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The Keep

The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

8-1975

Volume 4, Number 5

Post Amerikan

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Recommended Citation

Post Amerikan, "Volume 4, Number 5" (1975). *The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)*. 46.
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King picks nose; narc pix; mall bust; parking payoff & more!

AUGUST 1975

Bloomington ... Normal

15¢

POST AMERICAN

VOL. IV
No. 5

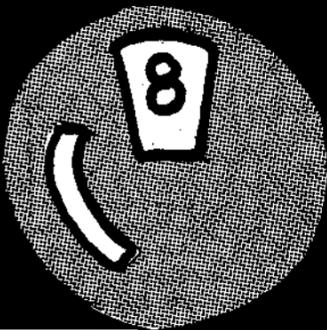
THE CABLE CONNECTION... SEE PAGE 12

GZZP!

VRRK!

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES PREVENT
US FROM SHOWING THE REST OF
TONIGHT'S EXCITING ACTION-PACKED
FEATURE FILM "LOVE OF THE MOUNTIES"
UNTIL YOU, THE VIEWER, GIVE US ALL
YOUR BELONGINGS AND GUARANTEE
YOU WON'T GO TO THE POLICE

BZZRT!



BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NORMAL, ILL.
61761

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

ABOUT US

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

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

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

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

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

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

MEETINGS

- Friday, August 1, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, August 8, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, August 15, 6:30 p.m.
- Wed., August 20, 6:30 p.m. DEADLINE
- Sat., August 23, 12:00 noon LAYOUT
- Sun., August 24, 12:00 noon LAYOUT

These meetings are held at the Post-Amerikan office, 101 North St., 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--7¢ 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.

POST SELLERS

NORMAL

- University Liquors, 706 W. Beaufort
- Welcome Inn (in front)
- 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, 111 1/2 North St.
- Ram, 101 Broadway Mall
- Al's Pipe Shop, 101 Broadway Mall
- Hendren's Grocery, 301 W. Willow
- Co-op Bookstore, in front
- Sugar Creek Book Co-op, 115 North
- The Gallery (in front)
- Lobby Shop, ISU Union
- Cage, ISU Union
- Recreation Center, ISU
- Midstate Truck Plaza, Rt. 51 North
- Hottle House, 1402 S. Main
- SW Corner, University & College
- Radio Shack, in front

BLOOMINGTON

- The Joint, 415 N. Main
- DA's Liquors, Oakland and Main
- Medusa's Bookstore, 109 W. Front
- Illinois Wesleyan Union
- News Nook, 402 1/2 N. Main
- Book Hive, 103 W. Front
- Cake Box, 511 S. Denver
- Gaston's Barber Shop, 202 1/2 N. Center
- Sambo's, Washington 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
- Sunnyside Neighborhood Center
- Wood Hill Towers South
- Red Wheel Restaurant
- Madison St. Cafe, 317 S. Madison
- Produce-A-Plenty, 1409 S. Main
- J & L Gas Co., 1402 S. Main

PRESS CREDENTIALS

Bloomington Police Chief Harold Bosshardt denied the Post-Amerikan standard press credentials in mid-July, because he said the Post is "not a bona-fide newspaper."

Other local media routinely enjoy access to police complaint books, radio logs, and report files. These are the sources of most "crime stories" in the Pantagraph and on radio.

Wishing to use these sources for future reporting, a Post-Amerikan representative asked the police chief for the guidelines determining "press passes." The chief had no guidelines, so the Post reporter simply asked for permission to see the same materials other media reporters get to see.

Chief Bosshardt said that he would

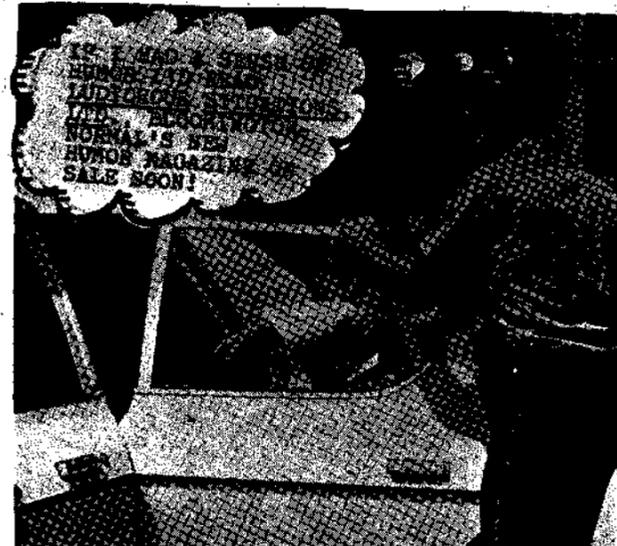
DENIED POST

have to ask his boss, the City Manager. Bosshardt said he had to ask the City Manager's permission to allow Channel 10 reporters to use the same materials.

One week later, Bosshardt told the Post-Amerikan representative that the request was denied. "It's not a bona-fide newspaper," Bosshardt said, apparently referring to the Post's lack of a formal hierarchical structure. Bosshardt had complained earlier that the paper had no editor or publisher.

In denying the request, Bosshardt made a point of stating that this was his own decision, and that he had not asked the City Manager about it.

Legal recourse will be investigated.



COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN FORFEITS BOND

County Board Chairman Jake Ringger forfeited \$100 bond on a disorderly conduct charge filed against him by Sheriff's police May 6.

The charges stemmed from county cops breaking up a beer party near Gridley in early May.

Sheriff King charged that Ringger threatened deputies with use of political influence and reprisals against them for their conduct that night. One of Ringger's nephews was arrested.

Several reports, including one in the Post-Amerikan, interpreted King's move as petty revenge. Ringger did not support King's reelection in 1974. King would not even speak to Ringger for a while after that, Ringger reported to the Pantagraph.

Criticism of King's role has been so heavy that attention turned away from Ringger.

Ringger was charged with trying to use his position as Chairman of the County Board to intercede for some people being arrested.

Now, thanks to Ringger and the State's Attorney, no jury will be able to determine Ringger's guilt or innocence. Ringger's bond forfeiture ends the case. Was Ringger trying to avoid being found guilty, or did he just consider going to court as a criminal defendant a bit beneath him?

A bond forfeiture lets a defendant get out of a criminal charge without having a criminal record. All Ringger loses is \$100, which he posted as 10% of \$1000 bail. He could have been held liable for paying the entire \$1000, but the State's Attorney chose not to ask for it.

The State's Attorney could have asked for a warrant for Ringger's arrest, since he didn't show up for court. That was not done either.

In the aftermath of the beer bust last May, both Ringger and King babbled revealing statements.

Example: Pious John King said he was concerned that Ringger's actions "may have given the youths the impression that political clout can affect the enforcement of laws."

Example: Ringger said he was initially angered that police would put forth so much effort to bust up a beer party. But when he learned that marijuana was found near the scene, he said he realized the deputies were doing the right thing.

During the bust, Ringger said he heard a deputy remark that he didn't know whether to shoot at the kids running away through the field.

Saying that deputy shouldn't be allowed to carry a gun, Ringger pledged to pursue the matter. Nothing has been heard since.

SHERIFF BEATS FEDERAL RAP



King tried to claim innocence at press conference.

After a mere year and a half of investigation and indecision, the U.S. Department of "Justice" has chosen to abandon efforts to prosecute Sheriff John King.

King had been under investigation for numerous violations of the Federal Civil Rights Act.

Charges ranged from inhumane treatment (like use of the medieval stand-up cell and black cell) to outright beatings of prisoners.

Sheriff King himself, plus several deputies, were named in complaints to the FBI, the Pantagraph, the Post-Amerikan, and anyone else who would listen.

Stories of county jail brutality have run regularly in the Post-Amerikan for a year and a half. They followed a 3-part Pantagraph series on beatings in the county jail.

Both series followed an announcement in early 1974 that the FBI was investigating inmates' complaints of law violations by county police.

In announcing the dropping of the federal case, "Justice" Department officials emphasized that their decision was a pragmatic one. They had evidence but didn't think it would result in a successful prosecution.

The decision does not mean we did not believe that some of those things did

not happen," but that "we do not believe the matter can be proved," one "Justice" Department man told the Pantagraph.

Such reasoning probably reflects prosecutors' and judges' and juries' class prejudice; the word of a police official is more credible than the word of a former jail inmate.

In King's case, prosecutors had the testimony of dozens of former jail prisoners.

Apparently, for the legal system to work in this case, Sheriff King would have to beat prisoners in full public view, maybe in front of the courthouse. Then some "respectable" witnesses could be brought against the Sheriff.

Sheriff King himself understood the prejudices working in his favor during the marches last fall. When asked by a TV reporter how he responded to the charges against him, the Sheriff merely pointed out that most of the charges came from former jail prisoners, and who can believe them?

In response to the "Justice" Department's announcement, Sheriff King held a press conference, attended by Post-Amerikan reporters.

King maintained that the dropping of the case meant that absolutely no evidence had been found. He claimed that if there were any evidence at

all, he would have been prosecuted.

When a reporter pointed out that US attorneys had said there was some evidence, King said "I don't know how to respond to that."

One reporter asked King if he had conducted an internal investigation of his police to determine if any inmate's rights had been violated, King said he had. When a reporter asked what King had found out, the Sheriff said "I don't think we'll discuss that."

Asked if he was still using the black box, King said "We would use the black box if necessary."

Throughout the press conference, Sheriff King acted as though he was completely innocent of any mistreatment of prisoners. It didn't look like any of the reporters believed him.

Letter:

"KING AN INHUMAN MONSTER"

Post:

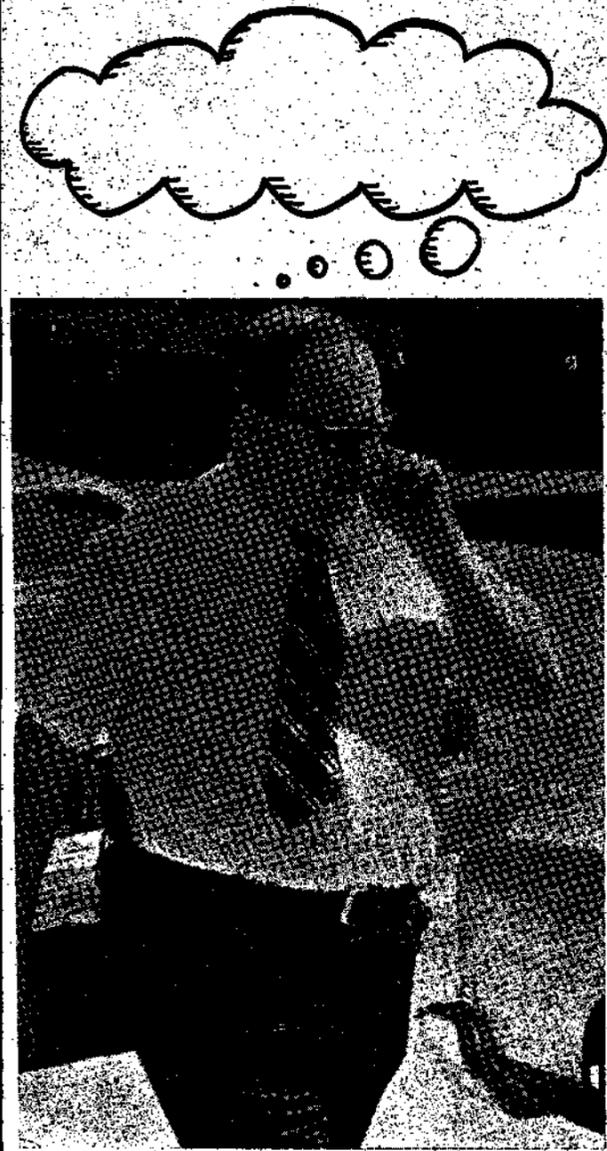
I thought I'd write and comment on recent developments with Sheriff King. I mean he must think everyone is ignorant. I don't know what the deal is on people any more. Here I sit with an open Pantagraph reading this story headlined "IF CHARGES TRUE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE PROSECUTED-- KING". I would like to say something to you folks who believe this lying garbage.

For a start the U.S. Department of Justice found "insufficient evidence" for the prosecution of Sheriff King. That does NOT mean Sheriff King is innocent, only that they couldn't find enough evidence to make a conviction. That cop is so sure of himself it makes me sick. I wonder if I could be in danger after I've told all I know about our sick Sheriff King? That goes for a lot of people too! Cause there isn't any doubt in my mind that Sheriff King would try to cause harm to anyone of the people who made charges against him. I know he would. He has done it before. I know that all of the folks who accused King of abuse weren't lying. There were too many people for that.

So now what? Is this over and done with or what? All you people who protested, what happens now? Does everyone lie down and just plain forget? King is a sick inhuman fat monster who wouldn't hesitate to greatly harm all of you people reading this. Well, I don't worry for myself. I'm safe and sound in the joint where King and his wolf pack can't get to me. What will you people do? It's pretty bad when you have to fear your police, and some of you will begin to believe this real soon.

I'M WRITING THIS IN CASE I MAY ENCOURAGE SOMEONE TO COME UP WITH IDEAS ON FIGHTING THIS SADISTIC FIG COP AND HIS BOYS IN BROWN, BECAUSE WE MAY NEED TO.

Marty Hartley
Chuck Jenkins



Enter the Sheriff King Photo Contest!

What is Sheriff King thinking as he walks down the street picking his nose? Just fill in the thought balloon and send it to the Post-Amerikan. Best caption writer wins a free subscription! Winning caption & picture will be published in the next issue.

COPIES

As a fund-raising effort, the Post-Amerikan is offering 3 1/2" by 5" glossy photographs of our distinguished Sheriff in this dramatic crime-fighting pose. Just send \$1.50 for each photograph to the Post-Amerikan, 101 North St. in Normal. We'll rush your very own copy to you in the mail.

Woman Arrested Passing

4

"They tried to pick a fight with me. I've been trying to stay away from them. They're communists," one observer uttered.

The atmosphere was tense.

Words like "obscenity," derogatory literature, and "hoodlums" surfaced from ominous mutterings.

Police stood nearby, holding themselves ready for action on impending orders.

News reporters hovered near the scene, knowing the situation had to break soon.

Was it a police ambush of an SLA hideout? No, it was Eastland Shopping Center in Bloomington on the afternoon of July 4.

The culprits were ten members of Community for Social Action (CSA) who were asking people to read and sign copies of the Declaration of Independence to commemorate the bicentennial.

Ms. Toby Easton, a 53 year old Normal woman, was charged with criminal trespass July 4th, for asking shoppers at the Eastland Mall if they would like to sign a copy of "a political statement about freedom for Americans."

That political statement was an untitled mimeographed copy of the full text of the Declaration.

While quite a few people signed the document, others weren't interested in stopping to read such a long tract. (See the Bicentennial page for a full tally.)

One man read the entire Declaration, then refused to sign, saying it was "communist" and "un-American."

CSA members got to talk with shoppers for about fifteen minutes before Eastland's head maintenance man called the police.

(This same individual was the first to get up in arms over lettuce boycotters' picket of Eastland A&P.)

The maintenance man also called Eastland owner Marion Tate, claiming that people were passing out "obscene literature."

In the Pantagraph story covering the event, this phrase was sanitized to read "derogatory literature."

Police had been called to Eastland before to prevent the transfer of pieces of paper from one person to another.



Officers Williamson and Frank escort Ms. Easton to a waiting squad car. One observer later commented, "Welcome to the United States!"

In 1969, half a dozen SDS members were arrested at Eastland for passing out copies of a leaflet describing black resistance to racism in Cairo, Illinois. SDS members said the Pantagraph was purposely ignoring the real story of Cairo, and that leafletting the Mall was their only way to circumvent a news blackout.

The Eastland 7 case almost went to the Supreme Court.

Appeals were abandoned when the Supreme Court decided a similar case, saying that people leave their constitutional rights at home when they decide to go shopping at a mall. Private property was more important than freedom of speech.

Since then, Eastland owner Marion Tate has used his private property rights to prevent the distribution of:

1. an explanation of the United Farmworkers Union strike,
2. the Post-American,
3. material urging the impeachment of Richard Nixon, and now
4. material urging the separation of the American from England.

When police officers Robert Frank and J.B. Williamson arrived at the scene of the crime, they didn't seem to know quite what to do.

They saw several quiet, respectable-looking people showing pieces of paper to shoppers.

They were also confronted with the complainant, Eastland's maintenance man, who seemed to be responding to his own fantasy as he explained to police: "Everyone has been giving me a rough time. They've been doing anything in their power to egg me on. Here's one here, Bob. [Gesturing towards the source of his dismay.] There's about a dozen of 'em. A couple women, too. They tried to pick a fight with me. I've been trying to stay away from them. They're communists."

Police then talked on the phone with Eastland owner Marion Tate. Since phone instructions were not enough for the police to act upon, Tate came out to his shopping center.

Entering the fray, Tate asked all the CSA members to cease passing the subversive document. Ironically, two feet away two young girls were sitting at a table passing out free copies of the Declaration as a promotional gimmick for the Freedom Train, a commercial Bicentennial venture that

Porter Criticizes New Tories

Commentary by Jack Porter for WJBC's Forum on July 14, 1975.

For most of American business the word "Bicentennial" should start with "B-U-Y." The American revolutionary heritage is treated not as the serious basis of our national life but as an object for commercial exploitation. Such is the case with the Eastland Shopping Center and its manager, Marion Tate. It's OK to put signs on the wall announcing the Bicentennial and to keep copies of historic documents behind glass in the so-called "Freedom Shrine." It's even fine to distribute copies of the Declaration of Independence inside the mall if you're selling tickets for the Freedom Train, a commercial venture sponsored by some of America's giant corporations. But if you're just a private citizen like Tobe Easton, interested in inviting people to think about the Declaration of Independence, you'd better stay away.

The absentee owners of Eastland are not concerned with us as free citizens. For all they care King George could still rule as long as their profits were safe. Don't talk to customers, their mouthpiece says, we might not sell as much. Don't offer them copies of the Declaration of Independence, you might offend them. Can you imagine Marion Tate having Thomas Jefferson or Sam Adams arrested for distributing the Declaration of Independence? If they didn't have his permission, I guess he'd try.

In years past, there was no question

that citizens could exchange ideas on public squares and on the walks in front of the stores where they gathered for shopping. The modern equivalent of those gathering places is the shopping center, but the distant owners and local managers prefer a sterile environment in



IGA stores celebrate the Bicentennial with this window poster.

which consumers leave their First Amendment rights at the parking lot entrance. They assert the doctrine that property rights allow them to determine our behavior in their private mall.

Of course, the property itself has no rights. They're talking about owner's rights. If Marion Tate tells us to paint our noses green, he can kick us out of the mall or have us arrested if we refuse. Tobe Easton believes, and I agree, that when the public is invited to Eastland, all of us go there with our constitutional rights intact. Company towns can't stop the free expression of ideas on their privately-owned streets. Employers of farm labor can't stop union organizing efforts in their privately-owned housing. And the big businessmen of Eastland have no legitimate right to inhibit freedom of speech and assembly which is not injuring anyone's health or safety. The modern Tories who sell our bicentennial but do not honor it must not prevail.

(Post note: WJBC editorial management in the person of Tim Ives broadcast a rebuttal to Porter's editorial. Though Porter has delivered editorial commentary every two weeks for the past three months, this is the first time the radio station chose to respond. Significantly, this was Porter's first editorial attacking property rights. Talk about hitting them where they live!)

Out Historic Document

Johnny Cash advertizes on television. That particular distribution of the Declaration had been approved and advertized in the *Pantagraph*; it's presence in the Mall didn't bother Tate. After all, Tate pointed out, the girls were not asking customers to take copies of the document.

The actual solicitation of shoppers irked Eastland's management. Tate was deeply concerned that his customers might be bothered by strangers approaching them in the Mall and actually talking to them. "Nothing's going to stop our customers," Tate said emphatically in a stirring declaration of corporate concern.

Tate next read a legalistic note to the CSA group, instructing them that if they didn't leave within 15 minutes, they would be arrested.

"You are to leave the premises and not return," Tate said.

"Can't we ever come back to shop?" one person asked.

Tate replied that everyone regardless of race, color or political leaning would be welcome to visit the Mall to spend money.

But of course.

Within a few minutes after the ominous trespass notice, all CSA members but one had decided to leave. Ms. Toby Easton decided to continue passing out the Declaration of Independence, even if it meant getting arrested.

As the 15-minute deadline approached, Eastland owner Marion Tate began to get the jitters. He realized that Mrs. Easton wasn't going to leave, and he didn't really want to face the publicity that would result from her arrest.

Tate took to wandering around the Mall talking to people in a futile attempt at justifying his action.

"Really, she's bothering our customers," Tate told one bystander. "I've got a sworn statement that she disturbed one shopper."

"This is private property. I have a right to tell her to leave."

The fifteen minutes were up at five past two. No one was arrested. Fifteen minutes later, Tate was still desparately trying to decide what to do. He saw Ms. Easton stop a young couple and talk to them.

When they moved on, Tate approached the couple. This reporter followed.

"Did Mrs. Easton bother you?" I asked.

"No, not at all," the woman member of the couple said.



Eastland manager Marion Tate explains difference between his Declaration and CSA's to CSA member Jack Porter.

Tate and the couple continued walking down the Mall, Tate talking all the while.

A few minutes later, Tate was calling, "Reporter: Reporter: Come here. These people didn't answer your question the way they wanted to."

I approached the couple again. At Tate's prompting, the woman said in robot monotone: "I don't like to be disturbed while I'm shopping."

Perhaps feeling reassured by this less than spontaneous support, Tate then ordered the police to move in.

(The two cops had been waiting patiently for over an hour while Tate waited to sign a complaint for trespass. Do all property owners get that much police time for a simple trespass problem?)

At least half an hour past the original deadline, Ms. Easton was told she was under arrest.

One young man, just coming onto the scene when Ms. Easton was entering the squad car, asked what was happening.

"She was just arrested for passing out the Declaration of Independence on the Fourth of July," an observer said.

"That's incredible," the young man said.

"Welcome to the United States of America."

Post script: News of the arrest hit the national wire services and appeared in major newspapers from New York and Washington to Los Angeles. Ms. Easton has received supporting communications from people in Memphis, Dallas, Boise, and Greenville, S.C., where she participated in a radio talk show.

NeFCO

The cooperative movement in Boston and the whole of New England has grown tremendously in the last two years.

It was around then that a few co-ops in Boston and the area around started to get together to buy produce at the New England Produce Center in Chelsea, Mass. Since that small beginning, New England Food Co-ops (NeFCO) has grown to where it is today: a federation of co-ops that cover the whole six state region.

Besides buying produce together the co-ops in NeFCO have started buying grains and cheeses. The federation has grown to such great proportions that co-ops close to each other have started forming regional organizations to deal with problems closer to home.

A lot of energy has gone into making both NeFCO and the smaller regions work. But even more work is being done in the cities around New England to involve more than just student or ex-student types in the movement. The push has been into low-income and working class neighborhoods where people really need something like a food co-op.

A group of community people in the Jamaica Plains part of Boston--a low income neighborhood that has an even mix of Blacks, Spanish, and whites--got together and persuaded the developer of an elderly housing project to rent them the store that was being built as part of the project for a food co-op instead of a small convenience store.

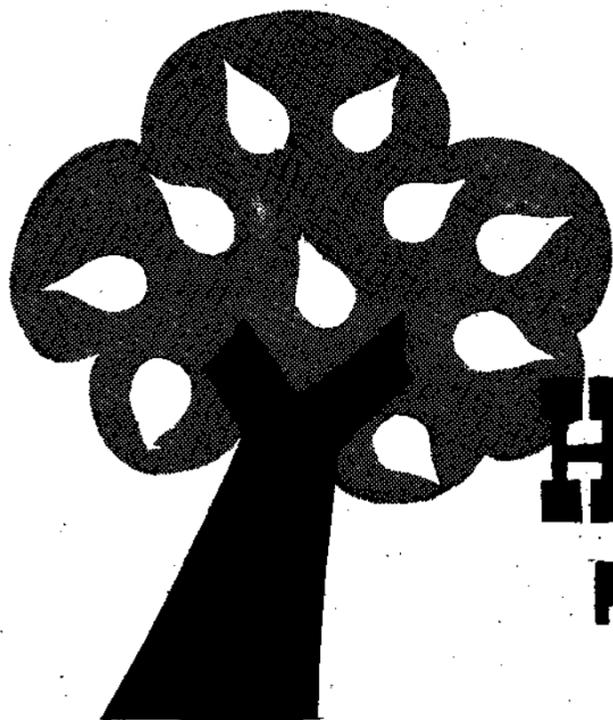
With a lot of help from people in the community and some money from various sources including a large storefront co-op on the other side of town, the J. P. Food Co-op opened its doors.

In the year since, membership has grown to around 1500 members with each member doing two hours of work a month to make it work.

The Co-op is set up like a small market and it sells a complete line of foods. Beside meat, cheese, produce, grain, and can goods, the co-op also sells Spanish type foods to meet the needs of the Spanish people of Jamaica Plains.

This co-op has brought a lot of people together who normally would not have met and is a good example of how people of different backgrounds can get together and run a store that serves one of all their important needs: Food.

Chuck



THE HONEY TREE

fresh sprouts
organically grown produce
vegetarian cookbooks



NATURAL FOODS 124 E. BEAUFORT, NORMAL 452-9011



DOES MAYOR'S SPECIAL CITY

"Well, you know Mayor Bittner works for the National Bank."

That was the most commonly heard explanation on Bloomington's streets when downtown shoppers and workers found forty public parking spaces blocked off for the exclusive use of the National Bank of Bloomington in mid-June.

A National Bank employee spends all day attending those spaces, located in the Abraham Lincoln Parking Lot, bounded by Front, East, Grove & Main streets. A sign warns drivers that bank customers only may park in that area.

These spaces were formerly public metered spaces. Several downtown business owners commented that the lot was usually pretty full.

The bank's usurpation of the spaces met with angry and cynical reactions.

One city councilman even wondered aloud, "How much did they have to pay under the counter for this?" Many wondered why the bank was not using spaces in the city's new, mostly-empty parking garage.

This reporter decided to find out.

The bank's parking attendant was not much help. "I'm not saying anything to anybody," he said. "I don't know anything about this, I'm just doing my job. If you want to talk to someone, go talk to Sheldon Leach [an apt name for a bank president] at the

National Bank or William Vail at City Hall."

William Vail is Director of Finance for Bloomington. I went to ask him how the National Bank, the mayor's employer, suddenly took over 40 city parking spaces.

Vail explained that the city had purchased the National Bank's old parking lot at Grove and Main. The bank would eventually get replacement spaces in the city's new expanded parking lot under construction now at the same site. Since that construction tore up the bank's existing forty spaces, the city is obliged to furnish temporary parking for the bank, until they finish the new lot.

Government officials, when about to receive criticism for a decision, like to pretend that they had no choice in the matter.

Vail was no exception.

I asked Vail why the bank's temporary parking had to be in the Abraham Lincoln lot. He said it was in the contract.

It's not in the contract.

The contract says "...the City shall supply to the Bank parking as close as possible to the Bank, if the same is available, until the new lot is completed and ready for occupancy."

I asked Vail why the temporary parking couldn't be in the parking garage, which is mostly empty anyway.

"Oh, no, Sheldon Leach [the bank president] would never go for that," Vail exclaimed.

Vail then pointed out that the contract said that the temporary parking was to be "as close as possible to the bank."

"That's in the contract," Vail said.

I asked Vail why he didn't give the Bank the on-street parking right on Main Street--spaces even closer than the Abraham Lincoln Lot.

"Oh, no, I would have received too much criticism for that," Vail said.

The contract obligates the city to give parking to the bank, if that parking is available. I asked Vail if metered parking could be considered unavailable.

Vail said it was possible. But he added that Sheldon Leach is "hard as nails" when it comes to negotiating agreements.

Vail denied that the mayor's affiliation with the National Bank had anything to do with the agreement. Vail handled the negotiations himself, as he handles most of the parking plans. (The parking garage, known in some circles as "Vail's lean-to," was Vail's brain-child.)

I asked Vail if he owned any National Bank stock. "No, I sold that some time ago," Vail said, "It was about the only thing I ever made any money

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.

For the next 12 monthly issues, send \$1.75 to Post-Amerikan, 101 North St., Normal, Illinois. 61761.

POST AMERIKAN

Enclosed is \$1.75 for the next 12 issues.

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state _____

zip _____

BANK GET FAVORS?



40 spaces in a city parking lot are blocked off for the exclusive use of the National Bank, where Mayor Bittner works.

7

on." Vail worked for the National Bank before becoming the city's Director of Finance.

When Vail was "hammering out" the negotiations with the National Bank on their parking lot, he was negotiating with his former boss.

Whether Vail was still subject to intimidation from his former boss, or whether Sheldon Leach is just "hard as nails" as Vail says, cannot be determined.

It is apparent, though, from examining the parking agreement, that the City of Bloomington got took.

Until the new parking lot under construction is completed, the bank gets to keep its parking spaces, paying only \$5 a month rent for each space.

\$5 a month for off-street parking in the center of downtown is quite a bargain.

It's even more of a bargain when the city sacrifices parking meter revenues to provide the bank with temporary parking. Spaces in the Abraham Lincoln Lot average \$14 a month income from parking meters, according to city records.

Vail said that the city isn't losing all its meter revenue from the bank's forty free spaces. He said that the bank occupies its spaces only during banking hours, and they become regular city metered spaces at 2 o'clock every day.

It was 3 o'clock when I left Vail's office. The bank's forty spaces were still blocked off.

The city/bank parking agreement calls for the city to construct forty spaces for the bank's exclusive use in the city's expanded parking lot. For these spaces, the bank will pay \$10/month. The bank has a 10-year lease for the spaces.

\$10/month for off-street parking in the center of downtown Bloomington is still a bargain, especially when the rate is held constant by a 10-year contract, and especially when the city has to do all the construction of a brand-new parking lot.

The city paid \$78,000 for the bank's old 40-space parking lot, and the city will foot the bill for constructing the bank's new parking lot. The bank no longer has to pay property taxes on the spaces--only a token rent. If the bank invests the \$78,000 payment for the lot at 7% interest, the income will more than pay the rent for their new city-built parking lot.

No one wonders why the bank signed this agreement. Why did the city sign it?

Vail says the city was forced to agree to these conditions because Sheldon Leach was being difficult about selling the bank's old parking lot. Leach threatened to force the city to go to court on a condemnation suit.

Vail said the city was somewhat worried about having to go to court to buy the bank's old parking lot. Vail thought a slick lawyer might be able to argue that the city shouldn't have the right to force a parking lot to sell out in order for the city to tear it up to build a new parking lot in the same location.

Maybe he's right.

By this time, it's too late for the city to get a better deal from the National Bank on the bulk of the

agreement. (It was such a good deal for the National Bank, Vail said, that two other banks fought the proposal "tooth and nail" before the City Council OK'ed it a year ago.)

But nowhere in the city's agreement with the bank does it say that the bank's temporary parking spaces have to be within one block of the bank. The city's new parking garage stands almost empty a mere three blocks from the National Bank. The bank's employees could probably stand the exercise. Regular parkers at the Abraham Lincoln Lot wouldn't be displaced. The city wouldn't lose its meter revenues.

It's surprising that the parking garage's chief promoter, William Vail, feels that the garage is too far away for a National Bank customer to park. If Vail thinks 3 blocks is too far, does he plan to build parking garages every 3 blocks?

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CAR LOT CASANOVAS MAKE RAW DEAL

Cars and women--how many masculine egos have been supported by claiming intimate knowledge of how one of these works? How many masculine egos have propped themselves up on a woman's socialized incompetence with an engine? And how many jokes poke fun at any car/woman/woman/car combination?

The jokes aren't so funny any more to Lisa Williams, a local woman who got into a definitely unfunny situation at Union Auto Sales in Bloomington. When you analyze the events in her story, you can see that if she weren't a woman, 1) she would not have been sold a certain car (a 1972 Vega), 2) she would not have taken the car to a different garage to get it fixed without first reporting to Union Auto Sales, 3) her complaints to Union would not be met with patronizing attitudes, 4) Union Auto Sales would not try to push inferior repairs off as sufficient, and 5) she would not have to deal with sexual innuendos and direct propositions in her attempts to communicate with Union Auto Sales personnel.

Here's how it happened:

1st day: Ms. Williams had paid off a 1971 Maverick. She wanted to trade it in for a 1972 Vega she saw at Union Auto Sales. Tom Bounds, the salesperson, claimed that the car originally belonged to his own mother. He gave Ms. Williams an even trade for her 1971 Maverick.

Most men I've talked to say they would be very suspicious about such a trade-in. Ms. Williams wasn't.

Pfister, the owner of the lot, and Bounds felt free to make sexual "jokes" with Lisa and a friend who was with her. They mentioned that Lisa could get a car by joining them in the back room. They also claimed that they were running out of time--that Lisa should meet them later at the Ramada Inn.

Ms. Williams took this disrespectful behavior as a matter of course, which it unfortunately is. She laughed, "They think they're real Casanovas."

The Vega's brakes went out that day.

2nd day: She took the Vega to Johnny Martin's Chevrolet and got it fixed. It didn't occur to her to report this to Union Auto Sales.

3rd day: The Vega developed a funny noise. Johnny Martin Chevrolet told Ms. Williams that it had a broken A-frame and that it was very dangerous for her to drive it in to work from LeRoy with her two children.

She took the Vega back to Union Auto. They told her to get it fixed at Carl's Auto Body and the cost would be covered by insurance. They gave her her former Maverick to drive while the Vega got fixed.

Carl's Auto Body said that insurance wouldn't cover the repairs because no accident had been reported. (A broken A-frame usually results from a serious accident). Ms. Williams had not had an accident in the Vega.

The next week: Union Auto personnel had told her to come in every day and check on her car. Bounds teased her on these visits, until she finally started telephoning instead of dropping by in person. Once he grabbed the keys to the Maverick and said she could come get them at the Ramada Inn.

2 weeks later: Ms. Williams finally got the Vega back. The A-frame was not fixed; Carl's had just realigned the car. Of course the front wheels were out of alignment again the same day. A mechanic told Lisa that there were about 60 other things wrong, too.

Tom Bounds laughed and told Lisa the Vega was a wreck. Pfister told her that it was a piece of junk and laughed.

Bounds offered Ms. Williams her Maverick back if she paid \$500.00 --or "if you really want it back, you know how to get it--not with money."

Around July 8: Ms. Williams finally got the car title in the mail.

Today: The Vega has fallen apart and doesn't run now.

Lisa Williams lost her job in Bloomington because she doesn't have a way to get to work from LeRoy.

She can't afford to get a lawyer and file suit.

Now, I realize some of the incidents above are not directly the fault of Union Auto Sales, but of a larger system. Women are not encouraged to learn about either buying cars or dealing firmly with male salespeople in such matters. And even those women who have the inclination and the leisure time to study up on cars are too often ridiculed just as much as those who are uninformed.

Another problem is the used-car sales mentality, which is just an exaggeration of quick-profit-making mentality in general. A Union Auto salesperson told undercover Post reporters that he'd had a Vega on the lot which had sold recently. He also said that he would not advise anyone to buy a Vega, that Vegas were likely to fall apart after 20,000 miles. One of the reporters asked him if he'd said that to the recent Vega buyer.

"No," he grinned, "no, if someone wants to buy a car, I'll sell it to 'em."

--Phoebe Caulfield
Sue Little



ACLU PREPARES SUIT AGAINST BLOOMINGTON

The City of Bloomington will soon be sued by the local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Acting in behalf of the Post-American, the ACLU will be suing to allow P-A vending machines on city sidewalks.

The City of Bloomington currently interprets its sidewalk ordinance to mean that newspaper vending machines cannot be placed on city sidewalks, even if they pose no obstruction to traffic.

Enforcement of the ordinance did not take place until last fall, when City Councilman S.S. "Joe" Schneider apparently used his influence to get police to order the vending boxes off the sidewalks.

Schneider probably acted out of petty revenge. A Post-American reporter had recently filed a criminal charge against Schneider for violating the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act (Schneider had neglected to publicly report some bank stock he owned.) The Post-American had exposed Schneider's crime in stories before charges were filed.

When police ordered newspaper vending machines off the sidewalks, the Post-American filed a complaint with the ACLU. That complaint said that the First Amendment right to publish is nothing without the right to distribute published material. The complaint asserted that as long as vending boxes did not obstruct sidewalk traffic, the city ordinance did not apply.

ACLU Chairperson Tom Eimermann says his organization is in full support of the legal constitutionality of Post-American vending boxes on Bloomington sidewalks.

"It is ACLU's opinion that it is appropriate for the city to have an ordinance regulating the sale of fruits and vegetables on the sidewalks, but it is clearly a violation of the First Amendment to apply such an ordinance to the distribution of ideas," Eimermann said.

Eimermann said he expected ACLU to go to court in a few weeks.

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WHY YOUR VEGA DOESN'T WORK

HISTORY

The Vega's history as a piece of junk goes back to 1970 in the Lordstown, Ohio, General Motors auto plant. The plant was changed over to assembly of Vegas because GM wanted to compete with compact foreign imports. When costs stayed higher than management expected, they speeded up the assembly line and imposed harsher discipline on the workers.

Plant officials brought in General Motors Assembly Division (GMAD, or Gotta Make Another Dollar, as workers called it). This efficiency-oriented group fired five to eight hundred workers in four months, while maintaining the fastest auto assembly line in the world. Each remaining worker got a couple extra duties slapped onto an already rushed job.

WORKING CONDITIONS

When they started producing Vegas at Lordstown, the workers and the union were establishing work standards, such as how long it should take to perform a certain task on the line. They produced 101 Vegas an hour, with each worker having 35-36 seconds to do his/her operation. Most plants put out 60 cars an hour.

GMAD tried to keep the line going at the same rate with fewer workers-- by adding extra jobs for each worker.

This left no leeway for a worker to talk, rest, scratch, or even piss. To go to the bathroom, a worker had to raise a hand, wait for acknowledgement, wait for a relief worker-- and then bosses recorded the time spent in the john.

To keep discipline, management laid off workers for a day to a week without pay if they got out of line.

As one worker said, "This line runs no matter what the cost."

Quality suffered in this speedup. Gary Bryner, president of the UAW local at Lordstown, said, "Assembly workers are the lowest on the totem pole when it comes to job fulfillment. They don't think they have any skill. Some corporate guy said, 'A monkey could do the job.' They have no enthusiasm about pride in workmanship. They

could care less if the screw goes in the wrong place. Sometimes it helps break the monotony if the screw strips. The corporation could set up ways to check it so when the product goes to the consumer it should be whole, clean, and right. But they've laid off inspectors. 'Cause they could give a shit less. Inspectors are like parasites-- they don't produce, they don't add something. They only find error. That error costs money to fix, so... they laid off, I don't know how many inspectors per shift. They want quantity."

The pace on the line was so fast that occasionally a worker would let a car go by without the benefit of his/her operation, just to grab time to relax for a few seconds before the next car came up.



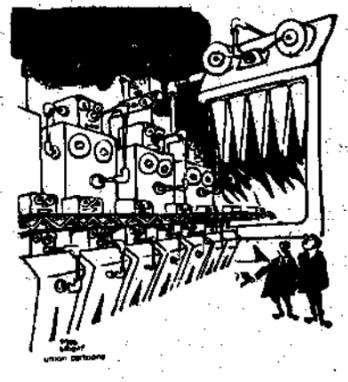
"We're not seeing ourselves as the workers see us..."

SABOTAGE

The Vega was also subject to worker sabotage at Lordstown. One worker's mother explained the psychology of sabotage this way: "I love to cook. But supposing they gave me a job just cracking eggs with bowls moving past on a line. Pretty soon I'd get to a point where I'd wish the next egg was rotten just to spoil their whole cake."

"Sabotage?" says a worker. "Just a way of letting off steam. You can't keep up with a car so you scratch it on the way past..." He also mentioned seeing ignition keys dropped down a gas tank and gloves lit on fire and locked in the trunk.

Most workers would never buy a '71 or '72 Vega. They know better.



"We've solved our problem...This machine consumes everything it makes..."

STRIKE

Finally, in the spring of 1972, the UAW local had a 97% vote to strike.

This strike was significant in labor history because workers demanded more than higher wages and better benefits off the job; they demanded humanized working conditions.

The shift in emphasis is especially disconcerting to capitalists, because worker desire to reduce the alienating nature of production implies worker control over production, which brings into question the idea of private ownership and private management of factories.

A horrible assembly line job leads to quitting, absenteeism, firing and sabotage; these mean a high turnover of workers; high turnover means that management simplifies jobs to require less training; simplification leads to monotony, an even more horrible assembly line job, etc., etc.

Bryner says of the strike, "We're putting human before property value and profits."

GM never figured on that, which is why Vegas are such wrecks.

--Phoebe Caulfield, with information from Studs Terkel, *Working* (N.Y.: Pantheon, 1974), pp. 187-194. Barbara Garson, "A Strike for Humanism," in *American Labor Radicalism*, ed. Staughton Lynd (N.Y.: Wiley and Son, 1973), pp. 203-213.

IF YOUR CAR'S ON THIS LIST YOU MAY BE LIVING DANGEROUSLY

10 MOST DANGEROUS CAR RECALLS*			
GM	Chevrolet Vega	1985-88	Engine mounts may separate, causing sudden loss of control. GM will install free new safety device, but not new mounts.
GM	All full-sized cars	1971-73	Steering mechanism may jam. GM will install protective shielding.
GM	Chevrolet Vega	1971-73	Defective rear axle; wheels may fall off. GM will replace rear axle where necessary.
GM	Chevrolet Vega	1971-73	Defective carburetor may jam throttle. GM will install new idle bracket where necessary.
GM	Chevrolet Vega	1972	Defective exhaust; car may burst into flame. GM will install new muffler system where necessary.
Ford	Turbo 8 Mustangs	1973	Rear axle defect; wheel may fall off. Ford will replace axle and bearing where necessary.
AMC	Most models	1970-73	Defective brake pedal link; later car cause total loss of brakes. AMC will replace link where necessary.
Chrysler	Chrysler	1971-72	Defective steering gear assembly can cause loss of steering control. Chrysler will replace with modified rack car assembly.
Ford	Most models	1973-75	Defective power steering assembly can result in loss of control. Ford will install bushing missing in assembly.
GM	Chevrolet	1981-88	Defective bearings can cause carbon monoxide poisoning. GM will inspect but owner must pay for repairs.

*NOTE: These are only 10 of the most dangerous car recalls. Many others have been recalled. If you think yours might be among them, or if you suspect unrecalled defects in your car, please send the details to us.

Over 30 million cars have been recalled by their manufacturers for built-in defects, many of them deadly: Fires can break out. Engine mounts can break. Heaters can leak deadly carbon monoxide. Brakes can fail. Power steering can freeze.

Please check this list. If your car's on it, you may be living dangerously. If you haven't had it repaired, get to your dealer, fast. In most cases he'll repair or refund it free. If he refuses, notify the manufacturer.

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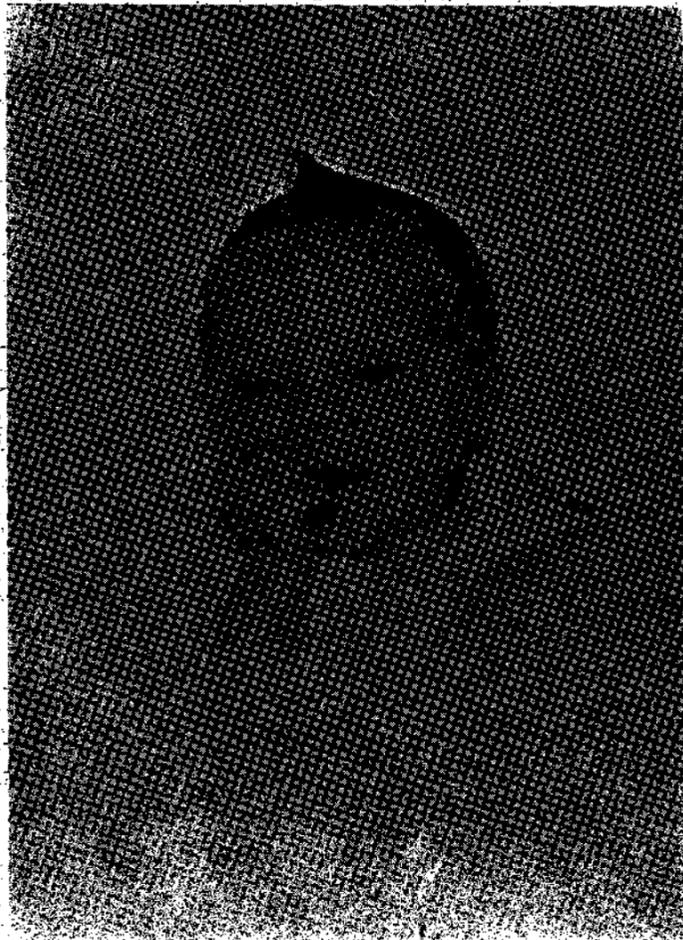
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blue eyes

BOOK REVIEW

The Executioner and Friends

Perhaps you're like me in this respect: you love to check out the book racks in grocery stores to see what's popular with the general readership, what's currently inspiring imitation.

For a while it was Exorcist-type books published rapidly to catch the readership craze for supernatural material --some of it new and quickly hacked out, some of it old and revived with newly hacked-out imitative covers.

These days the hero of the imitators, the one everybody's swiping from, is a chap named Don Pendleton who stares with a reactionary glint in his eyes from the back cover of some twenty-two books. Pendleton writes a series about one Mack Bolan, who is called "The Executioner."

Pendleton's series, begun in 1968, has a readership that has purchased over six million copies of his books and climbing. This is darn good considering the series has never appeared in hardback or been reviewed in Time magazine.

The reason Pendleton's hero has a title vaguely reminiscent of the Spanish Inquisition is simple: Mack Bolan kills people. Not just any people, mind you, but people associated with the Mafia.

Each novel, Executioner Bolan enters a different city, uncovers mafia rackets and racketeers, and systematically trashes the rackets and the racketeers by utilizing his knowledge of jungle warfare and hard-ass machismo.

Bolan, you see, was once the most dreaded U.S. sniper in Vietnam. When he returned one day to Pittsfield, U.S.A., from his second tour of duty, he discovered his father and sister dead. Guess what powerful criminal organization was responsible.

So, from book to book, Bolan carries on a vendetta against the pernicious crime syndicate. Using the latest military equipment (purchased through mysterious channels), the Executioner blasts individual mafiosa out of existence.

This Big Mack is one tough hamburger.

Even the police, who have to go after Bolan because of wishy-washy laws against murdering racketeers, admire the man.

Author Pendleton writes fast, sometimes clumsily, and with working knowledge of the Rules of Modern Thriller Writing.

Some of the Rules of Modern Thriller Writing:

- a. keep your hero moving and alienated;
- b. if your hero does make any friends--male or female--make sure they're killed off before the book's end;
- c. if your hero balls any of these female friends, make sure she betrays him to the enemy or police (before she's killed);
- d. no matter how violent your hero can get, make him always sorry when any of his friends die, even if they've betrayed him;
- e. also, he must suffer several pages of indecision in the middle of the book.

Because Pendleton knows the rules, because he honestly can write a good action sequence (not always: sometimes they get confused), because his series works up the most vigilante fantasies for his readers, The Executioner series is a best-seller.

(Scores of imitators--The Destructor, Death Merchant, Narc, The Butcher, The Baroness, et al--testify to its success.)

There's an irony working here. Pendleton's series plays on our fears and hatred of the underworld and our suspicions of the extent of its powers.

Yet some of Mack Bolan's biggest fans, Pendleton revealed in a recent interview, probably are members of the Mafia themselves.

Not that Pendleton admits to being pals with mafiosa--only that he has "heard that some of the 'boys' are big fans of the series."

I've read the first five books in the series so far: WAR AGAINST THE MAFIA, DEATH SQUAD, BATTLE MASK, MIAMI MASSACRE and CONTINENTAL CONTRACT. (You will notice, after the first explanatory title, the preference for the two-word catch phrase.)

Of the five, DEATH SQUAD is the least successful, because Pendleton tries to write about character in the book, and he isn't up to it. In the book, Bolan teams up with nine buddies from Nam, all with different combat specialties and awkwardly realized ethnic individuality.

All nine buddies die by the end of the book, and let me tell you it's a relief, because they've been embarrassing to read about.

The other books contain several high points outside of the climactic battles. I particularly enjoyed Bolan's balling a hooker in a house he plans later to set afire (in book one) and his teaming up with Cuban exiles (in the Miami book, of course) with the self-consciously presented comparisons between Castro and the Mafia that ignore how Cuba kicked the Cosa Nostra out of Havana after the revolution.

I intend to read more of the series, too. Particularly on those days that I feel pessimistic about any social or governmental system's chances of saving this country.

(I have a lot of those days.)

On those bad days, I'll be in there shootin' with Mack Bolan, getting a bead on those easy-to-identify symbols of power abused.

Together, we'll get 'em all.

--BS75

poetry

i knew a man

I knew a man
he was an asshole
he said all competition was good
and murdering vietnamese and maybe
arabs
could be a good thing too
as long as it was done in defense of
freedom
which he defined as a world without
nonwhite people.
This man was an asshole
and he'll get it when the revolution
comes
unless he realizes the meaning of
revolutionary love.
--Joe

I remember a jail cell
it was a day much like this one
where behind the tasteless massive
walls
the temperature topped one hundred
and two

and something happened to turn my
gaze
from the magazine pictures,
(travel advertisements, mountains,
the sea)
that I had stuck to my calendar-
crossed-off walls
with naked ingenuity

something happened then to tilt my
sweating brow
away to the guarded window
made me smile

it was a heavy humid day
much like this one
with the sun sweltering under an
endless itching
woolen blanket of a cloud

when through those thickening walls
that iron-gartered amoeba which held
me
somehow
the coolest firmest blast of a breeze
reached me
and bathed my bare-ass body with balm

--James LaRue



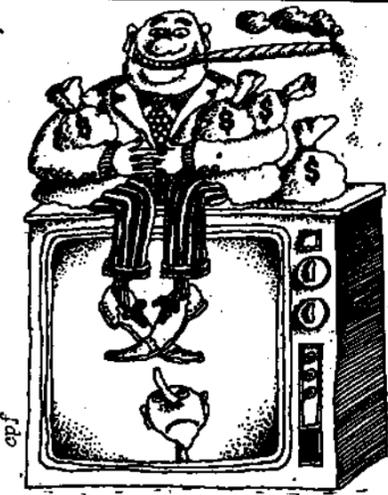
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- Diet for a Small Planet
- Recipes for a Small Planet
- RX for Ailing House Plants
- Vegetarian Epicure
- New Woman's Survival Catalogue
- Tooth Trip
- Quotations from Chairman Mao
- Joy of Sex

Volunteers Needed



Thanks to Bloomington and Normal's city councils, the stagflation burdened public gets to pay more for cable television.

On July 14, Bloomington's City Council voted the rate hike in-- a move that was to signal the end of a price rate that had been in effect since local Telecable's inception.

Where once subscribers paid \$5.00/month for Telecable service, they'll now be shelling out \$6.50/month.

How this increase came about is an interesting study in the way local government works and in some of the assumptions our elected officials make about us.

THE PROPOSAL

Telecable's proposal, presented to both city councils in April, was a model of the sort of language used by bureaucratic-minded organizations whose eyes are on verbal vagueness rather than clarity.

One of the basic principles it seems to such people is the continual use of big words over small ones. The big words are often misused. (In one sentence, for instance, Telecable's proposal author uses the word "litany" under the apparent mistaken impression the word is a fancy way of saying "list.")

If such wording wasn't used to cover what is in effect a lack of substantive factual material, it would be excusable. But of course this isn't the case.

Telecable's basic position in its proposal was that their rate had been set in the 60's and that 70's stagflation had made this rate an economic albatross.

In cable's words, despite a considerable increase in customers, "sharply increasing operating costs" were making them lose money.

CABLE RATE HIKE

Listing the increases by percentage (harder to pin down/more impressive to the reader), Telecable cited the fact that "a thorough in-house effort to curtail every expense over which we had control" was unsuccessful in keeping the local system out of the red.

Nowhere in the proposal were any of these cost-cutting efforts described.

CLASS BIAS

Perhaps a more offensive portion of Telecable's proposal/justification was the bland assertion that the proposed increase was going to a more affluent customer anyway.

Citing a sales management data extrapolation (an estimate of value that lies beyond the range of known values--a sort of economic science fiction story), the proposal states that the residents of Bloomington "have had a 39% median income increase since Telecable's acquisition of the system."

This percentage increase was figured into 1975 and of course wasn't compared to the staggering inflation price increase of every other good and service in the country.

Affluence?

Even assuming that some people have actually improved their economic position since 1971, the year Telecable took the cable system over from GTEC, the proposal tends to forget about those whose positions have stayed the same or worsened. This translates into a rather blatant form of class bias.

If, as we are told, Telecable is the communication mode of the future, its attitude towards those less affluent than "average" is distressing.

(An interesting survey, incidentally, might be made of Telecable customers' economic status while noting the use by more affluent local residents of tower tv antennas.)

EDITORIAL REACTION

Reaction to the proposal by the Daily Pantagraph (owner of some 10% of local Telecable) came in the form of an editorial appearing several days after the proposal was first discussed by both city councils in April.

Surprising nobody who knew of the paper's economic stake in cable tv, its editorial supported the proposed increase and echoed a soon-to-be oft-repeated refrain.

"The most severe tests used to determine utility rates may not be required in a cable tv hearing," the editorial stated. "It is not necessary that a household subscribe. Electric, gas, even telephones, are something else again."

The point was originally more grammatically made by E. C. Oldfield, vice president of Telecable at the first joint council discussion of the increase. People, he said, wouldn't pay the rate unless they were satisfied with programming.

Telecable, both in effect said, was a luxury addition to most households. Those with tvs who didn't wish to pay for it could always use antennas.

ONLY GAME IN TOWN

Overlooked was the fact that for many people in apartment buildings and other poor reception locations cable was the only game in town.

For people with portable sets and no outside antenna, also, Telecable was the only known means of getting any kind of clear reception.

In other words, for many people who don't fit into the average two television sets per suburban house mold (as do most of the city council members), cable tv was essential if they wanted any tv at all.

Of course, few people really need their television sets anymore than most of us really need our automobiles. But the fact that we are a tv and car centered people today has been demonstrated statistically again and again.

We'd like to see the U.S. government answer complaints of increasing gas prices with the assertion that "most people don't need their cars anyway."

PUBLIC 'HEARING'

After receiving Telecable's proposal, both city councils decided to hold public hearings on the rate hikes. The hearings were to be held as part of regular individual meetings.

Perhaps it's a testimony to the Pantagraph's ability in obscuring its meeting announcements or perhaps not enough people get the paper to read exactly when the Bloomington hearing was to be held--at any rate nobody showed to speak to the issue except vice president Oldfield and local cable manager Ray Kolbus.

(That same meeting a discussion of a new cab rate hike was also held. Only one person got up to speak, and he spoke against it. The hike was passed anyway.)

Normal's public hearing was even more absurd. Because the issue was low on the agenda, it wasn't open to discussion until 9:30. Two residents associated with the Neighborhood Video Forum, as a consequence had to leave the meeting before the issue was even discussed.

Their statement, left to be read aloud and discussed by the council, had no chance for rebuttal.

The statement proposed a public access advisory board to promote use of the public access system. It was dismissed by the council out of hand with neither of its proponents getting a chance to defend their proposal.

JOINT DECISION

Bloomington and Normal city councils next held a joint session to decide the Telecable issue. In the interim, apparently, council members had been made aware of more statistics that backed Telecable's point of view.

At least that was the impression council members tried to give at the joint meeting. "From the evidence," councilperson Dick Godfrey stated; "it becomes obvious that the rate increase request is in order."

The day of the meeting, thanks to radio broadcast of the fact that the hike was to be voted on, local station WJBC's "Problems and Solutions" show received a curious amount of calls from people criticizing the hike.

Many of these callers from their own testimony were surprised to hear of the proposed hike (giving ferment to the belief that not that many residents follow the Pantagraph). Phone calls criticizing the quality of present service, citing malfunctions, filled the radio station's afternoon of programming.

2X
HAND

guitars
amps
lessons

5-STRING BANJO
& GUITAR

107 N Broadway
Normal

BECOMES OFFICIAL

(Continued from the page to your immediate left.)

That evening at the meeting, the only reference to the radio rash of complaints was made by Bloomington councilperson S. S. "Joe" Schneider. "People have called in on the radio today complaining about isolated problems of reception and service," Schneider stated. "These seem small and shouldn't concern us here."

The rate hike was passed.

ACCESS ISSUE

Following the joint council's unanimous approval, it became necessary for Bloomington and Normal to vote on ordinances that rendered the decision official. To all extents the issue was all over but the shouting.

In response to the joint approval, the Pantagraph ran a second editorial on the rate hike issue.

With the editorial, the paper referred to the public access side of cable tv. A few words on public access: According to FCC regulations, cable tv has to keep a channel open for use by the

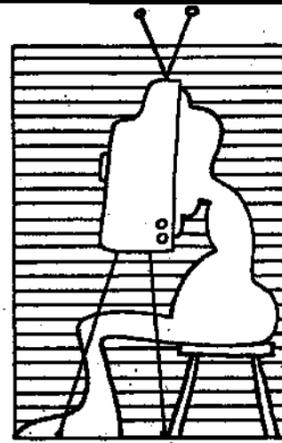
public. Any group or individual wishing to avail themselves of tv time can utilize up to five minutes of free time.

With a minimal amount of training, anyone can produce and cablecast their own program on public access tv. The only regulatory restrictions concern themselves with broadcasting of "obscene" material.

To date, little of local cable's public serving potential has been realized. Yet it is in public access that the roots of Telecable's future status as a more indispensable source of information, opinion, and creativity lie.

It is in light of public access that the local cable issue becomes less one of whether the people can afford a further luxury and more whether they can afford a legitimate tool for the circulation of needed information.

Yet this side of the issue was passed over at Normal's public hearing and ignored entirely by Bloomington's council.



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The Pantagraph in its second editorial chose to deliberately slight the issue of public access. Stating that "those hooked up to the Telecable of Bloomington and Normal system probably are far more concerned about consistent and good picture quality and uninterrupted service than they are about expansion of public service programming," the editorial author asserted that access wasn't much of an issue.

Which isn't hard to understand considering what little play its proponents have received in the local press.

Denny Colt

A Brief History of Korea

"As practiced by President Park Chung Hee, 'modern democracy' has become an Orwellian synonym for despotic one man rule."--Time, June 23, 1974.

In 1910, Korea, a victim of Japanese imperialism, was annexed to Japan. For Koreans, the period between 1910 and 1945 was a period of educational, cultural, and political suppression. In 1919, massive pro-independence demonstrations were brutally suppressed by the Japanese, and censorship of the press was intensified. A government in exile was set up in Shanghai, China.

In 1945, the U.S. militarily occupied South Korea, while the U.S.S.R. occupied N. Korea (N. of the 38th parallel). The division of Korea was strictly provisional, and was in no way intended to divide Korea legally into two countries.

In this sense, it is similar to Vietnam. In S. Korea a national government headed by Syngman Rhee was elected in U.N. supervised elections. The U.S. and the U.S.S.R. failed to agree on a provisional government for all of Korea.

No sooner did the new president, Syngman Rhee, begin to consolidate power in the 1950's than he was accused of widespread corruption and in attempting to rig elections--in particular the Vice Presidential election in 1956 and 1960. In 1960 widespread student demonstrations protested the election rigging by Syngman Rhee and forced his resignation.

In 1950 the Korean War had begun. According to the New Statesman and Nation, March 17, 1951, "The documents which, it is said, were captured by N. Koreans in Seoul, suggest that provocations from Rhee were even greater than has been told... The verdict, on the present evidence, still seems to us to be one of provoked, not 'unprovoked' aggression."

While the evidence is not clear, it points to provocations of no small significance by Rhee, followed by a Russian supported general offensive, met by a reaction by the U.S. and South Korea (under U.N. support) which culminated when McArthur had reached the Yalu River in N. Korea, well above the demarcation between N. and S. Korea. McArthur's move was probably instrumental in causing the intervention of the Chinese whom McArthur had threatened with invasion.

In 1961, after Rhee resigned, General Park Chung Hee staged a military coup, in which he replaced all civilian officials with military ones, and resigned his title to become the only high ranking civilian. Under Park, there were continuous charges of intimidation of political opposition parties and the rigging of elections.

In 1967, the opposition party, the New Democratic Party, charged widespread election frauds. Surprisingly, the most detailed description of repression in S. Korea comes from the Acting Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs in the August 26, 1974 issue of the Department of State Bulletin:

According to this document the constitution "gives the president the power to take virtually unlimited 'necessary emergency measures' when the national security or public safety is threatened. These measures may include the suspension of individual rights... Certain emergency measures were issued early this year. Violators are tried under special (closed to public) court martial rather than the regular courts.

Presidential Emergency Measure No. 1, promulgated on January 8, 1974, made it a crime to advocate revision of the present constitution. Under this measure 36 people have been sentenced to up to 15 years of hard labor.

Emergency Measure No. 4... is more inclusive. This measure is directed against a specific organization, the National Federation of Democratic Youth and Students, which the government of Korea states is communist affiliated... The government has taken the position that it is justified by the need to prevent widespread demonstrations..."

"The measure also prescribes penalties for other unauthorized student activities, including assemblies... 45 persons have been arrested under this measure; nine are now sentenced to death, 19 to life, and the rest for periods ranging from 15 to 20 years... (over 1,000) people have been detained, (according to President Park)

The right to strike... is prohibited, regardless of the nature of the grievance... The government is reported to maintain tight control workers and their unions, presumably because low-cost... labor is the main export resource of the country." Coming from official U.S. sources, the report is probably under-

stated if anything.

One well known trial in 1974 was that of Kim Jae Jung, Park's rival in the 1971 Presidential election, who was illegally kidnapped in a Tokyo hotel by security agents in 1973. He maintains the election in 1971 was rigged, and he was charged with 'violations of election laws.' Time, June 24, 1974, states that "Kim's trial is a patent political attempt to muffle dissent... the latest decree (1974) threatens political demonstrators with execution by a firing squad."

1974 witnessed the public hanging of 8 Koreans for "conspiring to overthrow the government by encouraging anti-Park demonstrations." The arrest of church leaders has gained international attention, specifically the arrest of Roman Catholic bishop Daniel Chi, resulting in a protest mass in which over 3,000 people attended, including the leader of Korea's Catholic church. Six prominent protestant ministers were arrested for criticizing the government and three were arrested for 'misusing' church funds.

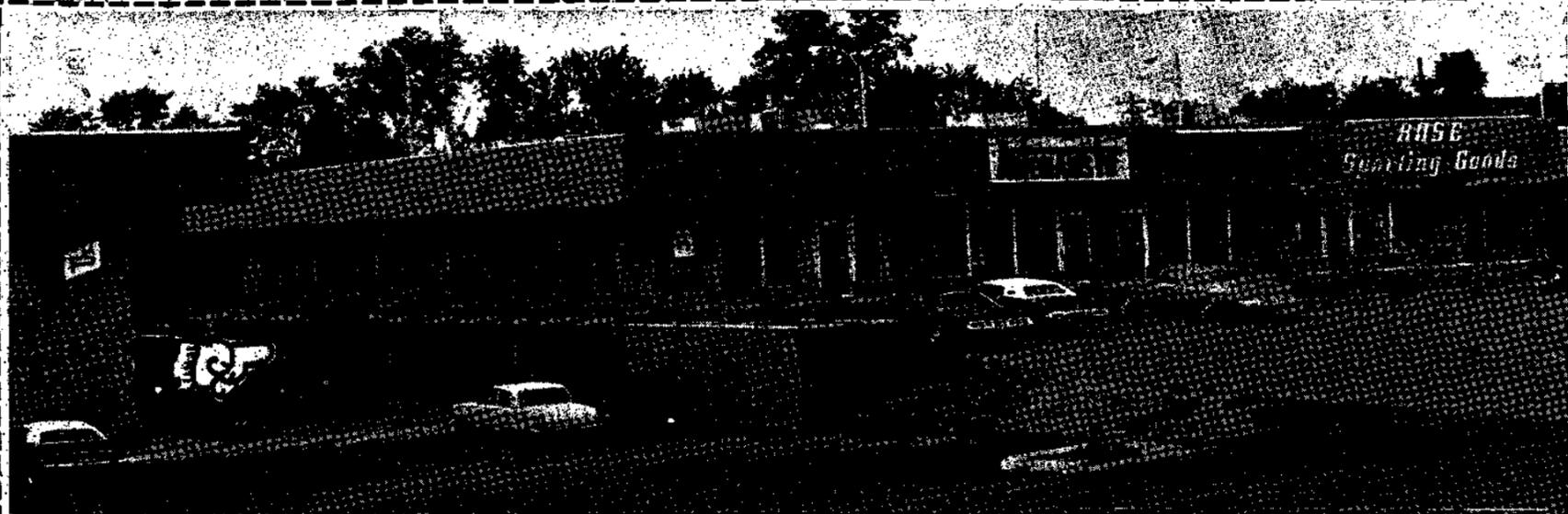
In 1975 governmental repression has been stepped up. Recently the Park regime attempted to close down S. Korea's largest newspaper because it resisted its high handed censorship. The employees defiantly conducted a 3 day sit-in to continue control of the paper; however, the sit-in was brutally broken up by Park, who restored censorship.

Student demonstrations have been suppressed, as before. According to Newsweek correspondent Paul Brinkley-Rogers, in Newsweek, August 5, 1974, "eyewitnesses substantiated stories that police employed water torture and connected electric cords to the genitals of some of Park's political prisoners."

One may wonder why the U.S. is giving no-strings-attached military aid to a country which so brutally suppresses its citizens' most basic democratic rights without putting the least bit public pressure on them to restore these. Could U.S. aid, instead of helping support this type of repression, be used as a lever to persuade the S. Korean government to restore these basic rights?

As in Spain, the Philippines, Brazil, Chile, and others, Ford wants to increase this no-strings aid without expecting these governments in the least to restore civil liberties. And it is the taxpayer who foots the bill, as usual.

--Dave Burdette



Hand and black circle point out entrance to MEG's new Towanda Plaza office.

MEG MOVES LOCAL OFFICE



MEG agent Dennis Garret, as he appeared last November.

In response to constant "harassment" by Post photographers and vigilant community members, the Multi-County Enforcement Group (MEG) moved its offices to 1226 Towanda Plaza in Bloomington. The office is in the basement of the Plaza Building, and the entrance is a suspiciously painted green door inside the United Buyers Center.

One day in early July, Post reporters held a two hour stakeout at the old MEG office, 2205 E. Washington St., hoping to involve some narcotics agents in meaningful discourse about law enforcement problems they might encounter in this community. MEG officials signalled their resistance to such open and honest communication by summoning five Bloomington squad cars to make

the Post people remove themselves from private property. Understandably, the Post people felt snubbed.

Next day, Post photographers felt even more snubbed when MEG moved its office.

This MEG-Post-American interaction was the subject of a Pentagraph feature in mid-July. MEG chief Jerry "Super-spy" LaGrow, quoted in that article, proved his understanding of law and law enforcement by threatening Post-American advertisers with a lawsuit in case anything happened to any MEG agents. Legal scholars contacted by the Post characterized LaGrow's comments as either "an incompetent attempt at intimidation" or "incredibly gross stupidity, even for a law enforcement officer."



MEG agent Bill Stephens runs the Bloomington office. He drives the van pictured on this page, and lives at 111 Weldon, on Bloomington's far West side.

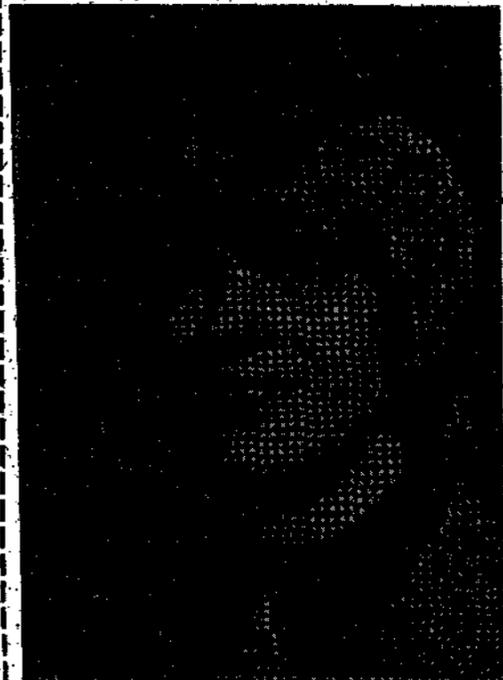


IBI agent George Murphy.



Thomas Bowman, above, is listed on an indictment as an agent in the latest MEG raid. Actually he works for IBI, and may be one of four IBI agents assigned to work with MEG.

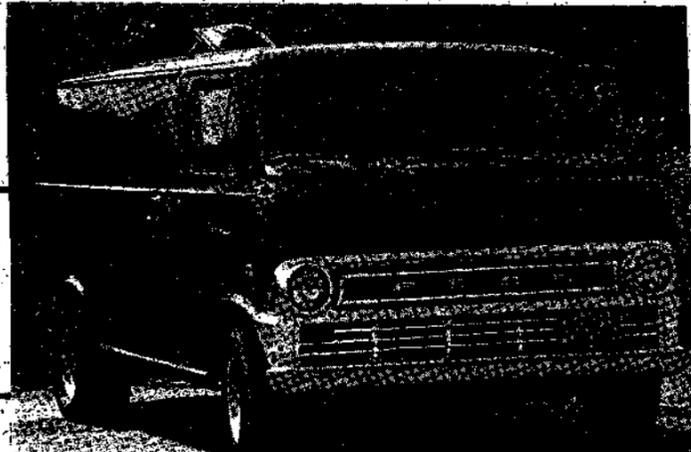
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Randy Wyant, of Colfax, is one of MEG's newest agents. Responsible for one of the mid-June MEG arrests, Wyant works at his father's Shell station in Colfax.



MEG agent Bill Stephens drives this black van bearing N.J. license plates YGC 615.



A photographer's journal

As the Post-Amerikan reported a few months ago, MEG's (Multi-County Enforcement Group) central office is in Room 23, Peoria County Courthouse, and several MEG agents live in the Peoria area. A Post reporter, after resting from a layout weekend, traveled to Peoria to see what he could find. The visit was supposed to last a few days, but one day proved enough. Here is his account:

I lived in Peoria most of my life, but it never dawned on me how helpless people can be in that city--there is no organized resistance to the influx of narcotics agents and informants. But the agents that operate out of courthouse room 23 could be identified if we spent some energy to get the pictures.

I went inside the courthouse building and lurked outside the door to room 23. I had to rely on existing light for the camera--I didn't have a flash with me. The light meter was hard to keep in adjustment for some reason, and I had to continuously get new fixes on the entrance to MEG's hide-out.

I was just in the process of taking a meter reading when a large-built man about 26 years old walked out of room 23 and headed for the refreshment bar. He was startled to see a person with a camera standing outside the Sheriff's office. I asked him if the Multi-County Enforcement Group was still located inside. He replied quickly that the "only thing MEG has here is a mailing address." He re-entered room 23, and the action began.

A minute later, the chief deputy of the Peoria County Sheriff's Police came out, accompanied by the first man and another large man. The withered chief deputy did all the talking. He told me that MEG has never been located in room 23. (A file court records for some busts reveal room 23 as the "home" of agents who purchased drugs.) I asked why MEG still used room 23 as its mailing address. I got no reply. I asked if Jerry LaGrow, director of MEG, ever came by to pick up his mail personally. The chief deputy replied that he sees LaGrow "every once in a while." The three kept looking me over and asked what I was doing here. I said I wanted some information about MEG. They asked me my name and where I was from. They didn't get a straight answer.

The Chief deputy really wanted me to believe that MEG didn't use the Peoria County Sheriff's office for its operations. Another lying bureaucrat.

SOME MEG UPDATES

After leaving the MEG headquarters, I checked out some of the "last known addresses" the P-A had printed for Peoria-based MEG agents. The addresses for agents Robert J. Edwards and Roland Inskeep are no good.

PEKIN EXPERIENCE

It was about 5:30 in the evening after I finished dealing with what I wanted from the Peoria area. Nothing else came down except an acute case of hunger--I ate dinner and checked out the town--everything seemed quiet.

Hours passed and there seemed to be nothing to do. I couldn't locate some friends I'd thought would put me up. I needed a place to stay, but I didn't want to sleep in my car, so I thought I'd head into Pekin to see what I could see.

I got into Pekin at about 12:15 in the morning. There was a small popcorn wagon which was about ready to close down, and I asked directions to Valle Vista Blvd. where agent Eugene Maxwell lives. After having lots of difficulty dealing with a twisting, turning route 9 (yes, they have to deal with a confusing route 9, too), I found Valle Vista Blvd., a posh residential area of Pekin at about 1:30 A.M. I was getting tired, so I parked across the street from Maxwell's house. It was about quarter of two and I was really groggy. I screwed the telephoto lens in the camera, set it on an approximation for early-morning light, and focused it. Then I put on the lens cap and settled back for a smoke.

PEKIN INQUISITION

Unfortunately, I didn't get to sleep very long. About 45 minutes later, there were two flashlights glaring in my face--the trusty Pekin Police had answered a complaint from one of Pekin's upstanding citizens in that elegant neighborhood. "Well, look what we've got here!" one of the cops exclaimed. I rolled down my window, and the questions started coming thick and fast.

Cop: What are you doing in this neighborhood this time of night?
Post: I'm waiting to take a photo. I don't want to miss early in the morning.
Cop: Whose photo? What's it for?
We don't know what you're doing here.
Post: (I reluctantly pull out a copy of III. #11) I want to photograph Eugene Maxwell, who lives right over there. I swear I'm not doing anything else.
Cop: Why do you want his picture?
Post: He's a narcotics agent for the Multi-County Enforcement Group. Narcotics agents violate people's rights, it seems to me.
Cop: It seems like anyone who sells narcotics is violating someone's rights. Do you realize we're answering a complaint about a strange car in the neighborhood? Someone was afraid of being burglarized or busted into.
Post: All I want is Maxwell's photograph when it's daylight.
Cop: Do you realize you're violating Maxwell's right to privacy?
Post: (My thoughts: (I didn't want to waste an argument on this guy.)
Cop: You'd better turn on that thing and get out of here or we'll give you a place to stay tonight!
Other Cop: Can I see your driver's license, please?
(I produced the license, and one cop got on the radio while the other one furiously copied down everything on my license. After the radio transmission, one cop kept looking into my car and finally said, "You look like you live in here.")
Cop: Maxwell wants to talk to you. So don't leave just yet. But when you do leave, don't come back.
Police radio squawks: "Gene'll be right out."
(I looked toward the house and saw another plump, bearded man with shortish hair walking out. I jumped out of the car to talk with him.)
Post: Sorry to cause you all this trouble for a picture, but it's too dark to get one now.
Max: It wouldn't do you any good anyway.
Post: Why?
Max: I've been promoted and taken off narcotics. If you people at the Post-Amerikan would do your homework, you'd have seen two pictures of me in the Pekin Times in the last two months.
Post: (My thoughts: They made this guy a goddam sergeant for busting people? Why does he still have a beard? What would Pekin's conservative citizens think of a peace officer sporting facial hair?)
Max: Don't you know it's dangerous to lurk around nice neighborhoods without any apparent reason? It's an easy way to get your shit blown away.
Post: Gulp. (My thoughts: Well, these guys still don't have any probable cause for an arrest.)
Max: Yeah, a 15 year old was breaking into a place last year just down the road, but he was stupid enough to be carrying a sawed-off shotgun.
Cop: Yeah. And we had to put him to rest.
Post: Gulp. (My thoughts: These guys are crazy.)

Maxwell refused to answer any of my questions about MEG. The two officers that checked me out said that Tazewell County, Woodford County, and Pekin are pulling out of the MEG unit. They said something to the effect that MEG is fizzling out on its own. Unfortunately, they were lying. Just this past month MEG claimed several more busts in Pekin.

MEG has recruited more people, and if Tazewell County, Woodford County, and Pekin are pulling out of MEG, the only cause is the extreme embarrassment caused them by Eugene Maxwell, Bill Stephens, and other MEG agents in the colossal mis-handling of Ed Cotton case and others. These counties still pretend that MEG busts "big dealers" instead of small-time users.

--Thomas Pain



Above: Undercover agent Thomas Bowman leaves the Courthouse with a camera--shy Yvonne DelPrincipe. DelPrincipe and Bowman are both IBI agents.

Right: Another view of Yvonne DelPrincipe, IBI agent.

POLICE CLUB AND MACE CITIZENS IN WASHINGTON, ILL.



On the morning of July 5, at approximately 1:15 A.M., in the square of Washington, Illinois, I saw State Trooper Hopper (badge #1712) arrive, get out of his car, put on a nylon batting glove, arm himself with his nightstick, and turn to approximately ten uniformed Washington officers and say, "Let's go get 'em, boys."

The Washington police proceeded to follow Officer Hopper to the east side of the square. The officer approached a person from behind and gave him a blow on the collar bone with his club. After frisking and handcuffing the person, Officer Hopper read him his rights. He then took the man back to the squad car and chained him to the window post.

While Officer Hopper was chaining the man to the car, another policeman, Detective Jim Marshall, approached a man standing next to me. Officer Marshall was in plainclothes. He had a nightstick in his hand and a large gun strapped to his hip.

The detective looked at the man and said, "What are you doing here?" The man replied, "I'm violating no law." Officer Marshall retorted with, "I don't give a shit what your reason is. Listen PUNK! If you want a piece of the action, I'll give you a piece of it."

Then Officer Marshall slugged the man on the left side of the face with the nightstick. This infuriated the man, so he tried to prevent the policeman from striking him with the club again by wrestling him to the ground.

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Police provocation and brutality were the themes of my thoughts afterwards. Nothing can justify a policeman striking a person from the rear and frisking that person by throwing him over the trunk of a car, and pounding on his ribs, hips, and knees with a club and a clinched fist, then jerking that person away from the car by the ankles in order to shackle him and tell him his rights. And how can we possibly defend ourselves if attacked by an enraged officer? He has power behind his badge and can wield it at will. Individuals are defenseless against such actions. We can hope that it will never happen again and try to counteract the barbaric error of the Washington City Police and the Illinois State Police.

At that, the Washington police force alighted upon the man on masse. While they were beating the man to get him loose from Officer Marshall, another policeman, Officer McCullough, drew his can of mace, sprayed three women, and then approached me.

At that instant I realized that the police had gone berserk.

I remarked that they were forgetting that all people have feelings and rights, not only the police force. With that I left the square.

DRAFT UNCONSTITUTIONAL

In a historic ruling, a federal judge has ruled the draft is unconstitutional because it is sexually discriminatory. U.S. district judge W.D. Murray handed down the decision last month in Butte, Montana, in the case of alleged draft dodger Kenneth Reiser. Murray threw out a grand jury indictment against Reiser, declaring the selective service laws "established on a sex based classification which burdens and penalizes members of one sex and not another." The Justice Department is expected to appeal the ruling.

MIDDLE EARTH II.

COCAINE

Cocaine is a powerful central nervous system stimulant. It is legally classified as a narcotic even though it bears no chemical relationship to narcotics. It is a drug which in the late 1800's was popular in this country and was one of the ingredients of Coca-Cola.

Cocaine is probably the most expensive drug on the streets, costing \$40.00 to \$80.00 a gram. Cocaine on the streets is usually not very pure and it is cut with speed, No Doz, or milk sugar. It is also not uncommon for people to get cocaine which has no cocaine in it. It even has been reported around the state to have no cocaine and a lot of powdered chlorox bleach (bummer).

The drug is usually ingested through snorting, but it is sometimes injected. The effects it has on the body are:

- raises body temperature.
- pupils become dilated.
- breathing is usually rapid and shallow.
- snorting can cause nasal congestion and breakdown of nasal tissue.
- dependence can develop because the effects are intensely euphoric.
- the lethal dose varies widely across the population but remains constant within an individual.

OVERDOSE

Initial symptoms are abdominal pain, hallucinations, chills or fever, vomiting, numbness and muscle spasms, followed by depressed and irregular respiration, convulsions, coma, and circulatory failure. Death may occur immediately after ingestion or may be delayed 1-3 hours. If any of these symptoms are displayed, HAVE THE PERSON TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL!

If you do dope, KNOW WHAT YOU TAKE!

New Location
106 W. Market

Medusa's Book World

Adult Books, Magazines, & Novelties
You must be 19 yrs. or older

people's food co-op

Since the summer started, a lot has been happening with People's Food. The food distribution system has been changed so that people can obtain their food seven days a week. At several co-op meetings we have decided to carry more items that people want. We are going to try to distribute items that we can get a good deal on, items ranging from toilet paper to spaghetti sauce. The reason items such as these were not handled by People's Food before is that in the beginning we didn't have the storage space to keep it.

Now for the bad points. Orders have dropped off for the summer months due to people leaving town. The volume in the orders has dropped also because many people are getting food from their back yard garden. Also the motor for our cooler burned up and it has taken time to repair it. During the time it's taken to fix it, we couldn't order produce for the week because of lack of refrigeration.

People's Food has set operating expenses. A 25% mark-up over cost is charged on each item to cover those expenses. If we don't have enough volume flowing through the co-op, then we have trouble dealing with our expenses.

All this has caused hard times for the co-op. At one meeting, we took a vote to either continue the operation or fold and try to start up again in the fall. The vote was taken and it was unanimously decided to continue the operation, even though it was realized that it was going to be a hard up hill climb.

One of the things that we've done to help us out during these hard times is to open the store to non-members. We will sell our surplus to non-members at a price slightly higher than co-op prices but still below supermarket prices. This will also give you, as a non-member, a chance to come and check us out.

We are having major problems now and all through the history of People's Food there have been either major problems or minor hassles.

Why with all the major problems, have the members decided to keep the operation going?

There are many reasons why the members decided to keep on going with the operation. The members want to keep having the availability of high quality food for lower than supermarket prices. The high quality and low prices are the good points that can be seen. But the most important thing to be considered is how does People's Food end up with the good quality and low prices.

People's Food ends up with good quality and low prices because it is a cooperative effort. Only one person in the cooperative receives money for their labor. That person is the buyer and coordinator. The rest of the members put in volunteer time to accomplish the jobs that need to be done.

Everybody is working together to fulfill each others' needs. A minimum of two hours a month is required of volunteer time per member. Some members put in more time doing certain tasks that they like to do. They don't mind putting in the extra time because they really like the co-op idea.

The co-op idea is basically people taking control over a major factor in their lives: FOOD! The co-op idea is an organization set up and run by its members to meet their needs.

These days it is a constant struggle to survive; it's hard for an individual, let alone a family. We all work to put food in our stomachs and a roof over our heads. We bring home a paycheck (if we're lucky enough to have a job) and watch it get chopped away by bills. Then, when we're in the check-out line we watch what little money is left get ripped off by high food prices in supermarkets.

Why do we get ripped off with high priced food in the supermarkets? Because we have no control over it. The only control we have as consumers is to boycott high priced items. People cannot boycott Food though, unless they want to starve.

Food, from the time that it is harvested to the time we buy it, goes through a chain of middle men who reap huge profits off of it.

People's Food is a revolt against powerlessness. As individuals, we have no buying power, but collectively, we do have buying power. People's Food as an organization is collectively buying food with Good Earth Co-op in Decatur. Around the country small co-ops such as People's Food and Good Earth are doing the same thing. Larger co-ops are also combining their buying power to have semi-loads of food brought in. Attempts are being made to contact small farmers all over the country for direct buying.

Co-op activity isn't just happening in Bloomington-Normal, it's happening around the whole country.

The buying and distributing of good food for low prices isn't the only good point about co-ops. Individual members (2 or more people) of co-ops are getting together to form work collectives. These collectives are formed around certain projects. Sacking and trucking collectives are just some of the projects being done in some co-ops.

There could be a lot happening with People's Food in the future. The possibilities are endless. More products can be added to the list of what we handle. More services could be done. More benefits could be had by each member as more members help to benefit each other.

You as an individual can benefit from People's Food. But you won't experience that benefit until you take the time to check us out.

People's Food is located at 1004 W. Washington. The phone number is 828-3922. The store serves as a warehouse and distribution point for its members. It is also open to non-members for sale of surplus food. The store hours are:

- Monday 5 P.M. to 9 P.M.
- Tuesday 5 P.M. to 9 P.M.
- Wednesday 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.
- Thursday 5 P.M. to 9 P.M.
- Friday 2 P.M. to 6 P.M.
- Saturday 12 A.M. to 5 P.M.
- Sunday 12 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Trucking Collective: Movin' On

There are a group of people in Hooterville (Bloomington-Normal) who run a trucking collective that hauls food from farm to co-op warehouses, as well as between co-op warehouses. Our name is the Dick-Freeman Collective and we've been truckin' for over two years now.

Since the co-op network is just developing, we've had to fill in with commercial hauls as we will with a load of fire extinguishers that we'll pick up in Chicago and deliver in California next week. From there we will go to the San Francisco Cooperating Warehouse where will pick up organic raisins, figs, dates, etc. for co-ops in the midwest. Our first drop will be at the Blooming Prairie Warehouse in Iowa City.

Then at the People's Warehouse in Minneapolis, we will drop off theirs and The Common Health Warehouse's (for Deluth, Minn.) order, as well as pick up some grains or beans for co-op warehouses yet to come.

From Minneapolis we head down to Madison, Wis., where we drop off and pick up at the Inter Community Co-op, and from there we're off to Ann Arbor, Mich., where we empty out the semi. This is a run that we make every month.

After the California-Midwest run, we will start picking up grains at various midwest points in Wisconsin and Minnesota for Cooperating Community Grains in Seattle, Washington.

We got started trucking for co-ops after participated in the local People's Food Co-op and would like to see more of the food that we haul directed here. But it will take time and energy to put together a food distribution here that is culturally, politically, and economically different from the chain supermarket system. Ours is an attempt through organization and communication to deal with a basic human need: Food.

BUY

Italian Swiss Colony

Arnica Green Springs	Gambrell
Bell Hill	Delvite
Zapp	Margo
Bilgrate	Overstate
Logan	Calla
Ligon	Panna
Peak	Val Verde
Santa Fe	Bevy Rose
Medan But	Italian Swiss Colony
Amazon Bank	Gambrell

Ahmadon

Alcohol La Domaine

Paul Masson

Paul Masson

Christian Brothers

Christian Brothers Mass La Salle

Novitiats of Los Galos

Novitiats

Via Dei

no labels, wholesale, bulk only

Peregrini-Minetti

no page two, wholesale, bulk only



SUPPORT THE FARMWORKERS

BOYCOTT

Gallo

Gallo	Boone's Farm
Pignone	Spanada
Thunderbolt	Tyrone
Caro Rose	Ribole
Eden Roc	Andra

Red Mountain

Also, any wine which says "Modesto, California" on the label is Gallo. Gallo does not appear on all labels. Gallo is the only wine company with headquarters in Modesto.

Guild

Minister's Guild	Old San Francisco
The Grand	Parrot V.S.
Coop Imperial	Director's Choice
Rose Reserve	Guild
Cristal Reserve	Tanaka
Leaves d'Arc	Mendocino
La Boheme	Fantasia Cabernet
Ceremony	Cerrant
Venafles	Alte
Cross Blanco	C.V.C.
Starlight	Virginia Dare
J. Pierot	Loch
Guild Blue Ribbon	Loch
Roma	Ocean Spray Cranberry Blossom
St. Mark	Via Elgg (Parrot & Co.)
	Citation

Franzia

Table	Vermont
Delect	Louis the Fifth
Boartling	Private Label

Also, any wine which says, "made and bottled in Ripon, California." All Franzia products have #903854 on the label.

Boycotts have been an essential part of past farmworker victories. To help protect farmworkers fight

DON'T BUY THESE LABELS.

letters



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

PANTAGRAPH EDITOR: An Intelligent Dog?

Post;

Re: our recent discussion on the possibility of my doing a gossip column for your paper; while I do know where a lot of the bones are buried in this town (if you'll forgive a canine metaphor—I can't seem to avoid them), I don't think that current exposure of these tasty little tidbits would do either the Public or my present comfortable position in the community any good. I, after all, have a Woman Who Lives in My House and several pups—I mean kids—to feed. Still, it would have been a howl.

By the by, don't feel threatened by old Blankface LaGrow's mutterings about suing your advertisers. Word around here has it that the guy gets a charge out of making lawsuit threats, even when he doesn't have a legal flank—I mean leg—to stand on. You know that old S.S. mentality. Loves threats and intimidations. One story has it that after he got interviewed on tv with the back of his head to the tv camera, LaGrow was talking about suing his barber! Seems thank to a recent haircut, people with color tv could see how red his neck was!

Oh well, guess I'll keep this letter brief. Sure do appreciate you people printing them even if I don't really write them. It's a relief to get a chance to let my fur—I mean hair—down without having to worry about what asshole Merwin or any of his country club cronies will think!

Harold "Sunny Boy" Liston



LNS

POST GIVES STRAIGHT FACTS

Post-Amerikan:

What is it with old people these days? They don't want to get involved or know what's really going on in their community. They believe everything they read in the Pantagraph. They're living in such a plastic world.

My grandmother was with me when I bought the July issue of the Post-Amerikan. She had a fit! I couldn't believe it. She didn't think I should be reading such "trash" and said some of the words you use are disgusting.

I think I'm old enough to know what I like to read. This is supposed to be a free world. I'm going on 17 and I don't like people telling me how to live my life. Your paper is the greatest. You give the straight facts without adding things to a story or leaving important details out. I never knew there were so many narcs in this town! Keep up the good work.

--Sue G.

POST NOTE TO SUE:

(While we at the Post-Amerikan sympathize with your indignation at your grandmother's narrow view of us, we feel uncomfortable with your blanket description of "old people." Not all old people believe everything they read in the Pantagraph any more than all young people disbelieve everything they read in the Pantagraph.

Yet it can be convenient for certain powers-that-be to act as if age really does make a difference in the way people think. Here's an example: a recent Pantagraph editorial said that "the young have been suspicious of big business for at least a generation, perhaps two." Now this is a sneaky assertion. It's sneaky because it implies--without openly saying--that someday each and every young critic of big business will "grow up" and "ac-

--continued next page--



CONTACT LENSES

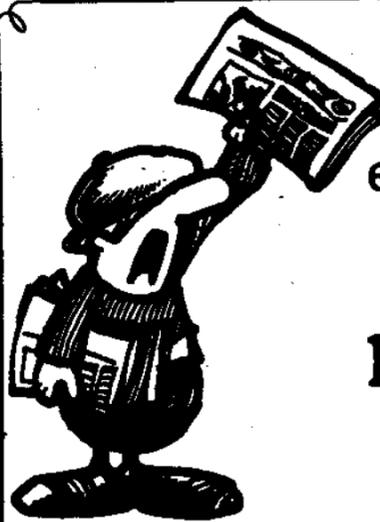
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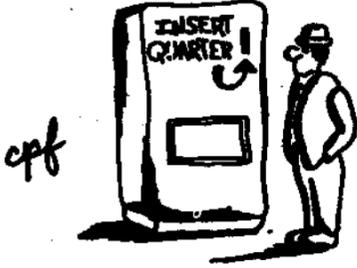
Come and Look Us Over

Parking in back of DeVary's Market after 6 p.m.

cept life as it is." This is a lie. Not all critics of big business are young. Not all young critics of big business will "grow up" and accept the abuses that big business, police, the government have perpetrated. Not all "grown-up" old people accept these abuses.

Several progressive old people's organizations exist, the most prominent being the Gray Panthers. Members of these organizations feel as angry about age stereotypes as any young reader of the Pantagraph must feel after being misrepresented there. People, after all, can be free, thinking individuals no matter what their age.)

PRICE INCREASE COMING UP!¹⁹



Beginning with our November issue, the Post-Amerikan will cost 25¢. And we don't like it, either.

We're announcing the increase now so that people can have enough time to get ready for it. Folks who will

really feel the increase economically can still subscribe for \$1.75 a year.

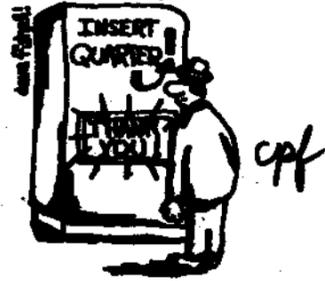
Income from the price increase, plus income from an ad rate increase going into effect in September, will go toward printing a fatter, more comprehensive paper each month.

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

We are raising the price due to ever-rising material and printing costs, and also due to our growing feeling that national and international news and analysis are an important part of the paper. With more pages, we will have room for the larger picture, which we've had to leave out in recent months because local news has filled our space. We hope to include material from several alternative news services in addition to all the local reporting we now carry.

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

If you really feel like that's too much to pay, subscribe now at the present rate. And if you really don't like the price increase, write us a letter. If you have other legal ideas about how to raise extra money, we'd like to know.



MEG ACTIVITY DANGEROUS

Dear Post:

I am glad to see that in Bloomington-Normal, there exists a publication that has the guts to stand up against MEG. Jerry LaGrow and MEG must think that they are God's gift to the world and that they cannot do wrong. Their covert secret police activities remind me of the Gestapo in Germany. They feel that they have the power to do anything they please, in the name of law and order.

Jerry LaGrow stated in the July 12 issue of the Pantagraph that "he will look to the advertisers in the underground paper as prospects for a lawsuit." People in positions of power have never liked the freedom of the press because they knew it could be used against them. People in positions of power have always tried to destroy the freedom of the press or to try to intimidate it into submission.

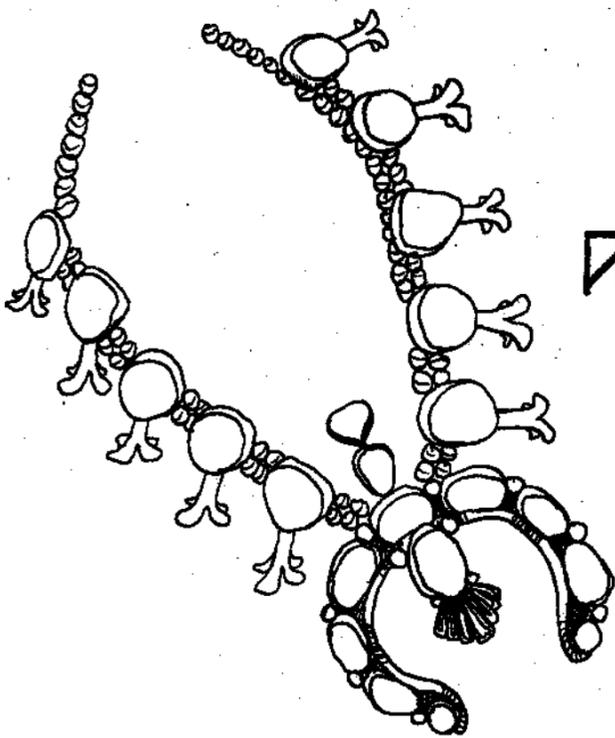
Hitler tried and succeeded. Nixon tried and lost. Now small-timers like Jerry LaGrow are trying also.

It makes me wonder, in the early days of the Third Reich, if there were publications like the Post Amerikan that stood up against the power structure. I also wonder if there were publications like the Pantagraph, which just sat by impotently keeping still, while the power structure used intimidation and force.

Mr. Liston, if advertisers can be sued for advertising in a publication, where would the Pantagraph be? Where would you be then? Hawking Post Amerikans in front of the Red Lion?

This issue doesn't affect just the Post Amerikan; it affects newspapers everywhere. But most important, it affects the freedom of every human being.

---G. A. M.



YAN-TA-HEE

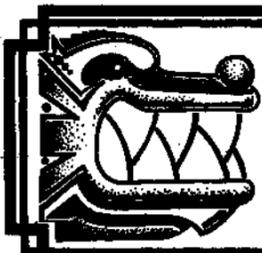
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SOCIALIST FEMINIST CONFERENCE HELD

YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO (LNS)-- About 1600 women from all over the United States attended a socialist-feminist conference held from July 4-6 on Antioch College Campus in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Many more who wanted to attend had to be turned away for lack of space because of an original underestimation of how many women would come.

The Chicago Women's Liberation Union, the Boston Socialist/Feminist Organization, and the Minneapolis-St. Paul Women's Union were among the groups who organized the conference.

Explaining the decision to hold the conference, a spokeswoman for the Socialist/Feminist group of the Dayton New American Movement said at the opening session, "We don't think

of ourselves as a self-conscious national movement. We didn't know each other's ideas and work and the parameters of our ideas . . . We hope new organizations will be formed and already existing ones strengthened . . . We need to create a vision that has the skills and the will to transform society."

Workshops and strategy sessions included discussions of joblessness; women in prison; socialist-feminist women's unions; developing a lesbian community; graphic communication for the women's movement; waitress, office, and health worker organizing; sterilization; youth liberation; art and revolution; creating a national anti-rape movement; housing and urban dislocation; women and the economy, and many others.

One viewpoint on Socialist Feminism was expressed by a spokeswoman for the Berkeley-Oakland women's union at a panel on theory on the first day of the conference.

"Our commitment is based not on liberalism or moralism but because we understand our own personal stake in changing the system which oppresses us. . . We must organize women in all spheres. A crucial part of this organizing is bringing out the common root of all our oppression."

Seven women from Bloomington-Normal attended the conference and their responses will appear in the next issue of the Post-American.



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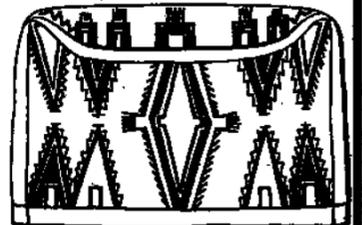
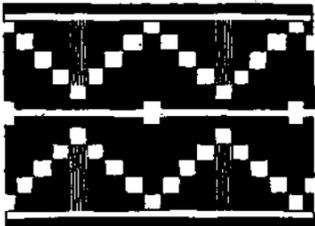
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FESTIVAL

In keeping with the spirit of the Bicentennial, the Bloomington-Normal Bicentennial Committee will periodically recognize various public figures for their achievements and distinctive contributions to the life of the community. Citations will be publicized as a series of awards, each named for a distinguished native American bird.



The TUFTED PUFFIN AWARD

MARION TATE

Manager, Eastland Mall

For protecting Eastland customers from "obscene literature" by having arrested for Criminal Trespass a woman who was asking people to read and sign copies of the Declaration of Independence on the Fourth of July. Such zeal in the pursuit of profit at the expense of First Amendment rights of free speech serves as an example for us all.



EASTLAND TALLY

The Bloomington-Normal Bicentennial Committee offers the following report on the Fourth of July Observance at Eastland Mall. Members of the Committee and of Community for Social Action presented to shoppers mimeographed untitled copies of the Declaration of Independence with the statement, "We'd like you to read this document and sign it if you feel you agree with the political beliefs it contains." Before being ordered to leave the Mall or face arrest for criminal trespass, the canvassers contacted 93 citizens. The tally is as follows:

- 43 persons signed the Declaration
- 30 persons refused to read it
- 20 read it but refused to sign

Many who signed expressed gratitude for having the principles of the Declaration brought to their attention on the Fourth of July. A woman who refused to sign shouted: "If you people don't like America, why don't you just leave the country!" A man who read it carefully (but refused to sign) said, "It's Communist, it's un-American." (See story elsewhere in this issue of the Post.)



The Voice of American Patriots



"Where wealth is hereditary, power is hereditary; for wealth is power. ... The rich are nobility, and the poor plebeians in all countries. ... And aristocracy is that influence or power which property may have in government; a democracy is the power or influence of the people or members, as contra-distinguished from property." -- A farmer in the Maryland Gazette 1783

IBM.

"Superfluous property is the creature of society. Simple and mild laws were sufficient to guard the property that was merely necessary. When, by virtue of the first laws, part of the society accumulated wealth and grew powerful, they enacted other (laws) more severe, and would protect their property to the expense of humanity. This was abusing their power and commencing a tyranny." -- Benjamin Franklin, 1785



"In what does real power consist? The answer is short and plain--in property. A general and tolerably equal distribution of landed property is the whole basis of national freedom. ... An equality of property, with a necessity of constantly destroying combinations of powerful families, is the very soul of a Republic." -- Noah Webster, 1787



"(The corporation) penetrating its every part of the Union, acting by command and in phalanx, may, in a critical moment, upset the government. I deem no government safe which is under the vassalage of any self-constituted authorities. ... 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



TORY TALK

"Law! What do I care about the law? Hain't I got the power?" -- Cornelius Vanderbilt

"The public be damned!" -- William Henry Vanderbilt

"We have nothing to arbitrate. ... The workers have nothing to do with the amount of wages they shall receive." -- George Pullman

"I like to turn bristles, blood, bones, and the insides and outsides of pigs and bullocks into revenue." -- Philip Armour

"I am not in Wall Street for my health." -- J. P. Morgan

"Everything I do, I do for a profit." -- H. L. Hunt

"What's good for General Motors is good for the country." -- Charles Wilson, Secretary of Defense in the Eisenhower Administration

"I beg of you not to be discouraged. The rights and interests of the laboring man will be protected and cared for--not by the labor agitators, but by the Christian men to whom God in his infinite wisdom has given control of the property interests of this country..." -- George F. Zaer, spokesman for the mine owners in the Pennsylvania strike of 1902

"The good Lord gave me my money." -- John D. Rockefeller



CALENDAR

August

- August 2, 1824. Slavery legally abolished in Illinois.
- Aug. 9, 1936. Jesse Owens, black athlete, won four gold medals at the Berlin Olympic Games, humiliating Adolph Hitler and denying the Third Reich a propaganda victory in support of its racist myth of Aryan superiority.
- Aug. 9, 1974. Richard M. Nixon resigns as President to avoid impeachment and conviction for high crimes and misdemeanors, and to keep his Presidential pension. Best quote: "I am not a crook!"
- Aug. 14-15, 1908. Race riot in Springfield, Illinois. White mob lynches two black men, injures many others.
- Aug. 26, 1970. Thousands of women march in Chicago to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the day women got the right to vote.
- Aug. 27, 1776. Battle of Long Island. American forces under general command of George Washington defeated and forced to retreat by British troops and Hessian mercenaries under the command of Gen. Sir William Howe and his brother, Admiral Richard Lord Howe.
- Aug. 28, 1818. Jean Baptiste du Sable, black fur trader and founder of Chicago, died.

Housing Inspection Report Missing

Post-Note: Last month the Post-American described a few of the difficulties tenants at 420 E. Grove had experienced with their landlord Robert Bailey. Attempting to learn what was contained in housing inspection reports for that house proved to be a near impossibility for the Post-American. The reports contained information which would have detailed whether or not the Dept. of Urban Renewal should have intervened in favor of the tenants at 420 E. Grove.

An official city housing inspection report on a property featured in last month's Post-American has mysteriously disappeared from the Urban Renewal Office, city housing inspector Wilbur Voss claims.

That inspection report--sought by a Post reporter for the last issue--was the subject of a summit meeting between several city officials. Those officials were trying to decide whether or not to allow a Post reporter to examine the housing inspection report.

Information from tenants indicated that Urban Renewal had found housing violations, but had not forced the landlord to make repairs. The housing inspection report would have cleared a few things up.

The officials meeting agreed with the Post reporter that the housing inspection report was public information. Inspector Voss was ordered to produce it.

The missing inspection report would have determined if the city was being negligent in not forcing landlord Bailey to fix 420 E. Grove. Maybe



Falling ceiling adds to tasteful decor of apartment house at 420 E. Grove.

that's why someone burglarized the Urban Renewal Office to steal one piece of paper.

That's when Voss found that the document was "missing." Embarrassed, Voss said "It appears somebody got to the files before I did." Voss suggested that the Urban Renewal Office was broken into at the same time the Dept. of Mental Health was burglarized. If so, why would anyone want that particular inspection report?

Problems in obtaining these inspection reports are not limited to the local Urban Renewal Office.

In People Before Property, a Boston housing activist writes:

"If and when departments ever act on the complaints and make an inspection, inspection reports are prepared listing the violations and any action taken. The records are filed by address and can be very useful in real estate research. However, they may be almost impossible to get hold of."

"Inspection records supposedly are public information. But inspection officials are notoriously lax in following up complaints, in actually making inspections, and in forcing landlords to correct violations. So they don't want anyone to get evidence of their negligence. In any given case, all that you can do is ask to see the records. If they won't show the records to you, you can complain to the city solicitor or corporation counsel."

Very similar to the Bloomington experience, even down to appealing to the corporation counsel. (He's the one who finally determined that the inspection report was public.) But in Boston they don't seem to have come up with the ploy of having the office burglarized to get out of showing it to inquisitive reporters.

Voss did indicate to the Post-American that Urban Renewal will act on tenant complaints if tenants write certified letters to him and their landlord/owner. **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TENANTS TO PROVE IN COURT THAT THEY HAVE CONTACTED THEIR LANDLORD/OWNER.**

If you have any sticky problems with your landlord, contact the Post-American. We'll be glad to hear from you.

SUNOCO

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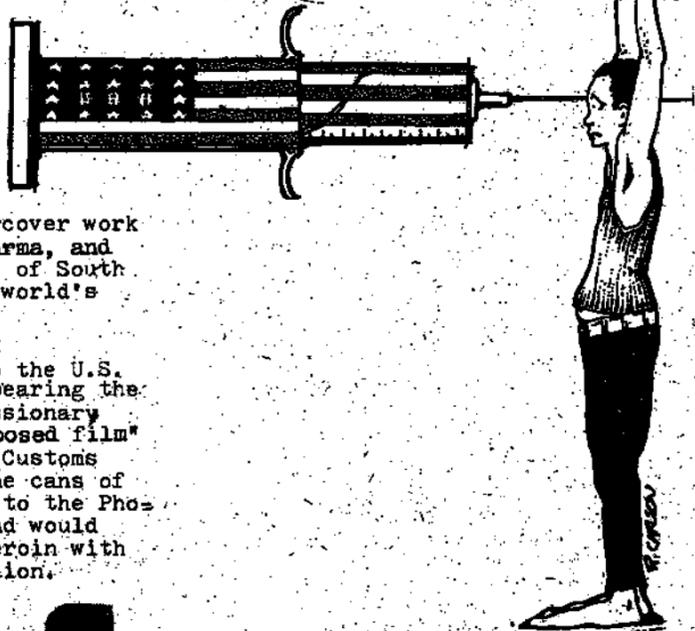
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CIA PROVIDES WORK FOR MEG/IBI



Post- Note:

From all levels of government, private enterprise, peers and parents, we hear about the dastardly deeds of drug pushers. These persons are said to undermine the moral fabric of our nation and divert the energies of people who want to make contributions to society. The overwhelming response to the presence of drug dealers in the United States has been for various levels of government to allocate money to hire undercover narcotics agents. This response, since it addresses itself to smaller suppliers, consistently misses the big dealers.

Drug education is present in almost every elementary and secondary school in the country. In our own community narcotics control agencies are claiming victories over large traffickers of illicit drugs. But despite all these efforts, the drug traffic continues. And recent accounts from the Chicago Daily News and other sources reveal that some high officials know about and approve of a good deal of the U.S. heroin traffic. The following story reveals that the CIA has been caught red-handed smuggling opium to the United States. What is even more frightening is that evidence shows that such instances are not isolated ones. And what is disheartening is that law enforcement agencies such as MEG and the IBI are powerless to go after the big dealers because the big dealers ultimately employ drug enforcement agents.

New York (LNS)--A CIA agent, who smuggled 100 pounds of raw opium from Thailand to the United States in 1973 went free thanks to strong-arming by the CIA.

According to documents received recently by the Chicago Daily News, the agency said that if its agent were tried on the smuggling charge, "the situation could prove embarrassing to the CIA."

The CIA did admit that the agent, a native-born Thai named Puttaporn

Khramkhruan, had done undercover work for the CIA in Thailand, Burma, and Laos--the "Golden Triangle" of South east Asia where 70% of the world's opium supply originates.

The opium was smuggled into the U.S. in 25 newsreel film cans bearing the insignia of an American missionary group. It was marked "unexposed film" but was discovered by U.S. Customs inspectors in New York. The cans of opium were to be delivered to the Phocis Films Co. in Chicago and would have been converted into heroin with a street value of \$3.5 million.



Charges of CIA involvement in the heroin trade have been numerous in recent years, particularly after the publication in 1972 of "The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia," by Alfred McCoy, a book which the CIA tried unsuccessfully to censor.

Writes McCoy, "American diplomats and secret agents have been involved in the narcotics traffic at three levels:

(1) coincidental complicity by allying with groups actively engaged in the drug traffic; (2) abetting the traffic by covering up for known heroin traffickers and condoning their involvement; (3) and active engagement in the transport of opium and heroin."

"It is ironic, to say the least, that America's heroin plague is of its own making."

Khramkhruan was arrested and indicted in Chicago in August 1973, shortly after he completed an executive course at Syracuse University sponsored by the Agency for International Development, U.S. AID, a branch of the State Department supposedly designed to provide financial aid to underdeveloped countries, is often used as a "cover" for CIA activities.

According to the indictment, Khramkhruan twice took part in the opium smuggling to Chicago while he was working for the CIA in Thailand. One shipment of 44 pounds of opium was successfully smuggled through customs at Phocis Films in January of 1972. Just what happened to the profits from the sale of this heroin in the U.S. is not known. The second shipment of 60 pounds was the one intercepted in New York.

The head of Phocis Films, Theodore Norcutt, was arrested January 6, 1973 when he accepted delivery of the newsreel canisters. After pleading guilty, Norcutt began serving an 18-month sentence at the federal prison farm in Terre Haute, Indiana, this April.

Also indicted in Chicago was Bruce Hoefft, who worked for the Peace Corps in Thailand and, according to several sources, also did work for the CIA. Hoefft was implicated in the smuggling operation by Khramkhruan, but when the CIA succeeded in getting the Justice Department to dismiss the indictment against Khramkhruan, the indictment against Hoefft also collapsed because the CIA also prohibited Khramkhruan from testifying against Hoefft. Four other people were also indicted for the smuggling--two were placed on four years probation and two have yet to be apprehended.

U.S. Attorney James R. Thompson, who worked on the case, told the Chicago Daily News that the situation was discussed at the highest levels of the Justice Department and the CIA in Washington during the spring of 1974. John Greaney, a CIA lawyer in Washington, came to Chicago for a conference with Thompson's staff and said that under no circumstances would the CIA turn over its records on the case, saying that their release would seriously jeopardize the CIA's operations in Southeast Asia.

Khramkhruan was held in protective custody for one year at the Palmer House in Chicago and in two county jails. In the fall of 1974, he was released and returned to Chiang Mai, Thailand, where he reportedly owns a restaurant and is connected with a radio station. Hoefft also returned to Thailand.

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