customers and the public for a goal he had. Mr. Simshauser wanted Bloomington to have its own source of electrical power, a municipally-owned generating plant. Another project he had was a cooperative that would expand in size until it included both groceries and clothing.

He knew that to be elected alderman in Bloomington, he would have to run on the Republican ticket, so he did and was elected five times. Other council members respected alderman Simshauser, and often consulted him for advice. It was not difficult for alderman Simshauser to run as a Republican, since he agreed with Senator Morris of Nebraska who wanted to break up the power trusts.

Val Simshauser was the beginner and lobbyist for a municipal power plant; James G. Gray was the organizer. Mr. Gray has been called both a martyr and an arch traitor. An electrical contractor and appliance dealer, he belonged to all the correct organizations. Mr.

Gray was president of the Association of Commerce for eighteen years. He belonged to the Bloomington Club (a private club for businessmen), Young Men's Club, Kiwanis, and the Masons.

Why did a man who belonged to so many organizations that support private enterprise become such a strong supporter of the city-owned power plant, and a dedicated opponent of the privately-owned power plant? Perhaps it was partly because the Illinois Power and Light Company competed with him in the sale of electrical appliances. But Mr. Gray also had a high sense of civic responsibility, and was very knowledgeable on the subject of government. So he joined the organization advocating a city-owned power plant, the Citizens Light and Power League, and became its president.

He is given credit for the huge success of the first referendum when the people voted to keep their power plant. Mr. Gray accused the power trusts of helping to destroy our political institutions, and of breeding socialism and paternalism in their "hogism." He stated there is no difference between municipal ownership of electricity and ownership of streets, libraries, schools, parks, and water works.

These two men, with their different backgrounds, were the driving force behind others who made it possible for Bloomington to have its own electrical generating plant for thirty years, at far lower rates than those charged by the privately-owned company.

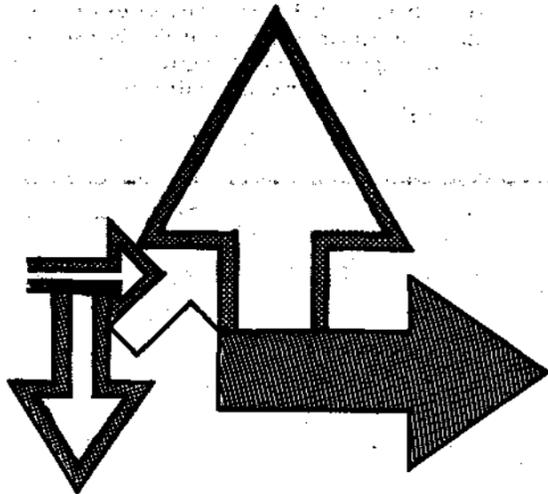


Post American/cpf

GENERATING PLANT

The electricity generating plant on the northwest side of Bloomington grew. In April 1931 it was providing electricity to 485 customers. A year later, 1,000 people were using its power in their homes. Remember that Bloomington was much smaller forty years ago. In 1934, sixty business and professional men petitioned the city council to extend the operation of the power plant to serve the east side of the business district. They offered to advance the money to pay for the construction of the extension.

With 1200 using the city plant that year, the Mayor suggested extending its use to 1,000 additional customers. After tripling its original size to 1500 customers, the city in 1938 seriously considered buying the privately-owned Illinois-Iowa power plant with government loans to provide current for the entire city, but the government stopped making loans before this could be done.



STEP UP TO

fox & hounds

THE SCIENTIFIC HAIR STUDIO

FREE CONSULTATION AND HAIR TEST

Call for an appointment and spend
45 minutes with one of our directors.

UNISEX STUDIO

WE HAVE A UNISEX STUDIO
AT
420 N. MADISON
BLOOMINGTON
829-1523

Shampoo, Cut & BlowDry

Mon. & Sat. 9-6
Wed-Fri. till 9pm

MEN'S STUDIO

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE OUR
MEN'S STUDIO WILL BE OPEN

Tues., Fri. & Sat. 9:00 am-6:00pm
Wed. & Thurs. 7:30 am-9:00pm

Shampoo, Cut & BlowDry \$12.00

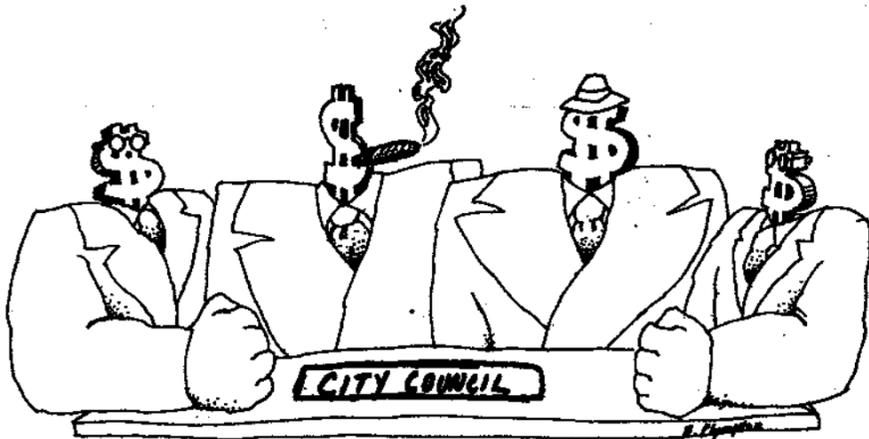
2503 E. JACKSON
FOUR SEASONS SQUARE
663-5514

P.S. 1/3 off Southwestern Retail on all Indian Jewelry

REFERENDUMS

All this success attracted the attention of the Illinois Power Company, and it made its first move to put the people's power plant out of business. In the beginning of a 30-year struggle, the city council was persuaded to have an advisory referendum on the city-owned power plant. There were two questions on the referendum, neither clearly stating that the Illinois Power Company wanted to purchase the power plant.

The first question on the referendum asked "Shall the City of Bloomington continue to generate electric current to light its streets, etc., and pump its water?" The second question asked "Shall the City of Bloomington sell to its citizens for heat, light, and power the excess current generated by its electrical plant?"



On April 1, 1930, the people voted 4 to 1 to continue the operation of their plant.

It was to be the same in three more referendums, continuing through the years to 1956.

In a referendum on Nov. 5, 1940, they voted again to keep the plant in operation.

On April 5, 1949, the vote was 6 to 1 to continue the generating plant.

Finally on Nov. 6, 1956, the question was put more clearly to the people. The need for new street lights forced the issue. City engineers, in planning the new lights, had to know where the power would come from. The question on the final referendum was "Shall the City of Bloomington, Illinois, sell its municipal electric plant exclusive of the real estate upon which it is situated to the Illinois Power Company for the sum of \$1,053,800.?" Inflation had not hit America too hard yet, and that was a lot of money in 1956.

The sale was rejected by a vote of 2 to 1 in what was to be the last chance for the people to speak directly to city hall. The vote was smaller now in favor of the plant. The city had grown to the east, and there were far more people not using the city-owned power plant.

PEOPLE BETRAYED

Seldom have the wishes of the people been so clearly expressed as they were in those referendums over nearly three decades. The betrayal that happened next may best be understood in the context of the times. The Korean war had diverted the people's attention from domestic issues. The war had caused shortages and priorities that made expansion of the plant in the 1950's difficult. The hysteria of McCarthyism in the 1950's made people afraid to support projects that could be tagged socialistic. The Broyles bill was law in Illinois, demanding loyalty oaths and dampening criticism of public officials and policies. The aldermanic form of government had ended in Bloomington, and with the new city manager system, the people had fewer representatives in city hall.

The Illinois Power Company made a startling offer to the city council. If the council would NOT hold another referendum, the I.P.C.

would pay \$3,025,000. for the power plant! This would include \$525,000 the city owed in revenue bonds on the power plant.

On August 13, 1962, with only one dissenting vote, the council accepted the offer. The dissenting vote was cast by councilman Walter Bittner, now mayor of Bloomington. Mr. Wetzel, then manager of the local I.P.C. office, said at the council meeting after the vote approving the sale, "This may not be the way democracy works, but these things happen."

Mr. Wetzel had been one of the strongest advocates of the purchase of the plant by the I.P.C. Later it was revealed that debts owed by the city were owed to the I.P.C., so the I.P.C. would not have to pay debts to another company, but only cancel its own, and acquire the plant.

throughout the years of referendums. This new Light League was geared to legal action. Lots of money would be needed, and at first its only asset was determination.

The membership and treasury were small at the beginning. Twelve members met nights in a barbershop to plan court action. Some of them knew the union members in the plant, and so the manufacturer of turbines for the power plant was contacted. The manufacturer promised financial assistance.

To avoid a conflict of interest between local attorneys and the city, the Light League preferred to hire an out-of-town lawyer. Attorney Foreman of Jacksonville, who specializes in utility cases, was hired. A Bloomington law firm, Yoder and Yoder, did the necessary local work. Eventually \$25,000 was spent to fight the I.P.C. and the City of Bloomington through three Illinois Courts.

The Illinois Power Company won the first court hearing in Bloomington, but the Light League appealed through its attorney, and won the second court trial. The I.P.C. appealed to the Supreme Court in Springfield, and when that court decided in favor of the I.P.C., Attorney Foreman said he would not appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, as he believed it was a matter only for the state of Illinois.

THE FUTURE

Not content with its monopoly, the Illinois Power Company is now asking the Illinois Commerce Commission for a new rate structure, a way of raising rates for residential consumers. A new opposition group, McLean County Citizens Against the Rate Hike, is organizing with other groups to prepare for a hearing in Bloomington.

Criticism is growing against the power trusts. A federal law may be passed forbidding employees of companies from serving for a number of years on government agencies that regulate the companies. If rates continue to rise, it may not be too much to expect the city to consider again, as it did in 1938, to buy the Illinois Power Company with a government loan and serve the entire city with lower rates.

--Independent News Service

RESISTANCE

Thus began a legal battle that would last another three years to 1965, a battle that surprised the I.P.C. and city officials. The people turned to the courts. An ad hoc committee sprang up that grew in strength until it was strong enough to challenge the I.P.C. Three people met to plan opposition to the sale, and thus the Light League was born. This is not the same Citizens Light and Power League that held public meetings and banquets supporting the city power plant

the JOINT general store

WATER BEDS & ALL ACCESSORIES

paraphernalia*over 100 kinds of bong*s*over 200 different pipes*imported

415 N. Main, Bloomington
We carry necessities
for your mind & body

lapesries* records* hundreds of other unique gift items*

**"Are you
man enough
for XTAL?"**

XTAL CAR STEREOS ARE X-RATED.
The only thing modest about our units is their price. We've got superior engineering. Superior sound.



Save
\$20⁰⁰

MODEL XA-92 Reg. 49.95
Mini Cassette Stereo Tape Player, Side Loading

Only \$29⁰⁰



MODEL XA-86
Deluxe 8-track Car Stereo. 4 channel matrix, repeat, fast forward, loudness controls, map light and burglar alarm. Reg. 79.95

Only \$44⁰⁰



MODEL XA-88 Reg. 89.95
Discreet Quad 8-track Car Stereo
Joy Stick balance control

6 ABOVE: Here's a reproduction of part of the car stereo ad which prompted Jack's letter. Breaker One-Nine placed the ad in the Daily Pantagraph.



CENSORS ANOTHER LETTER

Pantagraph

On October 20, Jack Davis noticed the pictured Breaker-One-Nine advertisement in the Daily Pantagraph. Finding it even more offensive than the usual Pantagraph slop, Davis immediately wrote the following letter to the editor of the Pantagraph:

Editor:

The Pantagraph has reached a new low. It appears that it doesn't make any difference what your advertisements say as long as the advertisers pay for them.

I am referring to the ad that appeared in the Wednesday Oct. 20 Pantagraph on page A-12. It seems that this radio place thinks that the only people who are going to buy their products are men who still believe that macho baloney. I guess the management of the store is still holding on to the idea that if they show a scantily clad woman saying something suggestive in the ad, men are going to break down their door trying to find out if that woman works there or if they can buy her along with a radio. That is out and out objectification of women.

This place must think that women don't buy radios, since the ad is directed toward macho heterosexual men.

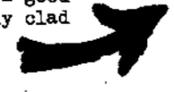
The Pantagraph needs to clean up its act when it comes to using women in advertising and stop expecting men to be so stupid as to think this is a good place to patronize because they use sexy women in their ads. --Jack Davis

Jack also sent this letter to Breaker-One-Nine:

People:

Your ad in Wednesday's Pantagraph was gross. You certainly don't expect men to fall for that sexist crap any more do you? I doubt that you are going to sell any more radios using a sexy woman as bait. Besides, don't you ever sell radios to women?

I demand that you print an apology in the Pantagraph to women for objectifying them in the ad and an apology to men for expecting them to be stupid enough to think yours is a good place to buy radios just because you used a scantily clad woman in your ad. --Jack Davis



THIS YEAR. GIVE A GIFT THAT'S

**HIP,
HIGH QUALITY,
ENLIGHTENING,
HOME-GROWN,
COUNTER
CULTURAL,
FUN TO PASS AROUND,
CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING,
AND LEGAL, TOO!**



Send a friend 12 monthly issues of the Post-Amerikan for only \$2.50.

Just fill out the coupon and send it to PO Box 3452, Bloomington, Illinois, 61701. We'll send your friend a card announcing that you've given him/her a gift subscription.

If you don't have any friends, buy a subscription for yourself. Maybe it'll improve your personality.

 * To: Post-Amerikan, Box 3452, Bloomington, *
 * Illinois, 61701 *
 * Dear Post, *
 * I'm sending \$2.50 for a gift subscription for my *
 * friend, (friend's name) *
 * who lives at (street address) *
 * _____ in (city, state, zip) *
 * _____ Please send my friend a card *
 * telling him/her that the gift is from _____ *
 * _____ *
 * *****

says 'Get back, Jack'

Jack wondered what had happened to his letter to the editor when the Pantagraph didn't include it on the 21st, 22nd, or 23rd. He thought it was important for his criticisms to appear as soon after the ad appeared as possible, so readers could remember exactly what ad he referred to.

On October 24, Jack received this letter from the Pantagraph:

Dear Letter Writer:
We find no 306 W. Mill listed in our directories. If this letter reaches you, can you inform us? --Editor

The letter was dated October 21.

Angry at the delay and the confusion that the delay might cause for readers interpreting his letter, Jack replied this way:

The letter did indeed reach me; I do indeed live at this address. In the future, may I suggest that you call Directory Assistance to confirm an address? I know that at times the operators will not give out addresses with the telephone numbers; however, if after asking for the number you ask them to confirm an address, they will.

I suggest that in the future you use this method also, when researching letters that you sincerely wish to respond to. I wrote the letter; I live at this address. I demand a reply. --Jack Davis

Finally, on the first of November (ten days after the offensive ad), Jack's letter ran on page four.

The Pantagraph, however, evidently didn't consider a time lag enough to lessen the impact of Jack's letter. The newspaper censored the letter, too. The sentence, "This place must think that women don't buy radios, since the ad is directed toward macho heterosexual men," did not appear in the Pantagraph.

Why did the Pantagraph people find this particular sentence so bad that they protected McLean County readers from exposure to it? Notice that the line doesn't have any obscenity in it. The meaning of the sentence is also perfectly clear--and it's obvious to any Pantagraph reader that Pantagraph editors don't take anything out just because it's unclear, anyway. (If they did, we'd be spared a whole lot of editorials.)

The sentence is not either obscene or incomprehensible. But there must be something horribly wrong with it, in the Pantagraph's opinion. At the same time as they were fritzing around with Jack's letter, the Pantagraph ran an editorial coming down on Rep. Gil Deavers for calling and threatening a writer of a pro-Reitan letter-to-the-editor. The Oct. 29 editorial said, "The call to the letter writer was a serious abuse of official power by Deavers. Additionally, we believe it was a serious assault on free expression, particularly the extension of the free press right which we offer to our readers via the Letters to the Editor column." (underlining mine)



We must consider ourselves warriors in a battle waged against those who have sought to control that which belongs to us all -- Information.

While these sentences were being written, another sentence was being erased. Jack's laundered letter appeared just two days after this noble editorial.

According to Jack, the purged sentence brings up two important points about male and female roles. First, it points out how the advertisement encourages stereotyped ideas of what men do and buy compared to what women do and buy. The ad implies that only men are interested in car stereos and radios. Jack speculates that the reason for this is that cars are traditionally presented as symbols of masculinity, and therefore other items associated with cars are presented this way too.

The second important point in the sentence is that the ad's appeal is even narrower: it's directed at not all men, but those men who are macho heterosexuals. Jack explains that there are many non-macho heterosexual men who are disgusted, not attracted, by the use of women as sex objects in advertising. And of course, many men are homosexual and not attracted to women.

Here we come to a point where we must wonder about the level of self-deception that went on when the Pantagraph censored Jack's letter. The advertiser, probably, was just mindless, and assumed that a half-naked lady was a good sales gimmick, never pondering the ethics or philosophy behind the gimmick.

But the Pantagraph censor was not just ignorant; Jack's sentence forced the idea that not all men are heterosexual into the censor's mind.

I think that this is really why the sentence got out--maybe the censor worried about offending a Pantagraph advertiser by printing the letter, but I don't think those worries would make the editor cut just one sentence.

No, I think that openly acknowledging that not all men are heterosexual was just too threatening to the editor, who then cut the sentence so that Pantagraph readers would not be threatened and disturbed by such an idea. I realize that my theory contrasts with the Pantagraph's claims of "extension of the free press right" to letter writers. So does the general Pantagraph pattern of censorship and omission. (See Oct and Nov 1976 Post-Amerikans.)

If you're a reader of the Pantagraph, you should keep in mind that the editor takes out ideas that he thinks might disturb you. Some people think that when there's just one large-circulation daily in a community, that newspaper should be more responsible to the community. The Pantagraph has the power to manipulate public consciousness as the editors would like it to be, but perhaps using this power makes the newspaper not so much a community information resource as an instrument of mind control, accountable to the powers-that-be instead of the people who read it. Having the power is not necessarily having the right. (Warning: This idea may disturb or threaten Pantagraph editors.)

--Phoebe Caulfield

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READER LIKES POST

Fellow Amerikans of Post Amerikan:

You are Great !!!!! I am from Springfield and just picked up your paper and found it quite moving. I've been waiting for some info like this for some time. Thanks for the Enlightenment.

Keep on Keeping On.

LIKES POST TOO

Dear Post,

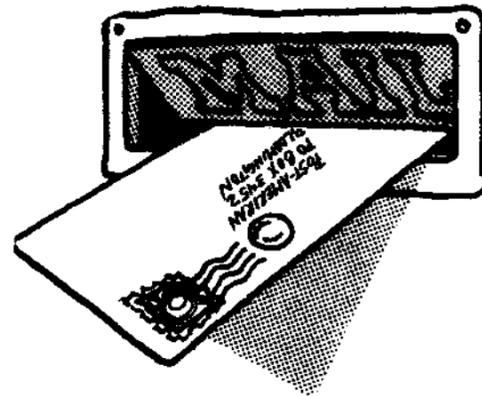
I am with you 100% on all the material and stories you cover and write about.

Just keep up the Good Work!

Am enclosing a donation that will help you carry on.

Thank you,

Kenneth Luster



If you feel moved to write us a letter, go right ahead, and we'll probably put it in. If you don't want it published, please say so in the letter.

ALSO LIKES POST

Dear Post Amerikan:

I have been a subscriber to the Post for a year and a half now, and I think it's about time that I commend you on the outstanding job that you do.

The Post is a refreshing alternative to the newspapers (like the Pantagraph) who are slanted toward what big business, and the city government think is right.

So to help you out, I would like to donate \$25.00 to you just to let you know that there are people who appreciate what you do. I also would like to wish you good luck for the future.

Sincerely,
Greg Edwards
Mansfield, Ill.

LIKES POST, BUT HATES TOMATOES

Dear Post,

This a response to last month's "Confessions of a Tomato Addict."

It seems to be very "pschutt" within certain circles nowadays to partake of the dubious pleasures of the deadly nightshade. The "tomato": the very word sends cold shudders of horror coursing up my spine. And yet some people talk of actually ingesting this sanguineous sauce!

Oh yes, "the Italians have been doing it for years," you'll hear them brag. "Boethius ate," they'll say; "Garibaldi ate! Caruso ate!" But may I politely retort that at least they knew the risks!

What was the first thing the nasty Bolsheviks did once they had their little revolution, I ask? You know the answer as well as I! They grew tomatos! Spread around the rankest sludge and what will you find growing there? A tomato patch! And did you know that these most vulgar of vegetables oftentimes eat

their young?

Do you realize the smorgasbord of smut that this culinary culprit could drag into its train? What next, public gobbling? Bad table manners? And how about the Twelfth Commandment; "Thou shalt not have false tasty things before you"?

This woman is in obvious need of psychiatric attention, and if she herself cannot afford some qualified help, there are state-supported halfway houses. Thanks to the wonders of modern science, there is now hope for the esculentuphage, provided that the, er, client first realizes-ACK! Whazzat? Someone is giggling over my shoulder! Hey, cut that out!! Ha?

In your heart you know I'm right.

-Ralph Kramden
386 Chauncey St., II.

NEXT MONTH:
The Winesap Menace: fact or fiction?

Growing like
a weed....

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THINKS POST TOO WISHY-WASHY

Greetings,

It is my hope that you will take this communique home and sit down quietly to read it rather than go through it in your no doubt busy fashion.

The Post is very effective at heightening the people's awareness of the reality of the existing socio-economic arrangement and all the subsequent atrocities which follow from it. It is obvious that you acknowledge capitalism as the disease which ails this age, but why is it you refrain from stating plainly that capitalism equals fascism? That is, that we must eliminate the pig manufacturer to solve the pig problem.

I was born in Bloomington and have lived there (until this year) for these 18 years, and what I see in your publication is enraging, although only a repetition of what I've always known. My family has been there since that community was founded. There are police acts which have taken place in that town long ago that far surpass the illness you now experience.

Demonstrations for reform are necessary as far as above-ground organizing is concerned, but you have been fighting fire with water long enough. It should be apparent to anyone that it is past the time to continue that. You must fight fire with fire. The idea, as someone stated indirectly in the last issue, is to pose a threat to these people's "ability to benefit from wealth created by labor first and yet deny those equal benefits to those whose labor has created it."

I saw pictures in last month's Post of many people I know. The young man toting a flag around--why is he doing that? Why would anyone desire to defend a document so clearly racist, and in every way discriminatory, as the U.S. constitution, and then march against something which is no more than a result, an offspring of that document?

The revolutionary war (in 1776) was paid for and organized by a handful of wealthy men, not for the purpose of freeing the people from British exploitation, but in order to be in a position to themselves be the exploiters. Those same families later financed the Russian revolution under the guise of bolshevik activity, for similar reasons.

You know all these facts as well as I do. You understand the progression and psycho-historic formula. The formula:

$$\left(\frac{\Delta nAch}{nAch}\right) - \left(\frac{\Delta nAFI}{nAFI}\right) = \frac{\Delta Iag}{Iag} - \frac{\Delta Iaf}{Iaf} = 1$$

applies to the interaction between those within any state, as well as between states.

Police are still roaming without fear of organized retaliation. We are in dire need of a people's army, people dedicated to people, and to the destruction of the fascist terror. There are people, many people like myself, who sit behind these prison walls and develop a consciousness which

is conducive to the removal of anything which bears even a semblance of capitalist indoctrination, and to the establishment of a more collective social order.

Lavonya Carter? He goes by the name of Blue- I've known that guy for about three years. It was bad news to hear that he's a narc now. He used to be a sure enough righteous law breaker, did time at least twice that I know of. If he's turned pig then somebody better hit him quick. That's just my personal advice- he's full of game and always armed. If he's in Bloomington he may be staying with his parents in a big blue house (it used to be blue anyway) just off the southwest corner of Mason and Locust.

You may as well execute pig Stephens as get his probation revoked. What do you think'll happen to him in the joint? He'd catch rigor mortis in 5 minutes.

Your article on Johnny Ross is the most worthwhile, in my opinion, you've printed. What do you think Johnny Ross' solution to oppression is? I think you can guess. The only support oppressed people need or will accept is revolutionary support. A loaded m-14 looks undoubtedly more promising to anyone in his position than a thousand lawyers, considering that he is just one of a multitude of the most viciously attacked victims of one of capitalism's necessities, racism. ZPG becomes very clear now, doesn't it?

I am not violent by nature. I simply cannot convince myself that there is any other way to achieve our goals. I subscribe to George & Jonathon Jackson's ideologies and tactics. They both did much more than many realize. This must all be done in coalition with above ground organization, and vice-versa. Only then is success possible. Are you familiar with a publication called The Dragon from Berkeley? Probably so. How do you compare that to the Post?

It has been said to me that you are sensationalist. I hope that is not true, for you are in a position to organize, and further to influence the direction of that organization. Do you respect the responsibilities accompanying that role? What do you consider your duty to your readers? Is it just alternative journalism?

Well, gonna close this for now. Please take a few minutes, sit yourself down and respond. Good Luck.

In Solidarity, Love,
and Rage-
Mark Valentine

COP THINKS HE OWNS STREET

Dear Post:

This is a sad sick case.

Sad because there was a death involved. Sick because it concerns one of our Bloomington detectives and the asinine way they can treat the general public.

This episode took place on Friday, Oct. 29th, about 10:30 P.M. After returning from the wake of my uncle in Pontiac who passed away unexpectedly Thursday, I was letting my folks and my aunt off at home. My aunt had parked her car across the street, in front of the home of Detective Dennis J. O'Brien.

As I was helping her out I noticed a note on her windshield. Surprised, I went over and got it. The note said: "Please! Do not Park Directly in front of our WALK-WAY" and was signed by Dennis J. O'Brien.

My aunt was not blocking a driveway, only parked where the sidewalk extends to the curb.

Since when do we own the street in front of our homes? Only if you are a police officer, perhaps? Maybe this is written into their contracts and included as a fringe benefit with their yearly salary?

Needless to say, this was very upsetting to our family after suffering such a great loss.

Det. O'Brien already has sore feelings about one former neighbor. She sent Bosshardt a letter and managed to get O'Brien reprimanded for parking on the wrong side of the street. She herself had received a ticket (not from O'Brien) for doing the same.

She said it wasn't that she thought she was too good to pay the ticket, but O'Brien had been doing it all the time. The time she was ticketed, she was only gone from the car several minutes. Her ticket was dropped, and she received a letter from Bosshardt, Mayor Bittner and the traffic division thanking her for speaking out.

What's one more enemy?

J. Ridgeway



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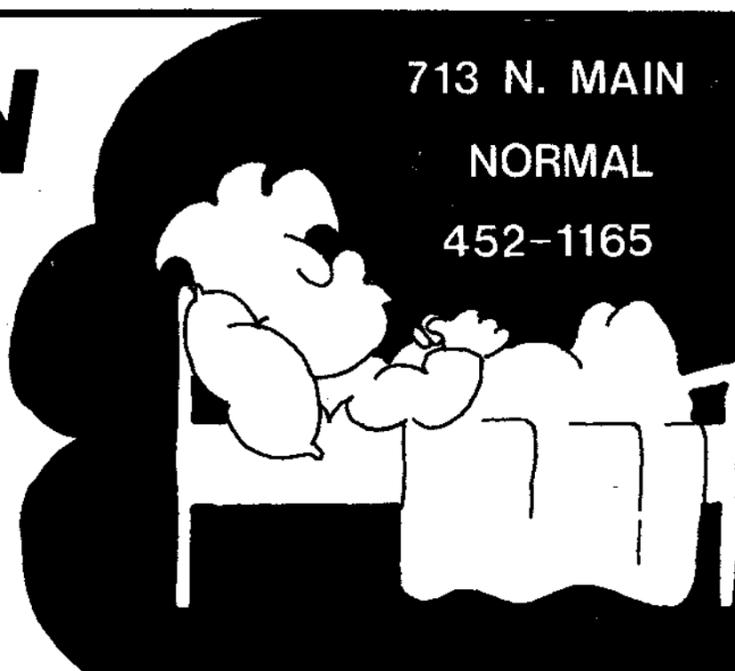
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HOME CHILDBIRTH CONFERENCE HELD

The National Organization of Women (NOW) sponsored a presentation on November 22 about having children born at home. The program featured a movie, "Home Born Baby," and guest speaker Cat Farrell.

The movie was good except for some technical flaws and the presence of the doctor during the actual delivery. The couple involved, Sally Pugh and Ralph Diamant, decided they wanted to avoid the regulations and alienation of a hospital, and instead experience home birth. The film had pretty much a woman-oriented focus, except for occasional

egoizing on the part of the baby's father and of course, the ever-impatient doctor.

It was obviously Pugh's first child. She experienced hard labor for a good part of the movie before the actual delivery, and it seemed that she and Diamant had practiced the breathing/coaching pretty extensively. The film did a lot to justify the existence of the LaMaze method of prophylaxis, or prevention of difficulty and pain in childbirth.

The thing I didn't like about the doctor was the fact that he was there. Also, there were things he didn't do that he should have and vice versa. For instance, somebody waited too long before supporting the woman's perineum when the baby was actually being born and then didn't do it very well anyway.

It seemed that the doctor forced the delivery of the placenta much too soon.

Finally, the film had one other obnoxious twinge. When the baby was born, the doctor was right there. He turned the poor little person upside down, giving the little boy a pat to make him cry and breathe. The birthing room was noisy, too.

It is totally unnecessary for a doctor (or anyone) to turn a newborn upside down to shock it into breathing. If a baby doesn't breathe right away, one can check for mucus which might be blocking air passages, and suction it away. But as long as the umbilical cord is still attached and is blue and throbbing, that child is still getting nourishment and oxygen from the mother.

Instead, most infants are forced from warm, quiet, safe environments where they existed for months in near darkness. All of a sudden the child bursts into the world sucking cold air for the first time into his/her lungs, being blinded by artificial lights, and listening to the roar of approval from adults who can't relate to the infant's terror. A little coaching in some of LeBoyer's natural childbirth techniques might have saved the little baby in the movie from his first nightmare.

I was glad when the movie was over. It took me back to last July when Irene and I had Cath at home. The preparation, work, pain and delight are so overwhelming that a reminder this soon was almost a little too soon. It was, however, refreshing to meet Cat Farrell, the program's guest speaker. I was tired that night when I was finally able to get a few moments alone to speak with her, and I was too tired to stay for the entire rap she gave to people in attendance.

Farrell is a lay midwife. She has delivered four babies, not counting her own first child. (Her second child will join us in about six weeks.) She was at first a little apprehensive about talking openly about lay midwifery. Even though there are no laws regarding midwifery, the AMA and other threatened individuals could bust the woman for practicing medicine without a license. Farrell's feelings about lay midwifery as a profession are that the less publicity given the activities of lay midwives, the better. (In California some lay midwives were busted, Farrell related, and the people involved won their appeal. But later the appellate court reversed its own decision, and the fate of the California midwives is still undecided.) No wonder Farrell was apprehensive--some protection is needed for this form of underground relief for alienated women.

Farrell is a member of the National Association for Childbirth at Home, a group which charters instructors in childbirth education. Farrell told me she is going to focus on teaching for the time being, but that she will attend the births of people in her classes if they wish. She said that some kind of positive direction must begin with women getting control over their own bodies, taking it away from the male-dominated obstetrics-gynecology practices. And if going "underground" to help women through childbirth is what it takes, then that's what it takes.

Farrell recommended that women in our community who are interested in home childbirth, read some material about it. One foundation that can send you information is the National Association of Parents and Professionals for Safe Alternatives in Childbirth, P.O. Box 1307, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. A Bloomington woman also has information and lists of places that give out literature about home childbirth. She has had her two children at home, and is willing to help anyone interested in home birth get the necessary information. Call Irene at 828-7986.

--Jim

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OD'ed and PO'ed

On September 14th, I overdosed on PCP in Chenoa. The Chenoa police and an ambulance were called. While I was being put in the ambulance, unconscious, officer John D. Johnson looked in my purse for identification.

The first thing he checked out was a leather pouch which contained some pot, a roach clip, and a set of works (hypodermic, etc.). He confiscated all this, but never got a chance to look in my wallet for my I.D.'s because the ambulance people were getting impatient to get me to the hospital. I later received a receipt for the pouch which I did not sign, fearing that drug charges could result.

I was taken to Fairbury Hospital in Livingston County. The doctor there knew me and called my mother. She came, and the doctor gave her my purse. She looked in it to see if she could find out what I was OD'ed on, and found twenty \$10 bags of PCP.

So she called my father, who in turn called one of their friends, State Trooper J.T. Cox. He came, and my mother gave him the bags of PCP. All of this happened while I was unconscious.

When I finally did regain consciousness, my mother and J.T. Cox came in to talk to me. (I'm a chain smoker, and they wouldn't let me smoke until I talked to them.) I was still all messed up. When I woke up in the hospital, I started screaming, not knowing where I was and thinking the whole thing was a dream. While I was talking to my mother and state trooper Cox, the whole thing still seemed just like a nightmare.

Cox told me, "You might die, and we'd like to know who did this to you." He went through a long list of names, asking me if I recognized any of them and what I knew about them. I only remember recognizing one name.

When I asked Cox if I would be busted, Cox said probably, and that I should cooperate. I was terrified that I would be thrown into jail or a mental institution. Cox may even have threatened it, as he was saying a lot of pressure stuff to me then that I can't remember.

While this torture treatment was going on, several other things were also happening. I had to sign a whole bunch of hospital and insurance-type forms. I was too messed up to read them, so I trusted my mother to keep me from signing anything that was not OK. And I passed out again a few more times during the whole scene with my mother and trooper Cox.

So what with me still being messed up & passing out while they were questioning me, and my fear, and the pressure from Cox, and the unreality of the situation, and my trust in my mother, I talked. Cox wrote down everything I said and had me sign the paper. I don't have a copy and still don't know everything I said. I'm sure I said a lot about the drugs I was doing, and probably about my friends. The only person that I'm sure I talked about was my boyfriend, Moses (not his real name).

A few days later, a good friend of mine, the man whose name I had recognized on Cox's list, had his house raided early in the morning. Cox signed the warrant. The morning of the raid, my friend's wife was in labor in the hospital, and the cops involved knew it.

The police confiscated 31 grams of plain old flour, which they believed to be heroin, and a little pot. The radio carried the police report which said that my friend was busted for 31 grams of heroin.

He was taken to jail in Pontiac. I loaned him a lot of money for bail.

After all this happened, I told everyone involved what had happened while I was OD'ed in the hospital. I promised that I would make things right if I could. I haven't heard of anyone else getting hassled, though, except my boyfriend. He refuses to see me any more because of what I did, so I can't help him much.

In October I had to answer to charges of possession of PCP. The evidence against me was my confession, signed in the hospital. By that time I was broke and had to use the public defender as my lawyer. I was fined, put on probation, and ordered to see a psychologist every week.

I had gotten a summons. Before I had a chance to tell people it was for my hearing, they found out and thought I had been summoned to testify against the friend who had been busted for possession of flour. So when people found out I was going to court, almost everyone stopped speaking to me. I never have been asked to testify in my friend's case, but I don't think it's over yet.

The fine, probation, and psychologist are awful, but they're far from being the worst part of the whole mess for me. What's worst is knowing that I "narced" in the hospital, and not being able to get things right with people. I have a few friends left who know me well enough to understand that I wouldn't let it happen again, but the majority don't want to give me another chance.

I feel used and I feel very, very angry. The hospital shouldn't have allowed Cox in to see me and badger me, or let anyone else in either. While I and some of my close friends continue to suffer, trooper Cox and the hospital, who acted possibly illegally and definitely immorally, get off scot free.

--Kathryn Weber

PITY THE POOR JUDGES. . .

New York(LNS)--Claiming they are "victimized," several past and present federal judges recently described in court the personal hardships they suffer with their \$42,000-a-year salaries.

Thomas A. Masterson said he had to leave the bench and return to more lucrative private practice so his five children could remain in private schools.

Judge Spencer Williams of the U.S. District Court in San Jose, Ca. lamented that his wife must sell real estate to supplement his income.

So far 82 judges have asked the court to rule that Congress and the White House violate a constitutional ban on reducing the pay of judges during their terms when they failed to grant pay raises they year. Federal judges were granted \$2000 raises to \$42,000 last October.

COPS TELL DOPER TO EAT IT

(ZNS/YT)-- Here's a switch.

Two Sheriff's Deputies and their commanding officer have been suspended from duty for allegedly forcing an Arizona man to eat on ounce of marijuana.

Twent-year-old Wayne Harris claimed the two officers stopped him recently on suspicion of drunk driving, and after a search, recovered an ounce of pot in his auto.

Harris then claims the two police ordered him to begin eating the pot, saying that (Quote) "If there's no evidence, we can't bust you, so eat it."

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From Sunnyside Neighborhood Center

DANCE CONCERT AT SUNNYSIDE

In the earlier part of this year, a dance group of 11 girls between the ages of 13 and 17 formed for the specific purpose of performing for the Bloomington Bicentennial Day last May.

Since then the group, now referred to as Essence--A Dance Company, has progressed to being a permanent organization as part of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Center dance program, directed by Corky Nagel.

After auditions in mid-September the group has worked consistently toward their first concert, which will be Friday, December 10, beginning at 7 p.m. Along with Essence, a junior dance company called Ebony, and Dance Is, a dance company from ISU, will participate in the concert. The concert is free to the public.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Center will hold its Annual Meeting on Monday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Center. Reports on the activities of the past year will be made by Royal Madison, Director of the Center. Election of new members for the Board of Directors will take place. Any resident of McLean County is invited to attend.

PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

Sunnyside Neighborhood Center has expanded its programs to include something for everyone.

Pre-School is offered to children (ages 3 and 4). We have both morning (9:30-11:30 a.m.) and afternoon (1-3 p.m.) classes this year, as compared to last year's morning classes only.

Every Tuesday and Thursday, the Mod Kaffee Klatch meets from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Some upcoming events scheduled include swimming, volleyball, a guest speaker on childhood nutrition

and diseases, a day at the movies (FREE), arts and crafts (crackle plaques and Christmas ornaments), and a Christmas brunch. Babysitting is provided for children OVER 2 years of age. Transportation is provided for those without. Call the Center at 827-5428 for more information.

After-school art classes are held on Monday and Friday for ages 5 to 12.

Various types of dance classes (i.e., ballet, tap, modern, jazz) are open to all ages.

Other new programs include a midget basketball clinic for ages 6 to 11; physical fitness, weight lifting,

gymnastics and boxing for ages 6 to 17; and a joggers' club (open to all ages). For more information call the Center at 827-5428.

Our Alternative School is in session Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Winter league basketball, in conjunction with Bloomington Parks and Recreation, will begin in December.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Center is at 1612 W. Olive St. in Bloomington.

--thanx to R. Madison

DISCOUNT STORES DISAPPEARING

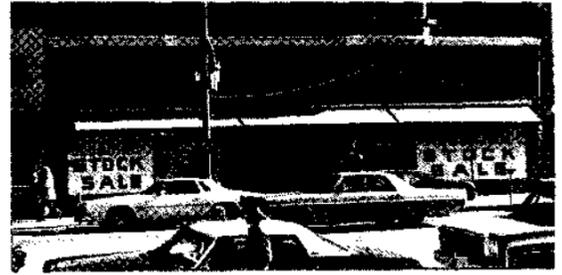
KRESGE'S LEAVES DOWNTOWN

Are the shopping malls on Bloomington's east side causing Bloomington's downtown stores to lose profits? If this is true, it might explain why the downtown Kresge's store will be closing on December 31.

According to the Pantagraph, Kresge's store manager Joseph Jablonski said his store had made a profit while in operation, but not with "the style and flourish and exuberance of years past." At any rate, the store didn't turn hand-over-fist profits like its sister operation, K-Mart, on Bloomington's east side, and got shut down.

With Kresge's moving out, lower-income people without reliable, cheap transportation from Bloomington's west side are stuck with very little choice. They can either go to more trouble to get to the east side where they can get decent discounts on items they need, or they can wait for clearance sales at the more expensive stores downtown.

Kresge's leaving downtown adds to the problems that the closing of the downtown Woolworth store causes low-income shoppers. Woolworth's still operates a store at the east-side Eastland Shopping Center.



In fact, lower-income shoppers coming to downtown Bloomington can get real discounts at only a few stores--Osco's, Discount Den, Salvation Army and other small thrift shops.

The downtown Bloomington business area is dying away. It's bad enough that business was centered downtown instead of out in different neighborhoods so people could buy things more easily. But at least the downtown area is close to where lower-income people live. Now, folks who can't easily get out to Eastland are running out of places to buy reasonably-priced things downtown. Times for many west-siders are getting even harder and harder.

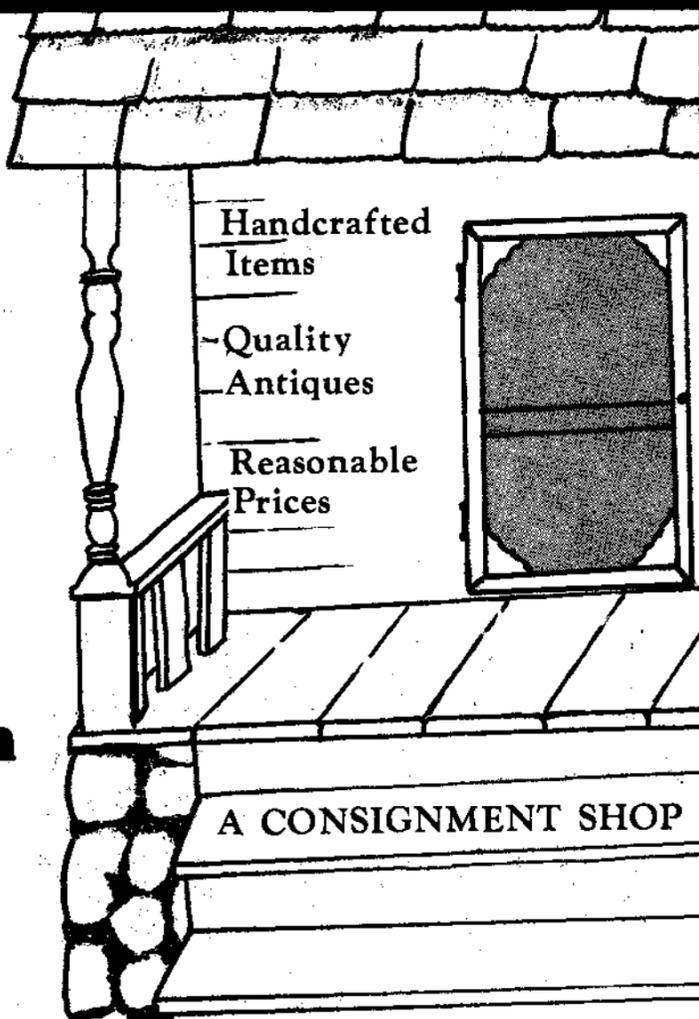
--J.T.

The Back Porch

404 N. Main St.

Bloomington

828-7714



Dear Raddy:

Post Note: "Dear Raddy," although humorous (hopefully, anyway), can be used by readers who really do want some "radical" dear abby type advice, as in the letter below.

Dear Raddy:

I need some advice. I work at Wonderlin Gallery, in the basement, with about a dozen other people. This place is an awful fire hazard. There's paper all over the place, and hanging wires, and combustible materials. This wouldn't be so bad if there were fire extinguishers around, but Raddy, there are no visible fire extinguishers anywhere.

Because I am a submissive and oppressed employee, I don't have the guts to say something to my manager. How can I bring it to his attention?

Signed A fire-phobic

Dear Oppressed Phobic,

Are there other workers there who would be sympathetic to the danger also? If there are, you could perhaps go to your manager as a group and talk to him, putting into practice the principle of worker solidarity.

If not, I suggest that you call (anonymously) the local Building Safety Department, 828-7361. If they can't help you, they can refer you to the proper agency. This would put into practice the principle of letting those in power fight it out among themselves, known in radical jargon as "letting the p_gs deal with the p_gs."

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

On November 12-14th, six women from Bloomington attended a nonviolent training session in Downers Grove which was organized by women from the Movement for a New Society (MNS). MNS is a both-sex national organization committed to non-violent revolution in our lifetime. What this means for MNS members is, first of all, becoming aware of sexism, racism, classism, and ageism in our society, and then getting together to smash these oppressions.

Our involvement with MNS began last winter when two MNS men passing through town stayed with some of our friends. The travelers rapped about MNS and mentioned that there was going to be an MNS-sponsored women's conference in Michigan that spring. Three women from Bloomington then attended that conference and found that they shared a lot of political beliefs with the other women there.

So when we were sent invitations to another women's conference in November, six of us packed our bags, rolled up our sleeping bags, and hit the road.

We arrived in Downers Grove Friday evening hungry and excited. We were greeted with the aroma of homemade tomato-rice soup, the laughter of children, and the hugs of many women. There were 26 women there and ten young folks of both sexes.

After dinner we all gathered to talk about child care, house duties (we were staying in a Quaker meeting house), and the agenda for the weekend. We also learned each other's names (well, some of us did) through a name game.

Not knowing anybody else and not being MNS members, five of the six of us pretty much clung together at first. Jennifer, however, who's a year old, was much braver and more outgoing than the rest of us.

After breakfast on Saturday we broke up into personal-sharing groups. The purpose of these groups is to give each woman the opportunity to exchange beliefs, experiences, and reactions with four or five other women, and so become closer together.



cpf

Although the conversation in each personal sharing group varied, the main theme was anger, and how we as women deal with it on a personal and institutional level. The p-s groups were followed by feed-back exercises with the whole group.

(CPF)--The folks at McDonald's--the ones who "do it all for you"--recently issued a confidential memo to workers regarding customers who find "foreign objects" in their Big Macs and Quarter Pounders. The memo urges workers to "attempt to secure the 'foreign object'."

Employees are asked to "explain to the customer that (taking the object) would be helpful in attempting to trace down the means by which it could have been found in the food. It will satisfy the customer that there is a sincere concern and effort on your part to see that such an 'incident' does not happen again."

The memo goes on to state that seizing the foreign object also "removes 'evidence' that may subsequently be exhibited to all the customer's friends and end up with a lawyer in order to seek damages."

NON-VIOLENCE, NOT NON-ACTION

For MNS, non-violence does not mean non-action. Saturday afternoon was spent learning action strategies, specifically "campaign building" and conflict analysis and resolution.

The group leaders offered us a step-by-step process for conflict analysis and resolution. Using this process, we broke for a few minutes into pairs and looked at the background of a real conflict in our lives, the people involved, what the main issues are, and how negotiable they are, considering short and long range goals.

An example of this would be to analyze the conflict over nuclear power by looking at its history, the forces and organizations involved, and deciding which of your goals are workable. From this a plan of action is developed, which uses the next action strategy we learned--campaign building. This involves, after analysis of the situation, leafletting, demonstrating, building coalitions, etc.

Late Saturday afternoon we broke up into workshops. There were four workshops offered. These were peer co-counseling, a

method which puts psychology back in the hands of the people, a workshop on non-violence and children, street-theatre as a means of protest, workshop on women writers.

By Saturday evening we were getting to know the other women better and feeling really good towards them. We were feeling so comfortable that during that evening's creative sharing time, Susie read some of her poetry and short stories, and Andrea played her flute while we sang along. It was exciting for the six of us to be able to add something to the conference by sharing with everyone our love and support for each other as women.

On the whole, the weekend was very relaxing. Also, it was encouraging to be in a group where the political was so obviously personal. Examples of this were our vegetarian meals and the equal sharing of responsibilities for the young folks and our attempts at non-adultist behavior and attitudes towards them.

On Sunday we talked about and evaluated the weekend together in the whole group. Then we packed our bags, rolled up our sleeping bags, and hit the road back to Bloomington, feeling more sisterly and sad to leave our newfound "family".

--Riverfinger and Lambda

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What Morty Manford Said

14

At 8:00 p.m. on November 18th this undercover Post reporter donned her cloak and skulked through the night to Hayden Auditorium to hear Morty Manford speak on a highly controversial topic: "Homophobia."

After my Barbara Gittings experience (see last month's Post) I arrived with high expectations for the evening.

As I waited for the star of the show to appear, I renewed old acquaintances and tried to write an appropriate poem for the occasion--a nonsense poem emerged, of course. As I sat deep in thought, several old friends approached and chatted with me. With them was a young person who seemed friendly from the word "go." After various amenities and small talk, I discovered that this personable young man was none other than our guest speaker, Morty Manford.

Morty is, as he put it, involved in gay liberation at the "grassroots" level; he believes in demonstrations and active participation in pursuit of his and all gays' rights. He feels that mere legislation granting rights to gays is "not worth a damn alone." Legislation must be used as a vehicle for focusing on the more profound aspects of gay liberation--primarily, feelings. Gay people need human rights, not just civil rights.

The gay liberation movement is made up of many parts (lesbian feminists, militants, campus groups, discussion groups, parent groups, etc.), and these parts must be unified in their



feelings. Those who are not gay themselves (such as Parents-of-Gays) may be involved on intimate personal levels in the struggle through interaction with gays.

The main concern of everyone should be homophobia, the fear of homosexuality and homosexuals. Gay liberation will not really arrive until homophobia has been faced and conquered. Gay liberation is not advocating reverse discrimination, but is advocating more freedom of expression (of affection, of open feelings, etc.).

Repression of feelings is taught in our society. Gradually we're robbed of our feelings. We're taught "what is expected of us--masculinity vs. femininity." Our work ethic teaches us to deny our feelings in the here and now and to settle for routines by which to live, all in anticipation of the hereafter.

Sexuality is here and now.

Gay sexuality, even more than other forms of sexuality, represents the here and now. Gay sexuality is "the cutting edge to place emphasis upon our feelings."

The time is right for us all to work together for gay liberation, for human liberation. The 50's nuclear age accounts for the growing rebellion against dehumanization and mechanization of people. The 60's brought the

drug culture, wherein people sought sensation and sensuality through the artificial avenue of drugs. Now the 70's brings the workers' rebellion, with increasing contractual demands of employers.

Homophobia is embedded on a societal level. Homosexuals are considered "decadent, subversive, criminal, sick, and sinners" in this society. Homosexuals must suffer government harassment, religious persecution, and personal degradation, as well as deal with the day to day hassles of living in our society.



Morty Manford, gay activist speaker, says "Everyone must identify with the issue; gay and non-gay must all become involved in gay liberation/human liberation."

Nobody knows what causes heterosexuality, let alone homosexuality, so the constant recriminations must stop. Sexuality is no one's fault; it is simply a fact of life. Sexuality is sexuality.

We must repattern ourselves, concretely affirming our feelings. We must take a step forward as individuals. Gays, come out to someone--your friends or family. Nongays, don't laugh at those "fag" or "queer" jokes; stand up and say "I don't think that's funny!" Everyone must identify with the issue; gay and non-gay must all become involved in gay liberation/human liberation.

"It is our right to be persons!"

Homophobia compromises the emotional maturity and fulfillment of people. Feelings must be encouraged. Anti-feeling bias is a reflection of the oppression of all minorities.

Let us end oppression now!

--Tad



. . . And How He Said It

Morty Manford has been a gay activist since the Stonewall riots in 1969. I think his main interest is activism and not public speaking.

I found what he said on November 18th to be extremely exciting, but there were a few low points in his presentation. I felt this was because of the way he spoke and not because of what he said or how it was organized.

I weathered the low points pretty well and actually rather enjoyed them. I was surprised to hear that other people found him mediocre when I thought he was excellent. I think this happened because generally people expect that men will have their rap together and as public speakers will be dynamic to the point of being all-knowing.

Morty Manford had his rap together, but did not use it to present himself as an authority figure. In his talk and in conversations with him it seemed that he did not always have immediate access to what he wanted to say. I found that quality in a man refreshing. He did not dominate conversations, nor did he attempt to tell people what to do. I think that one of the reasons he wanted a discussion instead of a

question and answer period after his talk is that he did not want to focus on himself as having all the answers.

This man is very conscious of sex roles and the negative effects of masculinity. He also shows himself to be aware of sexist language, by referring to groups as women and men, or lesbians and gay men.

It is unfortunate that there were not many men there to hear him on Thursday night. I feel Morty Manford is a good example of what men should be like.

--Jack Davis

CLASSIFIED ADS

If you need to put a classified ad in the paper, send it to us, and we'll probably put it in unless it offends us. Free.

THERE WILL BE A WOMEN'S CENTER MEETING ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 6th, AT 7:30 p.m. AT THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT 211 N. SCHOOL ST. IN NORMAL.

This is the same place we met in November, and we will again hold the meeting in the Ping-Pong Room downstairs and child care will be provided upstairs in the Junior High Room.

Anyone who needs or wants to offer a ride, call Mary at 828-6327.

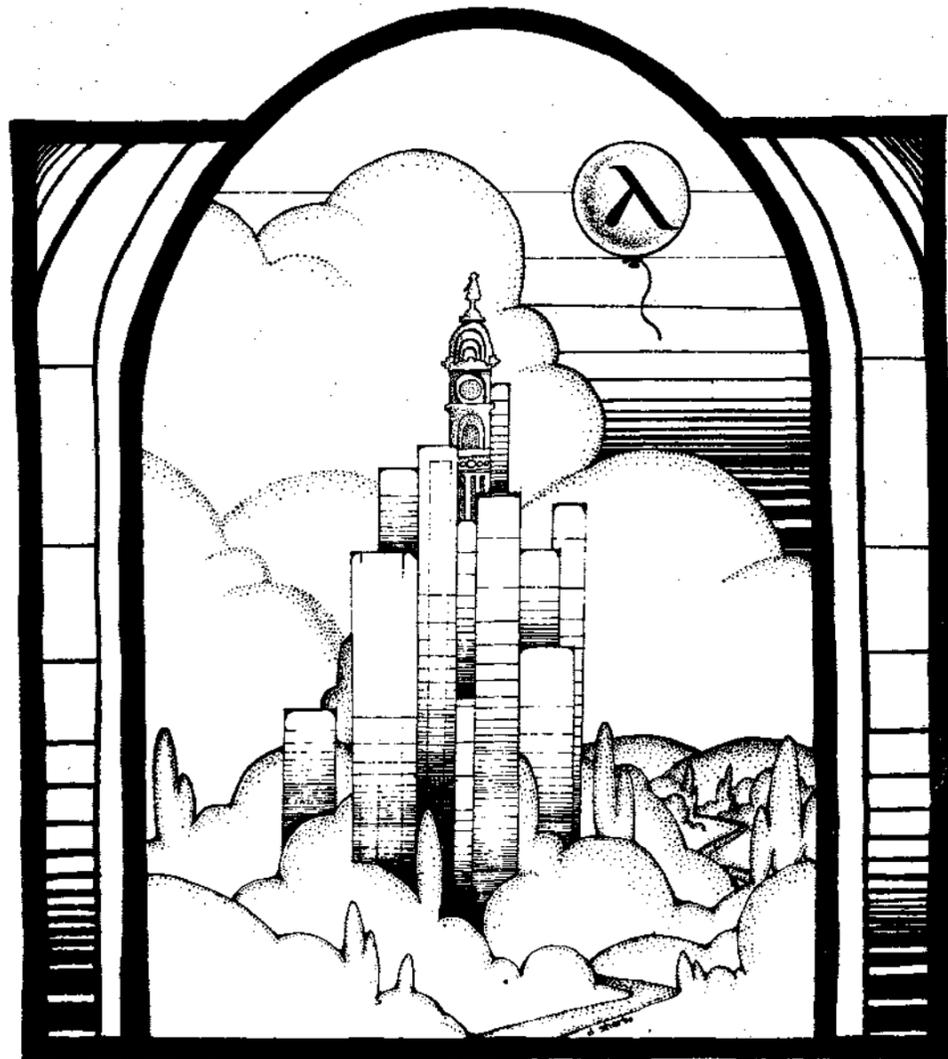
We will reach a decision on the organizational proposal at this December meeting.

We'll have coffee and tea there. People are welcome to also bring cookies, crackers, or other munchies.

LOST: Calico cat, black, white, and tan. Last seen on corner of Prarie and Empire in mid Nov. Reward. Call 829-9649 or 663-4922.

Are you interested in learning Karate and how to protect yourself but can't afford spending \$30 to \$40? Are you upset with the close-mindedness and prejudice of the existing Karate schools? Well, now there is a club run by the members, not the instructors! It's the Peoples Karate and Self-Defense Club of ISU. The cost is only \$1 a year. Don't allow the money-hungry instructors to rip-off the people! Do something about it, JOIN US! All interested people should contact Gregg Ozimek at 438-7887.

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SMALL CHANGES MOVES INTO DOWNTOWN BLOOMINGTON

16

LOCAL MUSICIANS CONTRIBUTE TO SMALL CHANGES

BENEFIT CONCERT

17

ALTERNATIVE BOOKSTORE OPENING SOON

Small Changes, a new alternative bookstore, will be opening in downtown Bloomington around December 15th. As well as telling you who and what we are, we'd like to tell you why we decided to open an alternative bookstore.

Small Changes was organized by a collective of seven women who come from different backgrounds and have different philosophies and politics, but agree on at least four important political ideas. These ideas brought us together as a bookstore collective.

Our first position is basic. We feel that radical social change is necessary, that the ideals of peace and freedom and self-determination we were brought up on are not the realities of our lives, or most other people's lives.

We also believe that small groups can be a vital, workable means of deep social change. In order for this to be true, we believe that these small groups must have continuous consciousness-raising within them and must also continually make connections with other like-minded groups and individuals. To be most effective, small groups should be made up of people who are close to each other and caring about one another.

A third position that we hold as a group is that for now, we as women can be most effective basing our political action on the experiences, the oppression, and the strengths that we have as women. This belief will come through in the stock of the store, which will have a definite but not exclusive emphasis on books for women.

Last, but certainly not least, we share a commitment to a joyful struggle. We are people involved in a struggle whose climax may very possibly not come in our lifetimes. But we are also people who strongly intend to improve our daily lives, and by god have fun doing it. It is as important to us to become more loving with one another, to hang out and deepen our friendships, to laugh and become daily stronger, healthier, saner, and happier, as it is to contribute to a more future-oriented, very often painful struggle for revolutionary change.

Revolution is important to us. Equally important is reform, in the sense of a joyful re-forming of the ways in which we look at ourselves and deal with other people.

IN THE BEGINNING

About six months ago, the six of us who were in a rap group together decided that we should start a bookstore. It was one of those crazy things that happen halfway into a meeting where you're sitting around dreaming dreams and spinning fantasies together. A minority of one tried to hold out for an ongoing coffee-house-type thing, but she was overruled by a noisy majority.

We recruited two other women (one woman later dropped out, in case you're trying to figure out how two and six makes seven) and tried to figure out what to do first.

We decided that we had a lot of work to do before we rented a storefront. We wrote letters to publishers and to other women's bookstores. We started contributing money ourselves on a monthly basis (for some of us, an irregular monthly basis). We hustled donations from other people.

At just about every weekly meeting, we tried to decide on a name, told ourselves that some day we'd have to really sit down together and talk about our politics, and alternated between thinking that we'd never get it together and that we could open in three weeks.

We finally set a financial goal for ourselves and said that we'd rent a place when we had a certain number of dollars. (The certain amount was always tentative and seemed to change from time to time, so it never really was much help.)

We brainstormed about how to get money, and came up with a bunch of ideas, two of which actually happened, amazingly. One of these was a garage sale, which we held at the house of friends during the summer. What we sold was mostly used books we'd lugged around from move to move since high school or scrounged out of storage in home towns.

The second and more daring money-raising scheme was a benefit concert, which you can read all about in the adjoining article.

So now we finally have enough dollars to open up feeling reasonably calm and confident, we decided on a name, and we've found a place to move into that we like. And so we're just about ready to go, full speed ahead.

WHERE AND MORE WHAT

We hope to be not only a bookstore, but also a place where people can meet to exchange ideas. We are non-profit. All sales money will be used to buy more stock.

We took our name, Small Changes, from an excellent book by Marge Piercy. We wrote to her and asked if that was OK, and were very excited when she wrote back to tell us she was pleased and proud to have us use her book title as our bookstore name.

Our store front is at 409A N. Main Street in downtown Bloomington, between Monroe and Market streets. We plan to open around December 15th.

Since we're starting on somewhat of a financial shoestring, we're opening with only a small number of books. Besides women's books, we hope to soon carry a large selection of science fiction, radical politics, health care, and books in other areas.

Our plans also include carrying alternative periodicals and albums, a wide stock of non-sexist children's literature, and having a reading room and a children's area.

We welcome work from local artists and craftspeople to sell through the store. We also welcome cash--a lot (both a lot of welcome and a lot of cash). For info, call 828-6935.

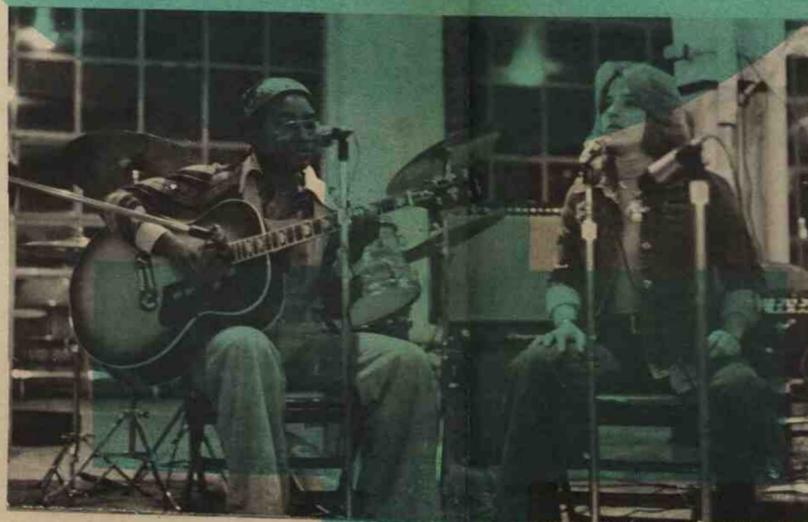
Small Changes means a lot to us. We hope it comes to mean a lot to you.



--five of the seven women in the Small Changes Bookstore Collective



--saxophonist from Jayde, one of the five groups of performers who played at the bookstore benefit concert



--Pat (on the right) and Yolanda, the last musicians to perform at the benefit

The seven of us in the Small Changes Bookstore Collective had been planning this concert for months, and finally, on Sunday, November 21st, it happened. And it was wonderful. (This is not going to be an impartial review, as you may already have gathered.)

When we first started talking about holding a benefit concert, we enlisted the aid of Dennis Longwell and Dennis DeBourbon. Dennis and Dennis are members of the New Age Music Co-op, which runs the Lazy J. Saloon on Market Street in Bloomington.

Dennis and Dennis gave us a lot of help getting bands, giving suggestions about a place to hold the concert, and so forth. But even more importantly, the Dennises inspired us to believe that we could really do it.

We finally decided on a tentative date and asked the Parks and Recreation people if we could rent Miller Park Pavilion. Bob Wall, the programs co-ordinator we spoke to, was very receptive to our plans and gave us the go-ahead. Since we're non-profit, we got to use the Pavilion for free.

Then we asked five groups of performers, some of whom we'd already contacted, if they would play for us on the 21st for free. Everybody said yes, and we began to get more and more excited.

There were, of course, last minute things to take care of. We made leaflets and had them printed up and took care of other publicity. Dennis Longwell arranged for us to use two of the bands' PA systems. We bought coffee and tea and cups and rounded up some change to use at the door.

And then it was the Sunday morning. Three of us got to the pavilion at 10:30 and cased the joint. The concert started at 1:00 in the afternoon, so we ended up with lots of time to sit around and chat, which was fine.

Two of the other women in our collective arrived about 11:00. (The other two women, unfortunately, couldn't make it.) We began setting up, trying to mesh all our fantasies about how the set-up should be.

And we did a good job. We had the stage area in front of the windows looking on to the lake, some rows of chairs set up in the middle of the floor, some room for dancing, and some tables and chairs set up near the doors. We heated up some water for coffee and tea and put it out on a long table against the kitchen wall in the main room.

Just before noon, Jayde came in and set up their PA system and equipment. A little later, Dennis and Michael Darling and Sue LeSeure, the first group of performers, came in. At 1:00, our first paying customers started drifting in.

We charged \$1.50, and many people donated a little or a lot more. People donated so much that afternoon that even though only about 85 people paid to get in, we made \$160.00. And some people who could not make it to the concert donated the admission charge anyway.

We're admittedly biased, but we thought that all the performers sounded exceptionally good. The first people to play were the Darlings, with Sue LeSeure singing three songs with them. Even though they got short shrift since most of the audience didn't arrive until later, Dennis Darling was kind enough to say at the beginning of their set, "Small changes start with small groups."

People who've heard them play at the Galery or elsewhere around town know that the Darlings play guitar, have a soft, good sound, and play a mixture of old songs and original songs. That Sunday they were at their best, and their best is very, very good.

The next group to play was Jayde, a fairly soft but large and electronic jazz-rock band. The songs they played were beautiful and moving and some were great to dance to, so we did. During Jayde's set a light fantasy-come-true snowfall started, to the strains of Jayde's "These are a few of my favorite things."

The next performer was Todd Tecumseh, a singer and guitarist. His songs were not only very well performed, but also spoke to a lot of the personal/political ideas and involvements that the women of the collective share. It was encouraging to hear someone singing what we are saying.

The fourth group was Basement Band, basically a bunch of unbeatable boogie people. Because we started a little late and were running on a tight schedule, and because of complications that caused a long set-up time, Basement Band didn't play for as long as everybody wished they could. But while they did play, they generated an incredible amount of good vibrations energy. This spread to the audience, many of whom were up on their feet, dancing and clapping through the set.

The last performers were Pat and Yolanda, guitarists who have two of the most beautiful voices heard in this or any other world. They sang some songs separately, most songs together, and every single one was no less than a total soul-grabber. Many of their songs are about women loving, and many manage to achieve universality despite the fractured consciousness of the world we live in. It was perfect closure for a day many of us hated to end at all.



It was a wonderful, rewarding (not only monetarily) experience for our collective, and everybody else seemed to have a good time too. We have many, many thanks to express to everyone who supported us, and we hope to be able to translate those thanks into community action. We intend to do it again.

See you at the bookstore.

--Small Changes Bookstore Collective



ABOVE: Joe Frost turned into a narc "special employee" so he could get out of an armed robbery charge. Any ex-friends of Frost having a better photo should send it to the Post-Amerikan.



ABOVE: IBI undercover narc Jerry Deen hides his face while waiting for court to begin. Man on left came and left with Deen; he may be a cop himself.

BELOW: another view of Agent Deen (right) and his unidentified escort.



Informer Joe Frost brings MEG arrests

In mid-October, five area residents were the victims of Multi-County Enforcement Group (MEG) arrests. All five arrests were results of the undercover work of a special employee (informer) from this area, Joseph Frost.

Among those arrested were:

William Olson--delivery of a controlled substance, cocaine, and marijuana

Steve Eft--delivery of a controlled substance
James Jones--delivery of a substance which was represented to be a controlled substance (Note: it is illegal to sell anything if you tell the buyer it's dope)

Bobby Reyes--delivery of a controlled substance

Ivan Bacon--delivery of marijuana

The special employee (informer) for MEG, Joseph Frost, had been a personal friend and frequent visitor of all five defendants for a few years. At one time, he had helped two of them obtain employment.

Then he was arrested for conspiracy and armed robbery of the Owens service station. He was convicted of theft of \$38.00 in the early spring holdup. His charge, a Class 4 Felony, carries not less than one year or more than three years imprisonment, a \$10,000 fine, or probation not to exceed five years.

Frost got three years probation. His court record reveals that he earned this light sentence by volunteering to become a narc, between his conviction in April and his sentencing hearing in October.

The evening of Oct. 18, Frost paid a friendly visit to one of the people he was setting up, Bobby Reyes. Steve Eft, another man Frost was narcing on, was also visiting at Reyes' house that night.

Frost left early, and shortly afterwards, the IBI showed up to arrest Reyes. The IBI agents also kept asking where Eft was (he was hiding, but they eventually found him). This incident clued Reyes in early that Frost was a narc, since Frost was the only one who could've told the IBI that Eft was visiting Reyes that night.

The next day, Joe Frost had his sentencing hearing and got probation.

Joseph Frost drives a 1966 Ford van, with brown primer spots. He lives on RR 7, Bloomington, phone number 829-5989.

The two agents involved in these recent arrests were IBI agent Jerry Dean (see Photo) and MEG agent Donna Hangen. These two agents worked the Bloomington area as a pair. Both

agents work out of Peoria.

Jerry Dean's description is heavy set, 5'11", dark brown hair, balding on top (from that dangerous undercover work), with a short-trimmed beard.

Donna Hangen is 5'1", 105 lbs., and has long black hair (possibly a wig).

The newest mode of transportation for the MEG unit is a 1974-1976 red Firebird. The license number is VP3682.

The two agents together, posing as lovers, would frequently attend local parties. Jerry Dean, to show that he was with the "in people," would tell his story of being an ex-hardened criminal. At times, he would talk of being wanted for murder in Florida. He would always caution people not to spread this around. Jerry would also boast of his whorehouses in Peoria and how he needed the whites (speed) for his "ladies."

Ever wonder what narc couples do for relaxation when attending parties? It might surprise you.

At one party, Jerry and Donna purchased a dime of cocaine and retreated to the bedroom. After a bit, Donna Hangen returned from the bedroom nude. She pranced about, entertaining the party with a show. Soon after, Jerry Dean appeared looking quite content. He thanked everyone for the highs and buys and departed. Hangen and Dean were evidently acting out some Readers Digest description of what it's like to be high.

Donna Hangen is a former employee of the Elmwood Police Department, in Peoria County. She went to work for MEG last summer, and retains a residence with a non-published phone number in Dunlap, Illinois, near Elmwood. While an Elmwood cop, Ms. Hangen worked in undercover drug investigations.

Agent Jerry Dean and special employee (informant) Joseph Frost are reported to still be actively working the area, finishing up old business.

If you have information concerning this duet, contact the Post, 828-7232.

It would also be a good idea to be extra careful this time of year, since MEG is now looking for examples for their refunding bid coming up this spring. After all, we know what types of tactics MEG will stoop to just to make their statistics look good.

---Michael



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MEG seeks to ban public, press from board meetings

MEG board members (above) want to hold secret meetings, so that "so-called photographers" won't be able to bother them.

Members of the MEG Board of Directors plan to push special state legislation which will free MEG from the requirements of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

The Open Meetings Act presently forces public bodies to admit the press and public into almost all official and non-official meetings. The only exceptions are that a public body may go into private session to discuss hiring and firing of particular employees, and to discuss possible buying of land.

For more than a year, the Peoria-based MEG has had a lot of problems with the Open Meetings Act. The presence of Post-American reporters forced the MEG directors to abandon their monthly three-hour steak and cocktail meetings at Highland Hills Country Club because the management didn't like the riff raff the MEG meetings dragged in. Since then, Board members have met in a bare room in the Peoria County Courthouse. As Post reporters showed up each month, MEG meetings got shorter and shorter, undoubtedly saving valuable time for the busy police chiefs and sheriffs who serve on the MEG board.

At one point last spring, official MEG board meetings were down to a mere five minutes. The board's real decisions must have been made informally (and illegally), away from the press and public. For a several month period, MEG's executive director Jerry LaGrow was officially excused from reporting to the MEG board; the members feared that LaGrow's photograph might be taken, thus supposedly blowing his cover as an undercover agent.

When LaGrow finally showed up at a MEG board meeting last spring, MEG officials were openly hostile and rude to reporters. MEG Secretary-Treasurer David Watkins threatened to have Mike Richardson, editor of the Galesburg Free Voice, arrested for walking barefoot in the Peoria courthouse. One Board member again proposed that MEG Director LaGrow be excused from attending

meetings, in order to protect him from "being hassled by so-called photographers."

Later, MEG official Watkins explained to the ISU Vidette that the motion was not aimed at the Vidette, but at "those assholes in the back" (referring to a Post-American and a Free Voice reporter). On its next publication, the ISU Vidette published Director LaGrow's picture.

MEG directors have shown their love of secrecy in other ways, too. When the Illinois Bureau of Investigation conducted a month long investigation of various charges of MEG impropriety, the MEG Board ordered the report kept secret. It still is a secret.

MEG Secretary-Treasurer David Watkins flatly refused a journalist's request to inspect MEG financial records, which by law are public.

In its day-to-day operations, MEG is already set up as a secret police agency, and its employees view it as such, playing CIA-type superspy infiltrating the youth culture.

If it manages to escape the Open Meetings Act, MEG would become a secret police force at the broader, policy-deciding level as well as the day-to-day operations. This would further protect the undercover cops from any control by the people or their elected officials. It's a threatening sign.

MEG READY TO ASK LEGISLATURE FOR MONEY

MEG wants your tax dollars to continue paying for small-time marijuana busts and superspy salaries.

MEG is getting ready to ask the state legislature for funding on a semi-permanent basis, according to a story in the Peoria Journal Star November 20.

At a Nov. 19 meeting, members of the MEG board of directors examined a draft copy of a bill which will be introduced in the legislature.

The bill, a product of the work of a committee composed of representatives from all seven MEG units in Illinois, will provide for 50% state funds, to be matched by money

and personnel coming from the cities and counties composing the various MEG undercover units.

David Watkins, Secretary-Treasurer of the Peoria-based MEG, is chairperson of the state-wide MEG funding committee.

MEG is seeking state money to replace funds provided by the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission (ILEC).

If the state refuses to fund MEG, the local units of government will have to pay MEG's entire costs themselves.

A demonstration in Bloomington October 9 protested the proposed MEG funding legislation. Several hundred people came out on a cold rainy day to oppose MEG.

ACLU Again Calls For MEG Withdrawal

POST NOTE: As the Post-American goes to press, the City of Bloomington's official commitment to the MEG undercover drug police ends on December 31, 1976. Sometime during December, the City Council will decide whether to end its membership, or whether to continue to supply one full time police officer (Bobby Friga) for undercover spying.

The American Civil Liberties Union has repeatedly urged governmental units to withdraw their money and personnel from MEG.

Here is a copy of the latest letter ACLU sent to the Bloomington City Council:

In a letter dated October 14, 1975, the Peoria and McLean/DeWitt/Livingston Chapters of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) requested that the City of Bloomington terminate its support of the Multi-County Enforcement Group (MEG). The eight-page letter listed and documented activities of MEG which violated citizens' Constitutionally-guaranteed civil liberties, were illegal, and were morally objectionable.

ACLU was disturbed that the Bloomington City Council did not have the courtesy to acknowledge the letter or the civic responsibility to deal publicly with the issues raised. In the face of evidence which clearly suggests termination of support of MEG, the Bloomington City Council chose to continue its support until December, 1976. (We understand that the matter will be reconsidered then.)

ACLU again urges the City of Bloomington to terminate its support of MEG. The charges against MEG listed in our letter of October 14, 1975 have not been refuted, and many of them have been substantiated by the investigation conducted by the Executive Committee of the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission (ILEC).

The ILEC Executive Committee report--an independent effort which followed the investigation conducted by the Illinois Bureau of Investigation--exhaustively investigated each of the ACLU charges. ILEC not only did not disprove them, but rather found a great deal in MEG's procedures which violate professional guidelines. ILEC Execu-

tive Committee condemned some of the actions of MEG Director Jerry LaGrow as unprofessional and lacking in good judgment, and found the conduct of one MEG agent so repugnant that it recommended his termination.

Other significant events subsequent to ACLU's initial letter to the City of Bloomington include McLean County's and the City of Galesburg's withdrawal from MEG, and the Town of Normal's choosing not to join MEG when--toward the end of Metromanager Anderson's administration--it was presented an opportunity to do so.

Clearly, events subsequent to our first request on October 14, 1975 serve to strengthen the case that the City of Bloomington should not continue its financial and personnel support of MEG. Once again ACLU urges the City of Bloomington to terminate its support of MEG.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas Eimermann, Chairman
McLean/DeWitt/Livingston
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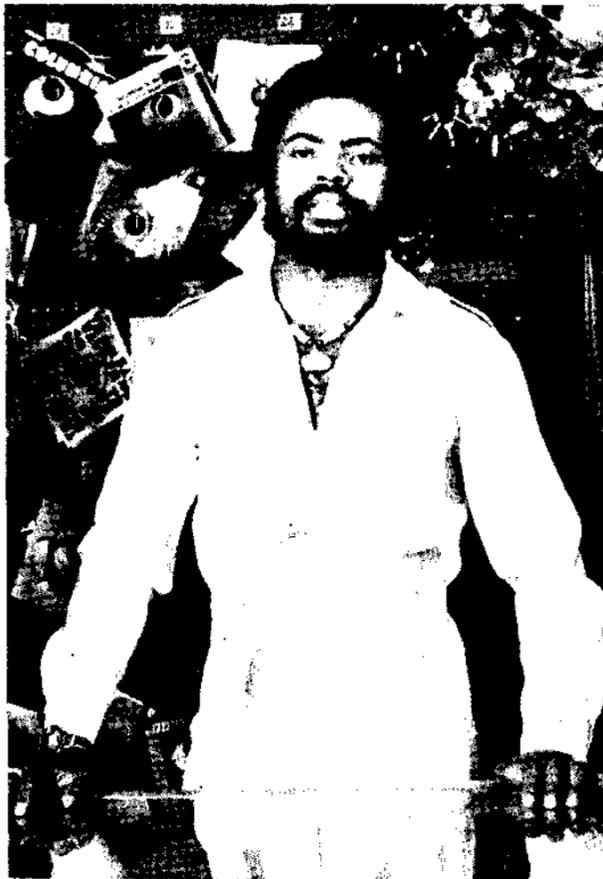
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Native Americans May Regain Maine Homelands

(Much of the information in this article is brought to us from the New York Times Sunday edition, October 24).

Two Native American tribes may regain 2/3 of their ancestral land in Maine.

A lawsuit on behalf of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy tribes, which was chided and thought ludicrous by most public officials when the case began four years ago, has suddenly blocked the sale of millions of dollars of municipal bonds and thrown Maine's state government into confusion and puzzlement as to the true ownership of private lands and even whole towns.

The suit charges that Maine's Native Americans' ancestral forest lands were illegally bargained away by local white authorities in violation of the Federal Nonintercourse Act of 1790. The claims encompass 12 billion acres or more in the northern and eastern portions of Maine, worth some \$25 billion, according to Thomas N. Tureen, attorney for the Indians there.



The suit is the largest of several in New England filed by Mr. Tureen and other lawyers for the Native American Rights Fund, an Indian advocacy organization based in Colorado. Other suits have been filed in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Cape Code.

The episode began with the American Revolution when General George Washington entreated the Indians to side with the colonists. The Passamaquoddy were, in fact, primarily responsible for defending eastern Maine from the British. However, the newly liberated colonies, already paving the road of irresponsible dealings with the Indians, sent no thanks until 1784.



Under the new constitution, the central government reserved to itself the power to deal with Indian tribes. This power was strengthened with the passage of the Indian nonintercourse Act of 1790, which said that "any title to Indian land obtained without Federal approval is null and void."

This act, restricting sales of Indian land without Congress' approval, was renewed every 2 years until 1894, when it was declared permanent. Yet, as early as 1794, Massachusetts made a treaty with the Passamaquoddy tribe, in which Indians



surrendered all but a small portion of their holdings. The Federal Government, preoccupied with Indian tribes not so eager for White takeover, took no notice.

The Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes were presented with conditions in the following years common to virtually all Native Americans. They endured grinding poverty, their lands nibbled away and promises, for example, payments for wood cut on the land, were short lived. Instead of existing self-sufficiently as they had previously for hundreds of years, the Indians had to eventually rely on government handouts.



Arguing that the title to much of the state's land was void because the treaty had not been approved by Congress, Mr. Tureen and the suit went into court on George Washington's Birthday, 1972. "It was like, Hey, remember us? We're old war buddies?" he said.

In opposition, Maine's Governor James B. Longley has urged the tribes to drop their land claims. In recent months, the existence of the case has stopped the sale of \$27 million of bonds by the Maine Bond Bank, halting school and hospital construction in small municipalities. It has also left the large towns of Ellsworth and Millinocket unable to float \$4.4 million in bonds.

The tribes, however, are not interested in returning the grace the Maine's previous authorities bestowed on them. Mr. Tureen revealed that the Native Americans did not want to take any homeowners' land away, but might be interested in a settlement involving land in forested areas.

"It's preposterous," said State Attorney General Joseph E. Brennan, Maine's Chief legal officer. "You just don't undo 200 years of history that readily." Mr. Brennan overlooks however, the centuries of Indian history radically altered by the imperialistic motives of the same colonies they helped to liberate.

"They used to laugh about this case and everything else," said Nicholas Sappiel, the leader of the Penobscot Indians. "Now they're getting a few gray hairs. You've never seen so many lawyers. It reminds you of a cartoon."

"By no means would we give up this land again," says another Native American. "Actually, we didn't make the law. They made it."

—Jeri Rossi



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22 PUBLIC LICENSE TO KILL RESCINDED IN NORTH CAROLINA

A three-judge federal panel has declared unconstitutional a North Carolina outlaw statute, saying the law gives the public a license to kill.

The law authorizes state courts to designate fugitives as outlaws and allows a citizen to shoot an outlaw who fails to heed an order to surrender.

Fourth Circuit Appeals Judge J. Braxton Craven and District Judges John D. Larkins Jr. and Franklin T. Dupree said in an order that the outlaw statute does not provide due process or equal protection under the law.

A spokesman for the state attorney general's office said a decision on whether to appeal will be made after the order is studied.

Among flaws cited in the statute were that an impartial judge is not the one to decide if a felony has been committed or that the proposed outlaw probably committed it; that no arrest warrant or grand jury indictment is required; and that the outlaw has no chance to hear notice of the action or opportunity to be heard.

-Frank Adams



***** * **ALTERNATIVE NEWS** * *****

COPS ON TRIAL FOR LYNCHING

Lynching is not a thing of the past in Alabama. According to a dispatch in the latest issue of the Black Panther newspaper, an all-white jury in Mobile has dismissed charges against a white Mobile police officer accused in the near-lynching of a black activist earlier this year.

The Officer, Michael Pattick, admitted instigating and participating in the lynching attempt. Pattick also admitted to being a member of the "Six Hundred Squad," a para-military group described in the Panther report as a "secret police organization dedicated to terrorizing black people."

The incident occurred after 15 police beat and chased two Mobile black activists following an alleged robbery attempt. Pattick admitted taking a rope from his car and stringing up one of the activists, a man named Casmarah. When the first branch broke, Casmarah was hung from another tree. As Casmarah was gasping and straining to keep his toes on the ground, a detective drove up and stopped the hanging.

The police department fired one officer immediately (he has since been reinstated) and suspended another for 14-30 days. Four other Mobile officers still face trial and a coalition of black community leaders is calling for an investigation into the activities of Mobile's no-longer-secret "Six Hundred Squad"



NORMAN LEAR SET TO STAR TRANSEX ?

Los Angeles-- Producer Norman Lear of "Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman" fame has begun initial production of a television series about a man going through a sex-change to female, called "All That Glitters. . . ."

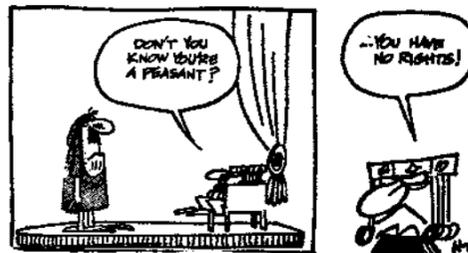
Lear is currently seeking a person for the lead role and has already interviewed a number of pre- and post-operative transexuals, including a leader of the Eon Society, a transexual rights group.

Lear has also reportedly spoken to transexual tennis player Renee Richards in regards to being a consultant.

To be produced by Tandem Productions, "All That Glitters. . . ." is to be a "situation comedy" and may, unfortunately, wind up being a watered-down version of "Myra Breckinridge." But transexuals aware of it consider it to be a major breakthrough, if it portrays the transexual experience anywhere at all near the actual reality.

Meanwhile, one of the transexuals currently working with Lear as a consultant was recently brutally beaten and molested by the Los Angeles Police Department. It is hoped that Lear's program will not reflect the LAPD's view that a transexual woman is, as they told the unfortunate victim, "a punk with his dick cut off."

-Angela Douglas



"SNOOPY-DOO" ... A REAL SCOOP!

Looking for an unusual gift for the holidays? Have you considered buying your loved one a pile of... "Snoopy-Doo?"

In what is either the most tasteless idea of the gift season or a masterpiece of parody, a San Francisco entrepreneur who describes himself as "a noted psychiatrist and amateur scatologist," has announced the "hottest" new holiday item --dog poop.

But not just any dog poop. According to a recent announcement, the commodity is part of "the prodigious output of the world's most famous beagle.

"Snoopy-Doo" looks just like the real thing except for two cute little button eyes poked into the top of the pile. "These unique art objects are specially treated," purchasers are advised, "so they are odor-free and guaranteed not to stain."

Lord knows what Dr. Johnson would make of all this, but to borrow a quote from Lucy Van Pelt: "Good grief, Charlie Brown!"

-Gar Smith

MARIJUANA ... SLIM PICKINS

High Times magazine reports that the U.S. is in the midst of a severe "marijuana drought," with no end in sight.

The normal yearly end-of-summer pot shortage is now extending well into autumn this year, and is likely to continue or get worse.

High Times blames the scarcity mainly on the federal government's campaign to prevent the import of the illegal weed from Mexico, Colombia and the Caribbean into the United States. The only solution to the pot shortage is for smokers to plant victory gardens full of the weed in their backyards or in window boxes.

--ZNS



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"More Americans daily are realizing that trying to heat one's home to 68 degrees with electricity generated by burning uranium at 10,000 degrees is the equivalent of trying to cut butter with a chain saw."

-Lee Johnson
Rain Magazine

POLICE MAY HIRE DOPE SMOKERS

The police department in Houston, Texas says it is just about impossible to recruit new officers without accepting some who have smoked marijuana. Deputy Chief Harry Caldwell reports that the department, which once frowned on men and women who admitted to smoking pot, has adjusted its guidelines to accept ex-users of the evil weed.

The Deputy Chief laments: "Asking a guy who has come back from Vietnam if he smoked marijuana is like asking him if he smoked Sailems."

--(ZNS)

SERVICE BRIEFS

THAI ARMY COUP WITH U.S. TAXES

A researcher at Princeton University's Center of International Studies reports that, just prior to the recent military coup in Thailand, the United States dramatically increased its weapons and counter-insurgency aid to the military and police forces in Thailand.

The researcher, Michael Klare, states that the step-up in U.S. military aid in Thailand seems almost identical in pattern to what happened in Chile just before a military junta there overthrew and killed Salvador Allende.

Klare says he has obtained U.S. Defense Department documents--many of them through the Freedom of Information Act -- which reveal a massive effort by Pentagon officials to supply counter-insurgency and anti-riot gear to the Thai military hierarchy.

He quotes one Pentagon report showing that U.S. military aid to Thailand, which averaged six million dollars a year in the early 1970's, jumped to \$89 million last year.

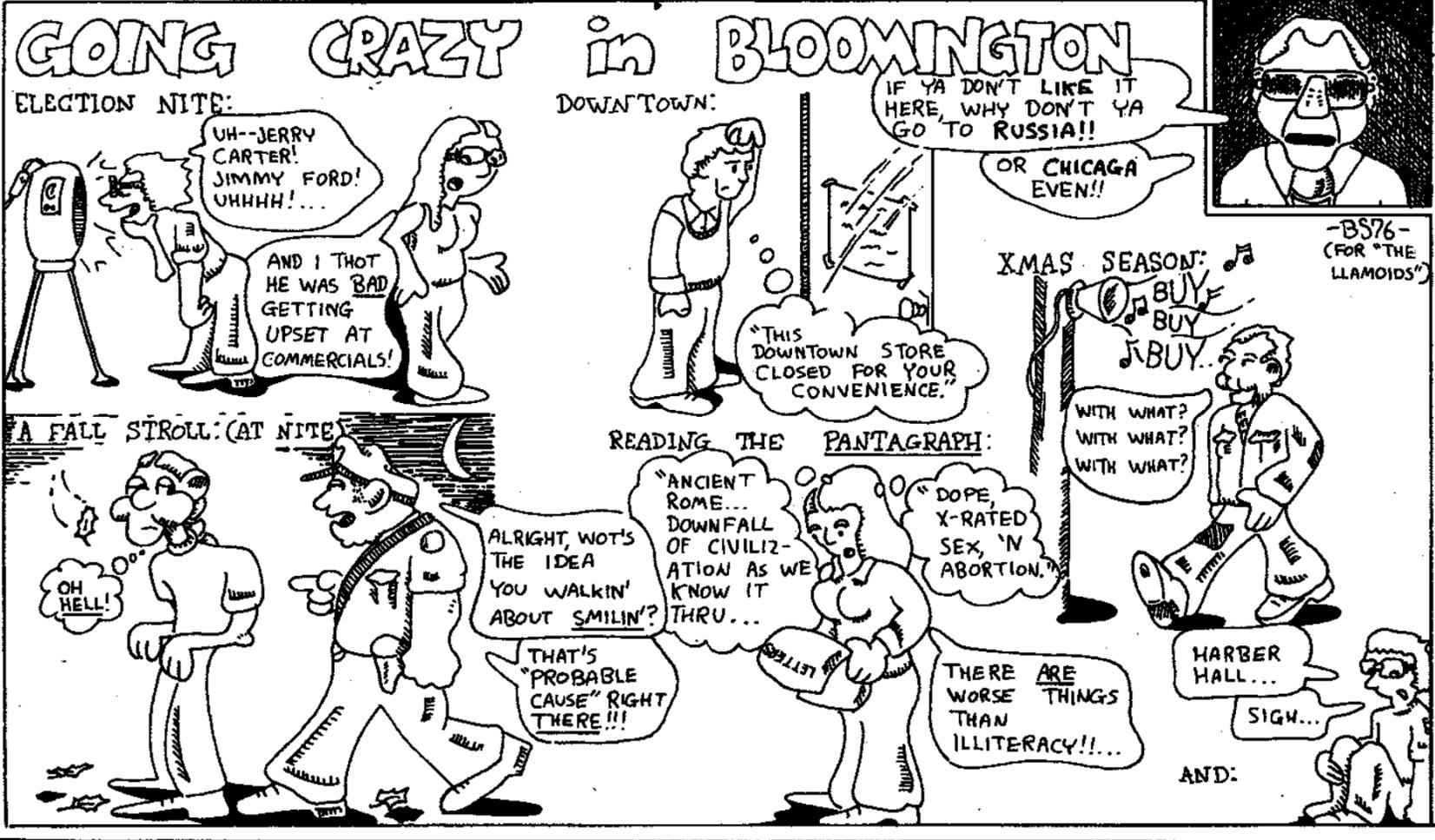
He reports that Thailand's 1976 military purchases from the U.S. alone exceed its total orders for similar equipment during the preceding 25 years combined.

--(ZNS)



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-BS76- (FOR "THE LLAMOIDS")

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THERE ARE WORSE THINGS THAN ILLITERACY!!...

AND:

COMIX REVIEW



Wet Satin

Wet Satin (75¢)

The subtitle tells it all: Wet Satin is a comix collection of "women's erotic fantasies" as depicted by women underground cartoonists.

The subtitle doesn't tell it all. There are a variety of ways a woman (or man) artist might choose to handle "erotic fantasies." An artist can be personal or impersonal, ironic or straight, literal or stylized. Some of these approaches, of course, are far from genuinely "erotic".

This review can't tell it all: personally, this critic only found two pieces in Wet Satin "erotic". One was the back cover illo by Becky Wilson. It's a lush night drawing full of dark purples, exotic backgrounds and burbling fountains. The other was a four page dream depiction by Lee Marrs with its heroine climbing a mountain to make love with a birdman. Drawn in a clear and stylized manner, without dialog but for the last panels, it's a sensual piece of comic art.

This critic, by the way, is male and predominately heterosexual. Make of that what you will.

Some of Wet Satin's most successful material fits into the realm of the ironic. Cathy Millet's "Chaste Sex Education" shows a fantastic explanation of human reproduction being taken literally. Petchesky's "Ain't Life Grand?" and Joey Epstein's "Night of Dynamite" both ridicule urban bourgeois chic. The latter of the two is better done (Petchesky's piece becoming needlessly hard to follow on the last page) but both ultimately come across as effectively funny.

(A quote from the leather clad heroine of "Night of Dynamite": "I don't wish to make

anyone feel inadequate, but there are men who never quite go soft while going at it who make all night a reality.")

The best bit of irony, though, belongs in "A Mature Relationship" by Joyce Farmer. Deceptively sweet in tone (notwithstanding its subject which I'll withhold for a couple of paragraphs), it contains several sardonic edges to it, many of which don't become apparent until the full story is read.

A digression is appropriate here. Wet Satin is published by Krupp Comics of Wisconsin. It is not the first sex-related underground published by them; they do Bizarre Sex, a male-dominated comic now into its fifth issue.

Bizarre Sex, despite covers with balloon genitalia, interstellar copulation, and even weirder interiors, has never been a problem to get out. It's one of Krupp's better selling titles, in fact

So when editor/cartoonist Trina Robbins approached Krupp publisher/cartoonist Denis Kitchen, neither apparently saw much trouble with getting Wet Satin out.

They were both wrong.

Krupp's printers, the same ones that print Bizarre Sex, refused upon seeing Wet Satin to print it. Trina and Krupp had to take it to the West Coast to get it printed.

Now, when that sort of thing happens, one can't help but wonder what piece of Wet Satin upset the printers. (Assuming that the whole idea of women having erotic fantasies wasn't anathema to them.)

"A Mature Relationship" is this critic's nominee for Biggest Potential Publisher Freakout; it deals with sex and menstua-

tion--which is to say sex during menstruation--quite graphically. In the story, an older married couple ritualize the sex act around the wife's period, he finding menstruation quite arousing. The strip details a night between them.

There are several levels working here. First, most males (this critic included) more or less feel uncomfortable about menstruation--the endless array of abusive jokes and slang surrounding it testify to this. In presenting it as potentially erotic, Joyce Farmer forces male (and possibly female) readers to confront their prejudices.

On another level, though, Farmer doesn't view her couple so positively. The sheer ritualized nature of their approach to sex, which accomodates the male over the female, is first subtly, then explicitly, put down. Implicit from the very beginning in the story, for instance, is the fact that Farmer's couple only have sex during her period.

In addition, the strip's "cute" drawing style and pseudo-romantic dialog (reminiscent of romance mags) further bely the story's title assertion that this is "A Mature Relationship."



Some of the other material doesn't fare as well. Editor Trina's "Rawhide Revenge" attempts to turn the tables on bondage pornography, but it doesn't quite make it; its heroine's revenge for being bound and degraded just isn't strong enough to compensate for the early scenes we see her go through. Basically, too much time is spent on "rawhide" and not enough on "revenge."

(In balance, Trina's cover for the comic, showing a multi-zippered woman eating a banana while on a skateboard before a Marlon Brando figure, is a marvelous iconographic put on.)

Two other pieces, a coke sex surrealism tale by Shelby and a French Revolution sex and madness comic by Melinda Gebble, fall too much into visual vagueness. This is espe-

Cont. on next page



"THE IMPERIALISTS GET NOTHING BUT COAL IN THEIR STOCKINGS!" said this brother from the North Pole while organizing in Bloomington-Normal.

cially true of the Gebbie piece, which also has an air of rampant hostility to it that's hard to get past.

A prose tale, "Love Lights," by Terry Richards, is an amusing confession-type romance parody, but for some dumb reason I find myself bothered by single intrusions of prose into undergrounds. They seem too much like those awful yellow page prose pieces straight comics used to use for fill.

Despite its near misses, all of the material in Wet Satin is interesting enough to be rewarding. One can only hope the hassles of getting it into print won't dissuade editor Trina from putting together future, stronger volumes.

In Brief:

Gay Hearthrobs (\$1.00)

Lest anyone feel too embarrassed for that midwest printer's refusal to run off Wet

Satin, let me assure you that things ain't necessarily that much better on the west coast. This book, from reports, had been languishing for years looking for a California publisher before the folks at Fultlorn took it up.

Why?

Gay Hearthrobs is about male homosexuality. While women artists for years have been able to draw and express lesbian fantasies in comix, male cartoonists generally haven't chosen to. From the evidence of the length of time it took to get this book out, I'd guess male artists didn't get much peer support in that area. (A calculated understatement.)

Before this book, the foremost underground examples of male gay characters existed in S. Clay Wilson's strips--and there they ex-

isted to be disembowelled--or in countless stereotypical humor strips.

(Two exceptions come to mind: a Harold Hedd strip by Rand Holmes and a weird story by Dan Clyne in Bizarre Sex.)

This book wholeheartedly treats the subject positively and in varied fashion; ten different male artists are represented in this book. While the artwork is more uneven than, say, Wet Satin's, the book is entertaining.

Stories range in content from straight didactic to barely comprehensibly surreal to--and this is an old word--ribald.

That this book wasn't printed years ago speaks badly of certain west coast underground publishers.

--BS 76



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SEX GAMES WE ARE

There are numerous games that men and women are taught to play while learning to deal with one another. Some games, such as mild flirtation, are lots of fun and even ego-boosting. Yet games can also be destructive. More than either of these, games tend to be unconscious. We would all like to believe that we have the ability to direct our future lives and lifestyles, but we cannot control something that we are not aware of or do not understand.

In our all-American culture there are two basic types of male/female games. There is the "property game," and then there is the "manipulation game." Actually, both of them could be thought of as manipulation games, but the first demands an external, standardized structure revolving around the concept of competition while the second type depends more upon an internal spontaneity.

Each of these games are played by both sexes. Any man-woman relationship will probably have an exchange of a little of each type of ingrained game-pattern and an exchange of sincerity. However, most men and women were brought up by their parents with different expectations in mind. Women are most often patterned into learning the manipulation game while men are most often channeled into the competition/property maze.

Men are directed from early childhood into the competition pattern. Men learn to compete for everything. In order to get ahead. Moreover, men are taught to continuously be on guard and prepared to fight simply to maintain an attained position--there will always be another person wanting their "rung."

Men do not take equally well to this king-of-the-hill ideal, but the training does exist. It is this training which turns up, nearly inevitably in the course of a love relationship, and which may cause destructive feelings to be generated within that relationship. Many of us have seen an otherwise mellow guy turn into a competitive/protective monster once in love.

The reasons for this are varied. The simplest explanation is that we all switch to the most familiar (also "safest") course of action when confronted by the bewildering or the unknown. Love is an overpowering emotion that can only be controlled minimally, if at all, by most of us. The unknown in this respect may be scary, but it is especially frightening to those who are conditioned to try to control as much of the

immediate environment as possible. Men may feel defenseless or worse while trying to cope with their emotions under these circumstances. This "weakness" in contrary to the idealized image of strength that men are taught to march themselves against.

Also, myths abound as to the plentifulness of love. Everyone, supposedly, can and should "have a honey." One is not a "real" man or woman until one has a lover. Love is, in fact, a rare and precious thing. It might conceivably be regarded as a special type of "position" (rung) by those caught in a competition pattern.

There are plenty of men who do not "have a honey." These men may feel they are unjustly kept away from a position that is prestigious and (supposedly) plentiful. They may want the "position" of those luckier than they, and a few of these "have-nots" will do all they can to try to break up another's source of happiness. This all helps to build an extremely destructive type of jealousy on the part of the lover. This type of jealousy doesn't have to have anything to do with the fear of losing one's lover. This type of jealousy has to do with "not being turned into a sucker" by having one's rung taken out from under one.

circumstances. (Usually, of course, a lover will think of his beloved in more terms than just these. Nonetheless, under these circumstances the lover is forced to think in dehumanized terms, thereby cheapening his respect for women in general.)

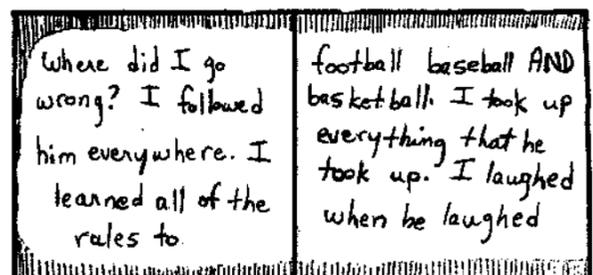
The other half of the male/female game-plan is not by any means better, although it is patterned differently. Men are openly and deliberately raised to compete with one another. Women hold an inferior social status to that held by men, and while women are encouraged to manipulate men, they are not usually told outright that use of manipulation is a desirable way to gain their wants or needs. Women generally pick up this type of patterning through culturization. Television shows from Lucille Ball reruns to Star Trek, movies from old Humphry Bogart films to Jaws, books and magazines from Dick and Jane to Cosmopolitan to Viva, and situations from real life all show women manipulating men, and to some extent they all encourage it. (Though few of them would ever admit to such.)

Women are openly encouraged to become "shock absorbers." That is to say, women have been traditionally expected to sympathize, empathize, and to look after others before themselves. Women have even been encouraged to lose their identities by living off others' emotions and problems.

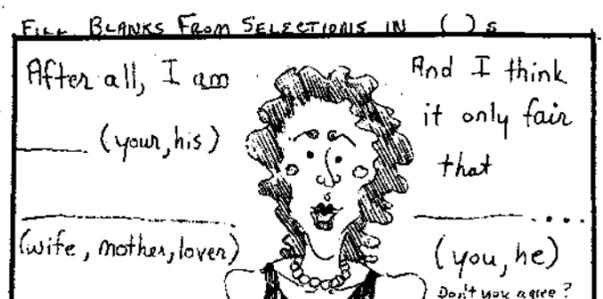
Women who take to this patterning in a single-minded fashion usually discover that the returns are not worth the efforts. Men generally don't appreciate this type of drain on their lives and emotions, and who wants to live with someone who has no (observable) mind of their own? After being put off or put down a number of times, these women will either become disillusioned and withdrawn, or will learn other ways of communicating with the people around them.



The woman as a complete person is left out of this interaction. Even the lover must think of his beloved as piece of property under these



One of these other, quite destructive, ways of communication involves manipulation. For many reasons, men have not tended to recognize women as having any other functions than the traditional sex-related functions such as lover, mother, wife, etc. Women quickly learn that the simplest manner of manipulation requires that they appeal to men through the roles of (potential) lover, wife, etc. Women learn to "unconsciously" cross and uncross their legs, reveal cleavage, etc. and to talk about their positions as lovers, wives, or mothers.



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TAUGHT TO PLAY

If plain sex-appeal or position-appeal does not produce the desired reaction, women may resort to challenging a man's competitive abilities. Thus come appeals and challenges regarding a man's "manliness," "ability to provide," "ability to get ahead," etc. (This is also a method of challenge or manipulation that some men use on other men. The army is really good at exploiting this method.)

Whatever the form, successful manipulation can be hurried along by using a mask of innocence. This does not mean that women using manipulation must act like children. It means that if they make those involved in their manipulations believe that they are incapable of such maneuvering--either because of their naturally sweet and charming personalities or because they appear mentally incapable of such action--that it may greatly enhance the effectiveness of their manipulation.

One of the most successful manners of showing innocence uses a shock absorber role women are encouraged to take. "Oh, but I just had to do this. You couldn't expect me to just sit by and not _____ (sympathize, empathize, look after someone or something. . .) Do you really think so? I had no idea you felt that way. I'm terribly sorry". And so on.

A qualifying paragraph is needed here. Successful manipulation does not always need an appearance of innocence to be worn by the manipulator (look at the army), and not all women caught in misunderstandings while trying to sympathize, empathize, or otherwise fulfill their established roles are guilty of bad intentions. An appearance of innocence should not dictate an assumption of guilt. The best way to understand a person's intentions is to watch that person to see if s/he repeatedly acts in such a manner that brings ill will to those surrounding her/him.

Whatever the case, the manipulation and competition patterns feed off of and fool one another. A woman who is good at the manipulation game has much to gain by keeping men locked into the compete-till-we-die mindset. She has learned to satisfy many of her wants and needs by deliberately playing men off against one another, or playing men off against their own self-expectations. A man who has done well at the competition game has at least as much and probably more to lose than the woman who has done well at the manipulation game. A man who has done well at the competition game has prestige and probably material wealth and power. A woman may gain favors through manipulation, but that is precisely what they are: favors. A woman desiring prestige, power or money must (traditionally) acquire these things second-hand through the men around her. Thus a woman must "super-human-ize" men. They are the sole means (traditionally) to a comfortable life. (Superhumanization is another form of dehumanization since the super-human being is expected to do altogether different sorts of things from what the merely human being is expected to do.)

You can see that the whole of the property-competition/manipulation pattern is a bit on the sick side. The best defense against the dehumanization characteristic of and necessary to these patterns is to withdraw from the patterns. Obviously, this is easier said than done. A lifetime's conditioning does not disappear with a decision, or with a year or even a five-year plan, and of course, you must

develop some method of communication to replace the system you attempt to rid yourself of. (And the replacement must be acceptable to the people you will live with, etc.) However, simply being aware of the condition under which we were raised, as well as knowing that other options could exist are steps in the right direction towards a conscious control of our destinies. SH

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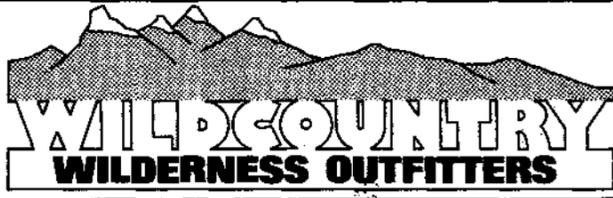
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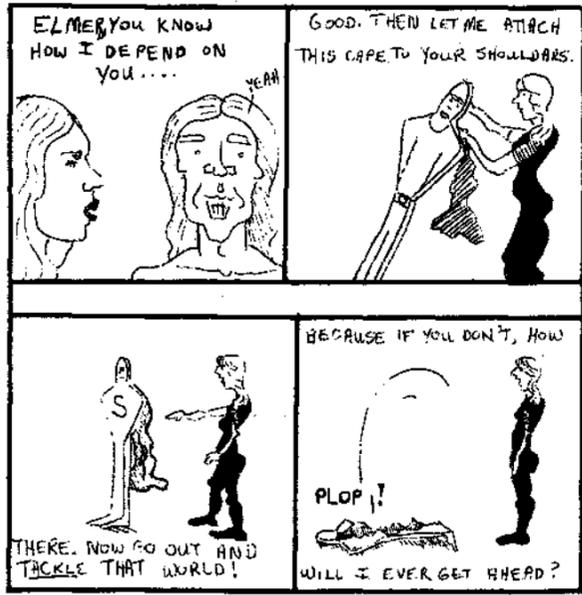


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School Pamphlets

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Let's imagine that you're a school administrator, elementary or junior high level, and you don't think that much of kids, but you've got the thankless task--in a society that doesn't think much of kids either--of getting them to Tow the Line.

And let's get this part clear right off: Towing the Line has nothing to do with freedom or thought or even honesty. Towing the Line means following the Rules, stupid or not, reasonable or not.

And you, as administrator, have to teach these kids to Tow the Line because that is the mark of a Good Citizen.

The question: what tool, what learning device, do you use to tell these otherwise potential rabble-rousers, these potential Bad Citizens, how to be Good Citizens?

Answer: Lies and Threats, of course.

If you're lucky, if you have a hypocritical County Sheriff and a gaggle of local business-folk eager for cheap advertizing and a chance to appear "civic-minded," you can get these lies and threats packaged--printed in pamphlets that can be given to all your charges for their edification.

The Pamphlets

Let's drop the hypotheticals, now, and take a look at three such pamphlets from real life. Passed out last year to local junior high school students, these little booklets fit our imaginary school administrator's needs to the hilt.

Their titles: Laws for Youth, Drug Abuse, and Shoplifting is a Crime.

Written in generalized terms, these pamphlets purport to explain the law to young readers. The quality of writing in them is comical (eg. "Unfortunately, some people only become wise by experiencing penalties because they weren't.") The texts are calculatedly unspecific: take away the cover and these books might apply to any state, for no mention of Illinois is within any of these pamphlets. They're filled with moralistic threats.

Simply, these three pamphlets represent the worst in education. They blur the very real distinctions between law and personal morality, between fact and fancy.

And the McLean County Police Sheriff's Department is emblazoned on the cover of each.

"Sexual Morality"

Make no mistake about it, some real teaching about law and drug abuse is needed in this country. Not only do young people need it, so do their elders.

So do a lot of McLean County's police, apparently, if they believe these booklets.

Let's look at the pamphlet on Laws for Youth, at the longest single section in that pamphlet: "Sexual Morality." It opens:

"What can separate the man from the boy? Girls! But, these girls usually separate the man from society." (5)

From this laughable beginning, the booklet goes on to describe, in graphic hypothetical terms, the horrors of underage sex resulting in pregnancy, a trial and humiliating cross-examination.

Nowhere is birth control of any sort mentioned

But check this later passage, noting the underlying threat and use of the unlegalistic word "sinner":

"Many are the boys who find they are required to continue association with girls they despise under threat of exposure of their past intimacies. Girls, likewise, continue undesirable associations to protect their reputations from exposure. Needless to say, sinners and criminals are considered to be fair game for public gossip, and law enforcement officers usually investigate where rumors are present." (9)

Pretty appalling, huh?

Other Sections

Laws for Youth also included sections on "Burglary," "Crimes Against Property," "Crimes Against Reputation and Civil Liberties" (wherein the reader is advised not to gossip: go back to that last quoted passage for a glimpse of official hypocrisy), "Special Problems With Girls," info on bike and marriage laws and more.

Inexplicably included under the section on "Burglary" is a line pertaining to "drawing or writing obscenities in a public place."

A section on "Disturbing and Disorderly Conduct" contains a blurred photo of a protest demonstration, followed by a sentence: "It is unlawful to disturb the peace and quiet of any neighborhood or person by offensive conduct, fighting, or vulgar or progane language." (16) The implication is clear. Protest is "offensive conduct," unprotected by law.

No distinction between lawful and unlawful protest is made.

A paragraph on "Hitchhiking" is both unclear and threatening. It reads, "It is unlawful for any person to stand in a roadway for the purpose of asking for a ride. This is especially dangerous in the case of young

boys and girls, as it is an easy method of approach most often used by sex perverts." (18)

Granted, the second sentence has some validity, but it is undercut by the first sentence's half-accuracy. Hitchhiking on the shoulder is legal, after all, in many states. The author(s), in not acknowledging this fact, throw away credfibility.

Shoplifting

This lack of concern for "small" niceties of the law is also evident in the Shoplifting is a Crime booklet.

Really, this pamphlet--once you get beyond the

asinine scare introduction--isn't all that bad. Its main text is aimed at shop owners and shop employees, and it details different techniques and types of shoplifting. Quite informative if you're a businessperson.

But if you're not a businessperson, if you're a student in junior high, you have to deal with the intro.

Look at this instance of the hypothetical horrors of being caught at shoplifting that appears in the intro on page three:

"You may THINK no one is watching. One person IS. THE SECURITY GUARD. He asks you what you have under your coat. When you open it the albums fall out. YOU ARE CAUGHT.

"You go to his office. He tells you to call your parents and tell them, while he calls for the police."

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Who Are The Brain Police?

Lie About Law

What's wrong with this picture? Answer: a security guard may stop you and, if he finds those albums under your coat, tell you to put them back, but he can't start calling the cops unless you've actually left the store, actually have completed the act of shoplifting.

That small distinction is not noted.

Drug Abuse

But these two booklets are inoffensive compared to Drug Abuse. Following the inner cover photo of Sheriff King (which tempts one to make comments about food abuse), the reader is greeted by a photo of a "hipple" holding a joint out for the reader. Make that two "hippies," for the photo is

double-focused and headlined "Are You Seeing Double? Many Drug Addicts See the World this Way 24 Hrs. a Day."

You just know, after glimpsing that, that you're in for some rough reading with this booklet.

The pamphlet is divided into the following sections: "Pills, Pills, Pills," "Glue Sniffing," "The Mind Bender, Hashish," "The Facts About Marijuana," and "12 Steps to Raising a Possible Drug Addict."

Other abused drugs such as alcohol, aspirin, tobacco or caffeine are not included in the text.

BELOW: McLean County Sheriff John King picks his nose as he struts down Bloomington's Main Street. All the Tow The Line pamphlets described in this article were distributed under the authority of King's office; all the pamphlets also contain his picture (but not picking his nose.)



The above photo appears in Sheriff King's "educational" pamphlet about drug abuse, which was distributed to grade school and junior high students. The pamphlet claims that drug addicts see double like this 24 hours a day.

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Much of Drug Abuse is written in terms of vague negatives, a traditional (unsuccessful) approach to the subject. In a discussion of the effects of pot-smoking, for instance, we find:

"Studies are being done today by the Federal Government to find the exact amount of damage caused through the use of marijuana." (12)

Note the use of the word "damage" in place of the more objective "physical change."

Or take this instance from the chapter on hashish:

"Studies have shown hashish tends to accentuate the personality of the user. Using hashish will bring out in the user his fears, psychoses, sadistic tendencies, his inadequacies or his well-being." (10)

From that list, you wouldn't think "well-being" (is that a personality?) had a chance.

Oh yes, the pamphlet repeats the old saw about marijuana giving "inducement to take stronger narcotics." (14)



At left is one pamphlet's picture of a "good kid." It appears in the section on "Obedience."

The 12 Steps

But Drug Abuse wouldn't be all that excruciatingly awful a booklet, for all its little bits of slanting, were it not for the final section on "12 Steps to Raising a Possible Drug Addict."

Its first four "steps" are:

"ONE. During infancy give the child everything he wants. This way he will grow up thinking the world owes him a living.

TWO. Never give him any religious training. And don't let him make any decisions for himself until he is 21.

THREE. When he learns four letter words, laugh and tell him how cute he is. Let him associate with others who use four letter words regularly.

FOUR. Never say 'NO' to him." (15)

Of course, four letter words haven't been linked to drug abuse, nor has a lack of religious training. For that matter, whether a child has been spoiled or not has yet to be linked with drug abuse. (Surely they don't spoil kids in the drug-ridden ghettos?)

What we have here, in this list of what not to do, is advice to middle-class parents on getting their kids to Tow the Line. Why else would this be included as step seven on the road to degradation and dope: "Never let him earn his own money, give him all he needs"?

Scan that line a second. What does it tell us? It tells us:

1. Drug abuse is only a problem to those with money. (Who else could be so free with it?)
2. Drug abuse is the result of sharing. (Note the use of the phrase "all he needs" as opposed to "all s/he wants.")
3. Work, selfishness and capitalism are the tools necessary to fight drug abuse.

Perhaps I'm stretching things a bit here, but not much. "12 Steps" is an endorsement of traditional middle-class ethics that ignores a good portion of the real drug abuse problem in its zeal to put forth the Line That Must Be Towed.

Never mind the number of Line-Towing hardworking husbands and wives, men and women, who also happen to be alcoholics, chain-smokers, pill-poppers. . .

A Conclusion

This one is going to be harder.

Let's imagine that you're a school administrator and you're committed to education. Let's imagine that you believe, as any educator of conscience would, in giving your students the facts as objectively as humanly possible.

You know, Mr./Ms. School Administrator, how lying backfires, how credibility is destroyed once lies are found out, how education has to be as objective and honest as possible.

What do you do when confronted with pamphlets like these?

Another Conclusion

Somebody, be they school administrator or county sheriff, should be ashamed of themselves.

DC

(Editor's Note: The following article by Belita Cowan, a college health instructor, first appeared in the December-January issue of Her-Self, a women's newspaper in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It has been edited and shortened by LNS.)

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Over 50% of all postmenopausal women have at one time or another tried taking estrogen, either at their doctor's urging or at their own request. Although there is no evidence to support drug company claims that estrogen therapy retards the aging process or helps sagging breasts, women and their doctors continue to rely on synthetic estrogens as a palliative for "growing old."

Only 10% of menopausal women report having symptoms severe enough to require immediate treatment.

In the past, doctors have been able to tell their patients that medical research showed no association between postmenopausal estrogen therapy and cancer. In fact, doctors argued that estrogen "protected" a woman against cancer.

But now, with the publication of four articles in the December 4, 1975, New England Journal of Medicine, medical research has finally revealed that there is indeed a causal relationship between estrogen replacement therapy (ERT) and the development of cancer in women--endometrial cancer. The endometrium is the lining of the uterus which is shed when a woman has her menstrual period.

According to two national medical surveys, the incidence of endometrial cancer did not increase appreciably from 1947 to 1970. But since 1970, the number of endometrial cancers in women over 50 years of age has skyrocketed. This increase mirrors the wide-spread growth of ERT which has occurred in the last 10-15 years.

Dr. Donald Austin of the California Tumor Registry reported in November that data they had collected from 1969 to 1974 revealed an increase of 50% for invasive endometrial cancer and 100% for in situ (located in the original area) lesions.



Her-self/cpf

Austin noted that other tumor registries in the country are reporting similar increases in uterine cancers, and that the sharpest rise is in white, upper and middle class women who are the most likely to take synthetic estrogens.

At present, the estrogen market is a large one, with drug company sales in 1973 reaching a high of \$69 million.

The principal supplier of estrogen is Ayerst Laboratories, whose form of the hormone is called Premarin. Ayerst has been responsible for much of the unfounded claims of estrogen's "therapeutic" effects.

While it is known that estrogens can alleviate vasomotor instability--hot flashes--on a short term basis, recent studies point to a non-hormonal treatment, such as anti-hypertensive drugs, as being effective.

And it is doubtful whether oral estrogens are as effective as topical estrogen creams in treatment of dryness of the vagina (atropic vaginal cells).

Hard Evidence: Estrogen and Cancer

In a telephone interview with Her-Self newspaper, Austin said that there is now medical evidence to support a direct causal link between estrogen and endometrial cancer.

Indeed, when taken together the four articles in the New England Journal of Medicine present a very persuasive argument against the use of estrogen replacement therapy.

The first article, "Association of Exogenous Estrogen and Endometrial Cancer" compares 317 women with endometrial cancer (48 years or older) with 317 matched women without cancer. Of the 317 with cancer, 152 had been treated with estrogens beforehand, as opposed to only 54 in the control group.

The distribution implies that "the risk of endometrial cancer was 4.5 times greater among women exposed to estrogen therapy."



The second article "Increased Risk of Endometrial Carcinoma Among Users of Conjugate Estrogens" by Harry Ziel, M.D., and William Finkle, Ph.D., describes a study using two control patients to every one patient with endometrial cancer.

All totaled, there were 94 "matched triples" who were compared for age, residential area in Los Angeles, duration of membership in the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, and the cancer risk category, based on the patients' medical history.

The study showed "an association between conjugated estrogens use and the development of endometrial cancer." This association, said Ziel and Finkle, "cannot be explained by such (other) factors as age, excessive weight, age at menopause or parity." (Parity refers to having borne children.)

One thing which the Ziel and Finkle article mentions, and the others do not, is the use of estrogen replacement therapy in women who've had their ovaries removed surgically, and young women with malfunctioning of the ovaries. Among these two groups of women, they point out, endometrial cancers "exceeds the expected number," indicating that here, too, estrogen replacement therapy may be the cause.

"Cancer Risk and Estrogen Use in the Menopause" is an editorial in the New England Journal by Kenneth Ryan, M.D. Ryan begins with the statement that the "Contributory association of Estrogenic hormones with carcinoma of the endometrium and breast in the human has been suspected for years." (Emphasis added)

His information reiterates the figures in the two scientific articles, that estrogen users face a 5 to 14 times higher risk of getting endometrial cancer.

Ryan goes further to suggest that cardiovascular problems (varicose veins, blood clots, etc.), migraine headaches, family history of cancer, obesity and excessive smoking should also be considered reasons not to take estrogen replacement therapy.

Estrogen

Questions & Answers on Menopause

by Belita Cowan

DO MOST WOMEN GO THROUGH MENOPAUSE IN THEIR EARLY 40'S?

No. To the contrary, most women experience menopause in their early 50's. The average age in the U.S. for menopause (1970 statistics) is 50.2 years. There is no evidence of great variation from this figure in the last 100 years.

HOW DOES MENSTRUATION CHANGE DURING MENOPAUSE?

There are basically 4 changes: 1) irregular periods; 2) irregular periods with lighter flow; 3) regular periods with lighter flow; 4) abrupt stopping of periods.

If a woman bleeds more instead of less during menopause, this may be abnormal bleeding unrelated to menopause, and the woman should consult her doctor. Other abnormal signs are: continual bleeding, blood clots and bleeding in between periods.

CAN YOU BECOME PREGNANT DURING MENOPAUSE?

Yes. Just because you are producing less estrogen or having irregular periods doesn't mean that you can't get pregnant. Menopausal women may ovulate on an irregular basis, but they do ovulate. It is generally thought that once a woman has not had a period for 12 consecutive months, she will not become pregnant.

DO MOST WOMEN HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME DURING MENOPAUSE?

No. Only about 10% report having symptoms severe enough to require immediate treatment. It is apprehension and fear of menopause that probably accounts for much of the minor problems associated with menopause--tiredness, listlessness and anxiety. Changes in mood are probably related to external factors such as fear of aging, lack of work outside the home, lack of sexual expression.



WHY DO SOME DOCTORS MAKE SUCH A BIG DEAL ABOUT MENOPAUSE?

Perhaps because they regard it as a disease instead of a natural physiological process. Also, when more patients see their doctors about menopause, more fees are generated. If a woman is having no symptoms, she may not need to see her doctor unless she has not recently had a general checkup. Many times women who have routine checkups at the time of menopause will find that they feel better about themselves after getting a "clean bill of health" from their doctor.

and Cancer

WHAT ARE "HOT FLASHES"? WHY DO SOME WOMEN GET THEM?

"Hot flashes" or "flushes" are referred to as "avasomotor instability" in medical jargon. (Vaso and vascular have to do with blood vessels; motor applies to nerves and muscles.) With vasomotor instability, the nerves sometimes overrespond to changes in hormone levels, and the nerves cause the blood vessels to dilate or constrict. This also affects the capillaries near the surface of the skin, particularly the face, neck, and upper chest.

Following the dilation, blood rushes to the skin surface. The woman may sweat and become flushed. When the blood vessels constrict, she may experience chills. It is not known why some women experience "hot flashes" while others do not.

ARE HOT FLASHES DANGEROUS?

Not at all. But for some women, they are plain uncomfortable.

ARE MENOPAUSAL SYMPTOMS DIFFERENT FOR WOMEN WHO'VE NEVER HAD CHILDREN?

What little evidence we have says no. According to a large study of menopausal women conducted by the Medical Women's Federation of England in the late 1940's, it was found that menopausal symptoms do not differ greatly between those who have or have not had sexual intercourse, nor between those who have and have not been pregnant.

None of the New England Journal articles rate the risks according to higher or lower dosages of estrogen, but one, "Estrogens and Endometrial Carcinoma," clearly states that "the relative risk of endometrial cancer associated with estrogen use increases with age."

IT HAS BEEN CLAIMED THAT ERT KEEPS A WOMAN YOUTHFUL. IS THIS TRUE?

No. The claims made by drug companies about the "youthful" properties of estrogen replacement therapy are clearly false. According to medical evidence, estrogen replacement therapy does not inhibit facial wrinkles, or sagging breast tissue. It does not give you extra energy, nor does it make you "more feminine" (whatever that is). Estrogen replacement therapy does not stay the aging process. Currently, there is disputed evidence whether ERT has any retarding effect on the development of osteoporosis (a condition associated with aging whereby the bones slowly decalcify and become more porous).

IS ESTROGEN REPLACEMENT THERAPY LINKED TO CANCER IN WOMEN?

Yes, according to new evidence.

SHOULD DOCTORS WARN THEIR PATIENTS ABOUT THE LINK BETWEEN ESTROGEN REPLACEMENT THERAPY AND ENDOMETRIAL CANCER?

Yes. The warning should be part of any discussion about ERT between doctor and patient. The doctrine of informed consent mandates that a patient be informed of the risks associated with the treatment. In light of medical evidence which suggests a strong relationship between ERT and endometrial cancer, it seems unlikely that any intelligent woman so informed would choose to take this risk unless absolutely necessary.

WHAT IS THE TREATMENT FOR MENOPAUSE?

Plenty of rest, exercise and good food. Also, perhaps a community menopause rap group would be a good way for women to share experiences and advice about menopause.

One Solution--Take the Pill?

Dr. Noel S. Weiss, author of "Risks and Benefits of Estrogen Use" in the New England Journal of Medicine, stated that "if a woman is given estrogen, she should be monitored closely for endometrial carcinoma."

One of the important questions posed by Weiss is whether postmenopausal women who take estrogen but who have their periods artificially brought on by hormones -- progestins -- will still be a high risk for endometrial cancer. (Progestins and estrogen are ingredients in oral contraceptives.)

The rationale here is that postmenopausal women may be developing endometrial cancer because the uterus is being continually stimulated by estrogen while the uterine lining is never shed. Further it is thought that periodic shedding of the lining is a deterrent to endometrial cancer. This is all not conclusively proven, however.

One gynecologist informed this author that she had already switched her patients to a combination of Premarin and Provera (a progestin) so that they would get their periods back again.

The irony is unmistakable: a postmenopausal woman -- who has no periods -- will be forced to start menstruating again if she is given estrogen/progestin regimen.

Unfortunately, most doctors are not aware that ERT is linked with endometrial cancer. Only those doctors who actually follow the research in the field, who keep up with the medical literature, and who attend special conferences and seminars are apt to be aware of the latest findings.

And many doctors who've been prescribing ERT for years may simply choose to ignore the medical evidence gathered so far. Others may not wish to alarm their patients who are already taking estrogen supplements. Finally, Ayerst Laboratories is not likely to take its money-making product off the market without a long fight.

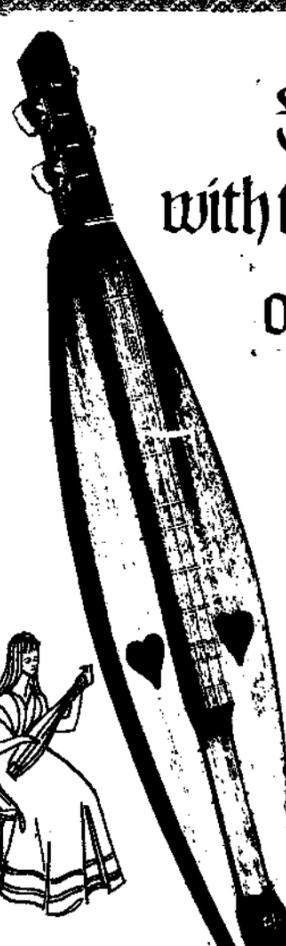


WHAT IS ERT (Estrogen Replacement Therapy)?

Some doctors who believe that menopause is not a natural aging process but rather an estrogen deficiency disease feel that this disease should be treated with estrogen supplements. Most commonly these are Premarin and diethylstilbestrol. The dosages vary depending on the doctor.



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