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POST AMERIKAN

MAY 1975

Bloomington ... Normal



VOL. IV
No. 2

SAM
SPECIAL UNDERCOVER NARCOTICS AGENT, HE ANSWERS ONLY TO STATE'S ATTORNEY PAUL MULCH-- AND MAYBE OTHER PEOPLE WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YET.

OUR HERO RELAXES AT HOME AFTER A LONG DAY OF "SETTING UP" DOPE PUSHERS.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR NASTY REMARKS ABOUT JOHN KING.

WHAT A DAY IT'S BEEN!

YOU WANT ME TO RAT ON MY BEST FRIEND?

OBOY! RERUNS OF "MOD SQUAD" ARE ON RIGHT NOW!

IT ISN'T RATTING TO SPY ON A DEALER!

HMM! THIS CONFISCATED GRASS AIN'T HALF BAD!

ANK

RING!

THE PHONE?

SUCK!

YOU MEAN RATTING ON A DEALER IS A MORAL ACT?

HELLO!

HOPE IT ISN'T MULCH! I COULDN'T DEAL WITH HIM NOW!

ANY ACTION THAT HELPS US IS A MORAL ACT!

IZZAT YOU MOTHER? YOU AT HOME?... I'M COMING RIGHT OVER!

GEE THAT VOICE SOUNDS FAMILIAR! I WONDER WHERE...

WAIT A MINUTE!

WAT'S THIS?

SOMEONE SNEAKING UP BEHIND ME?

OOOF!

ALL RIGHT! WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

JOE STRAIT! MULTI-COUNTY-ENFORCEMENT! WE RECEIVED WORD YOU'VE BEEN SEEKING TO PURCHASE A LOT OF DOPE!

HOW COME YOU NEVER TALK LIKE A STREET PERSON?

"PURCHASE DOPE"?! YOU ASS, I'M UNDERCOVER! WAS IT YOU WHO MADE THAT STUPID PHONE CALL?

THEN WHO?...

IT WAS ME! TED UPTITE OF THE I.B.I! WE WANNA TALK TO YOU!

SO YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING HIM TOO HUH?

YEAH! HOW DID YOU GUYS GET ONTO HIM?

WHAT PHONE CALL?

WE (THE I.B.I.) HAVE WATCHED YOU FOR MONTHS!

IT'S NOT EASY BEING A COP!

IT WASN'T YOU?

YOU'VE BEEN SEEN IN THE COMPANY OF DRUG PUSHERS!

WE GOT A TIP THAT...

WOULD YOU TALK UP FOR THE BUG?

twp. meetings; state farm's flag; neighborhood fights invasion; meg informer sings; firestone; normal sewer; gay liberation;

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2.

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University Liquors, 706 W. Beaufort
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 Redbird IGA
 East Vernon (Towanda Bi-Rite)
 Minstrel Record Parlor, 311 S. Main
 Newman Center, 501 S. Main
 Student Stores, 115 North St.
 Mother Murphy's, 111½ North St.
 Ram, 101 Broadway Mall
 Al's Pipe Shop, 101 Broadway Mall
 Hendren's Grocery, 301 W. Willow
 Thomas Michael's, 108 North St.
 SW Corner, North and Fell St.
 Sugar Creek Book Co-op, 108 Beaufort
 The Gallery (right in front)
 Lobby Shop, ISU Union
 Cage, ISU Union
 Recreation Center, ISU
 Midstate Truck Plaza, Rt. 51 North
 North Rt. 51 (in front of the Falcon)
 Hottle House, 1402 S. Main

BLOOMINGTON

The Joint, 415 N. Main
 DA's Liquors, Oakland and Main
 Medusa's Bookstore, 109 W. Front
 Illinois Wesleyan Union
 News Nook, 402½ N. Main
 Book Hive, 103 W. Front
 Cake Box, 511 S. Denver
 Gaston's Barber Shop, 202½ N. Center
 Sambo's, Washington and U.S.66
 DeVary's Market, 1402 W. Market
 Harris Market, 802 N. Morris
 Hickory Pit, 920 W. Washington
 Biasi's, 217 N. Main
 Discount Den, 207 N. Main
 SW corner, Morris and Washington
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CARL BARKER



Kresge's, in downtown Bloomington, received a new wall decoration in commemoration of the Attica prison rebellion.

ABOUT US

Mail, which we more than welcome, should be mailed to: The Post-American, 108 E. Beaufort St., Normal, Illinois, 61761.

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

Decisions are made collectively by staff members at one of our regular meetings. All workers have an equal voice. The Post-American has no editor or hierarchical structure.

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

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

MEETINGS

Friday, May 2, 6:00 pm

Friday, May 9, 6:00 pm

Wed., May 14, 6:00 pm DEADLINE

Sat., May 17, 2:00 pm LAYOUT

Sun., May 18, 2:00 pm

These meetings are at the Post office, 108 E. Beaufort, Normal.

Subscriptions cost \$1.75 for twelve issues, \$3.50 for 24 issues, etc. Buy one for yourself and a friend.

You can make bread hawking the Post-- 7½¢ a copy, except for the first 50 copies on which you make only 5¢ a copy. Call 452-9221 or stop by the office.

Our number is 452-9221, or you can reach folks at 828-6885, or 828-0945.



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NORMAL PLAYS SANTA CLAUS FOR OUT-OF-TOWN LANDOWNERS

Normal's City Council jacked up the town's sewer rates late in February, in order to finance construction of a huge sewer outside the city limits.

The rate increase, protested in a petition signed by a couple hundred residents, hikes rates by 20% for small users, and 80% for large users.

One of the purposes of the huge rate increase is to finance construction of the proposed west side sewer.

The council had not discussed that sewer in several years. Some of the council members in favor of the sewer were not even on the council last time it was officially discussed.

The main proponent of the west side sewer was Councilman Schroeder, who didn't even know how many acres the sewer would serve. He guessed at 1500; actually, the proposed sewer would serve 2500 acres.

Pantagraph articles quote Councilman Godfrey asking for a list of developers who have expressed interest in the sewer. The Pantagraph quotes the city manager as admitting that two prominent developers have approached the city about the sewer, but the Pantagraph neglected to name them.

City Manager David Anderson later told the Post Amerikan that Larry Hundman and Vernon Prenzler, both big-time local developers, were interested in the west side sewer.

Prenzler and the Hundmans are involved in what has been called the "subdivision racket" in town. They are part of a coalition of lumberyard owners who subdivide real estate, and contract their own construction companies to build homes there, using materials purchased from their own lumberyards.

That operation is now under investigation by the anti-trust division of the Attorney General's Office. One of the Hundmans is involved in organizing the new Prairie State Bank in Bloomington. Presumably, Hundman could finance his development schemes by borrowing money from his own bank and thus paying the interest on the loan to himself, just as he pays building materials costs and construction costs to himself.

The Post-Amerikan interviewed Councilman Godfrey about the proposed west side sewer.

Godfrey doesn't like the proposal. He says it is unusual for the city to build a huge sewer to serve land the future of which nobody knows about. "We know nothing about what's going on out there--no plans, no agreements, no idea about what's going to be built," Godfrey said. Usually the city and a developer plan such an enterprise together, Godfrey said. Sometimes, Godfrey said, the agreements calls for the owners of property the new sewer serves to pay the sewer's cost in taxes within a certain amount of time. If the newly-developed land

does not generate the agreed-upon amount of taxes, the developer pays the difference. But the city discussed no such agreement concerning the west side sewer, Godfrey said.

Godfrey also objected to arguments that the new sewer is necessary for the town's growth. He pointed out that Normal's east side has a whole section (a lot of land) already served by a sewer. New building could take place in that area, without the city having to finance a new sewer.

Asked who the primary beneficiaries of the proposed sewer would be, Godfrey said the landowners and the developers--primarily the landowners he said. Running a sewer to raw agricultural land greatly increases its value. Godfrey guessed that the land west of Normal is currently worth about \$1600 an acre, while developed subdivision land, estimated, went for \$7,000 to \$10,000 an acre.

If Normal does build this west side sewer, Normal residents will be paying increased taxes to increase the value of land out of town. The landowners don't even have to pay taxes to the city.

Printed here is a plat map of Normal township, showing the landowners of record. The map is taken from a 1974 plat book. Outlined in black is the approximate area to be served by the proposed sewer, according to Normal engineer Sam Wylie.

Here is a 1974 plat of Normal Township. The thick bumpy line west of Normal represents the perimeter of the area which would be served by the new sewer.

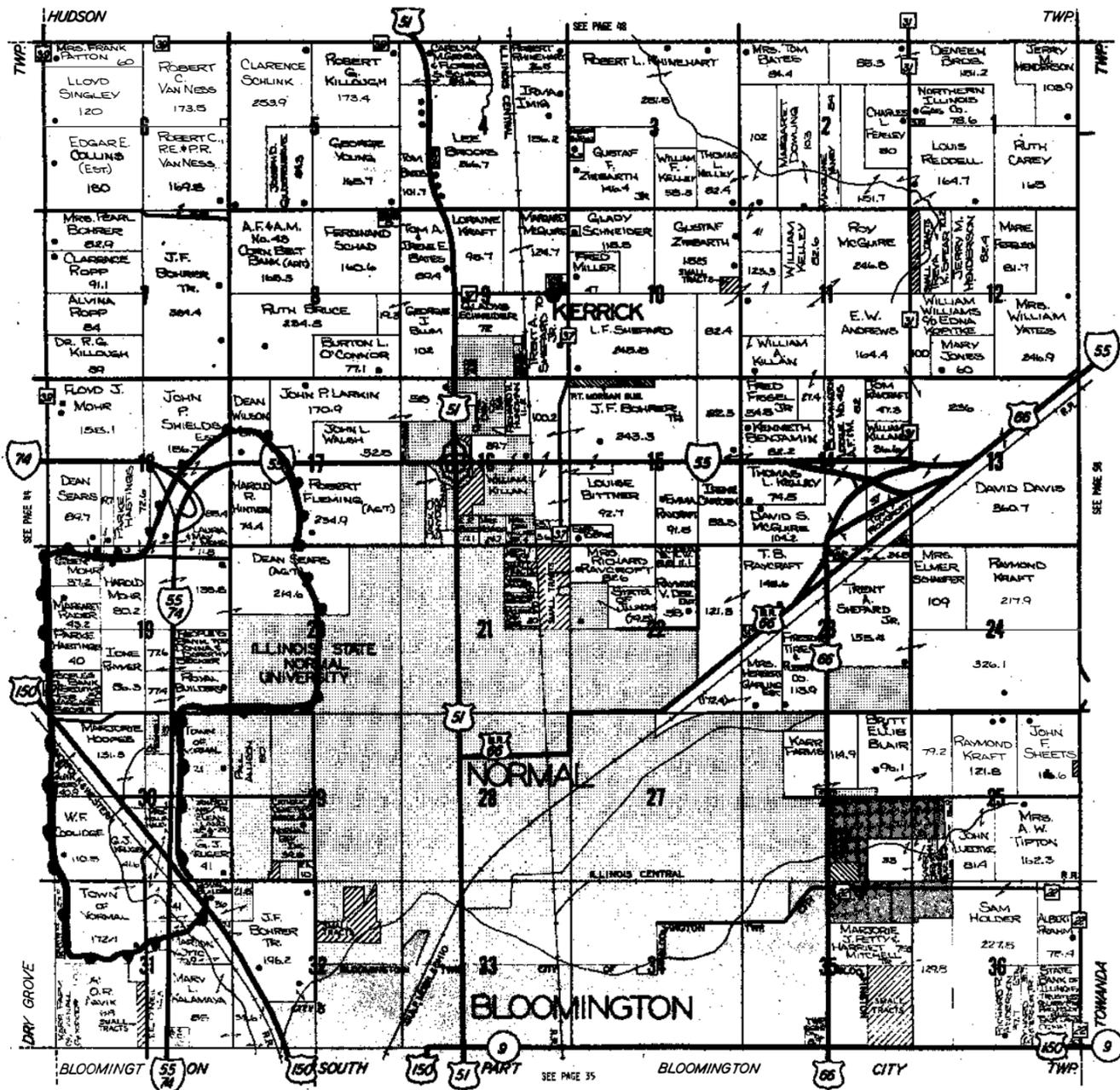
Land in this area will soar in value, and this map shows the names of landowners who will benefit.

Numbers in tracts represent acres. If a tract has no name in it, look for the ↖ crossing boundaries; it connects tracts owned by the same person.

Land ownership in this area hasn't changed much since the sewer was first proposed in 1967.

One change: the large (353 acres) listed as "Dean Sears, Agent" used to be listed under George Holder's name. Holder is married into the David Davis family.

Agent for land in the very northeast section to be served by the sewer, Robert Fleming was once Normal City Attorney. We don't know if he held that position while the Council had sewer plans drawn up in 1967.



STATE FARM'S FLAG STOLEN

Saying that State Farm had no right to the American flag, a communique signed by the Common Sense Collective claimed responsibility for the theft of State Farm's flag April 19.

The action commemorated the 200th anniversary of the battle of Lexington-Concord, the battle considered the first of the American Revolution.

The communique offered a Second Declaration of Independence, a reaffirmation of the principles of the American Revolution, and called for a Second American Revolution to smash the power of the giant corporations.

In a cover letter, the Common Sense Collective said that State Farm was selected because it is one of the top 500 corporations in America.

Here is the entire communique, which appeared at the Post-American office April 19.

200 years ago today, April 19, 1775, American patriots fired the first shots in their war against the tyranny of King George III. Those American patriots created the American flag, which symbolizes the principles for which the patriots fought.

During the American Revolution, patriots flew the American flag. Tories, those who sided with the British, did not fly the American flag.

Today, our 20th Century tories, the giant corporations, fly the American flag. They have no right to fly it. The giant corporations have done nothing but undermine the principles of the American Revolution. They are more than the tories; they are more than the British. Today's giant corporations exercise far more power over our lives than King George III ever dreamed of wielding.

"I hope we shall crush in its birth the aristocracy of our moneyed corporations, which dare already to challenge our government to a trial of strength and bid defiance to the laws of our country."

--Thomas Jefferson, 1814

The power of the corporations, only beginning in Jefferson's time, is now staggering. And their grip on the lives of our people must be broken.

We offer a second Declaration of Independence, to begin a Second American Revolution. We shall take back control of our lives from the corporations, just as we have taken back our flag.

A DECLARATION OF ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the economic bonds which have tied them to another, a decent respect for the opinions of humankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all people are created equal, that they are endowed by the Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, that to secure these rights, economic institutions are instituted among people, deriving their just power from the consent of the citizens; that whenever any economic system becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new economic system, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that economic systems long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience has shown that people are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses

and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such economic institutions and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient suffering of the American People; and such is now the necessity which compels us to alter our former economic system. The History of the present giant corporations is a History of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States. To prove this, let the facts be submitted to a candid World.

* America's Giant Corporations have seized control over the great land and resources of our country.

* They have systematically destroyed thousands of small businesses and forced millions of Americans to become wage serfs for the wealthy owners.

* They have formed shared monopolies in virtually every major retail and wholesale industry, forcing millions of consumers to pay higher and higher prices for goods and services they cannot do without--these monopoly practices being the primary cause of runaway inflation and unemployment in America.

* In the name of profit, they have expropriated billions of dollars of wealth produced by the working women and men of this country.

The Giant Corporations have

* Pursued a policy of industrial negligence which kills 14,000 workers and permanently disables 900,000 more every year.

* They have manufactured unsafe products that kill 30,000 and permanently disable 110,000 Americans each year.

* They have conspired to create a fake energy crisis in order to double the price of fuel and make record gains in profit.

* They have sold American wheat to the Russian Government, forcing a sharp rise in the cost of bread and other wheat products to the American consumer.

* They have turned our Nation into a weapons factory, wasting valuable resources that could be utilized for basic human needs.

The Giant Corporations have subverted the Constitution of the United States and the principle of Government of, by and for the people.

* By illegally financing their own candidates for local, state and national office.

* By placing their own supporters in key government and regulatory commissions and regulatory agencies.

* By using massive lobbying operations to virtually dictate the legislative direction of the State and Federal Governments, including the decisions on how our money is to be allocated.

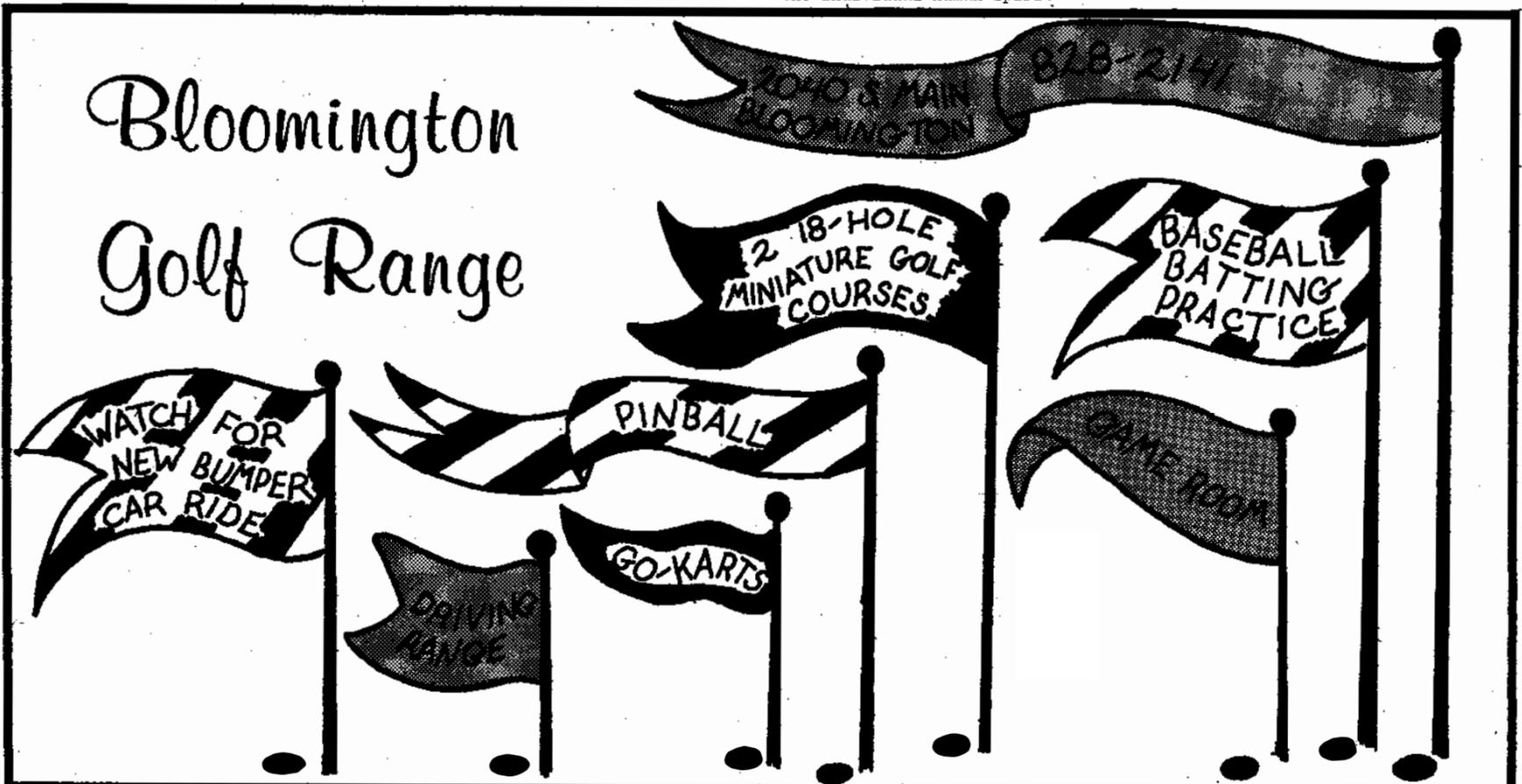
It is these same Corporate Giants

* That profess the strongest attachment to self-reliance, while pocketing billions of dollars of our tax money in the form of Government subsidies and special favors.

* That profess their commitment to preserving their country's future, while systematically destroying our natural environment.

* That herald the virtues of personal responsibility and accountability, while engaging in wholesale crime under the protection of their corporate charters.

America's giant corporations have issued a death sentence against the individual human spirit



IN BICENTENNIAL ACTION

5.



JOIN or DIE

* By forcing millions of Americans to perform mindless functions eight hours per day inside the corporate machine.

* By rewarding obedience, conformity, and dependency--and penalizing creative thinking, criticism, and independent judgment.

The Corporate Giants have violated our sacred rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness

* By denying us adequate access to the means to sustain life.

* By severely limiting our opportunities to choose the kind of work life we would like to lead.

* By denying us a range of work choices that are potentially self-fulfilling and rewarding.

The corporations have created and perpetuated a small hereditary aristocracy, with wealth and power unrivaled in the annals of recorded history.

The Corporate System has proven itself to be grossly inefficient and wasteful, while the corporate owners and managers have proven themselves to be incompetent to make prudent decisions that effect the

economic well-being of the American people.

In their obsession with profits, their lust for absolute dominion over the life of this nation, and their total disregard for the American people, Corporate owners and managers have plunged our country into its present state of economic chaos, destroyed the lives of millions of families, and threatened the very survival of the Republic.

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. An economic system, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define an absolute tyranny, is unfit to claim the loyalty and allegiance of a free and democratic people.

We, therefore, the Citizens of the United States of America, hereby call for the abolition of these giant institutions of tyranny and the establishment of new economic enterprises with new laws and safeguards to provide the equal and democratic participation of all American Citizens in the economic decisions that effect the well-being of our families, our communities, and our Nation.

In furtherance of our joint hopes and aspirations, and mindful of the lessons of History, we steadfastly adhere to the general principle that a democratic Republic can only exist to the extent that economic decision-making power is broadly exercised by the people and not delegated to a few.

Such is the necessity which compels us to act in support of decentralized economic enterprises, with control being shared jointly by the workers in the plants and by the local communities in which they operate--with similar patterns of shared representative control being exercised on a regional and National level to insure the smooth and efficient coordination of all economic operations.

For the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

--Common Sense Collective
Bloomington, Illinois
April 19, 1975

CHARGES AGAINST CITY TREASURER QUIETLY DROPPED

When Post-Amerikan worker Mark Silverstein filed criminal charges against two city officials for violating the state ethics law, the Post publicly wondered how the State's Attorney's Office would get out of prosecuting the cases.

The solution was relatively simple. Representatives from Paul Welch's office acted as if they fully intended to prosecute. At the last minute, the DA's office dropped charges, giving technical reasons that revolve around minor wording in the ethics law.

The reasons offered by the State's Attorney's Office are not valid ones for dropping the cases. If the defense proposed dropping the charges for those reasons, the judge (unless he was bought off) would have ruled against the defense.

Unfortunately, the State's Attorney has the power to drop a case whenever he wants to. He doesn't even have to give a reason. The judge does not get a chance to rule on whether the State's Attorney is dropping the case for a valid reason.

S.S. "Joe" Schneider, a Bloomington City Councilman, was charged with not reporting his 100 shares of Corn Belt Bank stock on his Statement of Economic Interests.

When the State's Attorney dropped charges against Schneider last fall, he supposedly couldn't prove that the

councilman's 100 shares of stock were worth more than \$5,000. (Schneider was not required to report less than \$5,000 worth of stock. The par value of Schneider's stock was \$10,000, and the Assessor's Office valued it at \$12,000. The State's Attorney argued that the law specifies reporting of \$5,000 worth as fair market value, nor is it the office places on

When City Treasurer Paul Krueger's case came up in late March, the State's Attorney's Office was no longer worried about proving the stock's value. Krueger owned 60 shares of Corn Belt Bank stock--less than Schneider. A witness was prepared to testify that Krueger had purchased the stock for \$104 a share, making his holding worth more than \$5,000 (and making Schneider an owner of more than \$10,000 worth.) The way the State's Attorney dismissed Krueger's case was by claiming there was no evidence that the Corn Belt Bank "did business with" the City of Bloomington during the time Krueger owned the stock. (Both Krueger and Schneider got rid of their stock shortly after the Post-Amerikan exposed their law violations in the summer of 1973.

The prosecutor said there were no deposit slips for the City's Corn Belt Bank account during Krueger's ownership of stock. Since there were no deposit slips during that period, the prosecutor said, the bank was not "doing business with" the City.

Asked if there was an existing City account at the bank during the time the City Treasurer owned Corn Belt Bank stock, the State's Attorney's Office claimed the mere existence of the account was not relevant. Only the existence of deposit slips would prove "doing business."

George Lindberg, now Comptroller of the State of Illinois, wrote the ethics law. The Post-Amerikan contacted Lindberg to ask him what he meant when he wrote the phrase "doing business with" in the ethics law. Responding to the specifics of the State's Attorney's "reason" for dismissing the Krueger case, Lindberg said that an existing account in the bank is a contractual relationship. Lindberg said that as long as the City has an account in a particular bank, then the bank and the City are "doing business," no matter how infrequently



deposits are made.

It must be difficult to be a State's Attorney. He has to pay lip service to the idea of impartial enforcement of the law. Yet he also must know that prosecuting residents of Country Club Place, prosecuting city officials, is not really what he is supposed to be doing. In real life, he knows that he is supposed to prosecute the violators of property, not the violations of the property owners. But he can't come right out and say "I am not going to prosecute these city officials because they are rich men, well respected and successful." Instead, the prosecutor must act just a little dumb, but not dumb enough that everyone will catch on. He must think up a "reason" for not prosecuting, and dress that "reason" up in the legal jargon that most people won't see through. The "reasons" must be presented with a straight serious face, so that those who see through the phony "reasons" will only conclude that the prosecutor is a bit dumb.

BALLOT STUFFING AT THE

It's a yearly event: Normal's concession to participatory democracy as dictated by statutory regulations.

Each second Tuesday of April (perhaps to avoid the embarrassment of having a sham Town Meeting on April Fool's Day) the town of Normal holds a public meeting for the purpose of reading dull and confusing reports out loud and drafting resolutions on matters relevant to the town.

It's a tradition-part of state law. As a tradition it was thought to be harmless. Sure, any resident of Normal can come in with a resolution or statement to be considered at the meeting, but the meeting itself has little power.

If the Normal Town Meeting has any meaning at all, it's as a static point in the yearly affairs of the town where people, ordinary residents, can come and air opinions.

For once the banal budget reading is dispensed with, the room becomes an open forum for resolutions and outspoken opinions.

Even if (as last year) the meeting's moderator is a close-minded puppet who refuses to allow resolutions he doesn't consider "relevant" voted upon...even if the meeting is adjourned suddenly by a coalition of frightened people too scared to even hear the full roster of resolutions brought to the meeting by concerned individuals. . . even then the mere fact that some people have had a chance to publicly air their opinions is significant. . .

And when, as in this year's meeting, some of these resolutions actually get voted upon and passed, it is a victory of sorts.

A Different Moderator

The Town Meeting opened in Citizen's Savings and Loan's basement at 2:00.

At first, with members of the press walking around the room it was difficult to tell how many actual Normal residents were present. The number, to be sure, was less than last year, when those pushing a resolution calling for Richard Nixon's impeachment had publicized the meeting and their intentions.

With the election of moderator, it became apparent that the sharp division we saw the year before in Normal was still going to be maintained. The nominations were Louis Legg, aforementioned puppet moderator of the year before, and Robert Sutherland, recent chairperson of I.S.U.'s Academic Senate.

The election, which tied in the first vote, was finally broken in favor of Sutherland, 20-19.

Legg, who had been moderator of the meeting for years, appeared a bit crimson after the vote. He was to get a lot redder in the face as the meeting progressed.

Stuffing

It was apparent already what a close division existed between voters.

With the situation thus defined, Ralph Rich, one of the supporters of Leser Legg and meetings where nobody gets to say anything dangerous, left the basement of Citizen's Savings and Loan while Sutherland was getting sworn in.

He was to return with seven Citizen's tellers following in tow.



Robert Sutherland (left) displays an open-mindedness once thought alien to Normal Town Meeting moderators.

This reporter thought it looked a bit suspicious, and since nothing interesting was going on in the meeting proper (the rote readings of the budget were being plowed through) he went over to talk to the tellers.

Six were women, all wearing the same type of outfit emblazoned with a little C.S. and L. patch over their left breast. Couldn't be more blatant, this reporter thought; some meeting stuffing is occurring.

"Hello," he suavely began, "I'm Denny Colt of the Post-American. I just noticed your sudden appearance us. . . Are you here to join the meeting?"

"Just curious," one of the older tellers snapped, turning away from me.

"uh," he persisted, "are all of you residents of Normal? Are you doing this on your lunch hour?"

"No," she replied to the first question before he was halfway through the second. . . She went back to talking with the other tellers.

This reporter went back to his seat thinking, We'll see.

Interesting Budget Matters

Robert Forbes, temporary town clerk, was reading the budget for what patronizingly was called "Pauper Aid." ("I assume you're talking about General Assistance," Sutherland was to ask, apparently sharing the same qualms about the budget's title as this reporter.)

One of the members of the meeting, Susan Sewell, asked about the balance of the Pauper Aid fund. Forbes was unable to answer the question, but one of the city workers in attendance (and voting) was.

In a few minutes, another balance was going to be hotly discussed.



Post reporter confronts Citizen's Savings and Loan employees who've suddenly entered the meeting. Employees appear unimpressed.

First, the time and place of next year's meeting came up. Citizen Ralph Smith attempted to get the time changed to 4:30, so more people could get to the meeting after work. The amendment was defeated.

So we were into "new business" now.

Mary Jane Brunt, another Normal citizen, asked about Federal Revenue: where the money had gone, and where the balance left over could go.

Ralph Smith, supporting Ms. Brunt, moved that a balance of Federal Revenue be approved for legal aid services. Since the Town Meeting had no budgetary power, the motion could only come in the form of a recommendation.

Since the matter was already being discussed by the Town Board of Auditors (the ones with the financial power), most of those present seemed to have already made up their minds on the issue. The motion passed 29-1.

The tellers were voting. The reporter glanced back. Yes - the tellers were voting.

Rape Motion

Susan Sewell, who had already asked about the Pauper Aid balance, read with a pre-written motion about rape in the community.

The motion follows:

Whereas incidents of rape and sexual assault have tremendously increased in recent years in the United States in our community, and

Whereas only one (1) out of ten (10) rapes are ever reported to the authorities according to FBI statistics, and

Whereas this community is concerned about the safety of its residents.

Therefore, be it resolved that it is the consensus of this Township meeting that all persons and organizations that presently assist and advise victims of rape and sexual assault work cooperatively toward the improved handling of these victims and strive for answers to subdue the festering epidemic of attacks that threaten all people's safety and peace of mind.

NORMAL TOWN MEETING ²

Nobody, no matter how uptight about the meeting they were, could oppose this motion.

The motion carried unanimously by voice, with no call to see if anyone abstained. (one of the city workers attending later said he abstained, because he "didn't get to see the motion beforehand.")

Legg Blows Up

Next motion, read by Ralph Smith, was a protest against House Bill 199, a bill that civil libertarians find violating the rights of juveniles. (For the text of the motion, see the adjoining story on the Bloomington Town meeting.)

"The bill," Smith said, "is even shorter than my motion here. There are simply no safeguards to protect the juvenile's rights in it."

At this point, Louis Legg, no longer able to contain himself (no doubt he would have ruled the rape motion out of order if he'd been moderator) jumped up to speak in opposition to the motion.

Pacing back and forth, arms stiffly moving to emphasize his words, face beet red, he reminded this reporter of Broderick Crawford impersonating Huey Long.

"It seems to me that the only people against this bill," he began, "are those with something to hide. That's the only kind of juvenile this. . . huh. . . motion supports. Those with something to hide. Yet my family's rights are just as important as his!"

This from a man who works with juveniles at University High School.

Someone from the meeting asked Legg about the possibility of his children's name being on file. (The bill creates a police juvenile file of anyone who has come in contact with the police, whether arrested or not.)

Legg began to stammer: "Some of these people know me from U-High" but he seemed unable to complete the statement in a coherent linear fashion. "I don't see why the motion's town business," he finished.

Smith, spokesperson for the motion, stood to speak to the motion's relevance. Then the vote was called.

It resulted in a tie, 23-23.

Interesting Sidelight

One interesting sidelight to the meeting so far is that moderator Sutherland was responsible for making the last vote a tie and that he hadn't been told before that he could even vote.

While Forbes and a cohort had been counting hands on all the previous votes and counting themselves, they neglected to tell Sutherland that he could also vote.

Later Sutherland's vote was to break a tie.

Further Controversy

An even more controversial resolution came up next, Andrea Bauer prefaced her motion with a statement that "In this country we've seen long and violent struggles by oppressed people that we'd like to avoid." She then read the following proposal.

"The township of Normal urges the Normal City Council to adopt an ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on an individual's sexual preference."



"What does that mean?" one man grunted.

"It means that people can't be discriminated against if they're homosexual," Bauer replied.

The man laughed.

(Why? What struck him funny about the motion? The fact that gay people are discriminated against? The fact that gay people live in Normal? The fact that the resolution needed to come up?)

All through the reading of the motion and brief debate a stunned silence prevailed.

Moderator Sutherland called a voice vote, but it was too confused, with a show of hands the motion passed, 23-19, and some people began looking real resentful at the way events were turning.

The Stifling Motion

So in retrospect, it seems inevitable that somebody in the meeting would try to stop such motions from ever getting off the ground at future meetings.

Ralph Rich, who you recall did his magic act by conjuring up seven tellers earlier in the meeting, tried this one:

That any motion to be brought before the Town Meeting be placed in the Township Office five days ahead of the meeting.

(Let us pause a moment and reflect on the motion. Rich was stating that his motion would prevent any surprises from being pulled on unwary members of the meeting. He still, he said, wasn't sure what that last resolution was about.)

His motion would give people time to reflect on what was going to be discussed.

But what people?

Note that Rich's motion had no proviso for the motions being posted, merely brought to the Township Office. The only people getting the benefit of Rich's motion apparently would be the Township workers, who it should be recalled, comprised nearly half of the meeting already.

Further, when several people tried to add on a provision that the motions be printed in the press itself. Rich acted confused, as if this weren't in the spirit of his motion.)

The discussion of the motion got confused with Susan Sewell adding an amendment that still allowed for new motions at the meeting, and which was getting discussed, motion or amendment.

Some sort of prize for most irrelevant insult however, has to go to a Ms. Pomeranke, one of those apparently with Township connections. In response to a question by one of the members of the meeting about whether new business would even exist if Rich's motion was passed, she said:

"Look, this motion is going to affect those of us who go to future meetings. Those of us who attend this meeting year after year. Only when it's required for a class."

Her wishful thinking was met with jeers of derision by many in the audience.

After a lengthy and complex discussion of the motion and its amendment (which largely boiled down into a conflict between those who wanted future meetings open and flexible and those who wanted it safe and controllable) the Rich motion with amendment was voted on.

Moderator Sutherland broke the tie in favor of the amendment.

With the amendment, Rich's motion was transformed into a strong recommendation that people file their motions five days ahead of time in the Township office (with no proviso as to where and how the office would post these motions.)

Hasty Adjournment

This reporter, who had been noticing some dissension among the voting tellers in the back (some had refused to vote on some motions, despite prodding by the two men counting the votes) noted unity on the final issue brought before the town meeting: the vote to adjourn.

Some people still obviously had some motions they wished to vote upon. (Susan Sewell had copies visible of a second motion she wanted to enter: a motion calling for several holidays in honor of women in U.S. History. This motion was to be approved at the Bloomington Town Meeting.) Yet these motions were never to see the light of day this year in Normal.

The motion to adjourn was up, put up by some of the more worried members of the meeting, the same ones who had spoken in favor of the Rich motion.

Once again the vote had to be done by hand, and this time the frightened people won, 20-19.

The bank workers went back to work, people filed out, and the Normal Town Meeting was over but for a few who wished to remain and put pressure on the author of the sexual preference motion. ("Where do you know of any discrimination? Can you name one person?")

This reporter looked forward to the Bloomington Town Meeting that evening where he would get to vote.

Denny Colt



Louis Legg (left) rests up before his big speech. Colleague on right appears to have indigestion.

WOODSTOCK

Dull, oppressive, frustrating, tense . . . that's the usual township meeting, from my experience. For the past two years, concerned citizens have tried to propose some relevant positions for Bloomington to take on current issues, and have been dismally voted down. Being voted down was never as frustrating as listening to the discussion on the motion; it sometimes sounded like a John Birch convention. In 1973, the old guard said that the war in Vietnam was not relevant to our township; in 1974, they said that who was president of the United States was none of our business.

In 1975, the old guard was irrelevant.

About 70 townspeople (us) showed up hoping to change the face of the routine township meeting into a public forum. About 35 others (them) showed up hoping to uphold the tradition of the routine township meeting. They knew we were coming, but their prevailing ethic of individualistic action and competition kept them from formulating an effective strategy against the "invaders." In other words, they didn't have it together. . . and the other side did.

First of all, they didn't want to believe that this motley crew actually lived in their town. They wanted to think that it was really a bunch of high spirited college kids and a few of those older pinko eggheads from the university. One fellow wanted to check everyone's IDs and another (A.W. Tompkins, of previous town meeting fame) wanted a list of names-- just for the record, of course-- although he never asked for a record of names in 1973 or 1974.

Rev. Jack Porter, elected moderator, conducted the meeting in a more orderly fashion than the previous years' moderator, William Wetzel did. This was not easy, considering the high spirits of most of those present.

Porter encouraged people with new business to sign a list so that he could be sure that each person wanting to bring up a motion would be recognized. This method is superior to that of previous years, when the town meeting would get adjourned with many motions left unsaid.

The motions and their reception are detailed in adjoining boxes.

Toward the end of the meeting, city councilperson Rich Buchanan felt compelled to comment that of course everyone realized that these motions don't really represent the people of our township. It's really ironic for Buchanan to say this, since he is supposed to represent the people of the city, but hardly anyone came out to vote for him in the last election. (see article, p.) Chuck Willer, a local cab driver, pointed out this irony, saying, "More people in this town read the POST-AMERIKAN than voted for you!" This statement is true, according to the statistics.

The circus atmosphere at the meeting clearly did not mean that the motions passed were to be taken lightly. The serious intent of the motions is evident in their content and wording.

Debbie Wiatt moved that all city agencies and officials cooperate to achieve more humane and effective treatment of rape and sexual assault victims. The motion passed unanimously. (see Normal Township article)

Sharon Cochran, Roy Arbuckle, Mary Rankin, M. Jackson, and Charlie Rice spoke in praise of the local Head Start program and solicited financial support from the city.

Charlie Rice put through a motion stating that the intent of the people of the township is in opposition to any tax increases. Irene Richter expanded on this, saying that existing tax monies should be reallocated to fund social services.

Jack Davis made the following motion:

Whereas, a considerable portion of the population of Bloomington consists of homosexual men and women (hereafter referred to as gay people); and

Whereas, it is next to impossible for gay people to find a home to rent in Bloomington without fear of being denied or evicted solely on the basis of their sexual preference; and

Whereas, it is next to impossible for gay people to find employment in Bloomington without fear of being denied or fired solely on the basis of their sexual preference, and

Whereas, it is impossible for gay people to fight this discrimination without first publicly asserting their gayness and thus opening themselves to harassment; and

Whereas, it is impossible for gay people to socialize and dance in a public place without fear for one's person and personhood; and

Whereas, one of the most basic principles of the United States of America is Liberty and Justice for All, with malice toward none,

Let it be resolved that the Township of the City of Bloomington recommends that the City Council of Bloomington ordain an ordinance prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual preference.

Many of the folks who'd been sitting in shell-shocked silence roused themselves at this one. Mayor Walt Bittner asked all the gay people in the meeting to stand up. Sue LeSeure asked all the heterosexuals and bisexuals at the meeting to stand up. Mark Silverstein asked all the men who had had extramarital affairs to stand up. Once everyone was done standing up, sitting down, and picking each other up off the floor, Bittner kind of apologized for starting such a ridiculous scene. He claimed that he only asked in order to see if there were more gay people in the audience than just the people who moved and seconded the proposal, implying that if there weren't more, the Township shouldn't deal with this issue.

Bittner, of all people, was the one to start the most riotous part of the meeting. Ms. Day pointed out to Bittner that when her resolution supporting women came up, Bittner didn't ask all the women to stand up, and therefore, his request for gay people to stand was inexcusable. The motion passed with only one "no" vote.

Francis Irvin proposed the following resolution, and it carried with only one grumpy "no" vote.

Whereas, the gathering, maintaining, and exchanging of records about the lives of individuals is increasingly jeopardizing the rights of individuals to privacy, and

Whereas, abuses, illegalities, and secrecy with respect to personal information systems in governmental and other agencies have recently been discovered at national, state, and local levels, and are the subject of serious legislative investigation, and

Whereas, a pending bill before the Illinois General Assembly includes a provision which would authorize yet another data bank woefully deficient in criteria and procedures to protect juveniles against invasion of their privacy, and

Whereas, this bill establishes a Juvenile File into which background information on juveniles (persons under age 17) can be placed at the discretion of law enforcement officers even though a juvenile need not have been arrested, charged, or convicted of a criminal offense, and to which any authorized law enforcement officer in the state has access, therefore,

Let it be resolved that these townships of Bloomington and Normal go on record as opposing House Bill 199 "Creating the Illinois Commission on Delinquency Prevention, and Amending the Unified Code of Corrections" on the grounds that the provision which maintains an "Illinois Juvenile Offenses Information File" constitutes a harmful threat to the privacy of juveniles.



TOWNSHIP

Irene Richter proposed that the Township go on record as supporting the six people arrested at the people's march on the county jail, recognizing that their civil rights were violated, and confirming the peaceful and lawful intent of the marchers at that demonstration. A few dissenters argued against this motion on the grounds that it put the Township in a position of judging who was right and who was wrong. It was pointed out to these dissenters that the city council had put out a similar statement praising and supporting the police for their actions at the same demonstration, and that Ms. Richter's statement would help give more balance to this distorted view. The resolution passed.



Chuck Willer made a statement in which he traced the causes of drug abuse to oppressive conditions of life. He asserted that the proper way to alleviate drug abuse is not to make laws against it, but to alleviate abuse of humans in our culture.

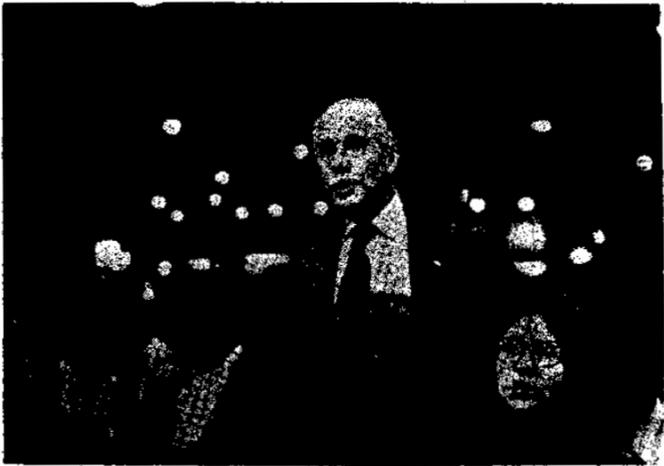
Susie Day requested that the Township add the following holidays in honor of women in U.S. history: January 9, in honor of Carrie Chapman Catt; February 15, in honor of Susan B. Anthony; July 19, to commemorate the Seneca Falls Convention; and November 12, in honor of Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Only two people voted against this resolution: A.W. Tompkins and Roscoe McFarren, both members of the County Board.

Mark Silverstein moved that states' attorney, Paul Welch, direct the local grand jury to investigate Sheriff King's atrocities in the county jail. Silverstein pointed out that the federal government has supposedly been working on the case for a year and a half and has taken no action yet; the people who were encouraged to report King's abuses to the federal government are feeling that they wasted their time. Silverstein remarked that assault is illegal locally, too; this situation could have been cleaned up here long ago, and still could be if the states attorney is willing to investigate.

Francis Irvin put through two motions supporting new social services in our area: one for a legal aid program with free or income-adjusted services, and one for a medical and dental clinic for low income people. Ms. Maxine Schultz, Township Supervisor, indicated that the present township relief program will aid in paying medical bills in emergencies, but does not pay for regular check-ups.

Pierre Roussi moved to return the budget-making power to the town meeting rather than having the Board of Auditors determine the budget. This would give the people a direct say in how their tax money is used. The motion carried.

Carol Briggs stated that the parking meters on the 300 block of Gridley Street are a constant hassle for the people who live there, and she proposed that this area be made into a 25-hour parking zone. Carl Passmore, city councilperson, told her that she should bring this problem before the next city council meeting. We'll keep an eye on the outcome of this issue.



A. W. Tompkins, member of the County Board, director of State Farm, got a taste of powerlessness.

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Ex-informer for MEG

Two issues ago, the Post-Amerikan published a special 4-page section covering the operations of undercover narcotics agents. The section focused on Central Illinois' new secret police: the Multi-county Enforcement Group (MEG), which operates in six counties.

This issue, Post readers get an inside look at our secret police, thanks to information provided by an ex-ISU student who worked as a MEG informer.

Now disenchanted with MEG, this informer spoke freely of his role in setting up friends and receiving MEG money. He even admitted to giving MEG false information to set up someone he didn't like. And he revealed some interesting details of the operations of MEG and other law enforcement agencies.

Because this informer is scared of possible reprisals by MEG secret police, we agreed not to reveal his name in print. (MEG will probably realize who he is anyway, but we will stick with our agreement.) We will call him Paul.

Paul worked with three MEG agents, who he says he knew only as Bill, Gene and Walt. These are John William Stephens, Eugene Maxwell, and Walt Hetman, all identified as MEG agents in Post-Amerikan Vol III #11.

Paul first began working as a police informer after he was caught with some marijuana in the spring of 1974. It was Paul's dope, but both he and the friend with him were charged.

At the police station, Paul was approached by an officer who suggested that things could go easier in court if he cooperated with the new narcotics unit which was forming: MEG.

Almost an ISU graduate at the time, Paul was planning to become a teacher. He was afraid of having a criminal record. He agreed to consider working for the police.

In the summer of 1974, Paul met with MEG agent Bill Stephens, head of MEG's Bloomington office. At that meeting, Paul made a deal with MEG:

Paul was supposed to introduce MEG agents to people. The MEG agents would make the dope buys from the people Paul set up. Since Paul never wanted to go to court and testify as a police informer, it was agreed that Paul would not have to make actual dope buys, nor would he have to witness any. Paul was responsible for "nailing" five people. In return, Paul would get out of his court case without a criminal record, MEG promised.

turned in friends

Paul performed his first two "nailings" in the summer of 1974. One person Paul introduced to agents lived in the outlying rural area, where Paul also lived. Paul also introduced Gene Maxwell to a house of people in Bloomington.

Paul's girlfriend lived in that Bloomington house, as well as two other women and some men. In a strange show of chivalry, Paul made MEG promise that the women in the house would not be busted. MEG agreed, Paul said.

MEG later broke that promise, according to Paul. One woman was busted for possession of one tablet of amphetamine, and Paul thought that was going too far. The woman had to pay \$800 for a lawyer, Paul said.

Paul said that agent Gene Maxwell "really got off" on working around the houseful of women in Bloomington. Paul described Gene as "a fat slob" who never related to women well.

No one at this house in Bloomington wanted to sell drugs to Gene, Paul said. But MEG agents are "really friendly," Paul point out. Gene kept socializing and bring beer over, and eventually he gained the trust of the people in the house.

Paul's girlfriend escaped getting busted when the raid finally came, but Paul thinks that's because she was lucky enough to not have any drugs at the time. Paul feels hurt that MEG's promise to not arrest the women was broken. He feels that his girlfriend would have been busted too if she had any drugs.

Paul said he started losing heart after "nailing" two people. Paul explained that he didn't quite feel right turning in his friends to the police.

Paul started stalling when MEG pressed him for more introductions. His court case kept getting postponed while MEG waited for Paul to turn in his quota of five people. Paul never fulfilled his quota, he says, and that is why he now has a conviction on his record. (Paul's case finally came up in March, and he did not get the leniency he had expected.) Paul feels sure that if he had "nailed" his five, he would not have a record today.

received money

Paul received money from MEG. Each time he introduced an agent to someone, he got \$10. Paul said he didn't want the money, but they "made" him take it. He also had to sign a receipt saying he received the money.

Paul said the agents kept encouraging him about how much money he could make as an informer. They said that after he nailed his five people, he could really rake it in.

MEG's interrogation tactics: HEAVY PRESSURE

The MEG (Multi-County Enforcement Group) squad, Central Illinois' undercover narcotics secret police, uses heavy psychological pressure to turn people into police informers. In the case reported here, a MEG agent deliberately denied bail to a defendant for the specific purpose of pressuring the arrestee to turn informer.

MEG agents arrested Jack (not his real name) last fall and charged him with delivering a controlled substance. A MEG agent took him to the Tazewell County jail in Pekin, where he was locked up. After only twenty minutes in his cell, he was called out and put in an interrogation room with MEG agent Eugene Maxwell.

Maxwell acted very friendly. He wanted Jack to help out, since MEG didn't really want Jack; they wanted bigger fish. Maxwell kept urging Jack to talk, saying it would go easier on him if he did. Maxwell wanted Jack to lead MEG agents on a drug buy that night. Jack wouldn't do it, and asked to make a phone call. Maxwell refused to allow a call. Later, without MEG agent Maxwell's knowledge, local jailers let Jack telephone. He called his parents, and they agreed to drive the forty miles to Pekin with bail.

At the jail, Jack's parents talked with Maxwell. They asked if they could write a check for bail. Maxwell as-

sured them that a check would be fine. After Jack's parents left, Maxwell showed Jack the check. Maxwell said that if Jack would make a drug buy that night, the check could be used as bail. Otherwise, Maxwell said, Jack may as well tear the check up. Checks are never allowed for payment of bail money, Maxwell said.

Jack tore the check up, and asked if he could make another phone call. Jack wanted to tell his parents that they would have to come back with cash money for bail.

Maxwell said it would be fine if Jack made a call. But, Maxwell said, prisoners can't make phone calls after nine o'clock (it was about a quarter to nine) and Jack had better call right away. Maxwell knew that Jack's parents had just left the jail for an hour's drive home, so he knew that Jack would not be able to reach them.

Later, Maxwell told Jack that an arrangement had been made with the Tazewell County Sheriff. If Jack made a drug buy for MEG that night, Jack could get out on personal recognizance bond. Also, Maxwell said, the Sheriff had agreed to keep Jack's arrest out of the newspaper, so that Jack would not risk losing his job. Jack replied that he didn't know any drug dealers. Maxwell then pulled out a list of about 25 names, and insisted that Jack knew all of them.

Maxwell said they were sure that Jack knew one of the people on the list, as MEG had information that Jack had stayed at the person's apartment. Jack told the Post-Amerikan that he had stayed at that person's apartment five years before.

After Jack's insistence on not knowing the people on the list, Maxwell brought in Dale Oltman, another MEG agent. Maxwell and Oltman played the nice-cop, bad-cop routine, with Oltman playing the nasty role.

Oltman had another list of names, but Jack said he didn't know them, either.

At one point, Oltman really got into playing the nasty cop role. He grabbed Jack and threw him out of his chair, saying he'd like to take every drug dealer and pull his hair out. Jack said that Oltman looked real disappointed when Jack didn't act aggressive when he picked himself up.

Next morning, one of the local jailers let Jack call his parents and tell them he needed cash money for bail. Apparently Jack was not supposed to be allowed to telephone. He heard Maxwell find out, and he heard Maxwell yell at the jailer.

Right afterwards, Maxwell came to Jack's cell and acted just as friendly as ever.

spills the beans

Besides the \$10 for each introduction, there are extra bonuses in the informing business.

Paul talked about the sheriff's election contest in Tazewell County in 1974. Paul heard that the Sheriff, Donahue, was offering \$150 for information leading to a cocaine bust. The money would be forthcoming as long as the Sheriff's Department got to take some credit for the raid. It would look good for re-election, Paul explained. Paul said he asked one of the MEG agents about whether the \$150 offer was real. The MEG agent said it was for real, but it wasn't to be spread around too much. It was apparently unethical.

In the summer of 1974, the Hopedale Medical Center was broken into, and drugs were stolen. Paul said that MEG agent Bill Stephens announced that \$200 would go to the informant who "nailed" the person possessing the stolen drugs.

gave false information

Paul's girlfriend (a new girlfriend) told Paul that a man in Minier had some drugs. Paul told MEG about these drugs. Paul hadn't seen the drugs himself, but told agent Stephens that he had seen them. MEG got a search warrant based on Paul's erroneous "tip." Paul said he was not required to sign an affidavit saying he had seen the drugs. Since MEG considered Paul a "reliable informant," the search warrant could be issued without Paul's testimony. MEG just went to a judge and said a "reliable informant" had stated that there were drugs at this house in Minier.

MEG didn't find the drugs they were looking for, and the person Paul had turned in was allowed to go. That person took a lie detector test which cleared him of the Hopedale Medical Center break-in.

Paul was asked if it was the \$200 reward which prompted him to falsely tell MEG he had seen drugs at this person's house. "No," Paul said, "It wasn't the money. I had a grudge against this guy. It's a dog eat dog world, you know?"

agents are "nice guys"

During his conversation with a Post reporter, Paul kept emphasizing what "nice guys" the MEG agents were. "I was really stoned (on drugs) almost all the time, and they didn't care," Paul said. The agents always refused to smoke dope with him, Paul said. Once he was riding to Pekin with Walt Hetman, and Paul suggested that they smoke some hashish that Paul had with him. Walt declined, too dedicated to stopping drugs to have some himself. But not quite dedicated enough to insist that an official MEG informer refrain from using drugs.

Sometimes it sounded like some of Paul's best times last summer were spent with MEG agents. Paul talked nostalgically of going to Delevan with Walt and playing pool for hours.

Paul said he thought the agents mostly viewed their work as just a job, but a well-paid one. Paul thinks that MEG agents get paid salary plus special bonuses for busts. Paul said they told him that a heroin bust was worth \$400-500, and a cocaine bust was worth \$150.

When he first started working for MEG, Paul felt that they didn't really know what they were doing. Paul talked about a time he and some agents went out to meet some people. There were two MEG cars; they communicated by walkie-talkie. Paul said they were cheap models available in ordinary stores. They didn't work very well, and their range wasn't good. Anyone with a similar walkie-talkie could have heard the MEG communications. Paul talked like the agents enjoyed playing around like spies.

Paul also said that the agents gave him phone numbers to call collect when he wanted to get in contact. The numbers changed several times. The last number he had for MEG was 662-1541, in the 309 area code.

That number is listed in the Bloomington phone book under MCN Association, 2205 E. Washington St. In room 405 of that building is MEG's local office. Ironically enough, one of the owners of that building is Harold Jennings, a defense lawyer who handles a lot of MEG cases.

Paul now feels like MEG screwed him. MEG did bust the women who were not supposed to be arrested. MEG also told Paul that they weren't interested in pressing felony convictions on his friends--only misdemeanors. Paul may have been naive to believe MEG's alleged intentions, but he now realizes that he set up friends for felonies. MEG also told Paul that the people he nailed would never know who did it. They do know, and Paul feels used by MEG. And Paul has a record now, and he is afraid he will never be able to teach.

absurdity

Paul's being barred from a teaching career reflects the system's absurdities on several levels. If Paul had "nailed" five people, he would have no record, and could teach. In one sense, Paul cannot teach because he did not want to become a police informer anymore.

Had Paul "nailed" his five people and gone without a record, the official justification would involve Paul's "rehabilitation." He would be considered a post-smoker who had atoned so well that he helped the police to stop others from continuing to use drugs. But the agents working with Paul knew he had never stopped using drugs. Though the agents declined Paul's offers to get high, they condoned Paul's use of drugs, and never tried to stop him.

A third level of absurdity is that pot smoking has nothing to do with fitness for teaching anyway. But the lack of both judgment and ethics implied in being a police informer should disqualify a person from teaching.

UPDATE ON MEG AND ITS AGENTS

In Post-Amerikan Vol. III #11, we published the names of 12 MEG agents. One of those named was Jeff Sielaff. The article said it was not clear if Sielaff was really working for MEG or not, since grand jury indictments showed only one buy made by him, and we could find no other information on him.

Jeff Sielaff does work for MEG; at least he did last summer. Sielaff lives with his parents at 205 Eisenhower Drive. His phone number is 452-5738. Only in his late teens, Sielaff is probably not the experienced police agent usually working for MEG. Yet a pre-sentence report in the case of People v. David Weber refers to Sielaff as "a special MEG agent." MEG documents found in the courthouse refer to Sielaff as "SE #5." MEG documents show Sielaff making a marijuana buy for MEG in July of 1974. That buy has produced a conviction, though Sielaff did not actually have to testify in court.

In late spring of 1974, Sielaff was busted for burglary and theft over \$150. Nothing has happened in those court cases since Sept. of 1974. Examination of court records shows that the case has been held in informal limbo, waiting for the State's Attorney's Office to set the trial date.

Possibly Sielaff struck a deal with MEG, and his court case is being stalled until he fulfills his end of the bargain.

* * *

Two issues ago we identified Roland Inskeep of Peoria as a MEG agent. Here is Inskeep's picture, several years old, taken when he was working as a PE coach at Woodruff High in Peoria.



* * *

Two issues ago, we printed the address and phone number of MEG's central office in Peoria. MEG has a secret satellite office in Bloomington: Room 405 of the Lincoln East Building, 2205 E. Washington St. The phone number is 662-1541. Many people busted by MEG are defended by lawyer Harold Jennings, who ironically is one of the landlords of the office MEG leases.

* * * *

Two issues ago we reported that MEG agent John William Stephens, head of MEG's Bloomington office, moved out of his trailer court the day after the MEG unit became officially active. He now lives at 1408 N. Main in Bloomington.

* * * *

We printed MEG agent Dennis Garrett's phone number last December, and he promptly changed it to a new non-published number. We now have reports that Garrett's new unlisted number is 662-3823.

* * * *

An unidentified MEG agent has been seen driving a blue late-model two-door car, 1975 Illinois license number 442-183.

NORMAL'S BIG COCAINE BUST:

an Exploration of Fraud, Farce, and Former Friends

Normal police treated themselves to an exciting break from their dull routine in late February. Late one night 15-20 Normal cops converged on a quiet suburban-looking home, searched, and arrested three woman occupants for possession of cocaine.

Most of the glory headlines for drug busts lately have been going to MEG, the six-county undercover narcs. Normal police have been left out.

Apparently trying to make better headlines, a Normal detective told the Pantagraph that 15 packets of cocaine were seized in the drug raid, which was initiated after information came from "a reliable source."

Both of the detective's statements, which the Pantagraph meekly printed, were complete fabrications.

A check of court records shows that Normal police did not seize 15 packets of any white powder. There is no way that any reasonable person examining the inventory of articles seized could conclude that police confiscated even 15 packets of suspected cocaine.

As usual, the Pantagraph simply accepted the police detective's statement at face value. Even later, when police had to file a complete list of articles seized, the Pantagraph did not bother to check the accuracy of police comments.

In early March, defense attorney Harold Jennings stated that he was upset and concerned about the "calculated PR and promo campaign" waged by MEG, the 6-county undercover narc police. Jennings was referring to MEG officials' public statements after a bust, which glorify the arrest by saying it "broke up a six-state drug ring" or something like that. Jennings says that MEG officials inflate the amount of drugs they seize and inflate the size of the drug operations they bust. This creates unfair publicity prejudicial to the defendants, Jennings says. By the time the truth is established in court, the newspapers are no longer around to counter the inflated boasts of police.

This is what happened with the Normal cocaine bust. Initial publicity claimed 15 Packets of cocaine. The truth: they didn't seize 15 packets



of an hing. Further truth: the lab tests showed that none of the substance seized was cocaine.

The lab reports showed .3 grams of speed in one container, and that's a small amount. The judge threw the case out of court.

When the Pantagraph reported the dismissal, the article merely cited "insufficient evidence" as grounds.

The police's claim to have executed the search warrant on the basis of information from "a reliable source" was also false, explained Carolyn Wehmier, one of the women busted.

The affidavit used to get the search warrant was signed by Michael Parrish, the boyfriend of one of the women living in the house. When someone other than a police agent is used to get a search warrant, the person doing the informing must be "reliable." Reliability is established by having provided correct information to police in the past. Carolyn's lawyer said Michael Parrish had no record as a police informer, and was therefore not "reliable" enough to have his information used for obtaining a search warrant.

Michael Parrish, 1301 N. East St., in Bloomington, was the police informer

Narc lovers: Michael Parrish and Kelly Zimmer. Parrish was directly responsible for this bogus drug bust. Zimmer apparently knew about it in advance, and failed to warn her roommates. She moved out of the house while her roommates were in jail.

in this case. He works at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Michael's girlfriend, Kelly Zimmer, is also a suspected informer. Kelly roomed with the 3 women who were busted. When police barged into the house, they claimed everyone who lived there was under arrest, Carolyn said.

One woman didn't come home that night, but she turned herself in the next day and was charged. Kelly Zimmer, however, never turned herself in to the police, and police did not look for her. Instead, Kelly Zimmer hurriedly moved out of the house while all her roommates were spending the night in jail. Kelly now lives at Delta Zeta Sorority House, 602 S. Fell, Normal, Carolyn said. Kelly works at Brokaw Hospital.

Carolyn says that the only drugs she and her roommates take is marijuana. (Police did seize marijuana, but did not press charges.) Carolyn said Kelly was warned before moving in that if she didn't like people smoking pot she shouldn't move in. But Kelly moved in, and even occasionally smoked with her roommates. Carolyn says she still doesn't know why her ex-roommate turned on her.

POLICE INFORMERS REVEALED

Four police informers have come to the Post-Amerikan's attention. In April 1974, their addresses and phone numbers were:

David Foley, 114 Greenwood Trailer Court, 829-5053.

Daniel Williams, 405 N. Grove, Normal, 452-9590.

James Gibson, RR1 Hudson, 726-5142.

Randy Nussbaum, 122 Greenwood Trailer Court. 828-4545.

All four made signed statements to ISU Security Police about the purchase of one ounce of marijuana from Ricky Lynn Whear. Those statements can be found in the court file of Whear's case. He recently pleaded guilty to the sale.

After the four persons above signed statements, ISU Security arranged for two of them, Foley and Nussbaum, to make another buy from Whear. ISU Security detectives drove Foley and Nussbaum into Bloomington to make the purchase. This information, too, comes from ISU security documents on file in the county courthouse.

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WE GOT OUR EYE ON YOU, BOY

13.

It was precisely 5:17 (CDT) when the suspect, one Joe Schmaltz, answered his door. Our hero, a nondescript, clean-shaven man, fortyish and clad in a perfectly pressed gray business suit, was waiting for him.

"I'm from the Federal Investigative Branch for Bureaucratic Enhancement of Reality through Sécrecy," the man in gray said with a slight, but roguish, smile as he patted the not too conspicuous bulge at his left armpit.

"Oh," the suspect said.

"May I come in for a minute?" Our hero skillfully opened the unlocked screen door and slyly placed his right foot in the projected path of the suspect's door. "We need to ask you a couple of questions."

"Are there more than one of you?" Schmaltz asked, looking around nervously.

"Uh, no," the FIBBERS agent said, glancing quickly behind the door as he strode into the suspect's living room. "Not that I know of. That is, at this time and place."

"Listen," Schmaltz said nervously. "I was planning to cancel my subscription to the Post Amerikan. I really was. I was just getting ready to write them a nasty note when you rang my doorbell."

In a flash, our hero had his notebook out. He wrote: "Joe Schmaltz, 206 S. Maple, subscribes to Post Amerikan, filthy underground newspaper."

"That's interesting," the agent said to distract the suspect's attention. "I'm glad you've come to your senses, Mister Schmaltz. But that's not why I'm here."

A Clue!

Our hero gave the suspect a steely glance.

"I must inform you that any admissions of guilt will be used against you," our up-standing agent told the suspect. Under his breath, he added, "Those dirty communists on the Supreme Court made me do it, so help me God." He took a seat on the suspect's sofa.

"Sam Ersatz gets the Post, too," Schmaltz said nervously. "Lots of people do."

The FIBBERS man, ever alert, stopped poking through the coffee table ashtray. A clue! A lead!

"Where does this radical pig of a communist live?" the agent asked circumspectly.

"I, uh, I don't know the exact address."

"You don't, eh?" the FIBBERS man said, patting the bulge again. "We have ways of making you talk."

"I'll look it up for you," Schmaltz said quickly, rushing to the telephone directory.

"No fast moves!" the FIBBERS man yelled. The suspect obediently halted.

"I was just trying to help."

"We don't need your help," the FIBBERS man snapped in a deep, masculine growl. "We'll find this Ersatz guy."

Our hero remembered something.

"Of course," he said, "we appreciate all the help that right-minded citizens intent on fighting socialism in all its ugly forms can give us."

"May I sit down?" the suspect asked deviously.

"Damned PR man," the agent muttered.

"Why certainly," he said aloud. "Make yourself at home." As he talked, the FIBBERS man rifled through the magazines on Schmaltz's coffee table. In his notebook, he wrote: "Subscribes to Newsweek, Rolling Stone. Member of ACLU. Buys rock records. Probably does heroin. Watch him!!!!!"

"But enough of these pleasantries," our hero continued. "I've got a job to do. We know you didn't vote last week and we want to know why."

"How'd you know?" the suspect blurted.

"Ah, ha!" the down-sitting hero exclaimed. "You admit it just like that. No shame at all. I thought as much."

"You didn't know."

"Of course we knew. We have our ways. You didn't think the government goes to all the trouble to mark people off the voter registration lists as they vote just to keep people from voting twice, did you?"

"Well, I, uh, I never thought about it like that before."

"Exactly!" the FIBBERS man said triumphantly. "You didn't think. You didn't even do what we told you to do. You're in big trouble, boy."

Trouble!?

"Trouble?" Schmaltz said fearfully.

"Big trouble," confirmed the fearless agent. "Did you realize that only 20 per cent of the registered voters actually exercised their privilege of voting for the man of their choice in Bloomington's City Council election? Do you know what that means, boy?"

"N-no, sir."

"I thought not," our hero said sternly. "But I'll tell you."

"When right-minded citizens don't take the time to show their support for right-minded candidates--good businessmen and such--well, it just encourages dirty riff-raff, socialists, even communists, to think they have a chance to get elected in our free, democratic, God-fearing country. Then we have to put their names on the ballot and let everybody know they exist. You wouldn't want that, would you?"

"N-no, sir."

"Good," the FIBBERS man said with gladness in his heart. "I've sort of taken a liking to you, boy. You know, after this heart-to-heart talk. So I'm going to give you a break this time and let you off easy."

"Oh, thank you, sir," the former suspect and future suspect said. "Is there any way I can ever repay your kindness?"

"A five spot, er, no. No!" our selfless hero said. "Don't mention it. Ever."

The FIBBERS man gave Schmaltz another steely, uncorruptible glance, while he checked to make sure the bulge was all right.

"But don't forget, boy," the now-rising agent said, "that freedom gives a man responsibilities, very grave responsibilities. You must not waste your hard-earned cash on the sort of trash that put out this trash."

The FIBBERS man ripped the Rolling Stone in half.

"Aahh," said Schmaltz, admiring the agent's firm, masculine strength of character.

"You ought to start attending the chapter meetings of the John Birch Society. They can help you learn the truth about these so-called liberals," our hero said. "And I'll be able to help you stay on the right-minded path since we'll be seeing each other regularly."

The Good Fight

"A good idea!" Schmaltz said with awe.

"Well, I've got to be going now--back into the cold, cruel world to fight the communists, you know."

Schmaltz lept to his feet, as if to open the door for the valiant agent.

"No, no," the FIBBERS man said. "I can let myself out. I know the place pretty well now."

He took the seven steps to the door with efficient, tax-saving speed. As he was about to step out of the Schmaltz residence, our hero paused to freely give one more piece of advice.

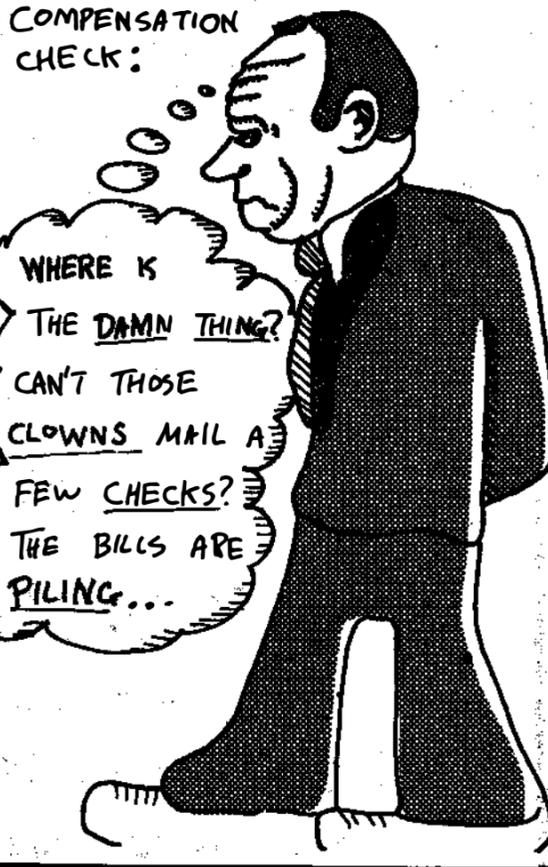
"You drop over to Pekin sometime to see Jerry LaGrow," he said with a chuckle. "He's a good man. He can give you some straight talk about the left-wing threat to our freedom-loving country. The communists are trying to corrupt our youth with drugs, you know."

"Yes, Jerry's a good ole boy," the up-standing freedom-fighter repeated as he grasped Schmaltz's hand in a solid, self-reliant, masculine grip. "It's been nice chatting with you, Mister Schmaltz."

--I.S.

THIS WEEK'S FANTASY:

GERALD FORD PACES THE ROOM NERVOUSLY WAITING FOR A LATE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION CHECK:



Kameny Urges Gay Offensive

Dr. Frank Kameny, a leading gay rights activist since the early 60's and the man who coined the phrase "gay is good," spoke in I.S.U. Hayden Auditorium on April 10th to a predominantly gay audience of about 100. A forceful staccato style of speaking, his incredibly positive humor, and an astoundingly broad knowledge of his subject, which was discrimination in employment, made his two hour talk a consistent two hour success.

Kameny began by briefly clarifying what homosexuality is and isn't for the benefit of the "non-gay" members of the audience. ("It's about time," he said, "that we gay people put the emphasis on ourselves, so I prefer to use the terms gay and non-gay rather than straight and gay.") Using the figure 10% which is the best available guess at the proportion of gay people, he explained that according to all the studies done, this 10% cuts across all other social lines. Whatever general social group you're working with, studying, being oppressed by, or oppressing, whether it's women, police officers, or legislators, 10% of it is likely to be gay.

Kameny defined homosexuality as a social minority. He listed several characteristics common to all social (rather than numerical, in order to include women) minorities and then related these common features to homosexuality. The big thing that all minorities have in common, of course, is widespread prejudice against them based on some quality of the group that the majority doesn't like, for whatever irrational reason.

At one point in his talk, Kameny explained just exactly what our Constitution and Bill of Rights mean for the individual American. As the

audience collapsed into laughter, he shouted, "They mean that no matter how obnoxious, unpopular, offensive, strange or personally revolting you choose to be, you have the undeniable right to earn a living, reside where you want to, and so forth!"



As may be inferred, Kameny was not into a defensive trip. He quoted an analogous statement that there's not a "black problem" in this country; there's a white problem. Similarly, there's not a homosexual problem, there's a heterosexual one. This aggressive, positive attitude was probably worth even more to the gay people listening than the wealth of concrete knowledge he shared.

In the body of his speech, Kameny explored the employment situation, past, present, and future. Here again, he displayed a hopeful enthusiasm that was contagious. Much

of this had to do with his personal anecdotes, describing the amusing successes he has had in dealing with those in power, like the beneficiaries of what Kameny calls the "senility system" in Congress.

One of his techniques when trying to arrange a meeting with someone who doesn't want to see you is to threaten to call that person's office constantly to tie up the phone until he or she cracks. Kameny says that nobody has lasted more than half an hour. But underlying all this is a slow steady struggle for real power. This has meant, for Kameny, determination, constant vigilance, a good offensive (as offensive as possible), and an exhaustive knowledge of how the other side works.

Kameny's experience has mostly been in Washington, D.C., where he has very recently been appointed to the Commission On Human Rights. Washington is one of only eight cities in the U.S. to have passed a law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual and affectional preference. It is probably the most comprehensive and effective of these eight laws, due primarily to the vitality of the gay rights movement in Washington.

After Kameny dealt extensively with the present gay employment situation, concentrating on civil service, the armed forces, and teaching, he sketched his ideas on the near future. He stated that the biggest struggle ahead would probably be in the area of politics, and we are just beginning to have openly gay legislators. He concluded optimistically, saying, "I've said that gay is good, and I was right. But in the years ahead, we're going to see gay get a whole lot better!"

Alice Wonder

N.F.O.T.M.

APRIL 25 - THE ORIGINAL SLOTH BAND

Ken and Chris Whitely, and Tom Evans play a dozen or so instruments in musical styles ranging from New Orleans Jazz, through Blues, big band, oldtime country, pop songs of the twenties and thirties, and novelty and jug band music. They have recently appeared at the Mariposa Festival and have produced their own record.

SUMMER FESTIVALS

Since New Friends doesn't program in the summer, we encourage people to attend the many fine summer festivals which happen all over the country. Most folk festivals are in the East. We recommend:

Mariposa Folk Festival June 20,21,22 in Toronto, Canada

For info, write:
Mariposa
329 St. George St. (Suite 4)
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5R2R2
ph. (416) 922-4871

Fox Hollow Festival 2nd week of August
Petersburg, New York

For info, write address above.

For bluegrass fans there is a festival almost every weekend within driving distance of Bloomington-Normal. For more info call 829-3710 or refer to Sing-Out magazine.

New Friends of Old Time Music

Fridays 8:00 pm
Prairie Room
ISU Union

MAY 2 - THE BRAY BROTHERS AND PAT BURTON

New Friends favorite bluegrass musicians Harley and Francis Bray will bring their friend Pat Burton for an evening of good bluegrass. What makes the evenings with the Brays enjoyable is that they usually bring a few other pickers with them, and what listeners will hear is not a "show" but a regular jam session. Harley plays banjo and Francis plays bass. Pat Burton has been playing and singing with the Brays for quite some time, and he has recently released an album on Flying Fish records.



WELL, THEY ALWAYS TELL US TO GO SOMEPLACE ELSE

Post-Note: A few weeks ago, both township meetings urged passage of ordinances prohibiting discrimination against gay people.

Some people attending the town meetings did not understand the need for an ordinance.

This article, recounting local gay people's being kicked out of a local bar, exemplifies the need for an ordinance outlawing such discrimination.

Until legislation prohibited discrimination against blacks, the most often heard excuse was, "Well, my customers don't like it." The same excuse is being offered here.

If you're heterosexual and you want to go dancing with your sweetheart and/or your friends, that's how simple it is. You just go. If you're gay and you want to go dancing, you drive to Champaign, or Peoria, or Chicago. Not that there are laws against same sex dancing in Bloomington, because there aren't. But there are ominous other things. And this is a story about what happened when a group of gay people and their supporters set out to have a good time locally, running smack up against those other things. It's a story about piggism.

We went dancing and drinking at the Someplace Else three times over the past couple months. The first time was the Thursday after Valentine's day. There were about 25 gay people and one supportive straight couple. It wasn't a very busy night, but the band was excellent, and after the tension of the first few slow dances, we began to relax and enjoy ourselves. There were a couple catcalls ("faggot!") first, but it subsided. Well, we'd been there a couple hours when the physical hassling started.

An anonymous man came up to a group of gay people dancing and told them to stop. Mistakenly, they assumed that this homophobe (someone who has an irrational deep-seated fear of homosexuals and homosexuality) was in some way connected with the management. After talking to the real assistant manager, who said that our money was just as green as anybody else's, we ignored the homophobe and kept right on dancing.

Unfortunately, he and three or four cronies began to make themselves impossible to ignore. They started shoving us around (literally), and since we were not into violence, we decided to leave. Our only retaliation was defensive. There was some fine guarding of the gay men done by some of the lesbians, who jumped between the two sets of men whenever possible. I guess it's still part of the macho ethic not to hit women, even if they're "queers." However, one man was apparently so upset that people of the same sex would want to dance together (how awful!) that he stooped so low as to shove one of the women around a little. Just another example that chivalry really is on the decline.

We tried to leave together, but things were a little disorganized. Another gay man got punched on the head a couple times. (As I walked by, I heard him muttering in surprise, "He actually HIT me...how strange!") And outside, the straight man who had been sitting with us ended up by himself with four of the homophobes who, to use the vernacular, beat him up. I'm sure it was an accident--they must have thought he was a "homo." That's small consolation for him though.

Two good things came out of that whole mess. The first was a rapid politicizing of the gay people and a real feeling of gay solidarity,

and the second was some healthy heterosexual outrage against the discrimination. Two women sitting next to us peacefully, whose dates (men) had gone off to the bar or somewhere for a few minutes, were also told, much to their surprise, that they had to stop dancing together. This was the work, of course, of that same afore-mentioned homophobe who assumed that the two women sitting alone together must be part of the gay group. The two women came up to us afterwards and said that they were shocked that we couldn't dance together without harassment.



This brings up the point that gay people are not the only people who enjoy dancing with people of the same sex. And they're not the only people who feel uncomfortable doing so. Two heterosexual women sitting together or dancing together in a bar are often assumed to be either looking for a pickup or so hard up that they couldn't get dates. As with every other liberation, gay liberation will help to eliminate other oppression also.

Anyway, we went to the Someplace Else again a couple of weeks later, this time with reinforcements. There were about 50 of us, a motley assortment of gay and straight, male and female, feminists and ex-bikers, but still very predominantly gay. Again, it wasn't a very busy night. Again, there were a few catcalls and gaping. But this time, physical abuse was at a minimum, probably because of our greater numbers and our more assertive attitude. We did get into several heated raps with other people there, and that was interesting and sometimes productive. It was all very exciting and we had a good time.

A short-lived victory. The last time we went, a couple weeks ago, there were only about 15 of us, and as the evening wore on the number declined to eight, six men and two women. And, as previously noted, it is more dangerous in many situations for men to be overtly gay than for women. Physically dangerous, that is. Well, the vocal abuse was heavy, and about 11:00 things started to really get tense. Some straight people started elbowing and pushing the gay people on the dance floor, and they were accompanied by cheers from straight people sitting nearby.

Two bouncers, about this time, told the men dancing to stop, giving no reason. The men kept dancing. The bouncers then joined the assistant manager, who was telling the gay people sitting down to leave. (By the way, one bouncer, when told to throw out the gay people, refused. He was then asked to turn over his bouncer jacket. This he did and then walked off the job.) The ass. manager said that the gay people were being disruptive (not true, except that they were dancing together, which tends to disrupt some people's heads), and that they should leave for their own good, as the crowd was becoming increasingly hostile and threatening. He also said that about fifty people, including regular customers, had left (by the way, the band was not so hot and it was a week night), some of them telling him (he claimed) that they were disgusted and nauseated by the gay people's presence. (Speaking of being disgusting, some straight people threw a rubber at the table where the gay people were sitting.)

When the gay people reminded the ass. manager that they had paid to get in, he responded that although our money is just as green as anybody else's (a favorite line of his), the offended straight people frequent the bar more often. When asked if he had an obligation to protect us, he responded that he could just go in his office, close the door and let what would happen go right ahead and happen, and if anything did he could say that we were drunk and disorderly. (Two of us hadn't been drinking at all.) And there was rowdiness, but not on our part. The gay people were handling everything with their usual dignity.

The ass. manager and bouncers left, and all the gay people sat down to think and talk. Because the atmosphere gave us no choice, we decided to leave, which we did amid jeers and clapping.

I wish that I could give this story a happy ending, but it just ain't possible. As an afterward, an ISU Vidette reporter contacted some of the gay people who had gone to the Someplace Else about a possible story. However, the Vidette, in its usual paranoid manner, refused to print what did happen because they were afraid that something bad might happen to them (a libel suit, or something) if they said that gay people were being discriminated against.

So stay tuned.

--Alice Wonder

GAY DISCRIMINATION

A group of concerned gay people is trying to combat discrimination in this area. We are in the process of establishing a file of instances of discrimination, since the first statement those in authority make when challenged is "Prove it to me." If you personally have been discriminated against or know of any cases of local discrimination based on an individual or group's sexual and affectional preference, please write to Chris Smith, 218 South Coolidge, Normal.

When citing instances of discrimination, ALL NAMES, INCLUDING NOT ONLY YOURS BUT THOSE OF EMPLOYERS, LANDLORDS, ETC., WILL BE KEPT COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL unless you have given us specific permission to use them. However, we need credibility and complete information, so please include your name and phone number or address. For information, call 452-8422. PLEASE HELP US HELP EACH OTHER. Spread the word!

RESIDENTS ORGANIZE AGAINST

POST NOTE: Over the years, more and more of Bloomington-Normal's fine old houses have been torn down to make way for "ugly" plastic-and-glue and cardboard apartment houses built by profit-hungry developers. The old houses would have lasted far longer than their cardboard replacements, besides being better looking and more pleasant to live in. But aesthetic considerations don't count for much under a system where profit determines what shall be built and how. Nor do aesthetic considerations ordinarily override what is considered a capitalist's privilege to do whatever he wishes to his property.

Two years ago a large developer purchased five old Victorian houses on the 1100 Block of East Jefferson. They were bulldozed, to make way for "development."

Residents of the neighborhood have organized to fight the developers, who now turn out to be the Post-Amerikan's old friends Albee and Waters, owners of Century 21 Real Estate.

A letter explaining the neighborhood's position on the developers was sent to the Post-Amerikan anonymously. The letter is addressed to Mrs. Arthur Williams, and it attempts to enlist her aid in the struggle against the developers. Mrs. Williams says she is not the one who sent the letter to the Post-Amerikan.

Whoever sent us the letter said:

"Having been a reader of the Post for some time, I'm aware of your interest in Albee-Waters, Century 21, etc., and thought you might want to look into this.

"Although your causes seem to be oriented to the more disadvantaged segment of the community, the elements you are fighting do affect the more prosperous too, and their hands are equally tied, and their efforts' equally frustrated. This letter explains such an instance, and efforts have been made on behalf of this neighborhood for nearly two years now, beginning with a losing battle to keep the 5 houses from being torn down, up to the present court battle.

"I hope this will arouse your interest and would appreciate your immediate attention, since as you know, one of their (Albee-Waters) most infamous tactics is to move with speed and a disregard for others."

And here is the letter from Jac Ochiltree, minus the first two paragraphs:

As you may have read in the Pantagraph recently Carol and I have joined with Sandy and Harold Gregor and Joan and Barney Schultz in a suit to halt the construction of the Jefferson Street Condominiums (Jefferson between Colton and Towanda) in the position on the lots as proposed (which ignores the deeded set-back). Although the suit itself is restricted to the matter of the

condition in the deeds, there are other equally important looming problems, and I will touch on these as well.

I am truly sorry this suit had to be entered. I have reached the age of 57 and have never before been involved in a suit against anyone. I have always felt that there are far better ways to work things out, but this situation accelerated so rapidly that there was really no other course of action.

Carol and I moved to Bloomington 16 years ago. We were, and still are, impressed with the many fine homes and residential areas here. We moved into one such area, first renting a home at 1216 East Washington, then purchasing our present home on Monroe in the Spring of 1963. The house had been in caretakers' hands for 10 years, with little care and a lot of taking. We have spent 12 years restoring and improving the structure and surroundings. The dollar investment has been heavy, but does not compare with the countless hours of labor. This is consistent with the neighborhood in general.

Proud of the area as a great place to live, and bring up our families, almost every home has undergone major restoration or additions to preserve these fine, older homes and to alter or expand them to meet changing life styles. This is certainly true in many other neighborhoods such as ours.

With such investments in time and dollars on the line, we were understandably alarmed when three years ago, a developer purchased five of these homes on Jefferson and announced a proposed condominium. Our shock was somewhat lessened, however, when the developers indicated the units would be architecturally consistent with the existing homes; would be high quality, low density, existing set-backs would be observed; and as many of the large trees as possible would remain. None the less, we were pained when we watched those irreplaceable home bulldozed to the ground and hauled away, especially one which was among the finest Victorian homes in the city.

Then the developers, for reasons unknown, abandoned their plans. Several other developers considered ways to build units both suitable and economically sound. Each, in turn, could not solve the problem.

Suddenly, on March 13th (three weeks ago) we looked up to see bulldozers clearing the sod and excavating for a foundation at 1106 East Jefferson. The new developer was said to be Century 21. A call to them by Barney Schultz for a look at the plans brought no results, and the City of Bloomington said they had on file at that time only a foundation plan.

On March 15th, Chuck Heins, (one of our neighbors at 1111 East Monroe) asked the neighbors interested to meet at his home the next afternoon, Sunday the 16th. The subject of that meeting was the potential dangerous traffic problem. New information indicated that the work in progress would be 30 three bedroom units. Space had been allotted for 47 cars, all to park off the alley between Jefferson and Monroe, without access to Jefferson.

The tone of the meeting was one of concern, not vindictiveness. At no time have we wanted to cause problems--only to avoid them, or bring about a solution. Thus, when we learned of the potential addition of this number of cars on an alley already serving 14 families (9 with sole garage access from the alley) and an alley used by 28 children adjacent to the alley plus many others from nearby blocks, we were alarmed. Further, the alley is too narrow for cars to pass. This would cause cars, when blocked, to back onto Colton or Towanda (both situations hazzardous for the person backing and for oncoming traffic). Making the alley one way is not feasible, as several of the garages can be entered from one direction only, some from the east, some from the west. Only two driveways run through from the alley to Monroe, none from the alley to Jefferson. These two private drives could become virtual highways as blocked vehicles are forced to find "escape" routes.

In addition, this volume of automobile rear ends, only a few feet from existing property, plant, and people, presents a serious pollution problem: visual, sound and chemical.

Monday, March 17th, some 25 neighbors appeared before the City Council to get an examination of this difficult and dangerous situation, and this the City agreed to do. (As of April 6th, no solution had been officially proposed, according to Chuck Heins.)

It was just before the meeting at the City Council that we saw a set of plans for the condominiums for the first time. And, it was then that we saw the "awful truth." The developer was going to solve the problem of economics by construction low cost row houses, ignoring the essence of the neighborhood. Fourteen of the 30 proposed units



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ALBEE-WATERS ATTEMPTS TO DESTROY NEIGHBORHOOD

were to be approximately 22 feet from the front lot line, ignoring the original deeds for those lots in the David Davis Third Addition which required that the front of each house "and any other house, or houses to be built" will set back 38 feet. The Jefferson Condominiums, to be higher than the top of the second story windows of the Schultz and Gregor homes, would be built approximately 7 feet from their side lot line, and 16 to 18 feet in front of their homes, blocking the sight and light, presenting their front lawns with a row of backsides. And, in the case of the Schultz's, forcing them to back their cars to the sidewalk before they can see car or pedestrian traffic.

We are being represented in this matter by David Davis, V. or David, Jr., as many of you call him. While we have several other fine attorneys in the neighborhood, we selected David because his family originally laid out the Addition, and David and Dave Senior have lived in the neighborhood all their lives. We knew David would take a special interest in our concern that the intent of the deed restrictions be met.

On the days following, the developer continued to build forms, then pour footings. This despite suggestions by officials of the Building Safety Department that further construction be withheld until the alley traffic matter had been examined and a recommendation made. The City could not legally stop the construction, they advised, as the foundation was within zone requirements and the set-back was a civil matter.

On inquiry, the City Building people supplied the information that the only permit extant was for the foundation only of a single building at the 1106 address. It was issued to W E B Apex, Inc. and no other permits had been granted.

On Wednesday, April 2, with deeds and photographs of the neighborhood, and specific details of the construction, we appeared before Judge Wendell Oliver. There, Mr. William Wetzal, representing W E B Apex, indicated they had no interest whatsoever in the venture and asked to be dismissed from the case. Mr. Darrell Hartweg, representing the Bank of Illinois, accepted the suit as defendant, and Mr. Davis accepted this change. After discussion in the Judge's chambers, a continuance of the condition that construction be stopped until April 11th was granted. We will appear before him again on that date.

There are several odd things about all of this. W E B Apex said they had no interest in the matter, either as contractors, or owners, having divested that interest to John Albee and Co. on March 13th, the day of, but before, the foundation work began. The City Building Safety Department advised me on April 3rd that the only permit was still the one issued to W E B Apex, Inc. and no other permits had been issued to, or applied for by John Albee and Co., Century 21, or any other person or company. Thus, with W E B Apex out before the digging began, and no other permits having been granted, all construction to date appears to have been done without a valid permit. The Director of the Building Safety Department does not seem to be at all pleased about such activity. He told me that upon notification of the W E B position and the comments and actions in the court, no other construction will proceed, pending the outcome of the hearing on the 11th, and the study of the traffic and safety problems by the City.

Another curiosity: The developer has said in his printed promotional literature that the units will be single family "Condominiums". The printed work "Condominiums" on the plans filed with City now has been crossed out, and the word "Apartment" written in. Perhaps this has little significance, perhaps large meaning.

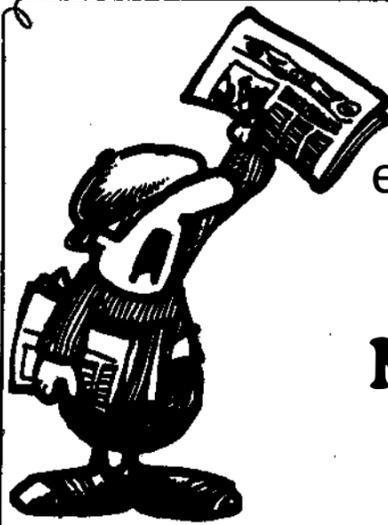
To summarize: Here we have a proposed complex, started with a questionable or non-existent permit, that disregards the aesthetics and nature and tradition of the neighborhood, that shrugs off the deed set-backs, that gives no apparent thought to the convenience or safety



of the current residents, and little or none to future occupants even of its own units. The abortive plan is **appalling** in its flagrant disrespect for those living around it, for the City officials, and for the nature of fine residential areas throughout the city.

We wish no harm or loss to anyone. A proper development would be welcome. Certainly any architect worth his A.I.A. could solve this to the benefit of all. If the developer would accept the challenge he could create something here that would be a model for the entire community, for similar situations throughout the nation, rather than this instant blight fraught with difficulties and danger.

We need your suggestions and help of you and your many friends interested in improving, rather than downgrading our living atmosphere. After all, if this is allowed to happen here, where will it occur next?



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World Magazine/APPF

To the Post Staff:

Just got the March issue, and was surprised to recognize a name in your Neighborhood Marc article. If it's the same person, I may have some more background information.

Roland Inskip was the name of my high school gym teacher my freshman year (Peoria Woodruff)--the 1967-68 school year. It was his first year as a teacher, having just graduated from Bradley Univ. He had been the quarterback on the Bradley football team before the sport was dropped. After one year at Woodruff he left for a coaching job at Bergan High School. Your article said that he was a dean at Bergan--a very logical job progression.

EDITORIALS HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH

Post-Amerikan:

Your recent cover depicting the plight of a man who had turned into a vegetable thru excessive marijuana use could have been rewritten to alert readers of the effects of a more horrendous vice; the reading of Pantagraph editorials.

Die-hard editorial readers have in the past few months shown all sorts of horrible psychological aberrations. One acquaintance of ours (not, admittedly, a close one) became convinced he was a gerbil after a steady dosage of Pantagraph opinions, notably those of Harold Liston. This reader's lot is sad one today. Few friends will invite him over for fear that he will leave pellets all over the house.

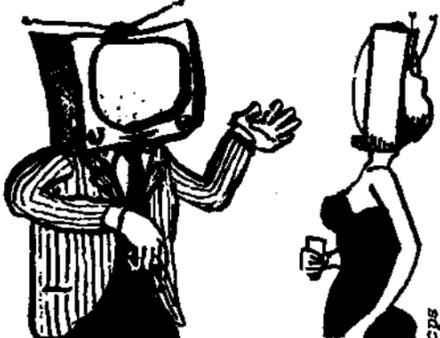
A more extreme and infinitely sadder case, however, is that of a lady in Towanda who was a steady reader of William F. Buckley. The apparent results of this addiction would produce shudders in even the most insensitive soul. This woman now thinks she is a Boston school bus and spends all her time looking for little black kids to run over.

Those readers who keep away from the "harder stuff" and who may only occasionally imbibe a short editorial about marijuana laws might think themselves immuned, but this may not be the case. Several "occasional" readers have been seen performing equally outrageously; chasing after automobiles, digging up flowers with their hind legs, shredding up newspapers, spitting out non sequitars, voting for John King, and indulging in other lunatic activity.

Because all the research isn't in, it would be unscientific to emphatically state that such behavior categorically results from reading the Pantagraph's propaganda. Eric Sevareid has been known to stimulate similar behavior.

Still, it's a good idea to let your readers know the risks involved. If one family is saved the embarrassment of having one of their members "change" into some animal or flower pot or what-have-you, then this letter will have been worthwhile.

Davis Merwin



Your article on the MEG phone number is a bit melodramatic and therefore tends to lose some of its effectiveness. Two main reasons:

1) S/A would never stand for "secret agent", not even if you're James Bond. If you want something to be secret, you never give it that for an official title--it would invite curiosity. S/A probably stands for "special agent"--which is what the MEG people would be. And a title like that could cover a multitude of sins (narc, or even just a special security guard of some sort).

2) A secretary answering a phone with the extension number does not in the least imply something secretive. It's a very common practice to answer with the extension number, especially with large switchboard operations (gov't, large private corporations, universities, etc.) I'm an operator (both Directory Assistance and Toll Board) and have found this out by experience. It's shorter to say, and saves thinking up several thousand names, for each of several thousand extensions.

One tip, though, as an operator: there is no way to get non-published numbers from Directory Assistance, since they don't have them. But, they will occasionally appear in church directories, or in school directories (under the children's names)--if you have access to those. Non-published numbers can only be given out by the people that have them, and they will frequently give them out to clubs, etc. Directory Assistance will sometimes give out addresses (depends on the lo-

cal office policy; Boulder will, Denver won't). Even if they don't give them out, they are permitted to say yes or no if the person calling in can give an address. Also check under first initial (J. or G. LaGrow) or other forms of the name (Jerry instead of Gerald LaGrow). Also under wife's name or initial.

I question the Feminist Vegetarian bit. I'm a vegetarian (1 1/2 years), as is my wife. Adding a political nature to being a vegetarian seems to be stretching things a bit--freeing enslaved cows? The question seems to be fairly non-political--either the practical view of health or nutrition, or the moral view of life being sacred. I'd be interested to know Janet's definition of the term.

For those of your readers and staff who are vegetarians, I may be able to provide some more information (articles or recipes). Boulder in general is more into vegetarianism than the midwest, and the information is easier to get.

Rick Lucas
Boulder, Colorado

VIETNAM DEBACLE

Dear Post-Amerikan:

Recently President Ford requested 722 million dollars in aid to President Thieu and his government. While President Ford has talked with idealistic references to "freedom" and "humanitarian goals," he hasn't lifted a finger to protest Thieu's detention of over 100,000 political prisoners (the statistic is from a U.N. affiliate, Amnesty International), nor did Ford protest the heavy censorship of the press by Thieu, including the forced closing of many papers that were too critical of him or his systematic and illegal (under international law) torture of thousands of prisoners, non-communists as well as communists. Ford did not bother to protest Nixon's massive bombing of Hanoi's residential districts in December 1972, bombing which destroyed completely North Vietnam's largest hospital, a 24 building complex, called Bach Mai. Ford has never offered to help these orphans, whose status is a direct result of U.S. bombing, although the 1973 Peace Accords pledge the U.S. to pay reparations to North Vietnam for reconstruction.

The U.S. could have used its money (aid) to pressure the Thieu government to become more democratic, telling Thieu that we would not continue to aid him if he did not sponsor truly democratic elections, allow to his people freedom of the press and speech, and abolish the tiger cages and torture of political prisoners once and for all. This would have been reasonable, completely within our power, but we didn't do it. To all appearances, our government does not intend to do it either.

Ford is extremely hypocritical when he talks about North Vietnamese violations of the 1973 Peace Accords. Ford does not complain when South Vietnam continues to hold thousands of political prisoners, contrary to the accords, which stipulated their immediate release, or when it denies its citizens basic civil liberties, which the accord also stipulates. Thieu has increased his arm supply, and continually bombed and attacked PRG controlled areas, violating

the accords and the ceasefire soon after they were signed. It is a fact that U.W. money and technology built the tiger cages and finances the thousands of secret police who daily harass Vietnamese people, putting them in jail for years for crimes such as "advocating neutralism." Thieu has never held free elections, which he promised in the accords. In the last election in 1967, the first runerup was harassed throughout his campaign, as reported in Parade magazine, his statements critical of Thieu were not allowed in the heavily censored press, and when he received 35% of the vote in an 8 man race despite all these things he was arrested.

The Pentagon claim that North Vietnam has also violated the accords, alleging military build-ups beyond the pre-accord levels. But certainly the one-sided picture Ford has drawn of the conflict is incorrect. The South Vietnamese army currently expends 770 tons of munitions per day, while the PRG only expends about 10 tons of munitions per day. Why is the PRG winning? One answer is desertions from the South Vietnamese army, which are over 25% annually according to the Saigon command, which would underestimate it if anything. The Saigon army has been described as "demoralized at the lower levels and thoroughly corrupt at the highest."

Urban opposition to President Thieu is steadily increasing. Prominent Catholic and Bhuddist leaders, including those of the right wing of the political spectrum, have demanded his resignation. Why do we continue to support this completely discredited leader?

Dave Burdette
303 W. Willow
Normal, Illinois 61761

P.S. The bombing by Saigon of newly relinquished territories, and the looting, pillage, and assaults by the fleeing Saigon troops, are also major factors in the influx of refugees; it is indeed an irony that Ford would support increasing military aid while Saigon uses this same money to help create the problem he decries (the refugee problem).

letters

The Post-Amerikan more than welcomes letters from the readers. Send them to 108 E. Beaufort in Normal, and don't worry about the word limit that most newspapers have. When a letter is longer than the traditional letter-to-the-editor, we often give it a headline and lay it out like a regular article. So write to us!

EDUCATION AT I.S.U.

As I have witnessed the failures and incompletes, and seen those who wanted knowledge ground underfoot, I despised the denials of, "We don't know"; questions of "What do you want?" were the only responses to my queries. Numbers were important. Seating was important. Content, quality, and speculation were supposed to come later. They never did.

When I started my schooling, I believed these professors knew and would speak well. Speak they did. And speaking with a tireless drone, they dimmed the young light. That burning heart of mine lacked sustenance for my wants, the need for humane knowledge, I found only ledger books. I found only the understanding of how to file the already filed; the understanding of how to die by exploiting the decaying. If this is knowledge, then let us don monkish cloth and retire to cells of ignorance.

We as a society must evolve more than a simple policy of acceptance, and as usual we are our own worst enemy. In the late 60's Bob Sutherland suggested that our duty was to open the university, and the excitement of those times, the exhilaration of many voices speaking, left us confused. So we, in imitation of our imperfect selves (good intentions aside), fell to dogma. Liberal, Fascistic, communistic, and anarchistic camps were formed, and we spent the remainder of our energies squabbling like dogs over a bone. The prizes went begging. And so education was taken by default by the usual run of empire builders masturbating fantasies of personal kingdoms with fiefs galore.

So the encompassing politics of Academia remain situated on the back of the dinosaur which is sinking into the tar pits. Money rewarding itself is still the business of the day. If Dr. Budig recognizes your statement you will get much credit. As one administrator said, "ISU is in the business of producing credit hours." And knowledge thus dies. Get your degrees and get your certification. But make no claims about your learning, for we should not bear false witness.

I started school and was successful. In all grades thru 12, I was successful. Into college (the great awakener) I was successful. Yet a disquiet fell upon me. It made no sense. Professors giving a good line cannot give me credibility; only my creativity can, and that was denied. Many times I went to that trough for drink, yet I could not, for bracken water is not to my taste. I cannot give you a point-by-point refutation of Academics, for that disease is not my choice. If you wish an example, look to your hearts. There you shall find it.

Have you had enough of vituperative thoughts? Do you wish meats? Look at the one next to you, eyes dead, yet seemingly attentive. S(he) doesn't want you next to him. You are another number. Don't you see-- you're in his way. It's not your choice, I know, but you will sit and let it happen.

--- Philander Soule

MORE ON CABLE TV

Post-Amerikan:

Regarding your article on Cable TV (April issue). You make a good point. Subscribers to Cable are often ripped off, but have you noticed it is regularly (only?) by Channel 19, WRAU-TV in Peoria? Channel 19 blanks out Chicago stations because Channel 19 runs the same programs--perhaps up to four weeks later, when something like a timely Phil Donahue ceases to be news. They also blank out Channel 17 in Decatur, usually when the same programs are being shown, but not always. Several nights ago we settled to watch a re-run of "Good Times" on 17, ended up with a show on gardening for children on 19. It seems that 19 has an acute paranoia that we Bloomingtonians might inadvertently miss an ad for a Peoria business none of us patronize anyway.

We have complained to Cable of Bloomington about this, and I think it only fair to say that they are as upset about this FCC ruling as we are. It does them no good to give shoddy service to dissatisfied customers. The best bet is to continue putting down the five bucks, and write to the FCC, and maybe, though it has never worked for anyone I know, complain to WRAU (Bob Rice, station manager, Creve Coeur).

Incidentally, to ad to your "Good Numbers" section: Independent VW of Normal, a couple of really terrific hard-working kids who have rescued us more than once from the nightmarish threat of having to take our precious Ghia to the ghoul at Volkswagen of Bloomington. Their number is 452-0531.

Best of luck for a fifth great muck-raking year!
--Anne Norton, Normal.

Carrot lament '9.

Dear Post:

I can sympathize with Sam Ersatz's plight because I, too, became a carrot after only one month of heavy smoking, BUT I LEARNED MY LESSON WELL!!!

My problem is this:

I'd like to warn all the other unsuspecting people who might suddenly find themselves long and orange. How does a carrot arrange a lecture tour?

Yours truly,
Concerned Carrot

Black Veterans Seek Contributions

Dear Friends and Comrades:

Because of circumstances beyond our control, members and administrators of Redd Williams Post #163 are without adequate housing facilities in which to carry out our business meetings. We need our own facilities in order to serve veterans of war in securing hospital care; for offering charitable services for the aged, disabled, and the homeless; and for programs to uplift the youth of our community and make them useful citizens.

Although Louis E. Davis Post #56 has offered the use of a portion of their facilities to conduct our business meetings, a very generous offer for which we are sincerely appreciative, we feel that we must acquire our own facilities to conduct our community services.

Accordingly, we are starting a drive to acquire the funds to own and operate our American Legion facilities. We realize that this is a major undertaking. Therefore, we are asking for your support in this endeavor. We would appreciate any contributions or input. Send contributions to Redd Williams Post #163 Building Fund, c/o Gaston's Barber Shop, 202 1/2 N. Center, or c/o Peoples Bank, 120 N. Center, in Bloomington.

--Johnnie B. Lindsey, Post Commander
Robert L. Gaston, Adjutant

What? The Post-Amerikan needs money? James, get my checkbook!



Seriously, folks, the Post-Amerikan really needs money. Being the kind of paper we are, we don't generate enough money to meet our expenses: rent, printing costs, the salary of our full-time worker, plus regular smaller expenses. Our income comes from ads and sales of the paper, and it's not enough. With summer coming, we'll be in even worse shape, since our ad income usually drops drastically during the summer.

We are depending on our readers, those who feel an alternative newspaper is good for the community. If you can send at least \$20, you get a lifetime subscription to the Post. Send donations to:

Post-Amerikan
108 E. Beaufort St.
Normal, Ill. 61761

Firestone workers knock Post story

Post-Amerikan:

This letter is in response to Jeremy Timmens' article in the April issue of the Post-Amerikan.

I am an employee of the Normal Firestone plant. I don't agree with the impression Mr. Timmens projects about the working conditions of our plant. Ninety per cent of the material was half truths or downright false. "Jr." was not injured in the exact manner described. He was using a chain hoist, but not to pull a tire off a machine. The employee was performing an established work procedure called pulling end segments. When this is done in the proper way, a worker should not be injured.

When an employee is on light duty he is given tasks which will not interfere with or worsen the injury. The impression given was that "Jr." returned to nearly his regular job. This was not the case.

On the subject of shift changes, at least one was at the employee's request. Also, in the story references were made to "Jr." doing work which should have been reserved for a janitor. All employees may be required to perform housekeeping chores in their work areas. This was not a punishment for this particular person. As far as "Jr." working in the path of heavy machines, it was made to sound worse than it really was. In the area where he was working there was only one fork

truck in operation, and the driver knew "Jr." was in the area.

On the issue of insubordination, I personally witnessed one incident when "Jr." yelled obscenities at a supervisor. This is not part of the grievance procedure.

The union members voted at an open regularly scheduled monthly meeting not to list "Jr."s case for arbitration. Arbitration is a costly matter, and the employee involved did not take the time to come to the meeting and present his story to the union membership.

Later in the article, Mr. Timmens goes on to talk about the plant and tire builders in general. I can speak first-hand because I have been a tire builder for over two years. The rate of accidents is high, but most are not serious. The majority of injuries are minor cuts and scrapes. We work on an incentive program; that is, the more we produce, the more we can earn. Builders cannot be forced to produce over 100%. If we do work at over 100% it is to our advantage. The rate is entirely up to the individual. There is no quota system involved with tire building.

I DON'T THINK THE REPORTER RESEARCHED ENOUGH INTO THE STORY.

Did he talk to management or union officials? Did he talk to other workers? As far as union stewards going

unscathed, he did not look into the matter. I am chief steward on the 3rd shift and have received two reprimands. On the other hand I have also received a letter of commendation. If anything, union officers are watched closer than anyone.

The grievance procedure was not correctly described in the article. If the reporter took the time to look up the definition of the standard work day, he should also have had time to look into the correct steps of the grievance procedure.

I think the picture painted depicting the working conditions of this plant is not entirely accurate. These are the views of two men: "Jr." and "Sam." There are over three hundred workers at this plant--talk to a few more. I'll admit everything isn't rosy, but we are trying to work it out. The union officers do not sit downtown and smoke \$2.00 cigars. They work in the plant right along with the rest of us.

LET'S GET THE STORY STRAIGHT!

--Rick L. Vandergraft,
Union Steward, third shift

Below are just a few people who feel the same way I do:

(Twenty-five signatures follow. This typist can't read all the names, so instead of leaving a few out, I'm leaving all of them out.)

REPLY TO WORKERS' LETTER

First, take a look at who signed this letter, which Post readers can't do because we couldn't read all the names. Five of the readable names are management supervisors, not ordinary workers: Fred Kagy, Ronald Fever, Robert Olson, Leo Embry, and Craig Vallowe. Ronald Fever is the supervisor who fired Jr. for not taking a lunch break immediately. Other signatures are union officials, who naturally want to defend their reasons for not taking Jr.'s case all the way through the grievance procedure.

Second, the letter contends that if Jr. had been pulling end segments in the proper way, he would not have been injured. The letter ignores what Sam said last issue--that violating strict production procedures is unofficially condoned at Firestone. Only sometimes, Sam said, do supervisors enforce the "proper way" of performing certain work. Other times supervisors look the other way when workers take short-cuts. We have learned that Jr. was injured performing work in the same manner that most people usually do it, even though it is technically not the proper method.

Third, the paragraph about Jr. being placed on light duty is not really applicable. He never was returned to his original job. Our source said that the letter was apparently written by someone who was "pretty hot under the collar" at the time.

Fourth, though the letter says that Jr. yelled obscenities at his supervisor, that is not the reason he was fired. Though the supervisor may have given Jr. a break by overlooking his earlier blow-up, the insubordination Jr. was fired for was not taking a lunch break immediately when ordered to.

Fifth, the letter suggests that there is no quota. But in the same breath the writer says that workers who produce over 100% can earn more. 100% of what? Our source indicated that there is a quota base of some sort which workers are expected to maintain, and production over quota is rewarded. Our source says that when supervisors need more production, they overlook time-consuming safety procedures, unofficially encouraging workers to risk more accidents for more bonus money. While the letter writer seems to personally believe the risks are worth the money, the existence of an accident-encouraging work system remains.

Sixth, this reporter felt no need to speak with management, whose role is to squeeze higher and higher profits out of the plant, and whose interests are often opposed to the workers. (The highest Firestone management types even socialize with Richard Nixon--see adjoining story). It is necessary to know the truth about what happens with

human beings in the workplace, and somehow management does not seem likely to be the source of that truth.

--Jeremy Timmens

The Post would like to offer space for a forum on your workplace in the community. If you don't like it, or if you do, drop us a line and tell us about it. The truth won't be known if the facts are hidden.

Firestone Execs Socialize with Nixon

(LNS)--Ex-president Nixon took his first real social evening out since his presidential pardon, when he attended an 11-couple party in March thrown at the 200 acre Palm Springs estate of Walter Annenburg, his former Ambassador to Great Britain.

Along with Firestone and Standard Oil executives, the guests included Ronald Reagan, Bob Hope, and Nixon standbys Rosemary Woods and Ronald Ziegler. They feasted on Iranian caviar and Russian vodka.

UNION OFFICIALS TALK ABOUT FIRESTONE

Post note: Last month the Post-Amerikan ran a two-page story about Firestone, reflecting the views and experiences of a former and a present employee. The responses we received were astounding, and very confusing. We intended to provide an open forum for local workers to discuss their workplaces. Though most of the Firestone workers' criticism struck directly at management, they also expressed some frustration with the union, United Rubber, Cork Linoleum, and Plastic Workers Union Local 787.

The union became defensive. First, we received the letter printed elsewhere on this page. Then, this reporter was contacted by Jim Schuneman, a tire-builder, who arranged a meeting with the union president and a chief steward. This reporter gained additional understanding of union problems, but a number of questions remain unanswered. Part I of this article deals with the union's concerns. Part II relates the additional input of another Firestone worker.

Local 787 president Ralph Walden is upset that anyone felt the union is a "paper-faced union," or that he is "somewhat intimidated" about struggling with workers' problems.

Intimidation, Walden explained, is simply not the explanation for any in

action--the union's hands are often tied, either by the legalistic framework it must work in, by money, or both.

the contract

Walden said Sam (a worker interviewed by the Post last issue) probably felt



dissatisfied with the union because Firestone does violate the contract. If arbitration becomes the only solution to a grievance, money problems force the union to be selective in what cases are voted for arbitration which costs the union \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Like most unions, Local 787 is bound by a "no-strike" clause in the contract. If a wildcat strike develops, Walden insisted, all the company has to do is file an injunction to force the strike to end. And the union is fined for every work day the plant is shut down.

Walden talked about a man who had broken his foot, but was still asked to finish his shift. The union couldn't do anything but file a grievance later. Despite company violations of the contract, the grievance procedure can only react to the company; nothing prevents the company from pulling fast ones.

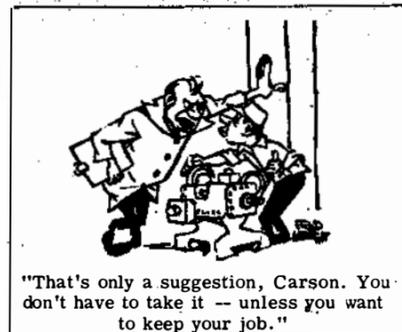
It seems that workers' criticisms of the union really boil down to criticisms of the legalistic and bureaucratic framework the union works in.

Signing a "no-strike" contract forces the union into being a policeman for management. The union works to prevent anger and frustration from being channeled into immediate direct action like a sitdown. The union works with the grievance procedure, a drawn-out bureaucratic process. And high arbitration costs stop the union from resolving some of the grievances filed.

When asked what changes Walden wanted in the contract, he opened a worn copy of the contract and pointed out pages and pages of notes in the margins. Not getting specific, Walden maintained that "these notes refer to changes I want to see."

participation

"It's up to every member to be responsible for what's in the contract," Walden said. But he acknowledged that rank and file participation in union meetings is low. He didn't quite say why. Tire-builder Schuneman suggested that most workers don't want to risk a potential loss of pay from an extended strike over contract provisions, so they avoid taking a united stand on issues that affect them.



A worker we spoke with said that the fact that only 15-20 workers come to union meetings shows that the union offers little to interest them.

Walden thought the conservative anti-union bias in the Twin-Cities works against building an active strong union. Walden emphatically wished that active participation would materialize for the union's sake.

Jr.'s case

Referring directly to other criticism in last month's Post, Walden said that union stewards do not avoid harassment by supervisors. Schuneman and the chief steward present echoed the claim. "If anything," Schuneman said, "union stewards and representatives are hassled more frequently."

Jr.'s claims last month were disputed, too.



continued on
next page

FIRESTONE: RACISM AND SEXISM IN HIRING

POST NOTE: Since Firestone has become a subject of discussion, we are reprinting an older article we once ran.

Written by an employee in personnel, this story was printed in Post-Amerikan Vol. I #9, October, 1972. We do not know if Firestone has changed its practices since then.

If you are black or a woman and looking for a job, the common obstacles of racism and sexism are often a block to decent employment. Firestone Tire and Rubber Company on Route 66 is a good example of a company using sexist and racist practices in hiring.

Firestone's plant employs over 300 people in three shifts. Large tires are the plant's sole product. The plant is under defense contract for many of its tires, and as such is compelled to adhere to hiring policies set by Washington. Due to slight paranoia and the defense contract, security at Firestone is very tight for an industrial plant.

THE GATE CARD TRICK

When one goes to apply for a job, you don't go to the personnel office, but instead only fill out a gate card with the security guard at the plant entrance. The card asks name, age, sex, draft status, etc. Companies aren't allowed to ask about race, but Firestone is clever and gets around this very well.

When the guard brings your card to the personnel office, he initials it. If you are black, he uses the initials from his first, middle and last name. But if you are white, he uses only his first and last initials. This clearly racist tactic is designed to inform the personnel people who of those applying are black, in order to exclude them from hiring.

Of course, a few token blacks are hired because of Washington's requirements. Washington only requires to know how many minority people applied and were

hired; they don't ask how many are fired.

Mr. Friebur, Asst. Personnel Manager, upon just firing a black worker, commented, "These people are lazy and don't want to work, and here at Firestone the work is hard, and we can't afford to lose time on production when these people can't get to work." A common thought for someone who identifies with corporate-capitalism.

Even though Illinois hasn't ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, companies are forced to abide by equal opportunity laws, which means they must not discriminate in their hiring policies because of race, sex or age. If you are a woman, finding employment at Firestone is impossible except for clerical positions. (The pay for a woman working in the office is around \$2.50 an hour; a factory position starts at \$3.50 an hour, plus extra for piece work.)

A woman called the Personnel Office asking for work for herself in the factory. She was immediately told they don't need help right at the moment, and to call back in October after they finished with the expansion. (The real policy was to hire all the extra help before October, so they could be trained by then.)

The woman was very persistent, and she didn't take that as an answer. Mr. Frieburg, in desperation, tried to convince her that this type of work is not suitable for a woman and the plant is hot and the men somewhat crude.

After the conversation ended, he said, "We have to handle these cases carefully, or we could have a lawsuit on our hands."

When asked why he didn't want her hired, without even knowing her physical characteristics (height, weight, etc.), or any of her abilities, he answered, "We don't have adequate washroom facilities, and besides the men wouldn't like working with women."

GETTING OVER

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

This country is divided, not necessarily by individuals but rather by societal standards, into various groups. Common physical characteristics, such as genital structure for men and women or skin color for blacks and other racial groups, serve as one basis for grouping, while sexual and affectional preference serves as another. It is a revolutionary necessity to recognize as full people those who are not members of one's own group.

Fortunately, sociologists have discarded the "America as melting pot" myth, which supposedly dissolved people's differences into one conglomerate, the American people. The current popular myth is "America as Mosaic," which recognizes each group as separate but equal. While still idealistic, this second theory seems less oppressive. However, to combat any discrimination which still exists, a group awareness of its own special culture must occur. This can help launch an attempt to eliminate the group's own oppressive attitudes and develop its positive features.

Two contributions to this consciousness-raising process are group decisions about humor and decisions about how others should relate to and identify the group. For example, Blacks had to develop not only a group awareness that involved more than skin color similarity, but also had to decide to reject the label "nigger" and choose to be called Black. In like fashion, Gay people must not only develop

a group awareness that involves not just sex but includes affection, but they must also reject the derogatory labels and stereotypes society has chosen for them and choose their own positive labels and models. The revolution cannot take place until each group seriously recognizes all other movement groups and group members.

This brings me to humor. Although it is essential to any movement, another essential is the knowledge of who should tell what joke.

As a man, I can joke with other men, as a way of dealing with societal pressures, about proving my "manhood." But if a woman makes a similar joke, it may indicate that she is not taking the Men's Movement seriously. As a gay, I can joke with other gay people about the words faggot and queer. But if a non-gay refers to me that way, even "jokingly," it may indicate that this person is not taking the gay movement seriously.

I realize that humor from others might be their way of accepting another group, but "What's the matter, can't you take a joke?" is a cop-out. If it's hard for someone to accept a particular group's liberation movement they should say so, rather than refer to it in some nebulous semi-serious manner.

The only people who should tell women's jokes are women. The only people who should tell gay jokes are gays, etc. And if anyone thinks that I'm taking this all too seriously, then he or she is not taking me seriously, and that is oppressive.

Jack

FIRESTONE UNION TALKS

(Continued from preceding page.)

Walden felt that when Supervisor Fever ordered Jr. to take an early break, the request was not unreasonable because all employees are asked to do so at times. (But does the frequency of an event make it reasonable?)

Walden also disputed Jr.'s complaints about constant shift changes. Walden pointed out that the changes were all "legal" under the contract, since the union had the proper notice. But Walden's refutation reflects the narrow legal framework the union works in. Jr. criticized management for harassing him with constant shift changes. The fact that such harassment can be technically "legal" does not refute the criticism. If anything, the "legality" of the harassment reflects badly on both the contract and the company.

Walden produced a letter to the International signed by practically all the union members. The letter defends the union's inaction on Jr.'s grievance.

How well this letter really reflects the workers' views may be questionable.

A worker recently talking to the Post recalled several workers sitting in the cafeteria reading the Post-American stories. Workers were saying "Now isn't this just so true," until a Union steward sat down. He said "That Post-American article is all screwed up," and the workers nodded agreement, our source reported.

PART II-Safety

Later in April, the Post was contacted by another Firestone worker. John (he wishes to be anonymous) reiterated Sam's claims that occupational health and safety regulations are still not being observed at Firestone.

Supposedly, OSHA representatives inspected Firestone around the middle of February. Their recommendations included that all machinery with moving parts be equipped with safety devices. John said that the machines have not been made safe. And, he continued, it is true that the supervisors and irresponsible management policies must be blamed for not only the unwarranted harassment of workers who do the best they can, but also the resulting occupational injuries.

-- jeremy timmens

GRASS ROOTS



by
Ray Ryburn

FROM UPPER QUANDARY STATE HISTORY

There was once a despotic old King who ruled his subjects with an iron hand. He had but one law in his kingdom, and it was used to raise money. It was simple: you had to start all of your journeys with the left foot. If you broke the law, you had to pay a fine. The amount of the fine depended on the length of the intended journey. One day a champion of the people began speaking against this law. You can well imagine the feelings of the King towards this great man. How would you like to have your source of income kicked in the shins. After a short revolution, the King was defeated and the champion of the people was crowned the new King. True to his promises, he repealed the old law, long a source of irritation to the people. In its place was a new law granting the people the right to start their journeys with either foot. To make sure that all of the people availed themselves of their new found freedom, they were required to start their journeys with the left foot on the even numbered days and with the right foot on the odd numbered days. If one broke the law the fine was fair, based on the length of the journey. It is said that those who tried so hard to escape the injustice of despotism are now trying just as hard to enjoy the benefits of freedom.

From: The Economics of an Upper Quandary State, trans. by R.R.

The people of this Upper Quandary State based their economy on apples and oranges, and addition.

However, due to a shortage of apples and oranges, caused by those who wished to count their many blessings between crops, the people lost their faith in an economy based on these premises.

The prophets of the new order believed the problem could be more easily solved by a combination of addition and multiplication. So to the apples and oranges of the old economic theory they added rabbits, and the rabbits multiplied.

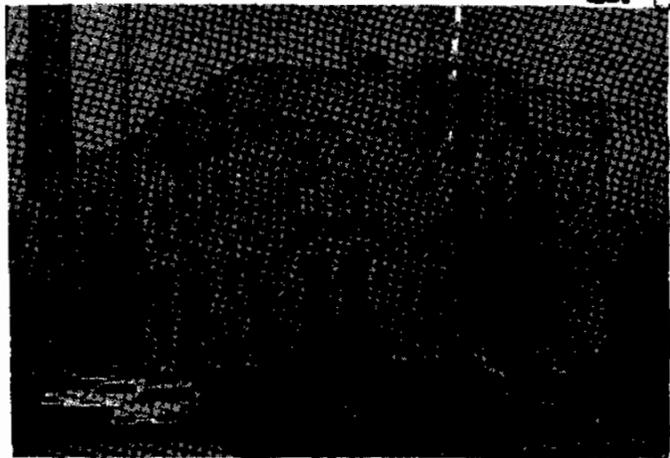
This appeared to work for a time, but since they still had to pay off in apples and oranges, the problem began to lag behind the answer.

Some of the old time economic philosophers hit upon the scheme of using rabbits along with apples and oranges to meet their obligations. Sure enough, as they began to get rid of the rabbits, the apples and oranges began to go farther and look bigger.

At last report this Upper Quandary State had a balanced budget. As the rabbits multiply, the people subtract.

"I am against sending American G.I.'s into the mud and muck of Indochina on a blood-letting spree to perpetuate colonialism and white man's exploitation in Asia."
---Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Apr 1954

The continuing saga of
Sheriff King



Another Former Inmate Speaks Up

K. was held in the McLean County Jail for 4½ months in early 1971--around the time of a mass demonstration at the county jail held to protest the county's role in drug busts at ISU. He was held on a charge of criminal damage to property for molesting a soda pop machine.

During the day, inmates stay in the "bull pen"--a general part of the jail. At night, inmates are placed in small individual cells. But what happens when creatures of the night appear in the smaller cells, with little chance for inmates to express their displeasure?

Sewer Rat Episode

Somehow, inmates were being paid evening visits by large brown sewer rats. K. described the rats as being as large as domestic housecats. Complaints from inmates were met with indifference and counterclaims from Sheriff's deputies.

One night an inmate trustee and the night man (an inmate who takes responsibility for cleaning the "bull pen") killed a rat and placed it in front of a cell door. Several deputies became angry and K. claimed all inmates were placed on deadlock for a day.

At that time, inmates were discussing among themselves the need to have pests exterminated in the jail. Again, all authorities, when pressed by inmates, claimed there was no need for pest control... except when the "pests" are human.

The inmates decided to demonstrate. When they were asked to leave the "bull pen" one day and return to their cells, practically all of them sat down in front of the smaller cells, refusing to enter.

Reinforcements from Normal and Bloomington police departments, along with sheriff's deputies, made a show of force with billy clubs. Most inmates, realizing they had no chance, chose to re-enter their cells. Two inmates who chose not to were "smacked around," and one--John Fleming--was allegedly beaten by six cops with billy clubs. K. said that Fleming was placed in the black box overnight and was seen the next day with swollen eyes. K. did not know whether Fleming's physical damage was caused during the billy club beating or during the time that he was in the black box.

Other Happenings

While K. was held in the county jail, he and another inmate were having an argument through the locked cells. Sheriff King had K. brought into his office. Allegedly, the sheriff claimed he knew how to tell "who the troublemakers were" and that there were "ways of handling things like this." K. said that King grabbed him by the shirt collar and shook him a couple times. The sheriff completed his aggression by placing K. and his oral opponent in the black box. K. claimed he was in the black box three times and in the standup cell once.

K. further claimed that he had witnessed callous neglect on the part of Sheriff's deputies. An older man who was drunk and apparently an alcoholic began experiencing withdrawal symptoms. He lost consciousness for a short time and K. and others became anxious for the man. A deputy said, "Don't worry about him; he'll come out of it." The man supposedly was never given any assistance.

Bloomington P.D., Too

In 1974, K. was arrested on charges of battery, unlawful restraint, intimidation with intent to kill, and possession of a needle and syringe. He was later cleared of these charges.

K. said that while being held by Bloomington Police, an unidentified lieutenant grabbed him by the throat, smacked him around, and knocked his head against the wall, demanding a confession of guilt. K. claims that the officer used intimidating and abusive language and accused him of committing crimes he didn't do.

When K. confronted his attorney, Paxton Bauers, with the incident, Bauers backed out on the case, claiming "there is nothing I can do." K. was later represented by Atty. Steve Larkin and Bauers went to work for the city.

More will follow

---Jeremy Timmens

More Abuses in County Jail Reported



Post-note: Many people have been in and out of the McLean County Jail during the tenure of Sheriff John King. Some have said they received treatment which violated their civil rights. The following is another installment in the saga of John King's County Jail.

In 1971 C. was placed in the McLean County jail to await trial for passing bad checks. While he was an inmate, C. witnessed the treatment some other inmates received and tasted the animosity of selected jail personnel himself.

C. was in the main cell block for a while before being moved to a cell in the juvenile section. Apparently, another man in the jail had been sentenced 2-5 years and was waiting to be sent away. The man was first placed on deadlock, and later he was moved into the standup cell. For some reason, C. said, the deputies responsible for moving the man to the standup also spiced his food with a laxative, leaving him with a gallon jug for relieving himself.

Later, a cell in the juvenile section was open, and C. was moved into it, along with Chuck Jenkins. Visiting day came around and the sheriff seemingly ordered deputies not to allow the wife of the man in standup to visit him. C. claimed that his wife and child were allowed to visit him that day, but for some reason King didn't allow the other visit. The real blow to the convicted man and his wife came because he was sent to prison the same day.

C., Jenkins, and two other inmates didn't like what they knew had happened to the man in the standup cell.

The four of them were outraged, and mouthed off to sheriff's deputies in the vicinity. The deputies (not named) told the four to "straighten out" and allegedly beat Jenkins with handcuffs and C. with a blackjack.

Before his move to the juvenile section, C. witnessed a situation involving a 70-year-old man who C. believed was an alcoholic. C. said the man was having severe withdrawal pains and that the deputies in charge made no attempt to help him.

C. and Jenkins, realizing the man's plight, tried to ease his discomfort by bathing him in cold water. C. insisted that he and Jenkins knew the man needed more assistance, but both were in no position to give him more than the most obvious comforts. While speaking with this reporter, C. commented on the lack of humanity in the McLean County jail --"you'd think the people in charge would want to at least respect someone's human needs!"

 C. served his time for the bad checks, but was in the County Jail once more. In summer 1973, C. was charged with drunken driving following an automobile accident. C. sustained a bad gash on his forehead, but was offered no assistance from the Sheriff's police. Allegedly, the police administered a breath-o-lizer test and then whisked C. to the County Jail. He remained in jail for a week and was refused medical attention the duration of his stay. C. claimed that Dr. McNeely treated him after he was released from the County Jail.

----Jeremy Timmens

Green Revolution?

"The warning of the times is that unless the green revolution is accompanied by a revolution based on social justice the green revolution may not remain green."
--from a statement made by Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and leader of the ruling Congress Party, to her Chief Ministers.

The "Green Revolution" is a term coined to cover the importation of new high-yield varieties of wheat and rice into the developing countries.

Although these varieties produce yields amounting to nearly twice the yields of older varieties, the new grains require use of modern fertilizers and irrigation systems. They also require pesticides and are designed ultimately to make use of modern farm machinery in order to increase productivity.

Over the long run, less labor is required--despite the fact that there are already 35 to 40 million landless laborers in rural India. Unemployment among these people can be expected to increase in direct proportion to the spread of the "Green Revolution."

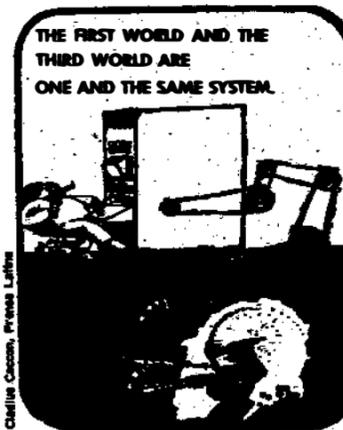
Furthermore, it is estimated that an investment of 10 to 12,000 rupees is necessary to re-equip a 7 to 10-acre farm to the level required to make use of the new grain varieties. Already 150 to 210 million rural Indians live at a per capita income of 200 rupees per year. Obviously, only the richer farmers can profit from the "Green Revolution" unless it is accompanied by wide-spread social reforms.

Unfortunately, the Indian economy is probably not capable of providing the resources that are needed to supply alternate forms of employment for the Indians that would be displaced by a successful "Green Revolution." Of course, the "Green Revolution" is needed to provide food for India's growing population.

But ironically, Western experts warn of the possibility of a lack of effective demand for increased agricultural output because of the "insufficient income of substantial numbers of rural people."

On the bright side, there were 346 incidents of forcible occupation of land in the West Bengal province of India alone in the first nine months of 1969.

--I.S.



THE FIRST WORLD AND THE THIRD WORLD ARE ONE AND THE SAME SYSTEM.

Chetline Casson, Presses Latta

You Are Represented in City Government

APRIL FOOL!

April 1 was highlighted by the City Council elections in Bloomington which returned Karl Passmore and Richard Buchanan to their second terms in city government. However, claims of representative city government may not echo too loudly due to a measly 19.4% turnout by registered voters.

Of the four candidates--Roger Phelps, Richard Buchanan, Karl Passmore, and Jack Guess--Phelps, Passmore, and Guess all live in fairly well-to-do precinct 25 on the east side. Guess is the owner of Harjak Motors, J&G Volkswagon, and owns the Twin-City Avis Rent-a-car franchise. Buchanan is senior training coordinator of data processing at State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co., Phelps is the owner-operator of C&R Auto Body and Sales, and Passmore is a self-employed contractor.

Out of a field of five during the February primary in which only 10.2% of the registered voters participated, Buchanan and Phelps emerged with the highest vote counts. In not only the primary but also the general election, Buchanan counted on his support from the east side. Surprisingly, newcomer Phelps was strong on the west side.

In events leading up to the April 1 election, Buchanan was the only candidate to support campaign spending limitations for the \$1800 a year council post. And luckily, voters were able to see through Guess' business smokescreen after he claimed, "I feel the city council needs independent businessmen's viewpoints in the handling of city affairs. It's time we put business efficiency in city government."

Registered voters who either made it to the polls or stayed at home knew the businessmen would be represented in city government anyway.

MIDDLE EARTH II.

THC.

THC is the active ingredient in marijuana. THC was first produced synthetically in 1966, and to remain stable (worth using) it must be kept at the temperature of liquid nitrogen (-220 F.). THC is also very expensive to produce, and if real THC were on the streets its cost would probably be \$20 to \$30 a hit. People on the streets are selling substances which are supposed to be THC, but as you may begin to realize, it can't possibly be real in most cases. So what is it? It's probably a mixture of things, but the major ingredient is almost always PCP.....

PC.P. & ANGEL DUST

P.C.P. (Phencyclidine) and Angel Dust

PCP was first made in the 1950's as a possible anaesthetic for surgery, but was later dropped because of bad side effects. Now it is only legal for use on animals.

PCP is a depressant which is sold on the streets as THC, Angel Dust, PCP, "tic" or "tac." In small amounts, the effects can be: numbness, nausea, lack of coordination, disorientation and excitement. In larger amounts the effects can be: paranoia, muscle tremors, hallucinations, and double vision. Overdoses of PCP will cause convulsions, respiratory failure, coma, and possibly death.

It usually appears as a white, tan, or yellow powder, and when smoked it has a very chemical odor. Be careful. This is a drug with a high potential for bummers and overdoses (even when smoked). If you are doing drugs Know What You Take.

Information taken from the High Altitude Stall Recovery Manual written by the staff of Gemini House in Champaign.

the JOINT general store

LOW
PRICES ON
WATERBEDS;
MOST SIZES
IN STOCK

ACCESSORIES
IN STOCK INCLUDE
VIBRATORS,
HEATERS,
FRAMES

415 N. Main, Bloomington

We carry necessities
for your mind & Body

CAN'T GET NO RELIEF?

TRY BLOOMINGTON
TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE

GUIDELINES FOR TOWNSHIP RELIEF--216 EDDY BUILDING

I. WHO CAN APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE AT THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP OFFICE?

Anyone who lives in the City of Bloomington can apply. A budget is figured to determine eligibility in accordance with Illinois Department of Public Aid Standards for General Assistance Units. The person may have a copy of the budget if he so desires.

When persons apply they must provide all of the following verifications appropriate to their situation.

- a. Income verification: Pay check stubs or a letter from their employer; unemployment compensation notice; social security notice; workman's compensation notice; child support order; etc...
- b. Asset verification: savings account book; credit union book; last checking account statement; stocks; bonds; etc...
- c. Shelter cost verification: rent receipts; cancelled checks; mortgage payment coupons; lease; etc...
- d. "Hardship" verification: receipts from recent medical bills PAID; proof of child care paid because of illness or employment; proof of regular child support paid.
- e. If employable, applicant must be registered at the Illinois State Employment Service and have their card stamped by that office.

II. CAN A RECIPIENT OF AFDC OR OF THE OTHER PROVISIONS UNDER THE ILLINOIS CODE OR FEDERAL SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (SUCH AS SOCIAL SECURITY, SUPPLEMENTARY SECURITY INCOME, ETC.), RECEIVE TOWNSHIP GENERAL ASSISTANCE?

If a family is receiving a full AFDC grant, they are not eligible for Township General Assistance because the programs of both agencies are supported from tax monies. Sometimes a private or voluntary agency will help under certain circumstances. By law, Township General Assistance funds are not assigned to individuals who are receiving public assistance from other program provisions of the Illinois Code (such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children) or from Federal provisions under the Social Security Act programs. The township fund can supplement income and can provide some assistance of an emergent or temporary nature until the State application or Federal claim is processed and a disposition is made.

Township assistance, for the most part, provides financial help for those not qualifying under State and Federal programs and in behalf of clients coordinates its services with other agencies whether local and voluntary, State, or Federal.

III. CAN A PERSON WHO HAS A FULL TIME JOB GET HELP WITH MEDICAL EXPENSES?

They can if there is a deficit in their budget as figured in accordance with State Standards established for General Assistance Units.

IV. CAN A PERSON BRING SOMEONE WITH THEM WHEN THEY APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE?

Yes; however, if they wish, any applicant has the right to a private interview.

V. CAN A PERSON RECEIVE ASSISTANCE THE SAME DAY THEY APPLY?

They can if their need is a confirmed emergency and if they provide the necessary verifying information to the General Assistance Office to facilitate eligibility determination. In accordance with State Standards the General Assistance Office must determine eligibility within thirty (30) days.

VI. HOW MUCH MONEY CAN A FAMILY EARN AND STILL GET PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FROM THE TOWNSHIP?

The Township General Assistance Office, from information provided by the applicant, prepares a budget using a State standardized form and allowances guideline for General Assistance Units. The budget form lists essential items covering the general financial needs for an individual and allowances are made for these items. Secondly, a listing is made of all available income (which may be either from wage earnings or other sources of income) determines need and/or eligibility for the applicant. If a deficiency exists, this may be supplemented by the General Assistance Fund. If there is an excess of income over and above the total for allowances, the applicant is found ineligible.

XII. IF I AM NOT SATISFIED WITH THE REASONS FOR A DENIAL OF AID FROM THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE, DO I HAVE THE RIGHT OF APPEAL?

You do legally have the right of appeal. The procedure for this is written in law. The Township General Assistance Office has the legal and professional responsibility to explain this to any applicant. The appeal or request for a review of the decision must be made within sixty (60) days.

XIII. CAN I APPLY FOR LEGAL AID THROUGH THE TOWNSHIP GENERAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE?

The township General Assistance Fund has included in its appropriations a provision for payment of legal aid services. Application for legal aid services should be made to the McLean County Bar Association Legal Aid Committee. Payment for the service rendered is coordinated with that organization. The Township General Assistance Office, if requested, can assist an individual in making an appointment for legal counsel.

VII. WILL THE TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE OFFICE PAY MY HOSPITAL BILL IF I AM NOT EMPLOYED?

Eligibility determination under the Aid to the Medically Indigent program takes into consideration the ability of the applicant to return to work, the availability of any assets above the State established minimum which could be utilized toward payment of medical bills, and the arrangements made by the applicant to deal with his unemployed status; i.e. application for Unemployment Compensation Benefits, registration with Illinois State Employment Service, verification of active search for employment when not temporarily disabled.

VIII. CAN I GET ASSISTANCE TO PAY PAST DUE BILLS?

There is no provision to pay past indebtedness except in certain emergencies such as household utilities. The General Assistance Fund is intended to provide help with current needs. Every attempt is made to offer counsel and referral services to an applicant toward resolving his problems.

IX. CAN THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE HELP ME GET A JOB?

This is an important function of the Township General Assistance Office and it is an integral and coordinated part of the overall public assistance program in the State of Illinois. The Supervisor's staff works on employment problems daily. Every effort is made to encourage applicants to achieve a satisfactory income level from their own earnings; assistance to the individual toward finding or retaining a job is part of this endeavor.

X. IS THERE ANY MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM AGE LIMIT FOR A PERSON TO MAKE APPLICATION AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE?

Persons between the ages of 21 and 62 may apply for general assistance through the Township General Assistance Office. If under 21 years of age, the parents of the applicant must file an application including the Statement of Relatives Expenses and Resources Form.

Individuals 62 years of age or older in need of assistance should file a claim with the Social Security Administration for regular Social Security benefits or benefits under the Supplementary Security Income program.

XI. IF I AM REFUSED AID THROUGH THE TOWNSHIP GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND, WILL I BE INFORMED AS TO THE REASON?

Yes, The budget based on standardized allowances in relation to income (explained earlier in this guideline) is the basis for determining eligibility or ineligibility. The staff endeavors to fully explain any and all reasons for denial of an application. If it is necessary to deny an applicant's request, a written reply is available from the Township General Assistance Office upon request.

the
gallery
beer wine
pizza sandwiches
live entertainment
pinball
pool
flicks
foosball
e. beaufort
Schlitz Malt Week
Mon-Fri 5-9:30
1.35 pitchers

WANTLING RECALLED

Bill Wantling, a local poet, died a year ago. Besides his other claims to fame, he drank the first beer ever served in the Gallery. A friend gave us this article celebrating Bill's life and work.

I knew Bill Wantling for a period of seven years; he was a student, an employee, and a friend. Bill started college at the significant age of thirty-three, and I had heard of him from other instructors before he ever enrolled in my class. They had described his writing ability, his wide knowledge of contemporary literature, and had given me some of his poems to read. In 1966 Illinois State enrolled only about 9,000 students--half its present size-- and people still knew one another.

The class I taught Bill was the introductory survey of American literature. It was very formal in approach; I used the lecture method, addressed students by their last names, and seated them in alphabetical order. Bill ended up in the end seat of the front row because I had started the alphabet in the back. He would come bustling into class with a great stride, swinging an attache case, not tardy, but hurrying because of his nervous energy. It took him several minutes to prepare for class. He would open the attache case, take out texts and notebooks, set aside his lunch, sometimes hook up a tape recorder, and once in a while make an arrangement of mysterious little brown and white bottles on his desk. It was a show, and the rest of the class enjoyed it. They stopped their chatting, smiled at one another and winked.

For some reason, it seemed that Bill sweat a lot, especially on Fridays; then he would bind up his forehead with a bandana. It was difficult for him to sit still for the hour, and he was constantly moving and shifting in his chair. It was a large class and there was very little opportunity for student questions. I had the lectures timed to the

minute; not a very good teaching method, but no one complained. However, Bill wanted to be a participant, and if I made it difficult for him to ask questions, he made his input in other ways. Every once in a while, by paraphrasing the words of an author, such as Thoreau or Melville or Whitman or Twain or Frost or Jeffers, I would launch a tirade about American society. "Yeah," Bill would audibly sigh; "Go man, go." (This was before "right on.") The rest of the class would snicker; it was like the "amen" corner of the Methodist Church.

I taught the class from the point of view that all American authors were really Ishmaelites: outcasts from society, misunderstood, and wanderers. Bill really dug this interpretation. Because he had been an outcast, I was able to prove to him that he was no outcast in American letters; that his pulse beat with the same rhythm of Poe and Whitman, and what he saw and felt many others before him had also experienced. It was especially revealing to him that people such as Emerson, who he had regarded as establishment, were really rebels. I remember one day after class that we were talking about Emerson's "Brahma," and Bill said his own "Helix" was an attempt to say the same thing that Emerson had. As a teacher I was not able to improve Bill's technique, and I probably did not communicate much information. But what I was able to give him was support, encouragement, and confidence. If he learned anything from me, it was that he was an All-American poet.

Everyone, of course, is subject to envy and pride, and literary people perhaps more so than others. Bill seemed to possess less of these commodities than any other literary person I have known. He was a constant source of encouragement for the younger students who were trying to write, criticizing their works and apprizing them of little magazines or underground publications which might receive their efforts. During the semester he was in my class, the student newspaper began to run a series of poetry, well, not poetry,

barely rimed prose, by someone who obviously was a close friend of the editor. The English students who were writers began to object; they had thrown away better stuff in the seventh grade. In fact, they had a meeting to see what pressure could be put on the newspaper to stop publishing the doggerel. Bill got up and spoke; he pointed out that what was really important was that the writer was trying. She ought to be encouraged, and the rest of them should stop their complaining and see if they could do better. He immediately turned the movement from carping to creativity, and scores of students began to produce verse, so much that the newspaper had to run regular poetic supplements. More good student poetry was written that year on campus than ever had been before, and Bill Wantling alone was responsible. I told a dean some time later that Bill ought to be paid just to stay around.

He was paid, of course, a pittance through the G.I. Bill, and later he got a fellowship to complete his master's degree. Then we hired him as an instructor, and he was in his first year of teaching when he died. Bill's poetry is of an uneven quality; a lot of it is journalistic--interesting only as a reflection of the times. However, he did write several pieces that are worthy of inclusion in any anthology of American literature. I refer to the triptych about Jackson Pollock, James Dean, and Camus, and lyrics such as "The Source," "The Helix," and "Ah, History."

In his inscription of my copy of San Quentin's Stranger (Camus again), he wrote:

"iamb, trochee, anapest, dactylic spondee like poetry profession & purpose all blazing away into the matchless Void....."

--- Bill Linneman



mediatest 943

XUAN LOC - NOV. 1970

under machine-gunned stars
sit Fred
&
I
with a guitar
a bowl of dope
and a homeward
sigh

contemplating the
stillness
of the pock-marked
land
with its puppet tanks
and toy helicopters

Fred & me
Fred & me
begin to dream
breathing the blood-scream
of Viet-Nam
&
saying
nothing.

--Terence M. Fitzgerald

Birds & clouds & the inconsistent
shadow/touch of april brick wall
all a sense of clue.
Made of similar motions, perception
of rainbow and rainbow itself,
interchangeable as tree leaves or
milk bottles or memory cells or
descriptions of morning,
each a nexus of stasis & flux,
abbreviation of cycle/pause/cycle
without pause; synthesis one
seeming mode of clarity/control

dennis

FOREIGN AID

he wipes away the blood
spreading in its place
his sacred striped blanket
smothering those he wants to call
his children
his stripes are bars he will not lift
and when they fight for his ideal
he crushes them.

anon.

A Big Green Spot

A big green spot was spotted
A big green spot was spotted in Normal
A big green spot was spotted in Normal
today by the citizens
of Normal today spotted a big green
spot in their town decided
to do a thing or two about IT

entropy and information
good god how it all does happen ending
in those occasionally vivid tableaux
is looking at the other and both
thinking well here we are

human realities outliving bullshit;
people-
talk increasingly direct

i see the empty street littered with
dead

when people don't listen to their own
intelligence

i see the empty street littered with
dead

when people don't actively participate
in the exchange of information
they are letting themselves be brain-
washed

by the downward flow of random rumor,
they no longer perceive their own po-
tential

because if you spotted a big green
spot on TV in
your normal how would you know if it
was---

FLOWERS AND BULLETS

by Yevgeni Yevtushenko

Whoever loves flowers
is naturally not liked by
bullets.
Bullets are jealous ladies,
You can't expect kindness
from them.
Nineteen-year-old Allison Krause,
You were killed because you loved
flowers.
You had the purest hopes that mo-
ment when, defenseless,
Like the slight pulse of conscience,
You placed a flower
in the muzzle of that pig's rifle.
And said:
"Flowers are better than bullets."
But don't give flowers to a state
where truth is punished,
To a state that pays you back with
cruelty.
And you, Allison Krause, were paid
back with a bullet,
Pushing out the flower.
Let all the apple trees in the world
put on, not white,
but black mourning dresses.
Oh, how the lilac smells!
But you feel nothing.
As the President said about you,
you are a "bum."
All the dead are "bums."
But that is not his fault.
You are lying on the grass
with candy in your mouth.
You'll never put on a new dress,
You'll never read a new book.
You were a student who studied fine
art,
but there is another art,
it is a bloody, terrible art.
No doubt this art of the butcher
also had its genius--
Who was Hitler?
He was the cubist of the gas
chamber.
On behalf of all flowers
I curse your creations,
Architects of the lie, conductors
of massacres.

The mothers of the world whisper,
"Oh, my God! Oh, my God..."
Fortune-tellers fear
to look into the future.
Death is dancing on the bones
in Vietnam and Cambodia
And what stage will it find to-
morrow?
Rise up, girls of Tokyo,
boys of Rome,
Raise up your flowers
against the common enemy.
Blow together on all the dandelions
of the world--
Oh, what a great storm there will be!
Flowers, gather for war
Punish your killers!
Tulip after tulip, daisy after daisy,
Break away from your tidy gardens in
rage,
Stuff with roots and mud the mouths
of hypocrites.
You, jasmine, tangle the propellers
of destroyers,
You, nettles, clog up the gunsights.
Rise up lilies of the Ganges
and lotuses of the Nile,
Tie up the propellers of planes
that bring death to children.
Roses, be not so proud because
you are costly.
Of course it's a pleasure to touch
the soft cheeks of a girl,
But you, roses, have to grow sharp
thorns
to pierce the gas tanks of bombers.
True, bullets are stronger than flow-
ers--
Against them you can't only rebel
with flowers;
Stamens are a little too fragile,
A petal is poor armor,
But a Vietnamese girl, the same age
as Allison
taking a gun in hand,
Is an armed flower
of the people's wrath!
Even if flowers arise it is not good
to play a game of hide and seek
with history.
Young America,
tie up the hands of killers.

Grow, grow, escalation of truth,
Against those who trample on life,
against escalations of the lie.
All flowers, gather for war!
Defend the beautiful!
Flood the highways and country roads
like a terrible torrent.
And, joining the columns of people
and flowers
rise up, O murdered Allison Krause,
As an immortal of an epoch--
The thorny flower of protest!



WAS HO CHI MINH A BAD POET?
Written 30 years ago when Ho was a prisoner of Chiang Kai-shek. "The Prison Diary of Ho Chi Minh" stirs new controversies today. Two clashing translations, two vitriolic pro-and-con literary criticisms, and if you read Chinese, the original text and the chance to decide for yourself...
An Intellectual Digest special feature

The wheel of the law turns
Without pause.
After the rain, good weather.
In the wink of an eye.
The universe throws off
its muddy clothes.
For ten thousand miles
The landscape
Spreads out like a beautiful brocade.
Light breezes. Smiling flowers.
High in the trees, amongst
the sparkling leaves
All the birds sing at once.
Men and animals rise-up reborn.
What could be more natural?
After sorrow, comes joy.
--Ho Chi Minh



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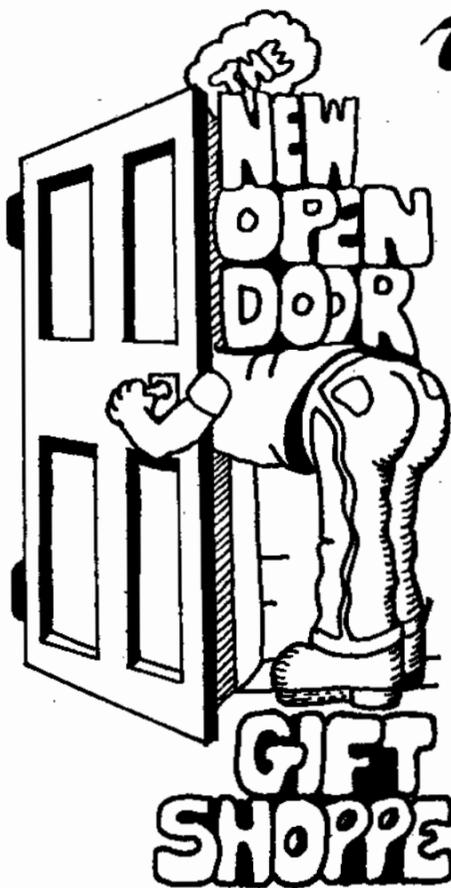
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"Why of course the people don't want war. Why would some poor slob on a farm want to risk his life in a war when the best he can get out of it is to come back to his farm in one piece. Naturally, the common people don't want war; neither in Russia nor in England nor in America, nor for that matter in Germany. That is understood. But, after all, it is the leaders of the country who determine the policy and it is always a simple mat-

ter to drag the people along, whether it is a democracy or a fascist dictatorship or a parliament or a communist dictatorship... the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy... all you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same way in any country."
---Hermann Goering

Fetus rights champion risks children's lives, police say

The Right-to-Life Committee has been active around McLean County, demanding a Constitutional Amendment which would ban abortion on the grounds that it is the killing of an innocent person.

Those who believe that women should be able to choose whether or not to have an abortion have long been suspicious of the right-to-life group. Many seem to feel that the champions of the rights of the unborn fetus are the same ones who thought we should have bombed North Vietnam, even North Vietnamese fetuses, off the map a few years ago. Some feel that the right-to-life folks would not have bothered even writing a letter-to-the-editor condemning Lt. Calley's murder of innocent Vietnamese babies.

Head of the local Right-to-Life Committee is David Wochner, an attorney and member of the family owning the American State Bank.

Wochner thinks that women who have abortions are committing murder.

Wochner cares a lot about the lives of unborn children.

Police apparently think that Wochner doesn't care enough about the lives of already born children.

According to Bloomington police, radar registered Wochner driving 31 m.p.h. in the school speed zone opposite BHS and Centennial School. The speed limit is 20 m.p.h.

The low speed limit near the school is there for a purpose--to protect the lives of the many children in the area.

Police also busted Wochner for driving with an expired driver's license. He pled guilty to that, and the prosecutor dropped the charge that Wochner exceeded the speed limit by more than 50%. It was a plea bargain, a courtroom observer said.

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KENT STATE CRITICS AT U. of I.

Peter Davies, author of The Truth About Kent State and outspoken critic of governmental forgetfulness, will speak at University of Illinois Auditorium in Champaign-Urbana on May 1 at 8:00 P.M. He will be talking about the shootings and his work to keep the issue from being forgotten.

Appearing with Davies will be Dean Kahler, a student at Kent State in 1970 who was wounded in the shootings and is now confined to a wheelchair. Also tentatively scheduled to speak are Arthur Krause, father of Allison Krause who was killed in the attack, and Senator Ted Kennedy.



May 1970: Ohio National Guardsmen fire at Kent State antiwar demon...

MOVIE REVIEW

Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore

When I saw the ad for this movie in the paper, I said to my friend, "Ooh! Ooh! We gotta go see that!" He said, "Huh? Oh. How come?" I said, "It's supposed to be a Women's Liberation thing." I was right.

You should realize right off that I really love hard core feminist propaganda, and I would have been perfectly satisfied if that's what Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore was. But it was something better.

The great thing about this movie is that the dignity, assertiveness, sensitivity, and sisterhood of women are assumptions underlying the main action.

Here are a few things that make Alice a real lip smacker for the female viewer: 1) The women characters are positive, positive, positive! But if you're looking for them to be fleshly embodiments of some consistent feminist political line, you'd better look somewhere else. They cry and screw. And it feels natural. It feels so natural that not until after you leave the movie you realize that women are portrayed differently here than they are in other movies. 2) There's enough movie sex role reversal to give you a sweet little taste of revenge. Kris Kristoferson spends a lot of time standing around looking cute and gazing meltingly at Ellen Burstyn (our hero). Also when Ellen Burstyn tells him that he's cute, but she's got to go Follow Her Dream, he says that he'll give everything up to go with her. What a trip! 3) Our hero is thirty-five years old, does not look eighteen, and is beautiful. She also weighs over ninety eight pounds and her wardrobe looks designed by Sears Roebuck and she has a bored eleven year old kid to deal with, and she is not a Bitch, an Earth Mother, or a Faded Housewife. As I walked out of the theater I expected to see a gaggle of 16 year olds (brought up on modern puke Summer of 42 adolescent "love" stories) fainting all over Main Street at the novel thought of a woman over thirty having sex drive. And a mother at that! 4) It was a happy ending..

In short, it's not the kind of movie that makes you want to go home and pluck your eyebrows. Somehow it seems there are more important things. . .

Phoebe Caulfield

Post note from Alice Wonder (who still lives here)

I feel that some response to the April 16th Vidette review of Alice is called for. The reviewer was supposedly reacting to the movie as art form rather than the movie as vehicle for themes. However, some of the "objective" criticism is obviously subjective dislike couched in non-specific "cinema" terms that are supposed to cow us into impressed agreement.

So, a few non-professional words in defense of Alice as art: style and photography change well to adapt to the immediate action. For example, the beginning is a beautifully filmed parody of the schmaltzy "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" scene demonstrating briefly and vividly the differences between the real life dreams and hassles of puberty and the stereotypical movie versions. Also, the scenes between women were masterfully conceived and acted, making their statements through skillful use of detail rather than blatantly preachy dialog.

I could rave on and on, but won't, see Alice not only if you're ardent feminist, but also if you're and avid appreciative movie-goer!



Well, I was wrong.

Last issue, you may recall, I made the following statement in writing about new periodicals Comix Book and Funny Papers: "Both have gone into three issues with no overt signs of quitting. This bodes well for fans of the medium."

That line about "no signs of quitting" is inoperative as of now.

Both periodicals, after their three issues, no longer are being published. Funny Papers' demise is a mystery to me. I know nothing of the publishers or their decision to pull up stakes and go into other undertakings, if that's what they've done. All I know is the paper seems to have ceased.

Comix Book's expiration is a story I know a little more about. This one is definite. Denis Kitchen's magazine, you will remember, was being distributed through Marvel, publisher of a multitude of straight comic books.

While Kitchen maintained editorial control over Comix Book, Marvel ultimately held the pursestrings. Publisher Stan Lee had given Denis assurance that he wouldn't interfere with the editorial workings of the magazine. But he had the most important power.

Comix Book has been suspended by Marvel.

The reason for the decision is probably financial. Marvel magazines and comics have been proliferating at an amazing speed and dying at an equally amazing speed. Like fruitflies. Any Marvel title that shows less than astounding sales is likely to get cut. This is what happened to Comix Book.

So, with issue five, Comix Book gets suspended.

This is too bad. Comix Book has been a forum for some of the most innovative comic artists in this country. To cancel it in order that Marvel use its printing time for another super-hero comic book is criminal.

(Don't get me wrong. I enjoy and am astounded by the level of quality of some of Marvel's straight comics, but few are in the same league with Comix Book.)

Marvel never gave Comix Book the same kind of support it doles out to its other titles. No word of advance publicity in any of its other magazines. Confusing distribution. Perhaps it's a wonder the magazine sold at all.

The only real advertising the magazine had was word of mouth. And word of mouth can be a painfully slow way of advertising something artistic. (One of the problems with really good movies in this town,

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PEOPLE RESENT
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OF REAL
POLITICS IN
THIS CEREMONY!



Comix Periodicals

--Part Two

for instance, is that they usually last a week-- hardly enough time for anybody to hear how good they are.)

So maybe we won't be seeing Comix Book around anymore.

But then again maybe we will.

One thing that sets Marvel Comics above other straight comics companies is that they seem to pay attention to their readers. This alertness has helped make them the success they are.

Denis Kitchen thinks that a letter writing campaign might save the magazine. This column endorses the idea. (I've already sent a letter.)

So, in order that other readers might join the battle, I am printing the address of Marvel in this column. Write. Tell them in as brief or lengthy a manner as you choose that you wish to see Comix Book back on the stands, even if you haven't read the magazine and want to see what you're missing.

The address is: Stan Lee, Magazine Management Company, 575 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Tell them this column sent you.

--- Carl Barx

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Farm Organization Bucks Middlepeople

March 31 found several hundred farmers discussing crop reductions for 1975 at Illinois State University. Wayne Barnett, a leader of an organization called Midwest Farmers, mentioned in a Pantagraph interview that the concept of crop reductions is a protest move to aid farmers. He claimed that farmers feel like they are being used to produce more, "to provide cheap food for consumers and cheap raw materials for food and feed processors."

THE N.F.O. STRATEGY

But on April 12 area members of the National Farmers Organization set up in the Zayre parking lot to sell quality ground beef, cheese, and potatoes to consumers at remarkably fair prices. Mike Moore from Bellflower explained to the Post that the NFO plans to continue this activity so that farmers will get a fair return for their work and give consumers better quality and prices. "The public is tired of getting ripped off by the middleman," Moore emphasized.

Apparently, Moore knew the truth only too well. At the Zayre distribution point, two tons of ground beef were sold in one hour, two tons of cheese in an hour, and one ton of potatoes in 45 minutes. By the time this reporter arrived, all that was left was a rapidly dwindling supply of cheese. Moore proudly said that none of the food had chemical additives or colorings -- only what consumers were told they were buying.

Moore told how four million farmers were forced off their land in the last four years, simply because farmers cannot cope with the prices they get from buyers, leaving the average age of the farmer 52.

The Board of Trade and futures markets speculators are responsible for reductions in the going prices for all commodities, Moore contended. Such activities greatly reduce farm and family incomes, and consumers still pay high prices at the supermarkets. "Figure it out for yourself," Moore suggested.

So rather than asking farmers to reduce production at all levels, the NFO is interested in trying a different tactic: grouping and cooperative work. "The money changers of the world are the ones who own the grocery stores, the elevators, and the transportation," Moore continued. By combining their energies and talents, independent farmers can duplicate the activities carried on by the large corporations and offer real alternatives to consumers.

Moore and an NFO collective bargaining agent present claimed that such NFO activities are now present in 49 states. At this writing, Moore claimed that the NFO sales of ground beef and cheese of Food Day at Northwestern University are expected to top six tons each. "We're gonna do whatever it takes to turn this vicious cycle around," he explained.

OTHER N.F.O. ACTIVITIES

The NFO is currently engaged in a fight for the life of grain producers. Apparently, the chief economist for the Agriculture Dpt. predicted that if general grain prices go down another \$1.50/bushel, approximately one-third of the farmers will be forced into bankruptcy. Moore felt that such things can and will happen unless farmers organize to help each other out. "Farmers only comprise 2% of the population, so the government thinks it can stomp on the farmers or totally ignore them." But consumer rapport with well-meaning farm organizations can help to reverse present trends.

Another battle the NFO is waging is on the legislative front. Moore cited a bill which was passed during the Nixon Administration 1971 which gives the President the authority to place National Guard troops to work farm land "in case of a national emergency." The NFO has been lobbying vigorously to get this act repealed. The NFO, Moore explained, wants to make sure that food is treated as a necessity for people, not a political weapon.



DO YOU WISH IT FRAMED, BRONZED, GIFT WRAPPED OR SIMPLY LEFT IN YOUR WILL?

NFO's role in spurring the Watergate investigation onward began when the NFO filed suit against the Association of Milk Producers. The suit was filed after the NFO discovered political payoffs involving John Connally, then Secretary of Treasury under President Nixon. Further investigations revealed illegal campaign donations to key figures in the committee which passed on milk price supports.

Essentially, the National Farmers Organization is a force to be considered in returning our country to economic fairness. "When the NFO goes anywhere with food to sell," Moore continued, "other grocers lower prices to force us out. But what we want is to raise the demand for beef and other quality products to increase the market price for farmers."

"Somebody said the rise and fall of every great nation happens every 200 years. If one-third of the farmers are out of work this year, just try to imagine what the result will be."

Moore said that he expects the NFO will be back in Bloomington to sell their wares in early or middle May.

---Jeremy Timmens

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ENTRES

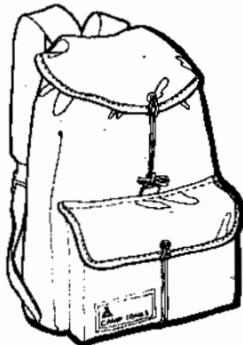
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While Travelling in Amerika

A lot of people will be taking off this May for places unknown. We wish you luck in your adventures, and we sincerely hope you find what you're looking for out there, be it fun, vacation, peace, America...whatever. Have a good time. There's so much we could say to you, telling you where to go, where not to go, what to do, what not to do. But that could take years to compile, and would fill, at the very least, a year's worth of Post-Amerikans. But we couldn't just let you go without giving you something...

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Concord, Mass. 01742
369-9521

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2916 Northwest Nicolai
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CA2-7059

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Classy Fried Ads

Wanted: small used propane refrigerator about 4 cubic feet, good working condition, hopefully. Phone Towanda, 728-2891.

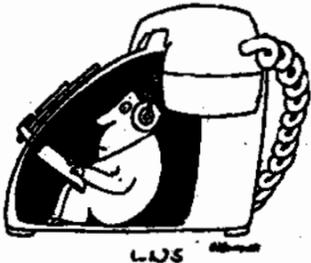
Classical Guitar for Sale. Yamaha \$50.00. Call 827-8025 M & T. Ask for Connie.

I need a ride to Mt. Prospect after May 23, to come back to Bloomington before the month is over. Will help pay for gas. Call Virginia, 828-6885.

For Sale: Help me travel lightly this summer. 1 Wilson T 2000 tennis racket with case, 1 Zebco fishing pole, 1 very large box of tools including many sockets. Call Michael at 828-6885.

Seven beautiful kittens to be given away free. Nine weeks old, well socialized. Call 828-6885.

GOOD NUMBERS



This is a list of telephone numbers people can use when they need some kind of help. If you can think of any numbers we left out call or write Virginia at the Post-Amerikan office.

Alcoholics Anonymous 828-5049
American Red Cross 828-5065
ACLU 436-6709
Birthright 452-0041
Boycott Support Committee 452-5046
CSA 828-9148
for Day Care Centers see yellow pages
Director of Public Services 829-1488
Dept. of Health, Educ. and Welfare 829-9436
Dept. of Children and Family Services 829-5346
Food Stamps see Public Aid
Western Ave. Community Center
for free medical care 829-4807
Family Service of McLean Co. 828-4343
Gay Peoples Alliance 438-3411
Greaseball City 454-1644
828-6337
827-8384
Headstart Program 828-8413
Home Sweet Home Mission 828-7356
Independent VW of Normal 452-0531
ISU Tenant Union 436-6661
Ill. Lawyer Referral Service 800-252-8916
ISU Student Legal Services 438-3642

Kaleidoscope 828-7346
Lighthouse 828-1371
Labor Dept. of Ill. Employment Service 827-6237
Mens Group 829-8792
452-8422
McLean Co. Narcotics Association 662-5541
McLean Co. Youth Services Agency 827-6241
McLean Co. Health Dept 829-3363
McLean Co. Mental Health Dept. 827-0073
Occupational Development Center 828-7324
Project OZ 827-6714
Public Aid 829-7057
Post-Amerikan 452-9221
Planned Parenthood 827-8025
Peoples Food orders-452-9221
pickup-828-3922
PATH 452-4422
Rape Crisis Line call PATH
Student Stores 452-7623
Sugar Creek Book Co-op 452-9221
Salvation Army 829-9476
Senior Action Center for McLean Co. 827-6201
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center 829-9715
States Attorneys Office 829-3328
Womens Group 828-6885
828-0945
WESN radio 556-2332

ISU Women Organize

Last Thursday (April 10), eighty women came out for the first general meeting of the Illinois State University Student Association for Women. This is a new campus organization, and it's designed to improve the lot of female students at ISU. Alumni and part-time students are welcome to participate, too.

The general meeting consisted first of an explanation of how the group was conceived and organized by a small core of dedicated cadre in clandestine meetings held in the murky corners of Stevenson Hall. These women braved ridicule, recrimination and red tape to bring forth a Respectable Campus Organization, which they realize is one way to get some POWER around here.

We also saw two short movies: one about sexism in organized religion by Rev. Sharon Emsweiler, and one entitled, "You Can Be Anything You Want to Be" (the main point was "yeah, tell us another one").

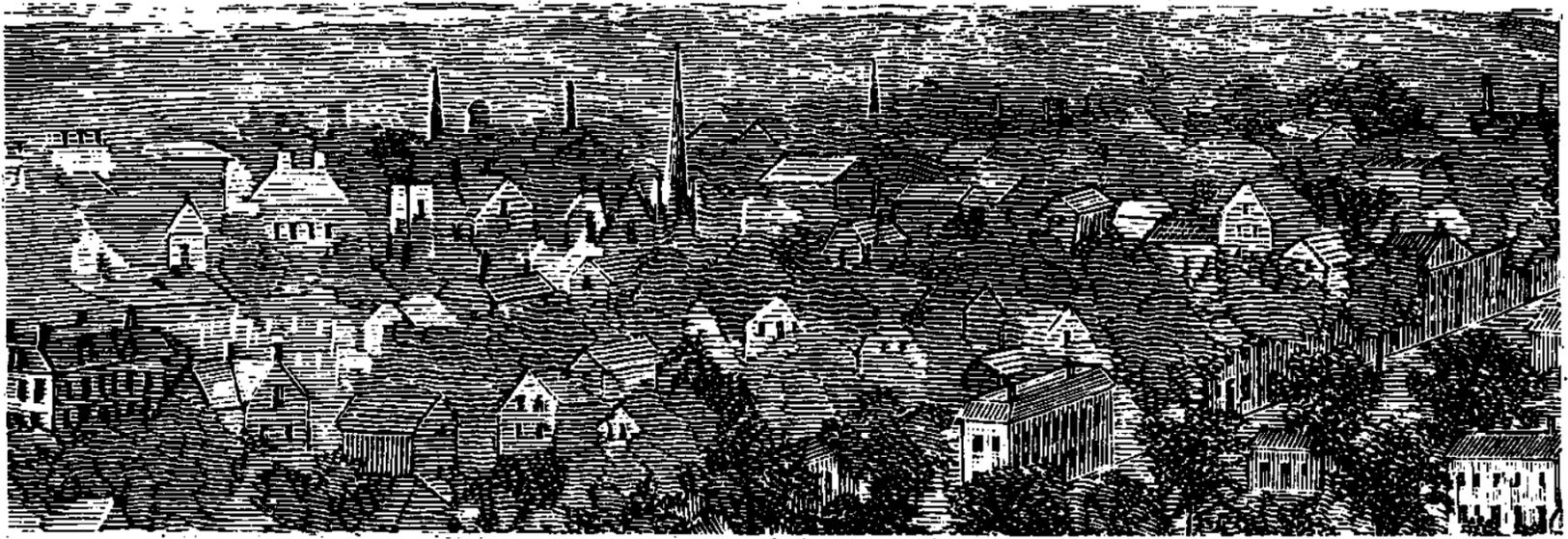
But that isn't all. People also signed up for weekly rap groups on sexuality, marriage, personal goals, woman's psychology, and a whole bunch of other exciting topics. If you want to join a rap group or find out more of the topics, call Judy Weinman at 663-5626, because she's the Rap Group Coordinator.

If you think that you've been discriminated against at ISU because of your sex, you should call Melissa Pazen (438-3458). She is in charge of collecting grievances and figuring out what action to take on them (nasty letters & phone calls, complaints to Affirmative Action, male chauvinist rehabilitation procedures, riots, etc.).

The following women are on the executive committee of SAW, and you can call any one of them for more information on the organization and what it can do for you and your sisters.

General Coordinator Diane Bohnsak (452-4241)
Program Coordinator Barb Ostapina (438-3496)
Corresponding Secretary Donna Worth (438-3496)
Treasurer Rhonda O'Shea (452-2135)
Publicity & Recruitment Karen Wallis (438-7871)
Rap Group Coordinator Judy Wienman (663-5626)
Service Coordinator Melissa Pazen (438-3458)
Special Concerns Donna Turner (438-3285)
Historian Sharon Olson (452-3060)

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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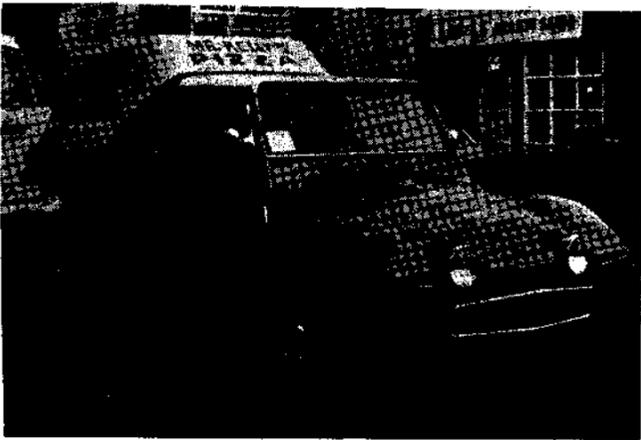
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