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battered women; eastland demo; prison; meg; range war

BLOOMINGTON—NORMAL

25¢

POST AMERIKAN

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THEY MADE ME DO IT, GOD!!

ABOUT US

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

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

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

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community.

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

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

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

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

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

Post Sellers

BLOOMINGTON

Book Hive, 103 W. Front
 Eastgate IGA, at parking lot exit
 The Joint, 415 N. Main
 Medusa's Bookstore, 109 W. Front
 The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main
 The Book Worm, 310½ N. Main
 South West Corner--Front & Main
 Mr. Quick, Clinton at Washington
 Downtown Postal Substation, Center and Monroe
 Bl. Post Office, E. Empire (at exit)
 Devary's Market, 1402 W. Market
 Harris' Market, 802 N. Morris
 Hickory Pit, 920 W. Washington
 Biasi's Drug Store, 217 N. Main
 Discount Den, 207 N. Main
 U-I Grocery, 918 W. Market
 Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland
 Bus Depot, 523 N. East
 The Wash House, 609 N. Clinton
 Bi-Rite, 203 E. Locust
 Man-Ding-Go's, 312 S. Lee
 Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main
 Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire
 J&B Silkscreening, 622 N. Main
 Doug's Motorcycle, 1105 W. Washington
 K-Mart, at parking lot exit
 Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main
 Lay-Z-J Saloon, 1401 W. Market
 Pantagraph Building (in front)
 Common Ground, 516 N. Main
 North East Corner--Main & Washington

NORMAL

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

OUTTA TOWN

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

GOOD NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous--828-5049
 American Civil Liberties Union--452-4831
 Clare House (Catholic Worker)--828-4035
 Community for Social Action--452-4867
 Countering Domestic Violence (PATH)--827-4005
 Dept. of Children and Family Services--829-5326
 Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare (Social Security Admin.)--829-9436
 Dept. of Mental Health--828-4311
 Gay Action/Awareness Union--828-6935
 Gay People's Alliance (ISU)--438-3411
 Gay National Educational Switchboard--800-227-0888
 HELP (Transportation for handicapped and sr. citizens)--828-8301
 Ill. Lawyer Referral Service--800-252-8916
 Kaleidoscope--828-7346
 Lighthouse--828-1371
 McLean County Health Dept.--829-3363
 McLean County Mental Health Center--827-5351
 Men's Rap Group--828-6935
 Mobile Meals (meals for shut-ins)--828-8301

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

Home Rentals Owners Ignore Subpoenas

Owners of Bloomington's Home Rentals Agency didn't just skip town when they closed abruptly in mid-October--they probably skipped the state.

Owners Jack Walton and Brett Walton had been served with subpoenas requiring their presence at a hearing before the attorney general's Consumer Protection Division in Springfield Nov. 17. According to James Spoeri, a Consumer Protection Division attorney, the subpoenas were served on the Waltons, but there was no trace of the Home Rentals Agency owners on Nov. 17.

The Waltons operated similar rental-finding agencies in Bloomington, Champaign, and Belleville. All are now closed, leaving hundreds of customers who should get a \$40 refund, but won't.

Consumer protection attorney Spoeri said he had no information on the Waltons' whereabouts, and guessed they had probably left Illinois. "We don't know where they are, but we're still on the case," Spoeri told the Post-Amerikan. The attorney admitted that he lacked the power to force the Waltons back to Illinois even if they are located, however. "I don't know what the next step is," the consumer protection attorney said. "I haven't decided what to do about it."

During the last month of its brief stay in Bloomington, the Home Rentals Agency suffered attack by picketers, Post-Amerikan articles, and state investigators.

Pickers and Post-Amerikan stories--based on information from former employees--charged early in September that the Home Rentals Agency was a con game.

Home Rentals charged prospective tenants \$40 for lists of apartments available for rent. Although a large proportion of those listings were available in the daily paper's classified section, Home Rentals salespeople claimed that the \$40 list consisted almost entirely of "exclusive" listings.

Also, evidence from former employees indicated that Home Rentals Agency courted landlords by providing a screening service, steering certain classes of tenants away from apartments owned by a prejudiced landlord.

After 12 days of picketing and leafletting during almost all the agency's business hours, the office shut down. A gratifying sign in the window explained "Closed temporarily due to the Post-Amerikan radicals picketing and marching."

After being shut down for 8 days, Home Rentals opened again Sept 26. But on Sept. 27 new state regulations went into effect, regulations which eventually meant the end of the con game.

The state regulations had been in the works for years, based partly on the more than 1500 complaints about similar rental finding agencies all over the state, complaints received by the attorney general's Consumer Protection Division.

Beside setting strict standards for how the rental finding agencies should operate, the new regulations also required owners of Home Rentals to have a real estate broker's license. The salespeople were also now required to have a real estate sales license.

Even if the Waltons obtained the necessary licenses, the new regulations severely cut down on the amount of "con" Home Rentals could get away with.

Within a few weeks, the Bloomington office, then the Champaign office abruptly closed, without warning to the people who had paid their \$40 and were still expecting to get apartment listings.

Now the Belleville office is also closed, and the owners of Home Rentals are nowhere to be found.

--Mark Silverstein



Mattie Goodman Trial:

Self-Defense or Self-Defense?

Trouble began for Mattie Goodman in May of 1977 when her husband, Gene, found her at their home with another man. Gene, a Bloomington cop for 14 years, took his service revolver partially from its holster and told the man to leave.

Mattie and her children moved in with the other man. But in July Mattie intentionally took an overdose of medication and ended up in the hospital.

When she got out, Mattie and the children moved back with Gene. Then the Goodmans filed a divorce suit, which was dismissed.

Gene was spending time with another woman and coming home at dawn after his 3 to 11p.m. shift at the cop shop. In January Mattie filed again for divorce.

Self-defense

On Friday, Feb. 17, 1978 Gene got home at 4a.m. Mattie and Gene started arguing about two cards Gene had gotten from the other woman he was seeing. Gene slapped Mattie and hit her head several times with his gun.

Mattie wrestled the gun away from Gene, and when he lunged for it, she shot him. She doesn't remember anything after that first shot.

That's Mattie Christine Goodman's side of the story.

The state, supposedly acting in our interest in the person of state's attorney Ronald Dozier, paints a different picture.

Ron says that Mattie's statement to police after the shooting could not be truthful. He doesn't believe that she could have wrestled that gun away from Gene.

What Ron believes happened is that Mattie was furious that Gene was seeing another woman, went into his bedroom while he was sleeping, loaded his revolver, and shot him three times.

What is fact is that Gene died about half an hour after Mattie shot him, and Mattie was eventually charged with his murder.

What the prosecution (Ron Dozier) and the defense (Paul Welch, Mattie's lawyer) agree upon is that they didn't want people to proclaim this case an example of wife-beating.

After Mattie Goodman was indicted by a McLean County grand jury and charged, Ron Dozier told the Pantagraph, "I have been concerned about the number and content of rumors (about physical abuse to Mrs. Goodman by her husband)." Ron didn't want us talking about it.

Interestingly enough, defense lawyer Paul Welch at one point asked the court for a gag order for Ron Dozier, meaning that the court would forbid Ron to talk publicly about the case.

Neither side wanted to jeopardize their case. And both lawyers apparently feared that discussion of Mattie as an ex-battered wife could hurt them in court.

Convicted

The prosecution probably feared that it might win too much sympathy for Mattie.

The defense probably thought that it would be more likely that the jury would find Mattie innocent if they believed she shot Gene in immediate self-defense rather than as a result of years of abuse, and possibly believed that portraying Mattie as a battered wife might cloud the issues. (And Mattie's story did warrant a plea of simple self-defense.)

Violence

At any rate, the trial testimony about Gene's violence reported in the Pantagraph concerned the children, not Mattie.

Mattie testified during her trial that she unsuccessfully tried to contact Bloomington Police Chief Harold Bosshardt the day before the shooting to tell him about Gene's cruelty to prisoners and to the Goodman children, two of whom still lived at home.

Mattie said that she had thought about calling the police chief earlier but hadn't because she didn't want to jeopardize Gene's career. But by February the couple was in the middle of divorce action, and Gene's career didn't matter.

"I have two children with permanent scars from when he slapped their heads against a wall. He beat one poor thing bloody," Mattie said, sobbing during the trial.

I'm not going to review all the evidence brought out at the trial about whether Mattie shot her husband in self-defense during a struggle or whether she shot him as he lay defenseless in bed. Some of the evidence, like the records of bruises and swellings on Mattie's head from St. Joseph's Hospital, where Mattie was taken after the shooting, support Mattie's story of direct self-defense. Other evidence, like the path of the bullets through Gene's body seem to contradict it.

However, State's Attorney Ron Dozier's assertion is that Mattie shot her husband because she was a rejected woman looking for revenge. ("She was a woman scorned and hell hath no fury like a woman scorned," Ron said during the trial.) This seems to me both unfeeling and unthinking, and I doubt that Ron himself could believe that Mattie shot Gene because he was seeing another woman and not out of fear for her safety and that of her children.



We are not the only ones who think that Mattie should be freed!

I had hoped to talk to Mattie about this article and also wanted to find out about her appeal, and so, called her lawyer, Paul Welch.

He told me that he would advise Mattie not to talk to the media because of her appeal, and he explained the appeal process.

Paul filed the appeal immediately after Mattie was sentenced Nov. 16. Some of the specifics of the appeal will not be filed until the defense's brief is filed, probably during January. But Paul Welch did say that "The appeal will include matters relating to both the conviction and the sentencing." (for more about the sentencing, see adjoining story.)

After Mattie's lawyer files his brief, the other side has 35 days to get their brief ready and filed. Then Paul has another two weeks to prepare and file a reply brief.

So the argument of the appeal will probably be scheduled no earlier than March or April and actually appear in court next summer. The court's decision could take 30 days, or it could take 4 or 5 months.

The court could do one of four things about the appeal:

It could decide to leave things the way they are.

It could lighten Mattie's sentence.

It could give her a new trial.

It could decide that the state had committed fatal error in its case against Mattie and set her free without a new trial.

Supposedly, people go to jail to protect society. Do we need to be protected from Mattie Goodman?

--Alice Wonder





Samuel Harrod III:

On Thursday Nov. 16, Circuit Judge Sam Harrod sentenced Mattie Goodman to seven years in prison, the maximum sentence for voluntary manslaughter. State's Attorney Ron Dozier, the prosecutor, had suggested a sentence of five years, and by law Mattie Goodman could have been placed on probation.

Judge Harrod said at the sentencing that the jury's verdict of voluntary manslaughter was a "compromise." (The jury could have found Goodman guilty of murder, a more serious charge with harsher sentencing.) Harrod apparently felt compelled to void the jury's compromise as much as he could.

Harrod felt the verdict was a compromise because, he said, "that there were no facts that justified the act." (See adjoining story.)

Harrod also said that "it is clear that imprisonment would entail hardship to her dependents" (Goodman has four children), but "the court is persuaded that a sentence (rather than probation) would deter others from committing the same offense...."

"The children...have been punished plenty. But judges don't send people to prison, people send themselves to prison," said Harrod, who does not seem to have lain awake nights worrying about either logic or compassion. "The court thinks this woman deserves seven years in prison."

Hardline

What kind of person is this judge?

Samuel Glenn Harrod III is a white Republican married Disciple of Christ who makes about \$42,500 a year. He's notorious for his hardline and sometimes even illegal sentences.

Harrod is or has been an Eagle Scout, football letterman, a member of his college Greek Senate and the Jaycees, and both chairperson and secretary of the Young Republicans.

Harrod has the distinction of being the youngest judge elected in Illinois.

In 1969, after being presiding judge of the Peoria County divorce courts for 22 months, he told the press that the divorce problem was really a marriage problem. He suggested several things the state could add to existing marriage regulations to insure more "solid" marriages. For example:

--Raise the minimum marriage age, possibly to 21 years.

--Require that people have a certain amount of money before they get married and for each child after marriage.

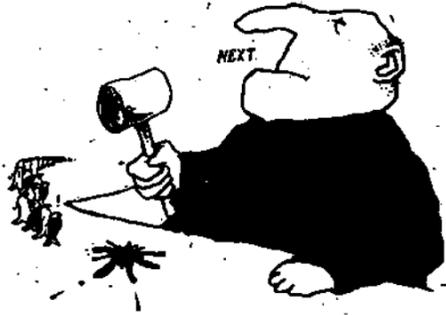
--Regulate the number of times a person could marry.

You may already be noticing certain of Harrod's more shining characteristics: stupidity, class bias, dependence on law-making and punishment to solve complex social issues. Read on--you won't be disappointed. He lives up to his promise.

Head hassle

In March 1976, as a Woodford County circuit court judge, Harrod sentenced Floyd Azbill to pay a \$125 fine, \$15 in court costs, and a few more dollars for a haircut. Azbill had been convicted of illegal transportation of liquor (driving with an open can of beer).

When Harrod sentenced Azbill, he said, "The court finds that defendant's attitude and long hair, considered together with his anti-social conduct--open can of beer in motor vehicle--indicate defendant is in need of further punishment and correction, and defendant shall obtain a haircut and return into open court before noon" (so Harrod could make sure he was satisfied with the haircut).



What Azbill obtained and later returned with into open court was not a haircut, like the 50 other men Harrod estimated he'd sentenced to haircuts during the previous year. Azbill showed up with an American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) lawyer, who objected to the sentence and said an appeal would be filed.

Harrod, who among his other virtues is not easily intimidated, then ordered Azbill to pay the public defender who had represented him for his legal work if Azbill could afford "private counsel" to object to the sentence. The ACLU lawyer explained that Azbill was not paying him, that he was hired by the ACLU.

No defense

When a ruling like Harrod's horrible hair hoax is challenged by the defense lawyer, the person who usually defends the judge's ruling in the appeals court is the state's attorney who prosecuted the defendant.

The state's attorney in Woodford County at that time was Richard Leiken. He said that not only would he not defend Harrod's heavy-handed sentence in the appeal, but that none of the prosecutors on his staff were going to do it either.

(The chief prosecutor usually recommends the sentence to the judge, just like Ron Dozier asked for five years for Mattie Goodman, but Leiken had of course never recommended that a defendant be sentenced to a haircut. Hellish Harrod thought it all up on his inspired own, with possibly an

assist from the Samson and Delilah nonsense in his no-doubt well-thumbed Old Testament.)

Leiken said he was not in favor of sentencing people to have haircuts (no hair-hater he) "and I am simply not willing to take a position in favor of it before the appellate court."

Attitudes

Harrod huffed that he sentenced people to get haircuts "because I honestly believe most of these people want somebody to tell them what to do...the court becomes a last-resort parent."

Ha.

Harrod hastened to say that it is not long hair itself that gives him a hurtful heap of heebie-jeebies. He didn't decide to sentence men to haircuts based on how long their hair was. (He's not overly concerned with making the punishment fit the crime, as we've seen.)

"I go mainly by attitudes. I don't mind long hair, and I don't sentence a lot of people with long hair to have haircuts.

"If his attitude is bad, and if I think sentencing the person to have his hair cut will help to discipline him, then I do it."

If it weren't for hateful Harrod's class background, I'd wonder if one of his relatives wasn't a barber. A scissors manufacturer maybe?

The haircut provision was dropped after State's Attorney Leiken said he wouldn't defend Harrod's sentence on the appeal.

But that wasn't the end of the haircut hustle.

Misconduct complaint

In July 1976 a misconduct complaint was filed against Harrod, who was then 36 and had been a judge for 10 years in the 11th Judicial Circuit, which includes McLean, Logan, Woodford and Ford counties.

The complaint was filed by the Illinois Judicial Inquiry Board, prompted by somebody's collection of newspaper clippings about Harrod's haircut sentences.

The board used Illinois Supreme Court ruling 61-C-18 as grounds for their complaint: "In imposing a sentence, a judge should not impose as punishment some act or discipline

portrait of a judge



without the authority of the law, whether or not the judge thinks the act or discipline may have a beneficial or corrective influence."

Harrod was also charged by the board with ordering people he puts on probation to surrender their driver's licenses or to carry a card identifying them as on probation.

Leaning system

The next month the Peoria Journal Star printed an article about Harrod shooting his mouth off to the Tazewell County Association of Chiefs of Police at the East Peoria Holiday Inn. His theme was that the "justice system" leans too far in favor of the criminal, a problem Harrod was trying as hard as he could to correct. (The "justice system" certainly leaned in favor of the criminal in Harrod's, as I'll explain in a couple of paragraphs.)



"I never worry too much about being fair-minded, because I know that in the end justice always triumphs."

As you might expect, Harrod told the police chiefs that he's not wildly enthusiastic about the effectiveness of "rehabilitation of criminals." Harrod said that he'd been a judge for 9½ years, and it takes a while to realize that there are a certain number of people that nothing can be done about.

Harrod said that in locking up these militant unreformables for a certain period of time the important thing isn't whether "they're rehabilitated or whether they come out of there a better or a worse person," but that "they were locked up so that they weren't knocking people in the head somewhere." What does he think goes on in jail? Pattycakes?

About the causes of crime, Harrod was equally insightful: "We hear a lot about poverty and things, but Woodford County is a little different. I don't see very many people in court who have to steal to eat. You just don't see it--they steal because they like to steal. It's easy." The man has a mind like a steel trap--it's never been alive.

Suspension

anyway, in December of 1976 the Illinois Courts Commission suspended Harrod for one month without pay. He would have lost about \$3500. That's right, would have lost.

Harrod and his lawyers filed a petition questioning the authority of the Illinois Courts Commission to make the decision they did. The Illinois Supreme Court first denied the right to file petition but later granted it.

On Nov. 30, 1977, the Illinois Supreme Court overturned Harrod's suspension. They didn't say that Harrod hadn't done what he was charged with, or that it wasn't illegal, but that the Illinois Courts Commission had overstepped its authority and that only Illinois Supreme Court rules should have been used as the basis of action against Harrod.

I can't figure out that last part, because it was a Supreme Court ruling that the complaint was based on. It may be that Harrod's punishment was not based on Illinois Supreme Court rulings, which would be very amusing since that was what Harrod was charged with in the first place.

At any rate, Harrod certainly had a jury of his peers. Co-conspirators, you might even say.

A member of the Illinois Judicial Inquiry Board, which filed the complaint against Harrod, told the press there was no appeal possible. The inquiry board strongly criticized the Supreme Court decision and that was that.

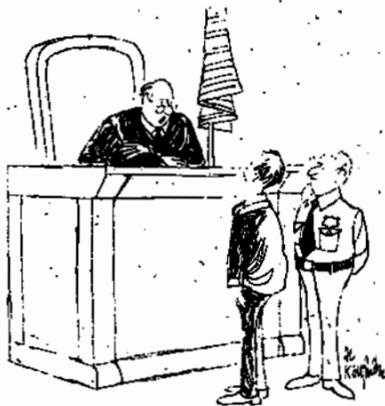
Child support

Other examples of Harrod's cruel and somewhat unusual sentencing are in the area of failure to pay child support.

On Aug. 3, 1977, Harrod sentenced Steven Caldwell, who was earning about \$200 a week, to six months in county jail for contempt of court because Caldwell wasn't paying his child support.

Harrod proclaimed, "All across the country this is happening. Men are refusing to live up to their responsibility in paying for their children's support.... Sending a man to jail is the last resort if he refuses to pay. Theoretically, he could be in (jail) the rest of his life if he do not pay."

Caldwell, a black, could have kept his job if Harrod had sentenced him to serve his sentence on weekends.



"And don't go off whining to some higher court!"

As a feminist, I certainly commend Harrod for his concern about the serious problem of men refusing to pay child support. However, if he thinks jail is an answer, he's so far into his own bag he should never be let out of it.

Different strokes

On Oct. 29, 1977, Harrod sentenced Donald Wayne Henderson, an ex-grade school principal and acting superintendent of schools, to one week in jail because of Henderson's failure to pay his child support.

I suspect that the difference between Henderson's sentence and Caldwell's have to do with Harrod's class prejudice. The Pantagraph article detailed how well-dressed Henderson was (you would've thought it was Patty Hearst they were covering). The article also reported that Henderson was making payments on a 1972 Cadillac, his country club membership, various loans (he was \$18,000 in debt), and had recently gone on an expensive honeymoon with his new wife.

Henderson didn't explain why he wasn't paying child support.

Harrod also ordered that the child support payments start coming directly out of Henderson's paycheck, which he didn't do in Caldwell's case, and permitted Henderson to serve his one week sentence over three weekends. (Of course, it would have taken a long time for Caldwell to serve six months weekend by weekend. But Harrod has shown himself unafraid of the somewhat offbeat sentence.) Two of Henderson's three weekends were the weekends of Thanksgiving and New Year's.

Supposedly, people go to jail to protect society. Do we need to be protected from Sam Harrod? ●

--Alice Wonder

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Women w o

Janice Painter of Tacoma, Wa. was convicted of first degree murder of her stepson and sentenced to life imprisonment. Janice killed her 28-year-old stepson when he attacked her while she was on crutches from a back injury. Her stepson had a history of violence--he had raped one of Painter's daughters, aged 9; had attempted to rape another daughter, aged 13; had assaulted two women, aged 70 and 83; and had previously hospitalized Painter.

Cathy Thomas of Cleveland, Ohio, has been convicted of murder for the killing of Rubin Daniels, her common-law husband. Daniels had assaulted her and was threatening to kill her when she picked up his gun to bluff her way out of the house. He made a move towards her, and she shot him. At the time of his death Daniels was under indictment for aggravated robbery and murder.

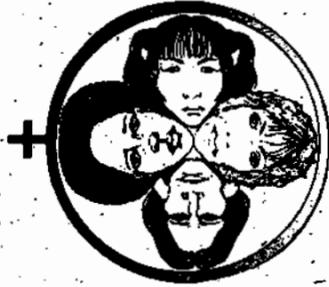
Janice Painter and Cathy Thomas were first victimized by the men who assaulted them and then by the legal system which punished them for protecting themselves. They are casualties in a society that allows the powerful to use violence against the vulnerable. Women who use violence to protect themselves against the men who rape and assault them threaten the system of male privilege and the guardians of this system, the courts.

Male privilege means that women are forced to seek legal justice in a patriarchal institution. Women tend to have low credibility in the eyes of lawyers and judges. Their "character" may be questioned.

In the case of Lorilyn Allan, who stabbed her boyfriend while defending herself from his physical and sexual abuse, the prosecutor tried to sway the jury to convict her of first degree murder by saying that Allan had never called the police after her beatings and that at the time of her relationship with the batterer, he was

tried to damn Allan by implying that she was a promiscuous woman who took no action to prevent being beaten.

Male privilege means that women are dumped with the responsibility for their own victimization. Women's credibility also means that witnesses become important (and of course most men batter their wives or girlfriends in the middle of the Safeway parking lot). In Hawaii, Judith Holkron was acquitted of shooting her husband following an incident where he abused her, put a gun in her hand, and ordered her to shoot herself. Her acquittal was due in large part to a witness who testified that Mr. Holkron had previously beaten his wife with an axe, struck her when she was nine months pregnant, and had stuck their baby's hand in a fan.



Workbook/cpf

Male privilege means that there are different standards of excusable violent behavior for men and women.

When Janice Pinkney, 20 years old, refused to show her apartment-mate Herbert Jackson a receipt for a bill she claimed she'd paid, he got a 20-gauge shotgun out of the closet and shot her through the left eye, killing her. Jackson pleaded guilty to second degree murder and was sentenced to a 10-year term. Later Judge Audrey E. Melbourne suspended the sentence and put Jackson on probation. Melbourne described Jackson's crime as a "singular act--

Barbara Jean Gilbert was sentenced to 8 years in prison for manslaughter when she shot her husband after 17 years of violent fights. Although a probation report recommended probation for her, Judge Samuel Meloy pronounced the maximum sentence, saying, "The court has the right to inflict pain and deprivation" on her because she had snuffed out a life. (A three judge panel later suspended her sentence).

Wife beating has becoming a public issue in the past several years, mostly due to the work and protests of women and feminists. Recently it has also become a concern for the legal system and other governmental agencies. Although women have been battered, some to death, since the dawn of monogamous marriage, when women kill their batterers, thus threatening the institution of the family, wife-beating becomes a problem.

The major federal source of funding for battered women's shelters is the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA). One requirement of some LEAA funding is mediation between the battering husband and battered wife to "keep the family unit together" even if it's to the detriment of the women and children. Male privilege means that women are not valued as individuals but for their role in the maintenance of the family.

A major focus of the LEAA is gathering data. Hearings on domestic violence conducted by a California senator show that:

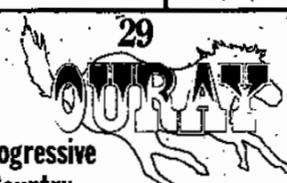
- one out of every two women will be assaulted by a husband or son some time in her life.
- 1/4 of battered women are pregnant.
- in California 1/3 of all female murder victims are killed by their husbands.

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wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
	14 	15 	16 Pork and the Havana Ducks
20 boo radley 10¢ Drafts (8:30-10:00)	21 	22 The Dave Chastain Band	23 
CLOSED 24, 25 & 26 MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL AT THE J			
27 15¢ Drafts (8:30-10:00) DALLAS MCGEE	28 Anniversary Party Michael Brian Murphy & THE BALD EGO BAND	29 	30 NEW YEARS EVE PARTY PORK AND THE HAVANA DUCKS 31



fight back



Another report shows that:

--70% of assault victims in the emergency room at the Boston City Hospital are women who've been attacked at home by their husbands or boyfriends.

--women married to upper and middle class men are as equally subject to battering as are lower-class women.

--the FBI considers wife-beating the most under reported crime in the nation.

Given that wife-beating is so common and deadly a crime, police protection of battered women is crucial. Unfortunately it is not very reliable. Not only are most police officers men and therefore more likely to sympathize with the batterer, the police are slow to respond to calls of domestic violence. A Kansas City Police Department study showed that in 85% of the cases of domestic homicide, the police had been called at least once before the murder, and in 50% of the cases they had been called 5 more times before the homicide took place.

Male privilege means that women die at the hands of men.

Beverly Carter phoned the Philadelphia police four times on Sept. 17 asking for protection from her battering husband. The police took no action. She was found dead later that day, her body battered and slashed.

It is possible for battered women to escape from their homes to women's shelters. But escape is no guarantee of safety. Mary Parziale took shelter in a house for battered women and found a part-time job. She got a court injunction to prevent her husband from taking their four children out of state and filed for divorce. One night her husband followed her out of her work place, shot her five times in the throat in full view of three of their children who were in the car. She died two weeks later, never regaining consciousness.

Options for change are few for battered women. Although there is an increasing number of women's shelter houses, leaving a relationship can be extremely difficult.

Male privilege means that women are discouraged from being independent and self-reliant. Battering is an effective way to teach a woman that she is stupid, powerless, helpless. Battered women who escape face many emotional difficulties. For some it is the first time they have been free from the rule of parents or husbands. For others it may be the first time in years that they have been in contact with the world outside of home and supermarket. Interviewing for a job can be a terrifying experience. Breaking down the walls of loneliness and isolation that a violent relationship can create is a painful, difficult process.

Male privilege means that women are economically dependent on men.

Since few women are independently wealthy, a major problem in leaving the relationship is money. Almost every woman who goes to Transition House, a Boston women's shelter, ends up on welfare. With this limited source of income, she may need to find shelter and food for herself and her children. Many women have a hard time finding a job, faced with high rates of unemployment and little training and or education. If they do find work, most women cannot afford baby-sitters, and the few child-care facilities available to low-income people have long waiting lists.

Male privilege means that women's options for survival and growth are severely limited.

Given the atmosphere of violence and degradation that battered women live in and the lack of practical alternatives available to them, it should not be surprising that some of these women end up in court for killing their batterers. Although there are still far too many cases of women being punished harshly, there is some evidence that the legal system is beginning to respond to the severity of the problem. Several women have been acquitted on grounds of self-defense, when the killing occurred in

the midst of a fight. And some women have been acquitted or shown leniency when the killing did not occur in the process of a fight. In all of these cases, however, there was clear evidence of brutality and long term abuse and reasonable belief that severe physical injury was imminent.

Although a few women are being freed in the courts, this is no solution to the problem of wife-beating. Neither is sending batterers to jail--prisons do not teach non-violence.

Assault, rape and battery of women will not be wiped out until male privilege is wiped out. Women and this society need to learn that it is not a woman's fault that she's battered, and that there is no excuse for such violence. Social service and legal systems need to develop programs to assist women who choose to leave their battering husbands. And this society needs to recognize that it is not worthwhile to keep the nuclear family together at the expense of women and children. No woman should be put in a situation such as that of Judith Holbron who after shooting her abusive husband said, "I knew it wasn't right, but my kids aren't living in fear anymore, and I'm not living in fear anymore."

--Riverfinger

Local groups help battered women

Bloomington-Normal has two organizations that provide services for battered women. Countering Domestic Violence is a group that assists battered women, but it doesn't yet have a house of its own. It can be reached through the PATH phone lines, 827-4005. Clare House is part of the Catholic Worker movement, which serves the needy in urban communities through "houses of hospitality." Clare House just opened in early December, and you can get in touch by calling 828-4035 and asking for Tina, Barb, or Virginia between 8 am and 10 pm. We'll have more on these organizations next month.

**Feminist, Young People's, and Gay
Books - Books on Health Care,
Politics, Working, Food, and Solar
Energy - Lots of science fiction/fantasy -
Arts, Crafts, How-to - Inspiring Posters -
Free Stuff - Magazines - Womyn's
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SMALL CHANGES

NON-PROFIT

ALTERNATIVE

BOOKSTORE

Lesbian mothers: examined, interpreted, judged by the state

When I was little, I was encouraged to plan for the day when I would marry and have children. I wanted books for Christmas, but received dolls and miniature appliances, so that I could practice for that day when some man would marry me. Well, I practiced, and a man married me, and I had children; but I also had a part-time job and continued school and ultimately developed a feminist consciousness and subsequent discontent in spite of my careful preparation to fit in. My dolls could not compare to the joy my own children give. And I want my children to have a voice, not only in how and what they choose to play, but in developing into thinking, independent people.

What is a mother? A person who chooses to share her life with children, making herself responsible for their financial security, nurturance, and the loving guidance each child needs to develop a healthy sense of self.

When a mother chooses to take this task alone, the state steps in to judge her fitness. If a woman remains within the boundaries of marriage and the nuclear family, the state doesn't tamper. But if she decides to take on the task without a live-in male, her life is an open book, to be examined, interpreted, and ultimately judged (and too often condemned) by a male representative of the state. Because she has threatened the male power structure by refusing to live with male domination at home, the system provides the male domination of the court system, to decide on her competence to raise the future work force. Using the catch-all phrase "best interests of the child," the courts judge her. If she is a lesbian as well as man-less, she's even more severely judged.

All available psychological studies conclude that children from homosexual families show the same (no more, no less) incidence of homosexuality as children raised in straight families. Yet, judges have repeatedly used "recruitment and indoctrination" as reasons for separating homosexual parents from their children. In Michigan, 11-year-old Jillian Miller pleaded with the judge to let her remain with her mother, who is gay. The judge ruled that the child was not in a position to best judge her own welfare. Apparently, Jillian was not the only person denied an opinion: even

the court psychologist testified that a change in custody would be emotionally damaging to Jillian. But the judge knew better, and he determined it best that she no longer live with her mother, Margareth.

The male power structure does not truly care about children: it allows our nation's children to rot in slums, die intellectually in school systems empty of education, and be fed propaganda that teaches them never to think for themselves. This power structure consistently sends battered children back to the battering parents in order not to take on a new burden for the state. But the state gladly assumes this burden if a woman dares to buck the accepted notion of male household rule.

The courts traditionally grant custody to straight white women who the court deems a good bet for catching another man to provide wages and domination. Yet, if a woman elects a lesbian lifestyle, she is threatened by the probable loss of her children. That punishing hand, which is supposedly by, for, and of the people, actually exists only for the male, and keeps women in their place (at home cooking, mending, tending to the needs, and following the rules of the man).

A lesbian must contend with ex-husbands, landlords, relatives, employers, school administrators, and many more people who are terrified of homosexuality. All of these desire to control the lives of a lesbian mother and her children. Each can withdraw a basic necessity such as shelter, employment, or the children themselves, if she dares to buck the power that ensures the prosperity of the system that the meddlers benefit from.

The issue is unique to lesbians, but is an example of the oppression of all women, too. Inflation, recession, and unemployment hit us hardest, because we have the least to start with. The powerlessness of all women is evident in the punishment of lesbian mothers for refusing to attach themselves to the male system.

Custody suits where lesbian mothers are involved get a great deal of publicity. The straight press, in righteous indignation, uses sensationalism and moralism to condemn. Time after time, children are taken from mothers who certainly had nothing to gain by

trying to retain custody when their private lives were open to mass judgment, their means of support threatened, and their very identities subject to public scrutiny. Yet these courageous women still fought to retain the financial and social burden of children. Why? Perhaps it goes back to the original decision to have children. In my case, it is a chance to give small persons the emotional support that will be necessary for their individualism to survive in this world.

The battle of lesbian mothers to retain their children goes on in courtrooms, in lawyers' offices, in the media, and in the home; and more and more of us are refusing to give up without a fight. In Washington last September, two women won custody of their six children--five boys, one girl, ages ranging from 6 to 14. Last April, in California, a lesbian was given custody (given!!) of her two children, a boy 11 and a girl 9. Unfortunately, these two happy endings are not common.

We are not isolated oddities--we live here in Bloomington-Normal, and in every community everywhere. We are millions strong and are learning the strength to stand up to the oppression that is trying to separate us from our children. A growing number of defense and support groups are present across the nation. Find them; support them. Remember--oppression of lesbian mothers is but a symptom of the disease that oppresses us all. ●

For lesbian mothers:

Tykes and Dykes Legal Custody Center
110 E. 23rd Street
New York, N.Y.

Lesbian Mothers
Feathers Farm
Box 19
Bryantville, MA 02327

Lesbian Defense Fund
P. O. Box 4
Essex Junction, Vermont 05452

Lesbians and Kids, a bibliography of resource and reference material pertinent to lesbian mothers is available (cost \$1.50) from:
Lesbian Tide
8706 Cadillac Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Catholic callousness

Berrigan makes wrong choice

The Catholic Church's built-in sexism has come out, predictably enough, in their stand against woman's right to choose abortion. Now even some of the leftist and progressive Catholic groups have publicly gone anti-choice.

Daniel Berrigan, an anti-war activist priest who became famous for his actions against the Pentagon during the Vietnam war, gave an anti-choice speech at a conference of the New England Catholic Peace Fellowship, a group that has up until now seemed politically progressive: they're also working for nuclear disarmament, for example. Berrigan spoke on prison reform at Illinois State University last year.

Other anti-choice heavies spoke at the New England conference, and held workshops on staging nonviolent sit-ins at abortion clinics. In traditional Catholic style, these

sit-in demonstrations emphasize whatever pain, guilt, and unhappiness the women getting abortions at the clinic may feel, encouraging the women to feel as terrible as possible, in hopes that in the future they will choose to be baby factories (or celibate).

At the heart of the anti-choice stance is the deep religious belief that women should be punished for having fun (this belief is also at the heart of their anti-lesbian and pro-marriage stances). This religious craving for punishment becomes clear when the anti-choice people make exceptions in anti-abortion laws for women who've been victims of rape (as defined by the police and courts, of course) and incest.

Even though the fetuses thus produced are just as innocent and human as all others, Catholics like Berrigan

believe that the women who are victims of rape or incest should be allowed abortions--after all, the fetus is not the product of fun, and so the woman doesn't have to pay for the rest of her life.

Although Berrigan supports the church pushing forward its principles over heaps of woman's dead bodies--he believes that every woman who gets pregnant should be coerced individually to choose motherhood and a life of slavery--he's not in favor of laws against abortion. He even criticizes the Catholic Church for working for repeal of abortion laws, saying the church "could have ended the war in Vietnam if it had put as much effort and money into that as it has into repealing abortion laws. That would have been pro-life." ●

--Phoebe Caulfield

Women against rape: what are the alternatives

(This article is adapted from one by the Santa Cruz Women Against Rape which appeared in the June 1977 Off Our Backs as a "letter to the anti-rape movement.")

The early anti-rape groups were collectives of feminists who came together because of their anger at the way the police and courts treated rape victims. These groups were critics of the police, the courts, the hospitals--all the institutions that traditionally dealt with rape victims.

As time went by, both new and old anti-rape groups began to feel it was important to work on building good relationships with the police and other criminal justice agencies, even though they remained critical of the system as a whole. The groups hoped that this better relationship would lead to more prosecution and conviction of rapists. Now, the Santa Cruz women feel that some groups have begun, misguided, to actually work with the system and to withhold (or not even think of) criticisms of the system.

One problem anti-rape groups face is whether to persuade women to report rapes to the police. Many groups have literature and phone counseling that basically tell a woman that she can either go to the police or do nothing. If a woman feels that she'd like to do something about her rape, but the only thing she is told about is the police, her probable choice would be to go to the police.

However, the criminal justice system cannot solve the problem of rape, and the Santa Cruz women fear that many anti-rape groups have lost sight of this fact.

The criminal justice system has always been unresponsive and insensitive to the needs of women. The ordeal of reporting a rape and

seeing it through trial is made painful and degrading. Even if the individuals involved try to be pleasant and helpful, the processes and structure of the entire system remain hostile and unsupportive to rape victims. The women involved have no power in the process: it is the police who decide if she was "really raped"; the DA often decides not to prosecute because it isn't a "good case"; and juries hesitate to convict a rapist.



The conviction rate for rapists is very low, due to myths about rape in our culture (like that women really want it, etc.). But that doesn't mean that a high conviction rate is necessarily a great goal to work for. Third World and/or poor white men are most likely to be convicted of rape, as they are for nearly all crimes.

In order for a DA to "win" a rape case, he (or rarely, she) must use stereotypes about race, sex, and economic class; these stereotypes are among the worst aspects of the system and are aspects that women should fight against.

The answer is not just to get rapists off the street. Prisons themselves are incapable of changing rapists. Prison culture is much like that of the outside world, with all of the pressure intensified. Male sex roles, violence, and power relations which lead to rape in the first place are strongly reinforced within prison.

Rapists in prison don't stop raping--they simply enforce their power over men weaker than themselves. Prisons don't deal with the root of the problem. They only add to the causes. Men getting out of prison have not learned new ways of relating to women. They don't know why they raped, or how to change. It is likely that they will rape again.

As far as legal reform goes, the Santa Cruz women think that even "good" anti-rape legislation will be ineffective in a society that encourages violence against women and in a criminal justice system that persecutes Third World and poor white men.

The Santa Cruz group works on developing practical alternatives that deal with both the system and the roots of sexism and violence. Their focus is the creation of various community-based and supported alternatives, because the responsibility for dealing with rape should be in the hands of all community people, not just institutions like police, courts, and jails.

Here are some of the ideas and alternatives that the Santa Cruz group works on:

1. We encourage people to get together to discuss ways to watch out for each other. This includes block watching to make neighborhoods safe, organizing at work-places to get support to deal with hassles from bosses and fellow workers, and organizing at schools to get self-defense classes, etc.
2. We try to create the consciousness in people that they should respond to a scream or a call for help, and that they should go to a woman's aid if it looks like she's being hassled.
3. We print the descriptions of men who rape, hassle, and assault women so that rape will become a public issue, so that these men will lose their anonymity, and so women can be warned of particular men.
4. Confrontations of rapists, etc., by women (or women and men). The message we want to present to men is that we know who they are and what they did, that they are responsible for their actions, and that they have the responsibility to change. We try to offer follow-up re-education by anti-sexist men. Although we think that each individual confrontation is important, we hope that each one will have the more widespread effect of encouraging people to force men to stop violent and sexist behavior. This means that people have to deal with the men close to them--their family, friends, etc, as well as with strangers who hassle women.

Confrontations can be good for women who've been raped or hassled because they allow her to be active and powerful in a situation where it is safe for her to be so. She can make decisions about how a confrontation will take place and what she'd like to say. We can help her get together a group of women who will be supportive to her during this process. This is very different from reporting a rape to the police where the woman's role is a passive one (as a witness for the state) and where others make decisions about her case for her.

We realize that rape is not going to end with the creation of these few alternatives, that rape will only end with the development of a new system that provides a context for these changes in people's lives. We want to develop a movement that is working towards these changes. It is crucial for anti-rape groups not to focus on an isolated issue to the exclusion of developing a broader analysis of the society as a whole. ●

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Rape and Rape Culture

Confronting rape:

Most states now prohibit questioning a rape victim on her past sexual history. Far more rapes are being reported every year. Police, hospitals, and juries are becoming more sensitive towards the victims of rape. In general, things are going pretty well for the rape issue.

Bull.

In animal cultures there is a predator-prey relationship. The predator is con-

stantly on the hunt, unless it has recently scored and been satisfied; the prey lives in constant fear of being satisfaction.

Comparing this relationship to the human rape culture, you can see who is predator and who is prey. You can see, too, that the power in the relationship lies with the predators. The prey can arm herself, hide herself, or seek revenge on the predator, but as long as the predator exists as such, she is prey. Her only recourse is to learn to live with the problem; halting it is his job.

Punishment through legal means is the recourse most socially acceptable. If the rape victim seeks out the police, if the police can be convinced of the truth of her claim, and if the rapist can be caught and brought to trial, then maybe he'll be convicted and a jail sentence will convince him to be good. (In reality, in jail he will probably either rape smaller men or be raped by larger ones: in the first case he'll come out with new techniques; in the second, new anger.)

Before we (finally) leave the legal system behind, we must praise Cecelia and Guadalupe of Mexico City. Cecelia pulled a gun on her rapist; when he grabbed it, fell on it and died, she was accused of murder. Mexico City feminists staged a 24-hour demonstration around the jail where Cecelia was being kept, and after three days the judge released her, citing "defense of sexual liberty." Guadalupe was raped by three men later that month; again feminists supported her and argued their views before the judge; he sentenced the rapists to nine years (the maximum penalty) and again spoke ringing words: "sexual self-determination." But that's not all the good news on these cases-- six groups (a total of 300 women), encouraged by the results of positive action, united the troubled women's movement of Mexico to form the Coalition of Women. Rape crisis centers are popping up around Mexico City, and the Coalition is currently meeting with unions and previously anti-feminist political parties to discuss rape politics.

Some women are not content with the passive role of witness for the prosecution. In East Lansing, Michigan, members of the rape crisis center have been known to spray paint "RAPIST" on cars and front porches, and make unpleasant late-night phone calls. In Los Angeles, when a woman complained that a neighbor had been following her around, rape crisis members started following him and stuck to him for three days. (He quit.)

Women's escort services are also popular; the Women's Coalition for Rape Prevention in Madison, Wisconsin, has had one in operation for years-- staffed by women, unlike the worthy Red Tassel services here in our community, where any rapist off the street can volunteer to be an escort. (An exaggeration; in reality each volunteer is interviewed. But what can they ask him? If he's a rapist?!) In Santa Cruz, California; Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Rochester, New York; there are groups who are publishing names and descriptions of rapists; and doing confrontations of rapists in public places; then offering consciousness-raising and counselling to rapists who want to change their behavior. Champaign's Men's Task Force Against Rape and Sexism is working with the Women Against Rape (WAR) group there, doing counseling for "male significant others": husbands, fathers, brothers, lovers, and friends of rape victims.



Some women do choose this method of dealing with rape. Carolyn Craven, one of almost 50 victims of a Berkeley area rapist (called, fittingly, "Stinky"), came forward publicly and has actively helped the police towards his capture. Neighborhood women united for mutual protection and raised a \$25,000 reward for his arrest. However, Craven pays the price: constant fear. In her words, "Stinky knows what I look like, but I don't know who he is or how mad he is with me for speaking out. I am afraid."

His conviction can only postpone her fear until he is released with new techniques and new anger.

Three cheers for the Pantagraph . . . softly

Continuing its recent trend of following up on Post-Amerikan investigations, The Daily Pantagraph did a story early in December that called one subsidized housing program a "ripoff."

The Post ran its first stories exposing the ripoffs in federally subsidized housing in June, 1977. Unlike the Pantagraph, however, the Post named some of the profiteers involved in local subsidized housing.

Following other Post-Amerikan leads, the Pantagraph first began to examine the profits involved in tax-free industrial bond issues by Bloomington and Normal three months ago. The Post ran its first story in November, 1977.

About a year ago, the Post unearthed a scandal involving former city council member Larry

Nelson that the Pantagraph tried to bury. Prodded by the Post, the Pantagraph provided its readers more information on the tax evasion scandal that had forced Nelson to resign from the Bloomington council.

The folks at the Post-Amerikan, who are all unpaid volunteers, wish to congratulate Evergreen Communications Corp., owner of The Daily Pantagraph, for its efforts to provide the people of Bloomington-Normal with timely investigative reporting--however tardy it may be.

Pantagraph researchers might find it useful to refer to the following issues of the Post: for public and subsidized housing, vol. 5 no. 9 Jan., 1977 and vol. 6 nos. 3-5 June-Sept., 1977; and for tax-free bonds, vol. 6 nos. 7-8 Nov.-Dec., 1977 and vol. 7 no. 3 Aug., 1978.

THE HOB NOB

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Mondays

Draft beer 20¢
Schnapps 35¢
Nine-inch pizza 99¢

Tuesdays

Mixed doubles pool tournament

Wednesdays

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examples: drafts 30¢
tequila sunrise 60¢
tom collins 60¢

Thursdays

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no entry fee
prizes awarded

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Happy Hour 5-7
Drafts 30c

Friday-Sunday

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Rock, Country & Country Rock

Budweiser & Olympia
on tap

Open Til 2 am Fri. & Sat.



new tactics, new power

Violence is an option: self-defense courses for women are no longer an oddity. In LA, an 18-year-old woman got up in the night for a drink of water and heard a man raping her mother; she calmly called the police, then evicted the man with the help of a golf club. An 11-year-old girl walking home from school was followed by two men in a car. One got out and approached her; she flipped him flat on his back on the pavement. The driver, outraged, screamed, "That's murder!" and leaped out to assist his dazed companion--but by then neighbors had alerted the police.

Violent, after-the-fact revenge is also an option, but a risky one. The gallant Inez Garcia and Joanne Little, whose trials for the murder of their jailer/rapists received such publicity, are examples of the risk. In Florida, two women strangled their rapists and were acquitted, but in Long Beach, California, a woman shot and killed her rapist when he returned the next day; she was convicted of first degree murder.

And, lest we be accused of not exploring all the alternatives, let us not forget Herman J. Obermeyer, editor and publisher of the Northern Virginia, who recently announced that the Sun will begin printing names, ages, and addresses of rape victims. Says the sage Obermeyer: "Protecting the accuser's anonymity, while fully identifying the accused, is tantamount to a pretrial presumption of guilt. A malicious woman could try to make the state take away a man's freedom for life without even risking public embarrassment." She should be so lucky; obviously the worthy Obermeyer doesn't consider the horror of a rape trial humiliating enough.

SELF DEFENSE
is a right.



It seems a fitting time to get back to the situation in our community. The courageous women who have recently come forward and reported their rapes have caused many well-meaning citizens to come up in arms against the "rash of rapes" right here in Bloom-

ington-Normal. We realize that unreported rapes are not uncommitted rapes, but the general feeling of outrage in this community has brought about the organization of A.R.R.C.: Against Rape and Rape Culture.

Already fliers have been distributed, listing resources for help and information, and ARRC is in the process of drawing up methods and alternatives for dealing with rape and rape culture. We will call for volunteers for various projects sometime in early spring, so watch the Post and public bulletin boards for messages from us. The message will run something like the eloquent statement of one of our members: "I'm tired of being able to do nothing but hold women while they cry." •

I am a woman
and if I live
I fight and
if I fight
I contribute
the Liberation
of all women
and so victory
is born even in
the darkest hours

apf/women: a journal of liberation



Women don't do laundry

The McLean County Nursing Home is helping to maintain an old American custom--keeping women locked in low paying jobs. In the Housekeeping Department there are two types of positions--Domestics I, pay \$3.05/hour, and Domestics II, pay \$4.30/hr. And surprise, surprise: all Domestics I workers are women and all Domestics II workers are men.

Other than the gender of the workers, what's the difference in these positions? Well, Domestics II workers may have to do laundry, whereas Domestics I workers are not expected to. It's easy to predict McLean Co. Nursing Home's explanation for this division of duties--laundry work involves lots of lifting and women just can't... (I wish they'd develop some new stereotypes for women; these old ones are so tiresome.) As one ex-employee of the nursing home said: "It doesn't matter what sex you are, if you're on the weak side, laundry would be hard for you to do."

Now, this ex-employee of McLean Co. Nursing Home is a man, and so was a Domestics II, which means he did lots of laundry, right? Wrong! He estimates that he did the laundry on an average of once a week, and for that he was paid \$50 a week more than a Domestics I. Strange, I don't know many housewives who get paid \$50 a week for doing laundry.

Well, that's about the end of this sad little tale, except, when this ex-employee quit he was told that they were going to hire a Domestics I to replace him. After all, why should McLean Co. Nursing Home hire a man when they can get a woman for \$1.25/hr. less? •

North St. Normal

MOTHER MURPHY'S

111 1/2

Room Decorations

Pipes

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Buckles

And Much More!!!

God Marauders crucify

OK God, it's righteous wrath time. Strike me down. Burn this paper. Incinerate the souls of the poor Post-Amerikan readers, especially the women.

Oooh. Nothing happened. The old bugger must be napping.

It's funny, but I can't think of a single person that God personally zapped. Not even Richard Nixon.

My favorite religious movement is the Inquisition--because the Inquisition shows you what religious fanaticism is all about.

Consider Christianity. One of the big images is of a guy with big spikes through his hands and feet, groaning, up on a cross. Thorns on his head, a wound in his side, far beyond the aid of Excedrin.

That image is supposed to inspire you...perhaps to commit chainsaw murders.

Consider Catholicism. One of the big rituals is supposed to be eating the body and drinking the blood of the poor bastard that got nailed to the cross.

That ritual is supposed to inspire you, too...maybe to wearing necklaces of Viet Cong ears.

If I were religious, I'd probably cream my jeans at the thought of the Bishop of Peoria broiling on a spit.

That's what I mean about the Inquisition: your basic religious fanatic intends to force everyone to believe the same particular bunch of nonsense, or at least to behave as if they believed it. Your basic religious fanatic rather enjoys burning witches.

Now that I've earned myself a spot in hell next to Mark Twain, whose opinion of Christianity is identical to mine, I will stick more to the point for awhile:

The Right-to-Life perverts like Thomas Shilgalis, the Catholic godfathers like Bishop Edward O'Rourke, the old-time righteous right-wingers like Violet Hamilton, and a few idiot sons like David Wochner have teamed up to deny Planned Parenthood both its federal and its charitable funding.

That alliance won its first victory back on Nov. 21 when a project review committee of the Mid-Illinois Area Health Planning Corporation (MIAHPCo) voted 3-2 to deny Planned



K. Kollwitz/cpf

Parenthood federal funding for 1979-80.

On Dec. 5 the full MIAHPCo board voted 11-9 against approving Planned Parenthood's request for \$115,300 in federal funds. These decisions, however can still be reversed on Dec. 21 by the 16-county East Central Illinois Health Systems Agency.

In between these two meetings, O'Rourke, who is Bishop of Peoria, threatened to withdraw Catholic support for the United Way charitable fund-raising campaign if United Way did not stop giving its money to Planned Parenthood. (\$10,000 in 1977-78).

At the first MIAHPCo meeting, the God Marauders claimed that Planned Parenthood (PP) was duplicating services provided by private doctors and that PP failed to meet two technical requirements in its application.

The God Marauders made the first claim despite the fact that PP last year provided over 3000 women with medical services--particularly pelvic examinations and contraceptives--free or at reduced fees. Most (and perhaps all but one) of the local gynecologists refuse to accept women whose fees would be paid by state public aid.

Obviously, the loss or reduction of Planned Parenthood means that many of the Twin Cities' poorest women will have to pay more for--or do without--the medical services now provided to them by PP.

PP has since satisfied the two

technical requirements, but those requirements did not, in any case, force automatic refusal of PP's application. The very same project review committee recommended approval of funds for another agency which had satisfied entirely only one of the criteria.

At the second MIAHPCo meeting, the God Marauders on the board abandoned all these trumped up charges and shifted their arguments to the "moral" sphere. Thus, the 11-9 vote said in effect that PP is immoral and therefore undeserving of government funds.

Of the 21 board members voting, all but four were men. The great majority of the God Marauders were fortyish, white-male business-types.

Several of these moral types, Ray DeFilippo, for instance, were repeatedly rude and overbearing, particularly to Kay Wilson who had been delegated to speak for an absent board member. (Ms. Wilson was not allowed to vote, however.)

These men, like little dictators in their own castles, were clearly used to having their way--right now.

H.L. Mencken described the God Marauders (he called them neo-puritans) as creatures who have "the haunting suspicion that someone, somewhere, may be having fun."

David Wochner opened his twisted heart to the MIAHPCo board in fine neo-puritan fashion:

"I detest that my tax dollars are being used to finance the sexual activities of these students."

Later he made clear that he didn't want "outsiders" to get any of his tax dollars, and he repeated his loathing for "the sexual desires of students."

Finally, he argued that after they graduated, these students wouldn't be getting medical services "handed to them on a silver platter" anymore, so they ought to get used to it while they're in college.

Wochner's argument is pretty weird from all angles, but it's especially weird on the "outsiders" angle. It's federal money, not local taxes, that would go to PP, and federal

law prevents PP from turning down anybody. Also, one of the main reasons PP has so many students as patients is that the Illinois State University health service can't handle all the women seeking exams and contraceptives.

But the silver platter idea is good, too--though scarcely original.

The last time I looked, there were Wochners as president and vice president of the American State Bank; and Wochners held three of the seven seats on that bank's board of directors.

Do you think young David had to filch money from the collection plate to make it through law school? Who knows?

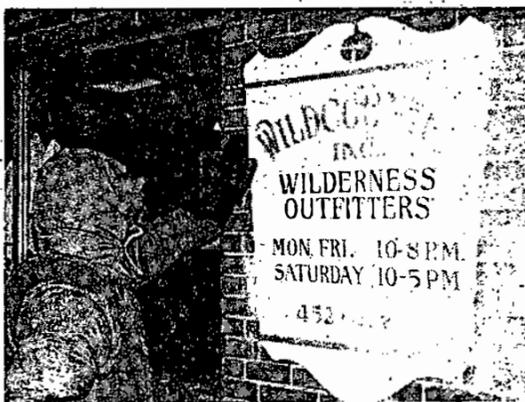
Young David has the look of a person who has lived his life in mortal fear of farting. Behind his cowed, dulled face, you can see a boy who was often slapped down by his father, his priest, his teacher. And law school, we can guess, must have been tough: he probably studied while others partied.

Yet David Wochner defends the nuclear family with its infallible father.

The God Marauders have several

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Planned Parenthood

specific objections--moral objections, they say--to Planned Parenthood. One is the fact that PP will refer women to abortion clinics. Another is that PP does sterilization counseling.

Yet PP is the only agency that does refer people for abortions and sterilizations. Many doctors won't deal with either issue, and all the local hospitals refuse to allow abortions.

God Marauder Bruce Anderson is appalled that PP has referred women for abortions without informing those women's husbands--even though it would be illegal to refuse to refer such a woman.

At the heart of the God Marauders' objections to PP is their fear that PP is undermining their concept of the family: women must have the permission of their husbands, and children must have the permission of their parents before they can think, read or do anything whatsoever. This attitude goes double for anything connected with sex.

Self-admitted psychiatrist Marlow Harston explained that if everybody would simply stop talking about sex, then teenagers would stop doing it.

He also argued that once sex is cut out of teenagers' lives, there will be many fewer messed-up teenagers.

These arguments are incredible, but they recall an old test for determining whether a woman is a witch: You tie the woman up and throw her in the river. If she sinks (and drowns), she's not a witch. If she floats, you drag her out and burn her as a witch.

The Bishop of Peoria says that PP is "directly opposed the whole Judeo-Christian ideal of morality," and he may well be right if by that he means slaughtering Moslems in Christian crusades, or if he means inquisitions and witch-burnings.

PP also, the bishop says, opposes the "whole commitment of chastity." Catholics, of course, are very big on the idea of abstaining from sex. The whole church hierarchy is supposed to give up all sex.

I wonder how much this peculiar masochistic idea colors the God Marauders' ideas.

It is no doubt the source of their idea that PP should "teach" abstinence. They don't explain exactly how abstinence can be taught, but I can see the prison cells, the locked bedrooms, the curfews, in their eyes.

I have no doubt either that this same masochistic idea is related to the God Marauders' stern opposition to PP's position on sexual freedom.

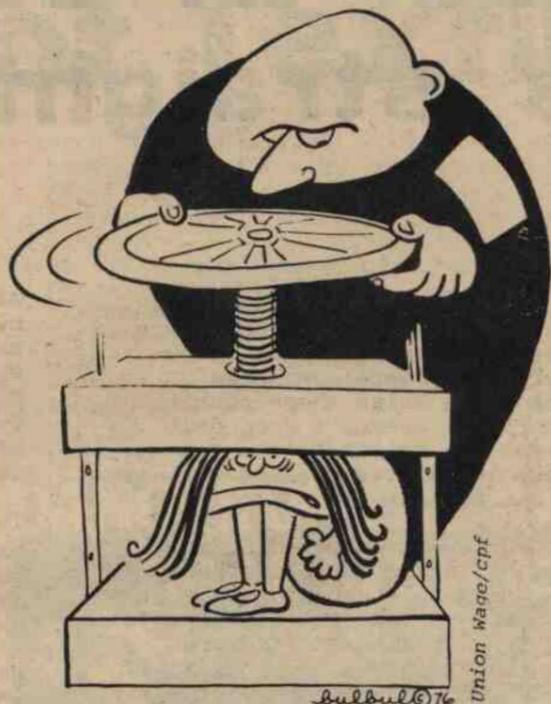
Bruce Anderson, for instance, doesn't think anyone, especially not women, have any right to enjoy their sexuality. Such things are immoral, and no one should have the right even to think on such immoral things.

Right-winger Violet Hamilton still believes in the fart theory of sex: early and frequent sex causes disease, she says.

The term of coercion, of force, inhabits all these people. They want to deprive 5000 women of low-cost contraceptive and medical services--on the grounds that they, the God Marauders, don't approve of it.

That's what the bishop said: I know what's right, and PP doesn't agree with me. Therefore PP must be shut down.

The Bishop of Peoria knows that sex



is immoral, though he supposedly never tries it; yet extortion and blackmail must be moral, since he does practice them.

What else is the bishop's threat to oppose the United Way except extortion, blackmail? No Mafia bullyboy could have done it more smoothly.

For most of this century the giant corporations (and the little ones, too) have been using sex to sell everything from cigarettes to automobiles. The message, whether blatant or subtle, is almost always the same: buy this and you'll get more sex, more love.

We all know how the pitch goes: tint your hair, paint your face and men will follow you in herds; buy this car, drink this beer and women will be attracted to you like a magnet.

Because of their use of this money-grubbing propaganda technique, the corporations must bear much responsibility for the national obsession with sex.

The obsession itself is probably destructive of our lives. It may



account for the people who need to find new sex partners night after night and who never form any broader relation with anyone.

I think it's safe to say that advertising has helped make sex a commodity. This in turn has a profound effect on the way people treat each other: a man takes a woman to a fancy restaurant, pays the bill, and then expects her sexual favors.

Women are trained to value themselves according to the way they look, and they spend much time and money creating an artificial appearance.

One more aspect of the corporate message: buy Gasp-Choke brand deodorant, and the person of your choice will swoon at your feet. If the relationship goes bad, switch deodorants.

If Psycho-doctor Harston sees a lot of young people who are messed up by sex, I don't think it's Planned Parenthood's fault. Yet the God Marauders said not one word against the corporate way of life. On the contrary, they implicitly support that which is rotting their spirits.

I think it's clear that PP is not responsible for the sexual activity of teenagers nor for the breakdown of the nuclear family.

The women who come to PP for pregnancy counseling want help because they are already pregnant. Many already know they want an abortion. They also know there is no where else to go in Bloomington-Normal.

Planned Parenthood is merely trying to help the victims, mainly women, of a messed up society.

It's not surprising that the God Marauders want to make things worse for women. It's long been standard practice on the right wing, in the reactionary camps, to dump on the victims of society. It's also safe, because the victims usually can't fight back.

One of the pro-PP speakers at the second MIAHPCo meeting, Emily Dale, told the board that a vote against funding for PP would mean that the board was "turning its backs on women, because that's precisely what the question is."

That is precisely what the male-dominated MIAHPCo board did. Such are the fruits of organized religion.

--A. Bauer, P. Caulfield, B. Funk, S. Little, D. LeSeure, N. Maizlish, T. Pouliot, B. Sherman, L. Nichol, S. LeSeure, M. Simpson

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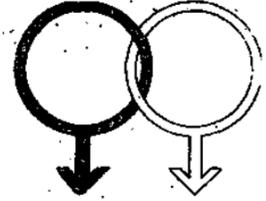
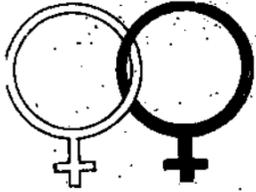
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Gay is just as straight as straight



Gay people have finally made it on prime-time TV. In August we saw the story of that good gay patriot, Leonard Matlovich. And on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, ABC aired the movie version of a lesbian mother's fight to keep her younger son.

"A Question of Love" told the story of Linda Rae Guettner, a divorced woman who lived with her sons (8-year-old Billy and teen-aged David) and her lover Barbara and Barbara's daughter. Their life together was shattered when David moved in with his father and told him of his mother's lesbian relationship. Dad decided that he wanted custody of the younger boy too--"I won't have Billy staying with you and (long pause) your friend," he piously told his ex-wife-- and the ensuing courtroom battle provided the center of conflict for the film.

The movie was based on an actual case and, far as I could tell, followed the outline of the real story quite accurately. There's no doubt in my mind about the production's point of view: "A Question of Love" was clearly sympathetic and supportive of Linda Rae's rights and feelings. It showed that the decision to give custody of the boy to his father was unfair, unwise, and a damn dirty shame.

The movie offered a dramatic example of the crushing oppression that the straight world so easily and carelessly deals out to powerless victims (children/women/gays) who dare to believe that they are valuable human beings with the same rights as white heterosexual adult males.

At the movie's end I wanted to wipe away the tears and go out and bash in the heads of a few hundred lawyers, judges, husbands, and Baptist ministers. (Actually, there weren't any Baptist ministers in the film, but I think it's always in good taste to include them in my hate list. And the husband in the flick did testify that he'd given up fighting, drinking, and adulterous breeding with teen-aged women since he'd become a member of the local Baptist cult.)

Yes, "A Question of Love" was a powerful drama. Light years ahead of the usual treatment of gay people on television. And yet...and yet. There are some things about this fine presentation that disturb me very much.

Before I get to my negative criticisms, however, let me share a few particular observations about the movie's positive features:

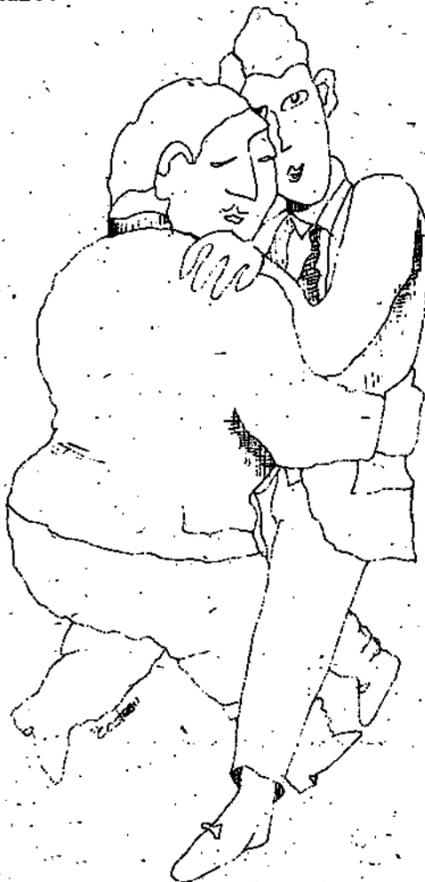
1. The acting was excellent. Gena Rowlands was devastating as the woman torn, against her will, between her motherhood and her gayness. Jane Alexander was equally effective as her lover. Both performances were convincing, I think, because they were not sentimentalized or glamorized. Linda Rae and Barbara were attractive, intelligent people, but they were not movie-star beautiful (Linda actually had wrinkles and graying hair) or saintly martyrs (Barbara was human in her irritation and her inability to put up with the revolting behavior of reporters and court officials).

2. "A Question of Love" was also believable because the people were not wealthy, sophisticated city-dwellers. They were down-home working-class folks whose problems and conflicts seemed a good deal more real and poignant than the difficulties of the usually well-to-do TV characters.

3. The movie was outstanding in showing how women support other women. Barbara's daughter, the female lawyer, and even Linda Rae's mother displayed a warm and open concern that contrasted strongly with the cold, terse reactions of the men. Linda's mother at first responded with anger and disgust, but her feelings for her daughter overcame her homophobic conditioning and compelled her to stand by Linda and Barbara, even though she couldn't quite accept their sexual behavior.

Despite all these good points, I have several definite objections.

First of all, no other gay people appeared in the movie. (The same thing was true of the Matlovich film.) When gay activists were mentioned they were paired with Bible thumpers as opposing extremist groups that had caught Barbara and Linda in the middle.



I resent the suggestion that gay activism is in any way like the superstitious nonsense of fundamental religion.

Moreover, this middle-of-the-road position was carefully emphasized throughout the drama. Linda and Barbara were good mothers, good women, good human beings. What they were not was good lesbians, at least not in any visible way. We never saw a gesture of physical affection between the two, beyond a casual hand on the shoulder. They were not particularly "obvious," showy, extravagant, or unusual, except in their determination to fight the custody suit.

Add to this the fact that the play did not in any way indicate that there are many gay parents who face the same agonies and problems as Linda Rae--and you have a safe, limited story. The filmmakers did not want to venture beyond an isolated, easily defended case.

The implication that Linda is unique not only discredits a lot of gay parents, but it also greatly reduces the movie's message about gay oppression.

What worries me most about this movie is the possibility for co-optation that it raises. Co-optation means being chosen as a fellow member or colleague. In other words, being taken over. In this case, it means that the straight media have decided to include gay people in the group of good parents and decent citizens who deserve to be treated sympathetically in a prime-time TV movie.

But what is the price for such an acceptance? Well, if "A Question of Love" and the Matlovich movie are indicators, the cost seems to involve giving up the individuality and identity of being gay.

Both films based their understanding and sympathy for gays on the fact that these gay people had an acceptable image. As portrayed on TV, Linda Rae and Matlovich were really quite ordinary and conventional. They were also presented as probable exceptions to the run-of-the-mill gay person, who isn't quite ready for acceptance but could be if she/he would follow these sterling examples.

The message seems clear to me: accept our values and we'll accept you; act like us and you, too, can be acknowledged as worthwhile in a made-for-TV movie.

Thanks a lot, but no thanks. I want acceptance on my terms. I want to be accepted as I am, not as some not-ready-for-prime-time hopeful.

Having made my declaration of gay independence, I would also say that it was inevitable that Amerikan television should begin its serious presentation of gay people in this way. You can't expect the network that gives us "Charlie's Angels" to be able to deal with a full spectrum of gay personalities right off the bat.

A reviewer for the New York Times said that "A Question of Love" was so determined in its safe, serious approach because the producers were intent upon avoiding the flitting stereotypes and gay villains that often populate the sitcoms and cop shows of commercial TV. That may be, but sanitized "heavies" are almost as misleading as neurotic lightweights.

Maybe this swing to the somber, presentable types is a necessary correction that will eventually lead to more fully developed gay characters on TV. I hope so.

But until there are bolder, more defiant representations of gays, I'm not going to be co-opted by main stream television, no matter how sympathetic its movies are.

--Ferdydurke

J.P. STEVENS-- Belligerent Giant of Textile Trade

Eighteen-year-old Kathy Peace started a new job one day in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina.

Her employer was J.P. Stevens Co., America's second largest textile manufacturer, with 85 plants and over 40,000 workers throughout the Southern states.

Kathy was put to work immediately on a tufting machine--without training. An hour and 45 minutes later, not knowing how the machine operated, she lost two fingers. She was immediately fired.

Kathy's story is only one of many throughout the south, where numerous large industrial plants have "run away" from the unionized north, seeking safety and high profits in the non-union, low-wage south.

For the last 15 years, employees of the J.P. Stevens Co. have fought for union recognition through the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union. For the last 15 years, Stevens has stalled and ignored their efforts, earning itself the title of "the worst labor law violator in U.S. history."

The U.S. Court of Appeals (2nd Circuit) cited Stevens in August 1977, saying "the company has flaunted its disobedience" of court orders, "undermining respect for this court and for the rights of employees." recognized in the National Labor Relations Act."

Federal regulation insures the rights of labor unions to organize and represent workers. However, in most southern states, workers are exempt from "closed shop" union contracts, and each individual can decide whether to join the union.

At first glance this individual choice may seem just. However, the ban on closed shops actually makes it very difficult to form a strong union, and insures low wages; and unfair conditions continue.

"Right-to-work" laws mean that if a union is organized and wins a contract, it must provide benefits for all, including non-union members. Thus a union must pay the costs of obtaining benefits that go to all employees, even though all do not share the costs of winning or maintaining those benefits by paying dues. Right-to-work laws keep a workforce divided, so that a company can easily play off non-union and union personnel, and so that it can keep employees from effectively challenging it.

Because of this legal system, the south has become a welcome bastion for firms like Stevens. Stevens is one of America's oldest textile companies, founded in New England in 1813. The company soon rose through innovative marketing systems, invention of new techniques and lucrative government contracts. After 1945, however, when Stevens workers (organized during the 1930's labor push) were ready for another drive, Stevens began shifting its operations.

DANGER ON THE JOB at J.P. STEVENS.



Listen to 18-year-old Kathy Peace:

"I was runnin' a tufting machine in the Riverine plant at J.P. Stevens." Was she trained to run the machine?
"No sir." How long had she been working when she lost two fingers?
"About an hour and 45 minutes..."

By combining with smaller companies already in the south, Stevens closed its 21 northern plants, eliminating 11,700 jobs. Eventually it took over or opened 85 southern plants.

Operating in smaller cities, where it would be the dominant industry and control the local marketplace, Stevens rose in the corporate world and maintained its non-union status.

Some claim that low wages are legitimate since "the cost of living is less in the south." True, some items are lower. Yet the continued existence of shanty-towns, inadequate housing, poor health care and malnutrition in the American south counter any claims that southerners live as well as any American, and only pay less.

Statistics, however, fail to convey the true impact of J.P. Stevens on the average worker in plants. Employing over 40,000, Stevens has used every trick possible to prevent unionization and keep wages low.

Firings have been the most blatant tactic against union organizers. Most organizers regained their jobs and back pay, but only after 3 or 4 years of court cases and appeals, cases which Stevens continually stalls and appeals to higher courts.

Typical is the story of Maureen Hedgpeeth, who worked at Stevens' Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina mill. Both she and her husband were fired after she testified against the company at a National Labor Relations Board hearing. With backing from the union, Ms. Hedgpeeth challenged her dismissal.

Stevens fought it to the Supreme Court where the original NLRB ruling to reinstate her and award back wages was upheld. To win this victory, it was four hard years for the Hedgpeeth family, four years of blacklisting against her husband and four years of hunger.

"During supper," she testified during the 1976 House Labor Subcommittee hearings, "the kids used to ask me, 'Aren't you going to eat?' I always said, 'I ate while I was cooking.' The truth was I went without food many nights. We just didn't have enough."

Four years and twenty-one days from the date of her firing, Maureen Hedgpeeth went back to her job at the Roanoke Rapids plant. She immediately faced another Stevens campaign, as rumors began flying around the plant that her court settlement would be paid out of her co-workers' salaries. It was six months before anyone would talk to her, but Maureen Hedgpeeth refused to quit.

Multiply this story by hundreds, and you can see how ineffectual the nation's labor laws are.

Attention Consumers

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J.P. STEVENS PRODUCTS

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Yves St. Laurent Angelo Donghia Suzanne Pleshette Dinah Shore	BLANKETS Forstmann Utica
HOSIERY Finesse	TOWELS Fine Arts Tastemaker Utica

Although the ACTWU has won representational rights at several Stevens plants, the union has yet to win a contract. Stevens repeatedly stalls negotiations, just as it stalls court cases. Representational elections have been especially hard, and



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J.P. STEVENS Cont.

in some instances the ACTWU was court-appointed the workers' representative, deeming conditions in the plant too notorious for a fair election.

Stevens tactics include fanning racial hatred. In 1974, just before a union election in Roanoke Rapids, photos of San Francisco "Zebra Murder" victims and black suspects were posted on the community bulletin board. The caption read: "Would you want this to happen here?"

Stevens has been cited with over 1200 National Labor Relations Acts violations in its anti-union campaign. However, NLRA laws lack teeth, and though violations are cited, rarely do they have any impact on the company.

Perhaps the saddest cases in the southern mills, and not just at J.P. Stevens, are the victims of "brown lung disease"--byssinosis. Just as coal miners are afflicted with "black lung," caused by coal dust settling in the lungs, textile workers face the same destruction of their lungs through inhalation of cotton dust. Dust levels in some Stevens plants have been measured by federal and state inspectors in concentrations 12 times higher--and sometimes 40 times higher-- than the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) allows.

Recently OSHA enacted stricter standards, which led to cries of economic destruction by the textile industry. During the Nixon years, no new standards were established since Nixon's Assistant Secretary of Labor, George Guenther, was a former textile industry executive. However, Carter's Dept. of Labor made cotton dust standards an immediate priority.

Nonetheless Carter stalled when the new standards were presented. His economic advisors labeled them inflationary, and the textile industry claimed that they would cost 200 million dollars. Only when his own Labor Dept. staff threatened to resign did Carter make the standards law, but still he gave the industry until 1982 to begin implementing the standards.

For the 35,000 presently stricken with brown lung and the thousands more working in the textile industry, giving the industry more time is little consolation.

Perhaps the worst abuse of working for Stevens is the absence of any job security. Older workers, as soon as they are faced with an



Leaflet calling for boycott of J.P. Stevens, the giant anti-union textile manufacturer, raises spirits of bummed out shoppers as they leave Eastland.

infirmity or illness, find themselves terminated, their Stevens pensions often little more than \$35 or \$40 a month, even with 20 or 30 years of service. And in the small company towns where Stevens is the only industry, being tossed out can mean no chance for any job.

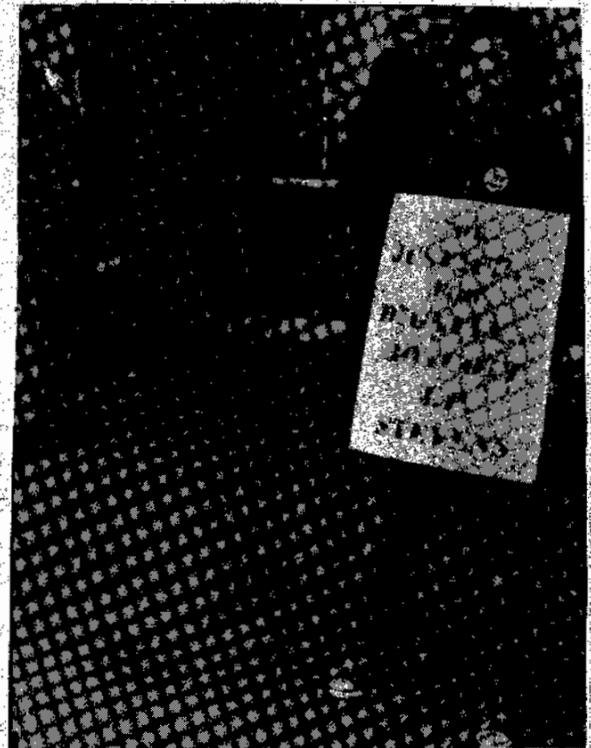
Boycott J.P. STEVENS PRODUCTS



- TOWELS**
Fine Arts
Tastemaker
Utica
- BLANKETS**
Forstmann
Utica
- CARPETS**
Contender
Gulistan
Merlyweather
Tastemaker
- TABLE LINEN**
Sintex
- HOSIERY**
Finesse
Hip Lets
Sprint
- DRAPERIES**
J.P. Stevens

- SHEETS & PILLOWCASES**
Beauti-Blend
Beauticale
Fine Arts
Peanuts
(comic strip figures)
Tastemaker
Utica
Utica & Mohawk
Designer Labels
Yves St. Laurent
Angelo Donghia

J.P. Stevens has successfully avoided unionization for 15 years. A strike against Stevens is a high-risk venture for the workers. In 1975, when employees at Stevens' Statesboro, Georgia, plant successfully won recognition, they found the doors locked and the plant closed.



Picketeer finds voice of authority (left) funny. The three-piece-suiter claimed that private property rights protect J.P. Stevens' exploitation of workers.

Because strikes are next to impossible, the boycott is the best way of putting economic pressure on the company, while Stevens employees continue organizing and pressing for their legal rights. The boycott has been an effective tactic for winning justice. It won California farm workers their rights, and in 1974 it worked for clothing workers at Farah.

The American South remains a bitter outpost of anti-union legislation, low wages, and inadequate conditions. Only organization and the workers' struggle for dignity can insure decent and equitable conditions. That is why there is a boycott of J.P. Stevens table linens, sheets, and towels. And that is why your participation is crucial. Please boycott J.P. Stevens!

Solidarity Forever!

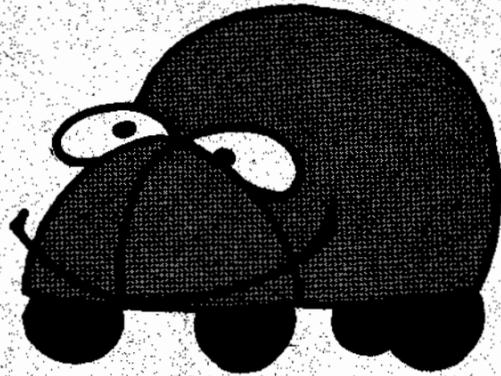
--MgM

For more info on the Stevens boycott please call 452-5046.

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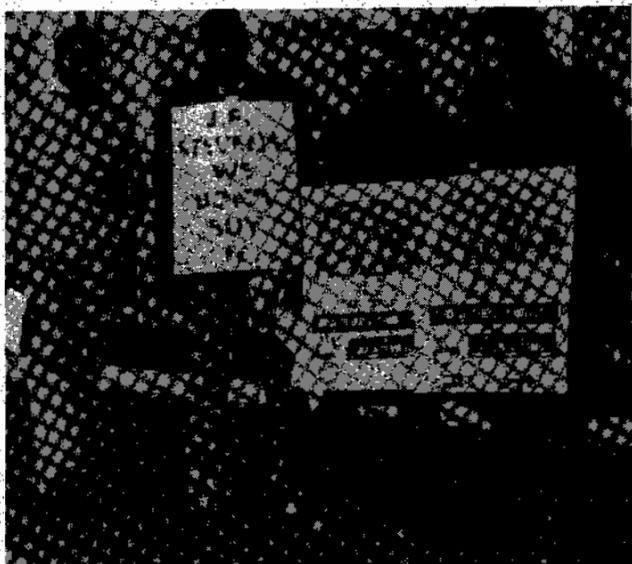
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Pickets prick mall management

Post-American
page 17

Yuletide shopping season is upon us and nowhere is the season seen at its most vicious, its most cramped and nerve-wrenching, than at Bloomington's Eastland mall. Parking lot packed, November not even over, the mall is already reaping the rewards of Christian Consumption when a small band of pickets arrives outside two of its stores in the late afternoon. Protesting the practices of J.P. Stevens, a southern



J.P. Stevens uses racism to try to split workers seeking union rights in the South, but the workers have learned to see through the management con game.

textile company notorious for its disregard for employees, the group has come bearing leaflets asking shoppers to boycott Stevens products, which are sold in three different Eastland stores. One guess what the mall's reaction is gonna be....

A longterm corporate scofflaw, J.P. Stevens has resisted unionization in its factories for over 15 years, at the same time violating health and safety standards and fair employment practices. (According to union reps, the company has violated the National Labor Relations Act more times than any other American company.)

Eastland mall, in the guise of private property protection, has meanwhile acted as if free speech were the moral equivalent of shoplifting. (Can't have anything "disturbing" the customers.) Over the last eight years they've had leftist radicals, a woman handing out the Declaration of Independence, and Santa Claus arrested for

violating mall property rights--and tried to hamper United Farmworker pickets during the lettuce boycott--because the presence of each might be an assault on propriety. Like a fart in Fantasyland.

The picketing is part of a nationwide action called for Nov. 30, Justice for J.P. Stevens Workers Day, by Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union. Wearing buttons that read "Don't Sleep with J.P. Stevens," carrying on with support from local unions and the ISU NAACP, some 25 pickets stand by the outside entrance of Penney's passing out leaflets.

The picketing begins at 3:30 and late November chill has already begun to descend; by 3:45 a large well-suited rep of Eastland management is standing in the cold waiting for the tv newsmen to finish their interviews. When they do, he places a mimeo private property notice in a group member's hands.

"We hate to get involved because we're in the middle," the mall-meister says not very apologetically, upon ordering the group to get away from the store and go out by the parking lot entrance. "We don't want this kind of activity keeping customers away."

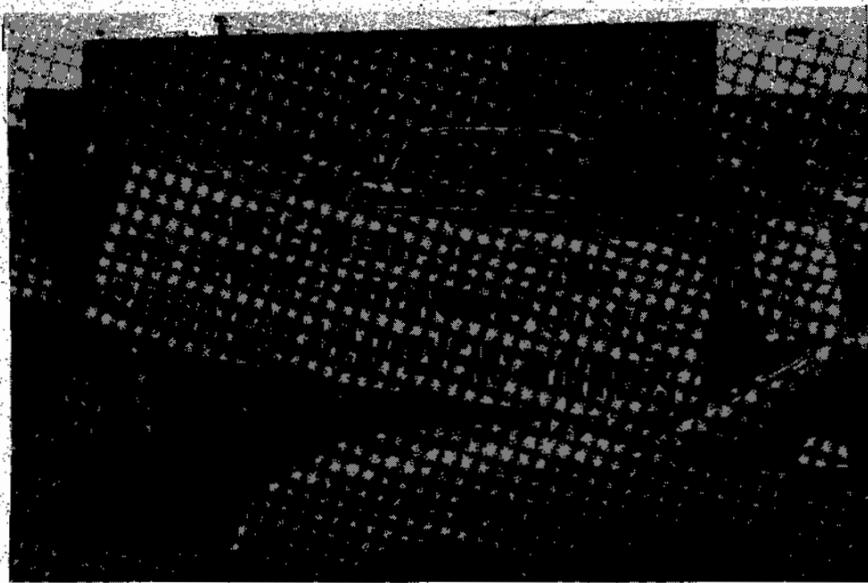
know what the lawyers tell me." Who can argue with invisible lawyers? The group moves to the parking lot entrance by Eastland Texaco, a quarter mile from the mall proper.

Unfurling a banner that reads "Concerned Citizens for Social and Economic Justice Support the J.P. Stevens Workers" and carrying union printed signs, the pickets stand there unmolested for a half-hour, occasionally handing leaflets to drivers who roll down their windows.

Boycott J.P. STEVENS PRODUCTS

- TOWELS**
Fine Arts
Tastemaker
Utica
 - BLANKETS**
Forstmann
Utica
 - CARPETS**
Contender
Gulistan
Merryweather
Tastemaker
 - TABLE LINEN**
Simtex
 - HOSIERY**
Finesse
Hip-Lets
Spirit
 - DRAPERIES**
J.P. Stevens
- SHEETS & PILLOWCASES**
Beauti-Blend
Beauticale
Fine Arts
Peanuts
(comic-strip figures)
Tastemaker
Utica
Utica & Mohawk
Designer Labels:
Yves St. Laurent
Angelo Donghia

While latecomer tv reporter interviews a group member, the scene is once more disturbed by the appearance of an Eastland official. This time it's the head janitor.



To one picket's protest that union activity was exempt from certain provisions of private property law (reason lettuce boycotters were allowed when it was in the mall), the Eastland manger answers, "I just

Scooting to lot's end in his white jeep, huffing portentously, the maintenance man has apparently just now discovered the presence of pickets near sacred soil.

"You have to get out of here," he threatens. "This is private property." A POST photographer appears to snap pictures of this newest intrusion, which irritates the janitor even more. You'd think he'd caught the group painting crotch cartoons on Baskin-Robbins.

"You!" he shouts from the jeep, pointing to the POST pixman. "Don't take any pictures of me! I'm warning you!" The photog continues, so the janitor steps out of his jeep, his chest puffed out, and walks up to face the cameraman. His hand placed over the nearby tv mike, the maintenance man threatens to have the photog arrested. A brief debate follows, the janitor finally quitting it to check with management on the legality of pickets on the parking lot shoulder. He doesn't return.

The picketers continue past sundown, passing leaflets to the infrequent hardy soul willing to let a burst of weather in their car, but eventually they leave. A stream of cars continues in and out as the working stiff contingent gets its Xmas shopping done. Eastland mall still stands.

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Mike Arteman

Grow(I)th:

The mayor of Normal would like to see a cornfield at the corner of Hovey and Cottage turn into a neighborhood shopping center.

What, I wonder, is a neighborhood shopping center?

Is it an Eastland shrunk so small that --like Alice in Wonderland--you have to eat a mushroom before you can get through the door?

Or is a neighborhood shopping center something like a local war?

I happen to live in west Normal between Hovey and College, about 200 yards from the field where Mayor Godfrey wants buildings full of Individualized Microwave, Wienie Cookers to sprout.

My dog doesn't like the mayor's idea because she walks beside that cornfield and sometimes sniffs the sheep in the tiny pasture across the street--but she'd never be allowed to look at the wienie cookers.

My dog realizes that walking beside the cornfield isn't as good as walking beside the drainage ditch (I think it's called Pheasant Creek) that runs through what was an open field between Adelaide and the gravel pit on Cottage. They're building Sugar Creek subdivision there now.

Still, the cornfield is better than a shopping center parking lot.

Although he denies being pro-growth, Mayor Godfrey has a lot of ideas that involve new construction. For instance, he beat the PR drums for the east Normal shopping center that hooked Carson Pirie Scott and lured Ward's out of downtown Bloomington (see Post-Amerikan vol. 7 no. 4).

cpf



The mayor was also a prime mover in the state highway department's decision to build a million-dollar-plus interstate interchange at West College Avenue.

That interchange will be a big step toward fulfilling the mayor's dream of turning the city-owned farm known as Hayden Park into an industrial park.

Hayden Park is 172 acres (west of the interstate off of College) that somebody gave the city to turn into a park. Mayor Godfrey would rather grow factories and parking lots than trees and grass, however.

The new interchange also means that West College must be widened to four lanes--but \$600,000 that had been earmarked for part of that road work is now in a "war chest" to fight

Bloomington in the raging border war.

Normal, of course, was "forced" into fighting the range war. The Normal council wanted an agreement that would determine ahead of time which city could annex what land on the edges of both cities. But the Bloomington council, led by known free-enterprise advocate Donn Pierce (of General Telephone), rejected the proposed peace treaty.

Faced with the prospect of being surrounded by Bloomington as Jerome is by Springfield, what choice did Normal have but war? (The Jerome-Springfield analogy was suggested by a Normal council member, desperate for a justification to do battle with those varmints from Bloomington.)

Little does it matter that Jerome is a village of about 1600 people, a village little more than a half mile across. Bloomington might surround Normal by the middle of the next century, and what will Normal's residents think then of today's council members, too cowardly to fight for Normal's Lebensraum?

The mayor and the council know that a surrounded Normal would be a "dying, decaying community." A city, like any other living organism, must grow or die. A person who stops gaining weight soon dies, right?

The mayor wants to make sure Normal can get its yearly fix of shopping centers and factories. Normal must be free to expand across the prairie like a cancer until--until it runs into Peoria or Springfield or Champaign or Decatur, and fights and wins range wars with those cities.

The mayor is not pro-growth, he says.

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A tale in which the mayor hangs out with criminal elements and my dog points the way to Utopia

page 19
Post-Amerikan
vol. 7 no. 7



Normal Mayor Richard Godfrey took a break from buying leisure suits recently to explain to a canine resident why all cornfields should be turned into shopping centers.

Even though growth is necessary, he also says. He points out that no major new subdivisions have been started during his term. Then he adds that Supreme Court rulings on anti-growth ordinances would prevent him from stopping new subdivisions anyway.

The mayor is head of public relations and propaganda at Illinois State University, so he's used to being all things to satisfy all people. Contradictions don't get him down.

The mayor has read the studies that show that subdivisions don't bring in their fair share of tax revenue, so he's for more shopping centers and the right kind of new industry.

Presumably, new businesses don't mean more people. We residents of Normal will simply have to work longer and buy more. (Or, perhaps, let the new workers live in east Bloomington.)

I'm sure we'll all do our share. I'll live a half mile from the new industrial park. The mayor and the city council members, who all live cheek by jowl around Ash Park where factories will not sprout, will have to shop more often at the new Carson Pirie Etcetera stores.*

The tax dollar is still a dollar, whether it comes from property taxes on new industry or sales taxes from new department stores. You can always buy an Individualized Microwave Wienie Cooker easier with dollars than with trees.

Tax dollars pay for roads, sewers, water treatment plants and other things that new shopping centers and new industries need.

The owners of the new mall in east Normal will get \$1.5 million in sales taxes over the next 10 years to repay them for their improvements on their own land.

Tax dollars are also important to industry. When the council hands over Hayden Park to the developers to create the mayor's yearned-for industrial park, the corporations will start lining up to ask Normal to issue tax-free bonds to build their buildings.

How many tax dollars will investors get to keep because they hold tax-free government bonds instead of taxable corporate bonds? How much

* Personally, I'd rather be a coal miner than a shopper, but I realize there is controversy on this point. Some people prefer working in a nuclear power plant to shopping; others say they'd rather join the army.

property tax will the city pay on city-owned buildings?

Even though larger cities usually have higher tax rates than smaller ones, the mayor is no doubt right. Businesses always pay more taxes than they get back in services and special favors. Therefore, Normal should have no people, only businesses, and it will have a healthy fiscal situation forever and a day.

Aw well... Let's forget about the lost parks, the mayor's contradictions and the preferences of my little dog for awhile.

Let's think about the people a growing town, a growing economy needs. Consider the new Hilton, for instance.

A giant motel employs a lot of people-- people to clean, people to make beds, people to fix food, people to carry food. These people will be paid, however poorly.

Where will they live? The lowest priced apartments are in central and west Bloomington, but there are already too many people competing for those apartments. Over a year ago, more than 4900 families in Bloomington-Normal were eligible for federal assistance in paying for housing.

How will they get to work? Most people work to support automobiles, but perhaps these people can ride bicycles from west Bloomington to the Hilton, which will be built east of the Belt Line and north of College Avenue. In the winter, maybe the buses, which are subsidized with tax dollars, will go near enough to the Hilton to carry these people to work.

All right. I admit I'm writing about the poor people that our economic system requires to do all its sh*t work. I suppose Bloomington Police Chief Harold Bosshardt had the same people in mind when he said:

"With such growth, this brings in a certain type of people, a criminal element. And this, I think, is part of the reason for the increase (in crime in Bloomington in 1977)."

Understandably, burglary is more

attractive to a poor person than to the president of State Farm. (The prez has his hands in millions of pockets already.) Violence is more likely when people are crammed together in a small apartment than when they each have a room of their own.

Yet I wonder if the more serious criminals are not already here. Bloomington and Normal are on the verge of fattening the lawyers' pockets with hundreds of thousands of tax dollars. All so Donn Pierce's heroes, the property owners, the developers, will be able to get the best deal by pitting Bloomington against Normal when the time to annex (and get city water, sewers and roads) arrives.

Competition, it seems, is great as long as it benefits the rich and powerful. But I don't see GenTel competing much.

Nor does the state of Illinois think that some of the local builders are very competitive. In fact, some of them still face anti-trust charges, charges of creating a monopoly that raised housing prices.

If she could talk, my dog would probably say that any developer who turns any cornfield into a parking lot has committed a crime. (I myself wouldn't say any such-a-thing because the Pantagraph says people who advocate no-growth ought to be ignored. I want to be heard.)

I suppose it's inevitable that mayors come in contact with a certain type of people. It would probably be very difficult for Mayor Godfrey to avoid rubbing shoulders with greedy, aggressive money-grubbers.

Still--despite all the crazy things the mayor has said and done--I don't think he's crazy. I think ambition has led him to associate with developers, factories and shopping centers.

I think he should stop such nonsense.

My dog thinks he should cram his ambition where the sun don't shine.●

--D. LeSeure

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The Pontiac investigation:

by Pontiac Prisoners Support Coalition

POST-NOTE: After spending months compiling interviews with each of the almost 2000 prisoners on deadlock at Pontiac, Illinois Department of Law Enforcement investigators say they will soon be prepared to indict prisoners for their participation in the July 22nd rebellion which left three guards dead and extensive damage to property.

Twenty-nine prisoners have been transferred to a high-security area of Stateville prison, and state officials hint that these 29 prisoners will be indicted for participation in the Pontiac rebellion.

Meanwhile, the 29 prisoners have begun calling themselves the Pontiac Brothers, are labeling the state's investigation a frame-up, are blaming the rebellion on prison conditions, and are soliciting funds for their defense.

Since last summer, several groups in Chicago have been organizing to support the demands of prisoners at Pontiac. The Post-American contacted the Pontiac Prisoners' Support Coalition, and prints here sections from the organization's November newsletter.

On July 22, prisoners at Pontiac State Penitentiary rebelled against conditions there. Three guards were killed and much damage was done to prison property. Since the rebellion, the state has been conducting an investigation while the prisoners have been locked in their cells under brutal conditions.

State officials from the guards on up to the governor have made it clear from the very beginning that it is their intention to make sure that some prisoners will pay for the rebellion with their lives. The state has leaked rumors that an unprecedented number of capital indictments will be coming down soon.

For this reason, it is important to understand how the state has gone about building the cases upon which charges will rest.

The information below is taken from the statements of prison officials and prisoners as a part of court proceed-

ings initiated by prisoners, their families and friends to try to halt the brutal conditions under which the state made its investigation.

Conditions

Since July 22, all 2000 Pontiac prisoners have been locked in tiny cells 24 hours a day. These cells are 5 1/2 by 9 feet and are shared by two prisoners. The cells are enclosed on three sides, with bars in front. There is no ventilation and only a tiny space next to the double bunk to stand up in.

For the first 60 days (when the questioning of prisoners was the heaviest) prisoners received no commissary (including such necessities as soap, toothpaste and toilet paper). Prisoners also received no exercise; no counseling; no access to the law library; no laundry; no cigarettes or matches; and no access to medical care unless they could prove an emergency. Prisoners were fed cold unsanitary food ladled through the rusty bars of their cells, and garbage--including spilled food--was left to pile up on all galleries.

Attorney visits banned

Prisoners were denied attorney visits for seven days after July 22, until they filed a lawsuit and got a court order lifting the attorney ban. After that, attorney visits were limited to one half hour per prisoner, and only one prisoner could be interviewed at a time.

Illinois Department of Law Enforcement (IDLE) investigators sat in the room where the attorney visits occurred and refused to leave. IDLE staff discussed among themselves which attorneys visited which prisoners, and they received lists of all private attorney visits to Pontiac.

Isolation

All family visits were banned from July 22 to October 16. All prisoner phone calls were banned. Mail was

sent out at the whim of the guards, and prisoners were not given writing materials for several days. A memo written July 27 directed all staff to seize notes passed between prisoners and turn them in.

Methods of questioning

Only white officers escorted prisoners to the interrogation rooms. Cartons of cigarettes--the only ones available to prisoners--were stacked outside interrogators' offices. Prisoners were offered cigarettes at the beginning of questioning. Prisoners were asked their release date and if they would like to be transferred to a minimum security prison. Prisoners were pressured to sign a form giving up their constitutional rights.

Prisoners who requested to see attorneys were told "we ain't got none" or "Why do you want to see an attorney? We can do you more good." Not a single attorney was made available during more than 2000 interviews IDLE conducted--in spite of the fact that prisoners being interviewed requested attorneys.

Prisoners were offered early parole and transfer to minimum security prisons for information which could help IDLE get indictments and convictions.

Prisoners were asked about their affiliation with and knowledge of organizations. Sometimes prisoners were asked if specific individuals were leaders of these organizations. The investigators asked more questions about which prisoners were in which organizations than about what happened on July 22.

Examples

Some of the interviewers' statements to prisoners were:

"One who participates in a conspiracy is as guilty as those who do the killing. You can get the chair. If you cooperate, you can go to a better joint."

"We're gonna fry you in the electric chair by June. If you cooperate you can go to Vienna or Logan" (minimum security prisons).

"Okay, if you don't know nothing and nobody knows anything, you can all stay locked up for ten years."

"If your name is _____, you can get out of here. We know you weren't involved."

What to do

The Pontiac Prisoners Support Coalition needs political and financial support. The funds we raise will go to the political and legal defense of the Pontiac Brothers. We urge you to participate energetically.

RETURN THIS FORM TO THE PPSC
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I can arrange for PPSC to show its slide show, films or speakers at my home, community, trade union or church group.

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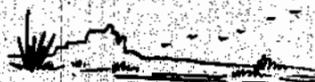
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anatomy of a frame-up

but you must know who was."

"We know you are in the _____ gang, so you must know what happened. Aren't _____ and _____ in that organization and weren't they involved?"

Administrators' quotes

At recent court hearings where some of these issues were discussed, prison officials and investigators were required to testify under oath. Their explanations of the facts presented above contradicted one another, in a clumsy effort to cover up their heavy-handed methods.

Director Rowe: "We cannot end the deadlock until the investigation is completed. We must do a shakedown before ending the deadlock and the investigators have requested that the shakedown not occur until after the interviews have finished to preserve physical evidence. We must accede to the wishes of IDLE."

This statement was made in a sworn deposition. But at the hearing on the prisoners' motion for a preliminary injunction to end the deadlock, Rowe reversed himself. At the hearing he stated that the investigation had not been a reason for continuing the deadlock. He also said he had never been told that phone calls were being denied to prisoners.

Warden Pinkney: "I have continued the institution on deadlock because of the investigation, although I have had no communication with the investigators. I just believed the deadlock would help them and that they did not want a shakedown until after they finished. We could not give phone calls because the prisoners destroyed the phone jacks on July 22."

Assistant Warden Sandahl: "We kept the institution on deadlock to facilitate the investigation. The phones were never damaged; I was unaware the prisoners were not getting phone calls. The investigators did not ask us to give them notice of the shakedown, and they were not present when it was conducted."

IDLE Investigator Dowdy: "I told Warden Pinkney and the other assistant wardens that I wanted prisoner movement kept to an absolute minimum to prevent communication between prisoners. I asked about phone calls because I thought if prisoners could each call the same number, they might try to set up an alibi. The wardens told me there would be no phone calls. I had frequent communication with Warden Pinkney during the investigation but never suggested to him or anyone else to delay the shakedown to preserve physical evidence. That would be ridiculous. I did not order the wardens to post a bulletin ordering guards to confiscate messages passed

between prisoners and turn them in, but we did receive some of these messages. We have the lists of attorney visits and what prisoners they visited."

Conclusion

We can only conclude from all of this that the Department of Corrections and the Illinois Department of Law Enforcement have worked together to manufacture cases against persons who would resist the brutal and inhumane conditions meted out to prisoners. They have done so in the past in the case of the Stateville Four.

"Just let us get rid of the trouble-makers, so we can run the prisons smoothly" is their public plea to cover their plans to use bribed and coerced testimony to judicially kill prisoners who do not accept the daily denial of human and constitutional rights.

Any organization in a prison which may cause resistance to inhumane treatment becomes a target. Thus, persons believed to be members or leaders of organizations are blamed for the Pontiac rebellion, and the terrible

conditions that preceded it are not blamed.

Death penalty verdicts in unprecedented numbers are what the Governor and the Department of Corrections are seeking. To further their objectives, they have trampled on the rights of all prisoners during the investigation, as they trample upon prisoners' human rights every day.

Normally a person arrested has the right to a phone call, to have an attorney present during questioning, to be free from threats and coercion to himself and others who might show his innocence, and the opportunity to talk to witnesses and prepare his defense.

All these have been denied the Pontiac prisoners. On October 14, 29 Pontiac prisoners were removed to segregation status at Stateville Prison, where they remain.

The state has leaked rumors that many of these will be charged with conspiracy to murder. We must all work to expose these frame-ups and to stop this effort at genocide against black people. ●

Who we are

The Pontiac Prisoners Support Coalition is a broad based coalition of community and human rights organizations. We are one of a number of coalitions working to end the injustices to prisoners resulting from the July 22 rebellion.

Our coalition is organizing support for Pontiac prisoners in white

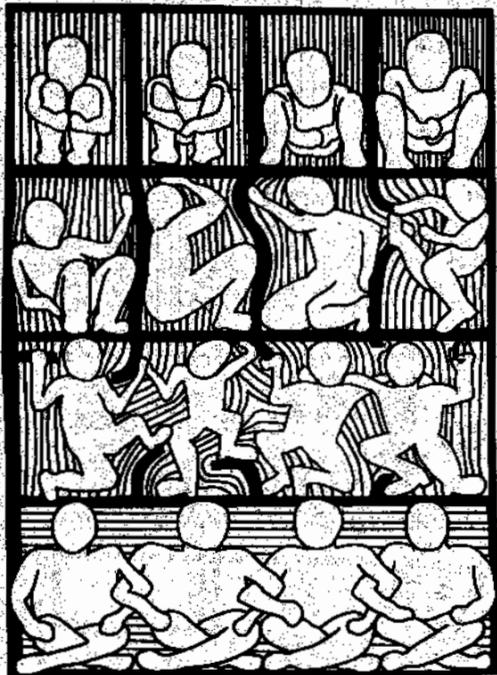
communities, while the other coalitions we are working with organize in Black and Latino communities.

We share the conviction that the Pontiac prisoners' rebellion was a natural and predictable act of resistance to the inhuman treatment of the prisoners, most of whom are Black and Latino.

We understand that this inhuman treatment begins "outside" in the community where Black and Latino people live with many different forms of oppression. Those men and women who organize against this oppression are warehoused into cages in overcrowded prisons and jails where slave labor, inhuman conditions and arbitrary rules are enforced by racist guards.

The PPSC respects and supports the initiatives of prisoners, takes leadership from them and unites with them on the following principles:

- *Demand the abolition of all inhuman and abusive conditions at Pontiac and other Illinois prisons.
- *Repeal Class X legislation.
- *Revoke the death penalty.
- *Expose the investigation and its coercive strategy to scapegoat prisoners. ●



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Prison watchdog group blasts Pontiac shakedown tactics:

"Extraordinary example of administrative retaliation, authoritarian excess"

POST-NOTE: The following account of the cell-by-cell shakedown in Pontiac penitentiary is taken from the monthly report of the Illinois Prisons and Jails Project Citizens' Visitation Committee, a privately-funded prison watchdog group. The visitation committee goes to Illinois prisons each month, interviewing inmates and staff about programs, medical care, food, administration, and other prison conditions. According to the group's literature, "By agreement with the Governor and the Director of Corrections, interviews are unmonitored and no aspect of prison life or management is excluded except confidential records."

Because of the unusual conditions following the massive July 22 rebellion at Pontiac, the full Citizens Visitation Committee was not allowed to tour the prison. Instead, Illinois Prisons and Jails Project Chairperson Jeanette Musengo and Marvin Manar of the John Howard Association visited the prison Oct. 12 and 20.

In her conclusion, Jeanette Musengo wrote, "The manner in which the shakedown was conducted is the most extraordinary example of administrative retaliation and authoritarian excess which this observer has witnessed in over four years of prison visitation."

Here are the details excerpted from the report:

The long-awaited shakedown which prison officials had said must precede an end to the deadlock was conducted by the crew of officers on loan from Logan Correctional Center acting under the direction of the Pontiac administration during the first two weeks of October.

As each cell was searched, the mattress was removed from the bed and scanned with a metal detector. If any suspicious marks were noted on a TV or radio, the back was removed and the chassis examined. All other belongings in or on cabinets, desks or boxes were scrutinized. Any electric cord which had been lengthened by splicing was confiscated.

All books in excess of 15 or record albums in excess of 12 were taken, as were shoes, clothes, towels other than the standard prison issue, extra blankets, sheets or mattresses, and all canned food items. Each man's property was placed in a packing box and tagged with his name and number, except for the bedding and what was thought to be extra prison clothing, all of which was tossed in large piles in the dining room adjacent to the cellhouse.

For some time there has been an Administrative Regulation limiting the number of books and records which an inmate may have in his possession, but it has never been enforced through countless prior shakedowns, and some men had book collections of 200 or more volumes.

No justification was given for wholesale confiscation of other property, much of which inmates had purchased at the institutional commissary. A justification was offered for taking the canned goods: citing an incident of an officer being hit with a can of soup, Warden Pinkney and his aides said canned goods would no longer be sold because they could be used as weapons.



Assistant Warden Sandahl said that if a check of commissary sales records substantiated that an item, such as gym shoes, sweatshirt, towel, etc. was legitimately owned, it would be returned to the inmate. But no decision had been made as to what to do with the legitimately-purchased canned foods.

Sandahl expressed surprise when informed that inmates at Joliet Correctional Center could purchase denim pants and jackets much like the ones issued to inmates from the clothing room, as no record was kept of those garments when a man had more than the maximum of 3 in his cell. Other denims were presumed to be state issue and confiscated.

Inmates expressed great anger over their clothes being taken away. One phrased his resentment, "I'm in here for robbery. Who's going to lock up these people for taking stuff that I bought. How the hell can they call it contraband when they sold it to us!"

Another related that he had purchased several flowered towels and sewed them together to make a bedspread, "just to make the place look a little better," and it had been taken from him.

Others said the only way to get any warm clothes was to buy them yourself

because the prison only gives out short sleeved shirts, and "it's cold enough in here most of the time to need a sweatshirt."

One man said he was due to go to an outside hospital for surgery and had been left without shoes.

Any of the authorized number of prison issue garments which did not have the inmate's number imprinted on the back was also taken separately to a room at the back of the cellhouse where they were being numbered. Some men whose cells had been shaken down several days before said they had not yet been given their clothes back, even though they had been left with such incomplete combinations as 1 jacket and 1 shirt or 2 pairs of pants and no shirts, or only underwear and a jacket.

(In a later section of the report, titled "comments and recommendations," the writer continues about the shakedown):

"The manner in which the shakedown was conducted is the most extraordinary example of administrative retaliation and authoritarian excess which this observer has witnessed in over 4 years of prison visitation. There can be no other reason for the wholesale confiscation of personal property than retribution. To return the items as suggested is a monumental task which in all likelihood will never be done."

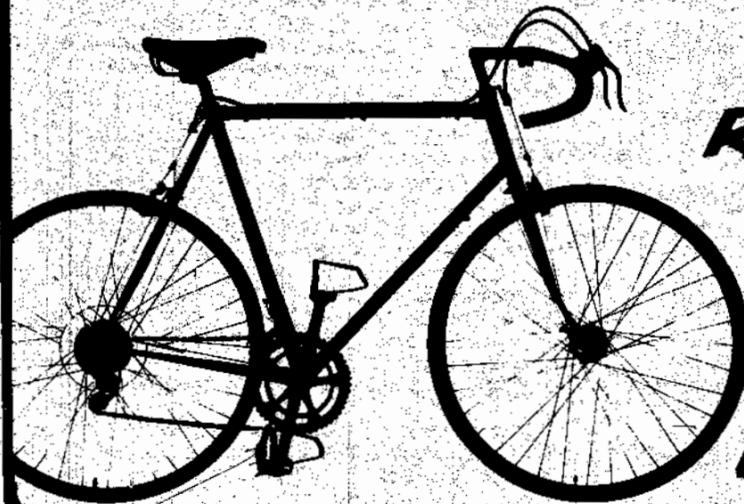


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Fritchley gets brutal

Cops bash in head of local man

Post-American page 23

Johnny Anderson and Genee Henson were parked outside Genee's apartment in Johnny's truck, listening to the tape player and trying to decide whether to call it a night or whether to go out and eat. It was 2:30 a.m., Nov. 18. Johnny and Genee were not pulled over all the way to the curb but the few cars driving down the 600 block of East Douglas that late had no trouble getting by.

A police car pulled up behind them and stopped. The one officer in the squad got out, walked over to the driver's side of the truck, and asked Johnny for his driver's license.

Johnny handed the Bloomington cop, Danny Fritchley, his bill fold. Fritchley told Johnny, "Take 'em out!"

Johnny took his license out, gave it to Fritchley, and threw his billfold on the dash.

The cop told Johnny he was under arrest. Officer Fritchley opened the door and Johnny got out of the truck and said, "For what?" Both Johnny and Genee were positive that Johnny was not acting or talking aggressively.

Fritchley replied to Johnny's question by saying, Kel-light in hand, "Don't make me have to use this." The Kel-light is a heavy metal flashlight. Johnny said "Don't worry, I won't."

Then, Johnny says Fritchley, completely unprovoked, hit him on his forehead with the Kel-light. Stunned, Johnny raised his hands to protect his head from more blows. Officer Fritchley then got Johnny down on the pavement and handcuffed him.

Genee's roommate had seen the squad car pull up and had come outside to see what was going on, and witnessed Fritchley hit Johnny the first time and again when he was down.

Genee had seen Johnny standing up one second and disappear the next, so she got out of her side of the truck and walked around it to find out what was going on.

Johnny was down on the ground with his hands behind him, and Genee saw Fritchley hit him. Genee started to put her hand on Officer Fritchley to stop him and then Johnny, who she saw was bleeding a lot, said something to her. Genee thought it was, "Call the police." Genee ran to the squad car got hold of the radio and said something like, "He's

beating my boyfriend to death," over and over.

Blood

Genee went back to the truck. She told the POST, "Then I just lost it, because he was down there on the ground, and blood makes me sick, and I reached down to touch his head, and my hands came up and there was blood all over, and I started to run up and down the street screaming so people would come out of their houses."

Some did. Neighbors down the street came out on their porch, and Barb, a woman who lives in Genee's apartment house, came out after she heard Genee's screams.

Barb reports that when she got outside there were already lots of police on the scene. (Fritchley had called in on his portable radio and asked for help, apparently after Genee got on the squad radio.)



Barb ran back inside to get shoes and when she got to the street again, "What I was seeing was ghastly and terrifying. The police were acting like maniacs. I could hardly believe my own eyes."

Fear

"Johnny and Genee were unresisting and passive but Genee was screaming out of fear and Johnny was yelling for help."

Genee's roommate, had been doing what she could, mostly trying to take care of Genee. Officer Fritchley had told her to get Genee out of the squad car when Genee was using the radio, and she had. Soon after that, a bunch of police cars began pulling up. Barb counted six in all.

Barb and Genee's roommate both saw the following incident. In Barb's words: "The cops had Johnny pinned down flat and one cop was pushing his knee into John's adam's apple. I thought they were trying to kill him. I got as close as I dared. I was scared."

Then, Barb states, John was on his feet handcuffed. "They were still beating him mercilessly and his hair was matted with blood. He had blood all over him."

Arrest

Barb and Genee's roommate both protested against the cop's violence. Both were threatened with arrest. At one point Johnny saw two cops throw Genee up against the back of the truck. Genee was arrested and Johnny and Genee were taken to the police station in separate cars.

Johnny was charged with aggravated battery, resisting arrest, and illegal parking. Genee was charged with aggravated battery (supposedly for kicking Fritchley, which she denies) and obstructing a police officer.

At the station, Johnny kept demanding a phone call and medical attention, both before and after he was locked in a cell. Finally two cops came to get him, saying they were taking him to make a phone call.

They led him to a door and pushed him inside and slammed the door.

Johnny was in the stand up box.

He kept yelling that he was hurt. Eventually somebody called an ambulance and Johnny was taken to St. Joseph's where he got stitches in his head, and his head and swollen waist were x-rayed.

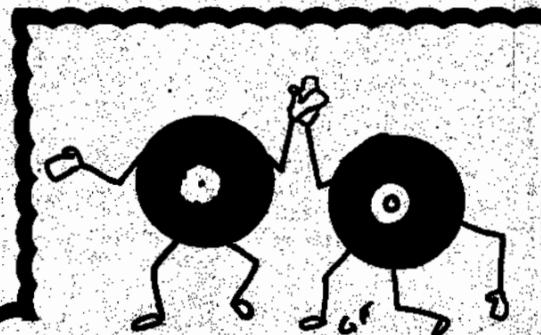
I read Johnny and Genee and her roommate the police version of the arrest, which accuses Johnny of starting the violence and consistently provoking it and resisting handcuffing and arrest.

All three reacted with what the two of us POST reporters believed was sincere shock, disbelief, and outrage.

Johnny and Genee intend to try to get justice. They are willing to take lie detector tests.

Genee says, "What we want is our day in court. We want people to know what they did so that it doesn't happen to somebody else."

--Alice Wonder



Mosaic: Earworthy Mavericks

Where do Carmen Miranda, whirling dervishes, Indian snake charmers, and jazz-rockers meet? Why Mosaic, of course. Eight talented musicians based in Champaign-Urbana weave Latin, African, and Eastern motifs (among others) into a basically jazz-rock sound for their LMI debut album.

The instrumentation is impressive, and most impressive is Mosaic's knack for turning its barrage of instruments into clean ensemble playing. The personnel includes Catherine Hall--flute, recorder, bamboo flute, double ocarina, and vocals; Johnse Holt--guitar and vocals; Dennis Kita--alto, tenor, and soprano saxophones; Jeff Miller--drums; Rocky Moffit--conga drums, roto-toms, hand percussion, and vocals; Neal Robinson--rhodes piano and arp synthesizer; Michael Smith--alto and soprano clarinet and vocals; and Glenn Schuetz--fender bass, acoustic bass, and vocals.

"I'm Just a Primitive Bebop Caveman" enlivens a simple musical phrase with harmony, funk, and strong solos by guitar, arp, flute, and clarinet. A Latin motif dominates "Present Tense," one of the two tracks with vocalist Catherine Hall, whose rendition has a strangely operatic quality to it.

Jim Fair's "Mahad" is a brilliant trip along the spice route with a dazzling soprano sax solo by Dennis Kita. "Stray Birds" is an interesting mix of electronic bird calls, samba, and light funk. Perhaps the most reflective cut is "Rakshasi Hornpipe," where strains of late Coltrane can be heard. The second vocal number, "Christmas in Caracas," is a folk-rock change of pace featuring Rocky Moffit's autoharp.

The compositions are filled with numerous transitions, yet most come off smoothly. The pieces also have a good balance of group virtuosity

vs. solo virtuosity. However, the lyrics of the vocal numbers are uninspiring. Mosaic's compositions, all original, are aimed at your feet as much as your ears. A steady rhythmic quality invites finger drumming, if not total body motion. And the particular use of rhythm sets Mosaic apart from the usual jazz-rock fare.

One more item sets these musicians apart from what you've probably been listening to. Mosaic has produced and is promoting a technically good album without the patronage of the recording industry establishment. Brave acts such as this allow the artists and the audience, rather than music industry executives, to decide what is earworthy. If you'd like a listen, Mosaic can found locally at COOP Tapes and Records.

--Gumas



letters

PO'd at P.O.

Never saw MEG agent

Dear Post,

I have recently been introduced to your paper and am very enthused. May I applaud your work. I am from Peoria and familiar with MEG and the pitiful detectives they have. I think it's great that you print pictures and stories on the agents.

In one of your recent issues you requested information on the agents in case you had the photo, but no proof. I have some proof that's for real. On Halloween night in '77, I supposedly sold to a MEG person named Chris Cardinal. I'm spending the next year and a half on probation. I don't remember what he looks like, but would be pleased to see his picture in your paper.

The whole operation is phony. They lie in court about amounts and weights of the drugs and get away with it. Many of my friends who are serving time now, because of MEG, were primarily users, not dealers. MEG always hits the bottom person of the line, which proves that it is a worthless operation.

I think it's pretty bad when the government can waste money on salaries and new cars for some high school rejects (which fully describes most of them, including the one that was kicked out for molesting a little kid) to play detectives!

If you need any help to put his picture in, please write back. I also am interested in writing some articles for your paper.

--Randy Thomas

Post-Amerikan:

I'm writing about the way a lot of people have been getting the raw end of the deal at the downtown Bloomington post office. I know from my own experience and what I saw happen to an old lady who was buying food stamps.

I myself am not on state aid, but the way they treat people who are down there is ridiculous! This lady, it seems, walked over 12 blocks to get her stamps and was refused when she forgot her ID card, even tho she's been getting them there for some time now. Every month.

When she told the man she would have to walk all the way back and she might not make it back by 3pm (the deadline for food stamps), he told her it was her problem!

I felt sorry for this lady so I gave her a ride home and then back to the post office. When the post man saw what I had done, he remarked to her, "I didn't expect to see you back here so soon" in a real smartass way. Has this guy nothing to do but harass people?

I walked in the other day to buy some stamps for some letters, and he said to me, "What happened to your hair?" I have a perm, and my hair is real curly. I noticed he was bald and said, "What happened to yours?" He said something about different barbers, trying to laugh it off.

But what happened last week was what really pissed me off. A young black woman walked in to buy her food stamps

and was told she didn't have enough money there. He kept her money and then started to wait on other customers. Seeing what he had done, the customers ignored him and let the woman continue doing business with this guy. She must've told him to give her money back 6 times before he did it! She finally did get it.

As she left, she told him that she was reporting him. This guy is a real menace to society. What's a person like this doing working for the government?! It just doesn't seem fair that this guy can ridicule people who walk into this post office. Thank you for listening.

Love and Support,
Sue

Pen pal in Texas

Dear Post:

Home boy doing time in Texas prison would like to receive some mail from people back home in Illinois.

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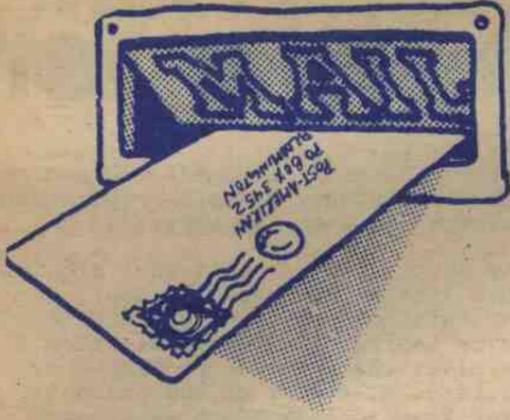
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We encourage you readers out there to write us letters. So go right ahead and write and we'll probably put it in the paper. If you don't want your letter published, please say so in the letter. We've also been known to turn letters into full-fledged articles. So if you have a problem, gripe, or think something is particularly neat, let us know.

Body hair is political

Dear Post:

I'd like to respond to the letter in the December issue about body hair.

Like Pamela Sioux-Hogans, I admire the Post-Amerikan's advocacy of individual freedom. I cannot, however, agree with her logic that equates the freedom of no longer having to care for long hair on her head with the freedom of buying razors and shaving soap and scraping the hair off her armpits and legs daily (at least weekly), risking cutting herself each time.

Though I would agree that measuring people's body hair is not the only standard for determining the growth of their political consciousness (see Post articles about narcs' and informers' appearances), I would support Ms. Ziller's contention that body hair can be a political statement. During the time of the protest against the Viet Nam war, the length of people's (particularly men's) head hair was certainly a political issue. As recently as 1976, Judge Harrod of Woodford County made about 50 young men cut their hair as punishment for having anti-authoritarian attitudes.

OK, I know I've been talking about head hair, so let me get back to the pits.

The choice to shave body hair is a matter of style. But style and culture and politics are all bound up with each other. Think of Amelia Bloomer's bloomers. Only in the last ten years have nurse's aides been allowed to wear pantsuits to work in-- even though they were always the most sensible and least oppressive choice.

And consciousness-raising means body consciousness, too. Many women are still fighting the self-hate bred by a culture which insists that unless we fit the mold, we aren't worthwhile (or even attractive) human beings. And the mold includes flat stomachs, firm breasts and smooth legs.

Just as I wouldn't reject a woman who wouldn't wear a t-shirt that says "A woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle," I won't reject a woman who chooses to shave her legs and pits. But the more people I see who reject society's standards of style, beauty and lifestyle, the happier I am.

In sisterhood,
A proofreader

P.S. When men I know shave their beards, I give them more sh-t than I give women I know who shave their pits.



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What you see is not what you get

People sometimes complain about government regulations. I feel that some regulations are indeed burdensome, for example, the health department rule about having shoes on in a grocery store, which makes no sense hygenically, and is in fact socially motivated. Obviously, a person's hands may carry as many germs as her/his feet--it would make just as much sense to make all customers wear gloves.

However, some regulations, especially those concerning health and safety of workers and truth in labeling products, are extremely necessary. Today's products are highly sophisticated, containing a number of often highly processed ingredients. This is especially true of food, but it is true of other things as well. In order to be intelligent consumers, we need to know what is in the products we buy, and how much of it. Otherwise we will be guessing; we will have no concrete basis on which to decide which product is best.

Present food labeling requirements allow companies to leave a number of important ingredients off the label, and I am sure most consumers do not know those ingredients are in the product because of this. Such important ingredients as caffeine are omitted. Rye flour and corn meal do not have to be labeled as whole or "white" as wheat flour does. "Wheat bread" does not list the percentages of whole wheat flour and white flour. "Fruit juice" does not indicate the percentage of fruit juice, which one would have to write to the company or government to get. These gaps in labeling make comparison

buying much more difficult.

The gap is not only in food. Non-food items are even less adequately labeled. Coleman Fuel, for example, contains the same liquid, naptha, as lighter fluids do at a much lower price. However, because it does not list ingredients AT ALL, few people know this. Tools may say they are made out of Chrome Vanadium steel, which makes it stronger and more rust-resistant than steel. But there are many kinds of chrome vanadium alloys, some containing a lot more chrome and vanadium than others. Molybdenum and tungsten and carbide are also used. Some are just high in carbon, a cheap additive.

If government labeling regulations were what they should be, it would be easy to tell which was the highest quality alloy--the government could rate the alloys on a simple number system, say one to twenty, and make all products state the rating on the tool. Obviously, the reason these positive steps in strengthening labeling requirements are not taken is partially because of companies who don't want to put more information on their products. The companies' pressure must be countered by consumers who want to know exactly what they are buying, and no less. The next time someone tells you how bad government regulations are, remind them that at least some tell you what you are eating and drinking-- these regulations need to be strengthened and made more effective, not gutted.

Sincerely yours,
Dave Burdette

Locked up & likes Post

Dear Post:

I just recently read your newspaper for the first time, and I think it's great!

I'm locked up for possession of drugs, and I'd really like it if you could ask some of your readers to write me.

My name is Terry Hynes. I'm 17½ years old. I've done 3½ months, but I still have quite a bit of time to do.

It's really lonely in here, and I miss my family! I have three brothers and three sisters.

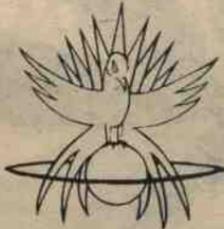
I found out about your paper from Cathy Head; she wrote you too. I'm in the same place with her. Me and Cathy try and look out for each other. She's really cool!

Thanks a lot for your time.

Love,
Terry

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MEG trying to change open

Members of the MEG Board of Directors will try to persuade legislators to exempt MEG from the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the undercover drug unit's governing board decided in a December 1 meeting.

The MEG board--composed of the chief law enforcement officer and one elected official from each of the narc squad's ten participating units of local government--will hold a special luncheon meeting in January. Board members from MEG's five counties and five cities will try to bring their area's representatives in the state legislature.

Because of its function as a secret police force, MEG has always complained about having to comply with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. At every MEG board meeting, MEG officials resent the presence of reporters from the Post-American and the Galesburg Free Voice. Both papers have devoted much space to photos of undercover agents and investigative articles that criticize MEG's sleazy practices.

The Open Meetings Act protects the press and the public's right to know about the meetings of government groups which decide public policy. It requires that reporters be allowed to watch the meetings. It requires that the press receive advance notice of meetings, and specifically limits the types of business which may be discussed in executive sessions, closed to reporters.

MEG first complained about the Open Meetings Act in 1975, when the secret police objected to the media's right to photograph public meetings. MEG Director Jerry "Superspy" LaGrow is very camera shy--he once persuaded a TV newsteam to interview him while photographing only the back of his

head. When photographers from the Post began showing up at MEG meetings in 1975, Director LaGrow stopped attending!

The MEG board formally excused its executive director from meetings, and suggested that they begin to get the Open Meetings Act changed.

LaGrow eventually began attending MEG meetings again (and got photographed), but MEG officials continued to urge amendment of the Open Meetings Act.

When legislators began preparing the MEG funding bill in 1976 (which reorganized MEG units under the state Department of Law Enforcement, instead of the federally-funded Illinois Law Enforcement Commission), MEG officials tried to have the new law include a provision saying MEG doesn't have to follow the Open Meetings Act.

They failed, but now they are ready to try again.

MEG's latest determination to change the Open Meetings Act is apparently connected to the board's attempt to hold an illegal executive session at their December 1 meeting.

When he expelled a Post-American reporter as the MEG meeting went into executive session, Director LaGrow said they were going to discuss "vehicles, tactics, and personnel problems."

Personnel problems are a legitimate topic to discuss out of the public view, according to the Open Meetings Act. But discussions of vehicles and tactics are not listed in the Act as legitimate reasons for excluding the press and public.

Tazewell County State's Attorney Bruce Black, a recent appointee to

the MEG board, kept the executive session honest. He insisted that the board could only discuss in private session what the law specified.

The discussion of "personnel problems" most likely concerned the Dept. of Law Enforcement's investigation of Jerry LaGrow. That investigation involves charges made by Mike Richardson, editor of the Galesburg Free Voice. Richardson says that in May 1978, LaGrow phoned him and hinted he would "sit on" six drug sales Richardson supposedly made to MEG agents, if Richardson would quit printing photos of undercover narcs.

Richardson has passed two lie detector tests since the investigation began, bearing out his claim that he never sold the drugs to MEG, and that LaGrow did indeed offer to "sit on" the faked drug charges. Investigators have told Richardson that the investigation is presently delayed, and Richardson suspects that LaGrow has been resisting taking a lie detector test himself.

Listening at the door during MEG's executive session, this reporter did hear some talk about polygraph tests, but couldn't make out the discussion's specifics.

Asked after the meeting if the MEG board discussed LaGrow's taking a lie detector test, Tazewell County State's Attorney Bruce Black said, "I cannot comment on that."

When the executive session was over, board members immediately passed a resolution calling for a change in the Open Meetings Act. They discussed the board's inability to talk about law enforcement matters in front of the public, while the law prevented them from discussing those matters in private.

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meetings act

The Post-Amerikan reporter was the only member of the press attending the MEG meeting, and no members of the public were there. Without the Post-Amerikan's presence, MEG board members could have discussed whatever they pleased, without even needing to call a phoney executive session.

MEG did go ahead and discuss vehicles, authorizing LaGrow to extend the leases on the current cars for the first three months of 1979. LaGrow explained to the board that MEG agents tend to get into more accidents when they switch to unfamiliar cars. He said he wanted to minimize the accident problem by waiting until after winter to switch.

LaGrow also reported that the Monmouth man charged with attempted murder of MEG agent Robert Lickiss went to trial, resulting in a hung jury. When the state prepared to go ahead with a second trial, the defendant agreed to a plea bargain, accepting 2 years in prison on a reduced charge of aggravated battery.

LaGrow reminded board members (incorrectly) that the attempted murder stemmed from the agent's picture being published in "an underground newspaper."

"Not an underground newspaper," bellowed MEG Secretary-Treasurer David Watkins, "the underground newspaper, the underground newspaper," he continued emphatically. "Let's not beat around the bush, Jerry. The underground newspaper published his picture, and because of that, the underground newspaper placed him in jeopardy of his life."

Since there are two papers publishing narc photos, Watkins' emphasis on "the underground newspaper" is peculiar. So is his ignorance of the facts! If Watkins had done any investigation at all (and the stabbing did occur in Sheriff Watkins' county) then he would know that neither the Post-Amerikan nor the Galesburg Free Voice had ever published the photo of the attacked agent--not until the month after the stabbing.

A month before the stabbing, the Post had published photos of ten or so undercover operatives, none of whom were attacked. The only one attacked hadn't yet been exposed in the paper.

Of course, if MEG is really concerned about the safety of its undercover agents, then they shouldn't be sent out in the field after their photo has been published. MEG--not underground newspapers--is putting its employees in danger.

--Mark Silverstein

Narc-made paranoia claims victim

This is a story about a high-school-aged man, authorities, paranoia, and community building. Because of some of the circumstances of this story and because he wants to remain anonymous, I will call this man Bill and not make any specific references to which school he attended.

Bill and his family moved to Bloomington-Normal only a few weeks before school started in August. Faced with a new school and people he didn't know, Bill seemed to be doing all right. He made friends easily, he liked to party, and he made good grades.

And because Bill is friendly and a good student, his teachers liked him. Now having teachers like you in high school can either mean points for you or against you, depending which group you hang out with.

Well, in Bill's case it was points against him. And unfortunately, being friendly, liking to party and getting good grades counted against him also. A rumor that Bill was a narc began to circulate.

Given the situation that school administrators are so paranoid about drugs in school that people have been searched and suspended or expelled and that cops are right there in the hallways (and people are supposed to go to school to learn about how Amerika is a free country!), it is understandable to me why students would be cautious about who they smoked dope with.

Bill's situation seems to me to be a clear case of horizontal hostility: because somebody who has control over us is oppressing us (mandatory attendance, cops, illegal, if not immoral searches of persons and lockers, etc.--sounds kinda like prison, doesn't it?), we end up oppressing each other by having to be suspicious of each other.

In the middle of November Bill was beaten up during lunch hour, while he was hanging out across the street from school. And while he was being hit and kicked in the head and stomach by 15 to 20 young men, he got the story from them that someone he had bought dope from the night before had been chased by the pigs and that whoever had bought the dope (Bill) had tipped the cops off.

The story about why Bill got beaten up seemed to be a little sketchy, but when I asked him about it he said that since he was getting hit and kicked, he wasn't in a position to ask the people doing the hitting and kicking to elaborate on the details.

The next thing that Bill did was probably what any drug-crazed high school hippie whose new friends had turned against him and was in fear

of his life would do--he turned himself in.

He went to one of the school administrators (supervisor, principal, dean, they're all alike, so I will call this person an administrator) and asked to be busted so that people would know that he wasn't a narc. He emptied his pockets of some poppers, a pipe and what little contra-band he had. The administrator did what I would expect any administrator to do, when faced with a kid who had obviously been beaten up and who is dumping marijuana paraphernalia on a table in front of him (of course, the administrator was a man--aren't they all?). "Go to the nurse," the administrator said.

While Bill was at the nurse's office getting cleaned up, the administrator called Bill's parents and also tried to find out who was the supposed leader of the group who had beaten Bill up. When the administrator came to the nurse's office to ask Bill who it was who had beaten him up, Bill said that he wouldn't tell any names because he wasn't a narc.

Realizing that with the administrator conducting a search to find out who had beaten him up and also realizing that there were probably few people in school who could or would help the administrator--not to mention a reasonable fear for his personal safety-- Bill left school.

After a few more interesting turns of events, Bill ran into me and told me his story. Now, I believe Bill when he says he isn't a narc. He looked to me like he was telling the truth about people accusing him of being a narc and beating him up because of it.

The real reason I'm writing this is not to talk about whether Bill is a narc or not, but to talk about how we can't go on oppressing each other if we are going to build a community. Sure, it makes sense to be cautious about people we don't know, but because we ourselves are oppressed is not a good enough reason to take it out on each other.

I'm beginning to sound like I'm preaching.

So Bill was suspended from school for a few days for possession. The administrator assured Bill that there are no narcs in school. Not that narcs are needed, or that if they were, the administrator would for sure know about them.

I think that Bill said it best when he said: "They don't need narcs. All they need to do is get us paranoid and we'll destroy each other."

--L. Knight

NORML

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MEG informers bust roommates and relatives

How low can a narc go?

MEG informers Diane Harper and Martha Slater tried to find out in late 1977 and early 1978. Harper set up her own nephew, while Slater set up the lover she was living with. Both informers worked in the Canton area, setting up marijuana and controlled substances buys which finally became arrests in June 1978.

Bill Lewis lives in Lewiston, and was arrested for selling a lid of marijuana to MEG agent Marilyn Kohl. Lewis told the Post-American that he was set up by his aunt, informer Diane Harper. According to Lewis, Diane Harper arranged by telephone to meet Lewis at his parents' house and buy a lid. Harper had another woman with her who actually bought the bag. That woman was Marilyn Kohl.

Lewis said he used to party with his Aunt Diane a lot. He even remembers buying speed from her.

Last month's Post-American reported that Diane Harper worked for Canton's supposedly confidential crisis line, Hotline, at the same time she was working as a MEG informer.

* * * * *

Michael Branchfield of Canton is currently doing 2½ years in the Logan Correctional Center on drug delivery charges. He was set up by MEG informer Martha Slater, who was Branchfield's roommate and lover during the time she set him up.

"She was my roommate for about a month and a half," Branchfield wrote in a letter to the Post-American.

"I thought we were pretty close while I lived with her. We shared the

expenses of living, and I paid my share of everything that was to be paid. Martha and I were together at taverns and out partying. We had a lot of good times together, and we shared everything there was to share. I bought her most all her drinks when we were out and bought speed, downers, pot, angel dust, and other kinds of drugs for Martha to sell to her friends. We both used these drugs, also."

Branchfield said Martha asked him to move out around the middle of May 1978, saying that she might lose her food stamps and get in some kind of trouble with her social worker for having a man live with her.

A couple of weeks later, the Post-American published photos of 10 active undercover narcotics operatives, including most of the ones active in Canton. The narcs' cover was blown, and they stopped making drug buys and started preparing to make arrest on the cases they already had. The arrests came in June 1978.

"When it came time for my court date, Martha was there," Branchfield continued in his letter to the Post. "She said that all the dope I had sold was mine, and she had never slept with me or made love with me, never sold dope, never smoked dope, and never purchased any kind of dope. These were all lies."

Michael Branchfield requested that his address be printed because he would love to have someone to write to. Send letters to: Michael Branchfield, A-88260, RR 3 Box 1000, Lincoln IL 62656.

--Mark Silverstein



ABOVE: MEG informer Martha Slater.

BELOW: MEG informer Diane Harper.



How about a nice NORML article?

The last issue of the Post contained an article in which the issues of decriminalization and legalization of marijuana were brought up in a way that led me to believe that we had to choose to support one or the other.

Realistically, there is a large conservative group that is opposed to any type of reform. According to the Nov. 26th issue of New Times, Peter Bensinger, DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) boss, "is launching an all-out effort to increase penalties for selling cannabis. The nation's top narc, a Ford appointee, has recently described marijuana as being more carcinogenic than cigarettes, more brain damaging than alcohol, and an insidious threat to unborn infants."

The article also mentioned that there appears to be backing for Senator Sam Nunn's bill by Congress and the Justice Dept. Nunn's bill would give judges broad discretion to impose preventive detention on drug traffickers; that is, hold you with no bail.

The Reefer Madness attitude is all around us. It's fine that there are several groups that propose reform or repeal of pot laws but not so fine that we divide and no longer support each other.

I cannot speak for CAMP (Coalition for the Abolition of Marijuana Prohibition), as I know little about them; they are not active in Illinois, to my knowledge. What I can tell you about is NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws).

NORML has a national membership of 25,000. Membership requires a donation of \$15 (\$10 for students) and in return members get packets of information and things like NORML buttons.

The money raised goes toward lobbying, printing pamphlets, organizational costs, and paying NORML's legal fees from representing people challenging pot laws. NORML has represented people who needed pot for medical purposes, people who have received excessive sentences for cannabis offenses, and people fighting for constitutional issues.

Locally we are working to get area support for decriminalization thru letters that will be presented to our representatives. We are available to give out information on pot-related issues and hope to organize some public events to pass on information.

Anyone who wishes to help can join us.

Our local group is trying to raise money thru donations and thru T-Shirts that we are selling thru Kiss Screen Printing. The Bloomington-Normal group is one of 2 active chapters in Illinois. We would like to expand and to help others start local groups throughout central Illinois. To be honest, we just don't have enough people to help us carry out all the activities that we would like to do.

Our main goal is to support the decriminalization bill that will come up before the legislature in the next session, which begins January 1979. The bill is modeled after Oregon's decriminalization bill. It states that the penalty for those found guilty of possession of 30 grams or less of pot will be a civil fine of not more than \$100. It would be like getting a traffic ticket and would apply no matter how many times you were busted. In the past several years, bills presented to the legislators calling for reduction of the penalties for selling, growing, and possession of larger quantities have been rejected.

Although the proposed bill may not be as much of a reform as we would like, it's a realistic immediate change that would be beneficial to us. This is a step in the direction we want to go. It will take continued support to promote further change.

But to even achieve the passage of this bill we must show that we support this change. The legislators must be informed that we exist and feel as we do about the reform of pot laws.

It doesn't matter as much whether you write a letter, call a local representative, send an editorial to the newspapers, or stage some sort of demonstration of support, as it matters that you do something. (The only guidelines are that we shouldn't be totally offensive to others.) If you know someone who is still in the reefer madness era, show them the facts and convince them of the harmless nature of pot.

Already Alaska, Oregon, Maine, Colorado, California, Ohio, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina, New York, and Nebraska have enacted civil fine decriminalization laws. Let's at least get Illinois on the list.

Locally you can contact the following people about NORML: Gail Tilkin, 829-4015; Jim Weinzeirl at ISU, 438-5377 or Lexington, 1-365-8240; Steve Hutson at Wesleyan campus, 556-2091.

--Gail Tilkin, NORML

Local Representatives: Gerald Bradley, 226 F. Market, Bloomington, IL, 828-2911; Gordon Ropp, RR 8, Normal, 452-5205; Sam Vinson, 323 W. Wester, Clinton, IL.

State Senator: John Maitland, 1302 N. Clinton, Bloomington, 829-1857.

Men's potluck Free Legal Services for the Elderly

Food stamp rules change

Beginning January 1, 1979 the purchase requirement for the Food Stamp Program will be eliminated. In the past, most people paid for part of their food stamps and received part as a bonus or free stamps. Under the new federal rules, you will no longer pay for any of your monthly food stamps. Instead, beginning January 1, 1979, you will receive only the bonus or free part. For example, you may currently be required to pay \$60 for \$150 of total food stamps. The bonus amount of food stamps is \$90. Under the new rules, you will only receive the \$90 in food stamp coupons.

Instead of using money to buy food stamps, you will probably need to use some cash along with the bonus stamps to buy enough food for the month. Each food stamp household will be given only one food stamp authorization card per month. The card may be exchanged for the bonus stamps at the same place where you normally bought your food stamps in the past. Eliminating the payment will not affect the amount of your bonus or free part of your food stamp allotment.

Another change beginning January 1, 1979, will be that retail food stores will no longer give credit slips or tokens as change when purchases are made with food stamp coupons. This means that if you have change coming for \$.99 or less, you'll get cash back. For each dollar of change coming, you'll get a \$1.00 food stamp coupon. For example, if the change coming to you is \$1.59, you'll get a \$1.00 food stamp coupon and \$.59 in coins as your change.

If you have any questions about this change, call Public Aid at 827-4621. •

The monthly men's potluck will be Jan. 7, 1979. These potlucks are open to all anti-sexist men of the community. The potluck will be held at 306 W. Mill, Bloomington, Ill. at 6:30 p.m. These are informal gatherings for men to get together to eat and talk.

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



Legal services for senior citizens living in McLean and Livingston Counties are now available, free since December 1, 1978.

We will provide legal advice and representation on most legal matters other than criminal. Specific services will include problems in the areas of: medicare-medicaid payments; nursing home care; public aid; veterans benefits; consumer problems; conservatorship and inheritance tax release preparation. Problems that will not be dealt with are criminal and traffic cases; fee-producing cases such as personal injury, workers compensation and real estate closings; and cases in which a private attorney has already been hired.

The staff plans to make visits to senior citizen's centers and nutrition sites throughout McLean and Livingston Counties to interview clients, and to answer questions on legal matters. We also will provide free speakers to senior groups to give talks on government benefits, consumer problems, housing law, and other requested topics.

The new office is located in Bloomington at 219 North Main Street, Suite 500 of the Griesheim Building. The telephone number is (309) 827-5021. We will be operating out of the Pontiac Office for Livingston County and the address is 220 North Plum, Pontiac. The telephone number is (815) 842-3155. •

SMALL CHANGES AT SMALL CHANGES

For those of you anxiously awaiting the arrival of Holly Near's latest album, IMAGINE MY SURPRISE, well, it's not in yet. But don't get too discouraged. The news from California is that production should be finished in time for the holiday season. We expect the album around Dec. 13, and think it'll go fast. So, if you're sure you want one, you may want to let us know ahead of time.

Another new album soon to be released is OH MAMA!, Kristen Lems's first LP. Again, hopefully this'll be out in time for the holidays.

Small Changes has been gearing up for the great Kapitalist Konsumer Krunch which happens in December. So, if you're going to participate this year, stop by and admire our expanded stock. We've got some new posters, a good selection of womyn's albums, lots of science fiction, children's non-sexist, health, and food and womyn's books and lots more. And, you are always welcome to come in out of the cold and have a hot cup of coffee or tea. •

--The Small Changes Collective



Epileptic referral service

Bloomington-Normal now has a local chapter of the Illinois Epilepsy Assn. The chapter's purpose is to operate a referral service for epileptics and those interested in helping epileptics.

By calling PATH at 827-4005, persons can be put in touch with doctors, mental health services, and other agencies who help epileptics. The chapter can also help by providing people willing to share their experiences as epileptics with others. •

PATH seeks volunteers

PATH, the 24-hour crisis response, information, and referral service in McLean County, will have two training sessions beginning in January for new phone volunteers.

A condensed three-week training session begins Jan. 4, and an eight-week session begins Jan. 24. Applications for the second session should be in by Jan. 19.

PATH depends on volunteers to answer its phones, so call 827-4005 or 1-800-322-5015 for more information. •



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Wanna buy a nuke?

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At almost any time, Illinois Power Company will be filing with the Illinois Commerce Commission for a 10 to 15% hike in your electric bill. Half of this hike is to go for Construction Works in Progress (CWIP) for building the Clinton nuclear power station. Within a day or two of this decision, Prairie Alliance contingents will be out in force on the streets in front of Illinois Power Company offices in Bloomington, Champaign, and Springfield. The Charleston-Mattoon Prairie Alliance will picket their local utility which buys electricity from IPC.

The theme of the Bloomington rally is "Give Us a Choice!" Illinois Power Co. never asked us residents of central Illinois whether we preferred nuclear power over solar power and conservation. They made the decision for us. Now they want us to pay higher rates to support that decision. That is the height of arrogance.

If we ever want to have some influence over the direction of our future, we will not have a better opportunity.

When you get the call, get out there. Hold a sign. All it will say is "Give Us a Choice!" How can anyone, be against that?

The choice we face

Illinois Power Company would like you to believe that there is no alternative to higher rates and faster construction of the Clinton nuclear power station. Unfortunately for them, there are alternatives that are still available, cheaper for the consumer, and healthier for everyone. The main point of the CWIP demonstrations is that these choices should be presented to those who will be affected by them.

There are at least four options still available. One takes advantage of the recent decline in electricity demand in the IPC area to begin a shift towards some diesel-powered units IPC was going to bring on line in 1984.

Another alternative is to do what IPC wants to do--speed up construction at Clinton and charge everybody for it.

A third option is to slow down construction at Clinton by refusing CWIP funding for it--if they want it that badly, at least let them pay for it.

The fourth option is to begin re-training workers and hiring many others to become energy efficiency experts and installers of time-of-day meters and insulation.

Illinois Power could easily send out ballots on these choices together with pros and cons on each option to its customers along with its monthly mailings. The CWIP demonstration will be asking for this. The future needs your help. It cannot act. You can. Be there.

Nader at ISU

On Tuesday, January 30, consumer advocate Ralph Nader will debate nuclear power with Daniel Kane of the Council on Energy Independence. The event will be the final attraction in a week of activities at Illinois State University entitled "Energy Awareness Week."

Nader founded the Critical Mass Project in Washington, D. C., in 1975 to oppose nuclear energy and to promote safe energy alternatives. Recently Nader co-authored The Menace of Atomic Energy (W. W. Norton & Co., 500 Fifth Ave., New York City 10036, \$10.95) with John Abbots, a nuclear engineer. It is one of the best books on the topic.

The Critical Mass Project publishes a monthly newspaper entitled The Critical Mass Journal: The Citizen's Movement for Safe and Efficient Energy. It is highly authoritative, full of information, and cheap at \$7.50 a year. It is available from CMJ Subscriptions, P. O. Box 1538, Washington, D. C. 20013. Get your best friend to buy you a subscription for Christmas.

Energy Awareness Week at ISU will be a week of highly entertaining and informative films, speakers, discussions and displays. Stay tuned to Sun Spot for details.

Only the good die young

In the intense media coverage of Jim Jones and the People's Temple, the late Congressman Leo J. Ryan seems to have been largely ignored. He was a devoted advocate of safe energy alternatives and chairperson of a subcommittee under the House Committee on Government Operations. As chairperson, he directed the 18-month study of nuclear power economics and nuclear waste disposal costs that was published in April of this year as "Nuclear Power Costs." This report is a well-documented indictment of nuclear power.

Ryan participated in the October 6-8 Critical Mass '78 gathering in Washington D. C., where over 700 anti-nuclear activists came together to strengthen organizational ties, exchange ideas and discuss strategies for creating a safe energy future. Ryan addressed the gathering and said that the problems of nuclear power first came to his subcommittee's attention when they investigated the now defunct Nuclear Fuel Services fuel reprocessing plant in West Valley, New York, where 600,000 gallons of hazardous nuclear wastes had been abandoned.

"And from there, like eating peanuts, you can't stop with just one question," Ryan said.

Ryan's subcommittee concluded that the costs of disposing of radioactive wastes and of decommissioning nuclear reactors are still unknown. Estimates made by the Dept. of Energy for the cost of storing military wastes "range from \$2 billion to \$20 billion."



"Now what kind of an estimate is that?" he asked. (Military wastes are only half the problem. Wastes from commercial nuclear reactors, while smaller in volume, are more highly concentrated, contain more radioactivity, and are growing faster. Costs for storage of commercial wastes promise to run between \$15 billion and \$25 billion by the year 2000, according to a recently released report by the federal Interagency Review Group on Nuclear Waste Management.)

"We're talking about the cost, and we're talking about who pays for it," Ryan declared. "And I've got news for you: the 'rich uncle' is us--U.S.--the United States. That's you, that's me, that's us together. We have to pay the bills. And there are people in the government today who continue to move ahead on nuclear energy knowing they won't have to pay for it--you will."

"But those who are 20 years old, my kid, will see the time when they no longer have nuclear power as a source, but they will still be paying for mistakes in judgment that are being made today. And that I resent. And you should too!"

In conclusion, Ryan called for a moratorium on the construction of nuclear reactors. On November 18, Leo Ryan was assassinated in Jonestown, Guyana. He will be missed.



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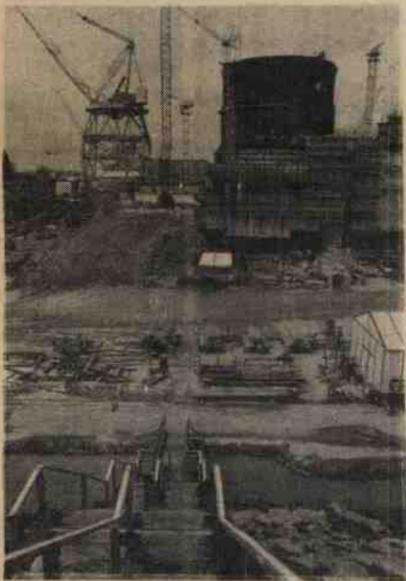
Anti Nuclear Sentiment Spreads Across The Country

Public support for atomic power is dropping like a lead weight in a vacuum, if the November 7 returns are any indication. It looks like a band wagon. You might as well get a good seat. It's going to be a fun ride.

New Hampshire: arch-conservative Governor Meldrin Thompson, who starred in the film "The Last Resort" as the incredibly biased promoter of nuclear power, has been cast out into the cold by the voters. Thompson's platform was to keep taxes down, and yet he vetoed (earlier this year) a bill outlawing Construction Works in Progress (CWIP) rate hikes as a means for funding nuclear power plants.

Everybody knows that CWIP is a tax on your utility bill and not really higher rates for old electricity. So Thompson's opponent, Democrat Hugh Gallen, pointed out the hypocrisy of being anti-tax and pro-CWIP. The voters understood. Governor-elect Gallen is expected to ask the Public Service Company of New Hampshire to refund the \$17.8 million already collected under CWIP.

Following the election, Public Service Company announced it might halt construction of a second nuclear reactor just like the Seabrook unit which was planned for erection 40 miles from Boston. Utility officials also announced a possibility of dropping their 50% ownership of the Seabrook nuke. Are you listening, Illinois Power?



This is also the Clinton nuke. The photo is quite arty; too bad we had to reduce it.

In the same election, New Hampshire voters defeated CWIP by a margin of 67-to-33. Now it is illegal, as it is in Missouri, where it was banned in 1976.

New Hampshire has always been a bell-weather state. As New Hampshire goes, so goes...

Montana: Tight financial and safety restrictions on nuclear development were approved by voters by a 2-to-1 margin, despite the pro-nukes outspending the anti-nukes by a 20-to-1 margin. The result is an effective moratorium on further nuclear plants. It is now the law in Montana that state-wide voter approval must be obtained before any major nuclear facility can locate there. In Missoula County, Montana, an outright ban on atomic plants passed by an even higher margin.

Hawaii: Voters amended the state constitution to require a 2/3 vote by each house of the state legislature before nuclear reactors or waste facilities can be sited in the islands. The amendment, which will be in effect for 10 years, is again a virtual moratorium on further nuclear development.



This is the nuclear power plant under construction in Clinton. IPC is trying to make you pay for it.

Other states that have enacted curbs on nuclear power within the last two years include California, Maine, and Iowa, Wisconsin, Oregon, while in New York Governor Hugh Carey has called for a moratorium on new reactor building. Eleven states have declared they will not accept a nuclear waste repository. Fifteen more are thinking of following suit.

Nuclear industry collapsing

Combustion Engineering is one of the four manufacturers of atomic plants. Early this year their Vice President Howard Winterson told New York Times, "In about two years, you are going to see the business disintegrate."

In 1972, there were 38 orders for new atomic reactors in the U.S. In 1973, it rose to 41. But since then not more than 4 orders a year have been placed, while 138 previously ordered nukes were cancelled or deferred.

To compensate, U.S. manufacturers have turned to foreign countries that want to emulate the U.S. So far, 67 reactors have been exported. You think safety and waste management are bad here. You ought to see the

Philippines, where they are building one of our nukes within the shadow of an active volcano.

Now the foreign market is turning sour, too.

Iran: The new president of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization has abruptly announced that 12 of his nation's 14 planned nuclear reactors were being cancelled outright, and the remaining two may not be completed.

Brazil: Three years after signing a \$12 billion contract with West Germany for 8 reactors, only two are under construction, and the program is woefully behind schedule. Top

officials are jittery about the new president and expect a slow-down of the program.

Austria: A majority of voters in a recent referendum decided against firing up a completed \$600 million nuclear power plant at Zwentendorf. Officials say it will become a "Nuclear relic."

If the industry collapses, who will produce the spare parts for the Clinton reactor 20 years hence? ●

No-nuke folks gather

Prairie Alliance's regional conference on Nov. 18 and 19 had many purposes. Through a series of educational workshops, we hoped to bring information about the nuclear industry to the public. The conference was also a way for the member Prairie Alliance chapters in different cities to spend some time together, help each other with problems, and share experiences. We wanted to bring up the question of a direct action against the Clinton plant in April, and if the consensus was for such an action we wanted to begin setting up committees to deal with specific tasks involved.

The convention was also used to lend clarity to some confusing issues. This especially included a discussion of Illinois Power's scheduled Construction Works in Progress rate hike (which is soon to be announced) and a discussion of whether Prairie Alliance has the people, tenacity, and ability to get funds to be an intervener in the Nuclear Regulatory Committee's operating licensing procedure for the Clinton nuke.

There were sections on the history of Prairie Alliance, how to run meetings, a civil disobedience non-violence training workshop, alternatives to nuclear power, fund-raising, and some specific civil disobedience workshops.

One major problem with the convention was that on Sunday things got way off schedule and some workshops had to be cancelled or changed. There was a question about whether to have workshops be concurrent or consecutive. Most favored consecutive workshops but the agenda had been based on concurrent workshops; the conflict caused a problem. At the next Prairie Alliance get-together things will be consecutive, so people can be a part of everything if they want to.

The conference's main success lay in the fact that people from different Prairie Alliances met along with people who wanted to know more of the nuclear truth. There were people from Chicago, Rock Island, Madison and Peoria as well as the Champaign-Urbana and Charleston arms of the Prairie Alliance.

If all we had gotten from the conference was a sense of togetherness and an awareness of the problems we face, it would have been worth it. But not only did we reach that main objective, but we also feel like we know a little bit more about the pertinent issues in our anti-nuke campaign and how to go about achieving our goals. ●

--J.T.

High school: the assassin of youth

This fall when Normal Community High School opened their doors for classes, students not only lost their summer vacation but were also deprived of certain privileges they had the previous year. These restrictions were the result of the administration's crackdown on students in an attempt to make them more docile.

Two of the privileges that were lost are frisbee throwing and the smoking of cigarettes in the school doorways.

The recreation and sport of frisbee, which allows students to enjoy themselves and break the monotony of the long hours of classes, has been outlawed. When questioned, principal Fred Blakeney replied that "it didn't fit in with the educational demands of the students." Football, baseball, and various other educational sports, however, are still allowed on school grounds.

Blakeney also suggested that the free-flying discs posed a threat to the janitorial staff because of the



frisbees' tendency to land on the roof. The penalty for even possessing a frisbee will be suspension of the student.

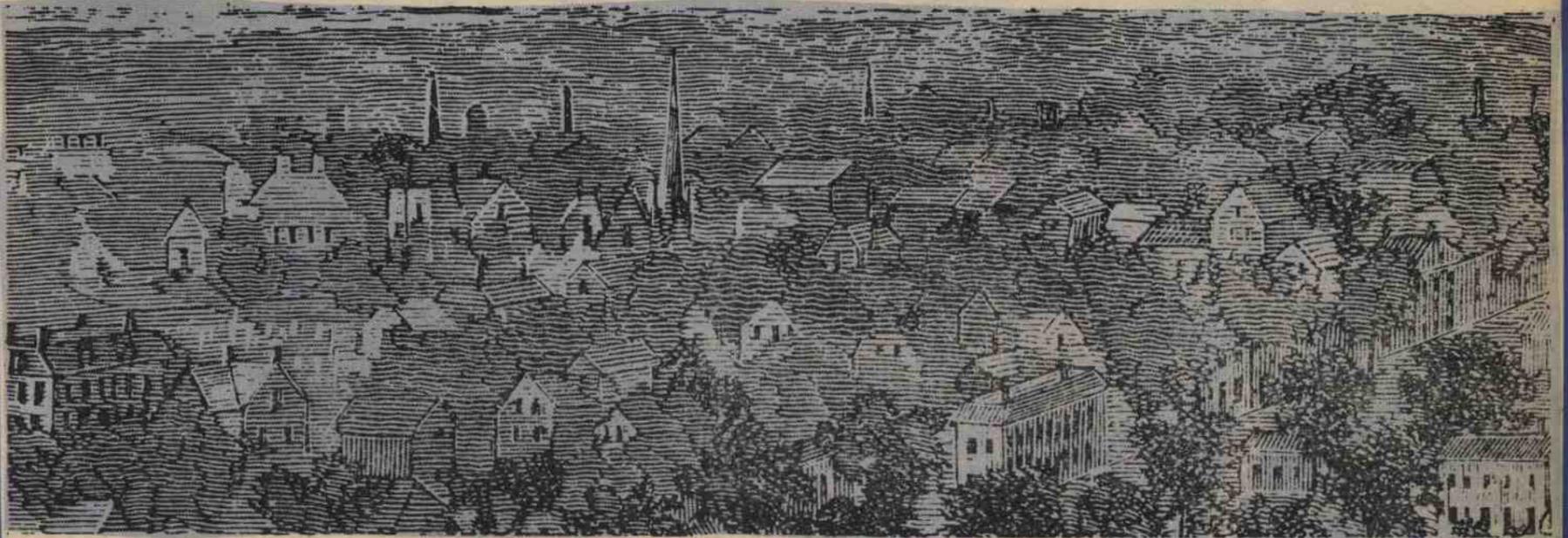
Suspension will also result if students with cigarettes cross a white line behind

which they have been coralled. The white line, which symbolizes a designated smoking area, is painted behind the school building to keep students away from the doors. Even snow or rain does not justify crossing the line, and if students need a smoke, they may have to smoke a wet cigarette.

If students are unfortunate enough to be caught with a frisbee, or a cigarette over the line, they will be assigned to suspension hall. When a student is suspended, he or she is forced to sit in a study hall an entire day, even though the student may be enrolled in an outside work-study program. Only two bathroom breaks are allowed, and the students must bring their own lunches or have them brought to the suspension hall to be eaten.

Students are taught that they have rights, but the school administration seems to think that they can take these rights away whenever they want to. School officials apparently don't care that they're teaching students what tyranny is all about.

looks like a sleepy, serene community.



look again.

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

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