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Bloomington Normal

15¢

POST AMERIKAN

APRIL 1974

Vol. 3 No. 1



INSIDE:

Fire Alarm Racket Exposed

Sheriff King Stuff

Philippines

Neat Photos

The usual

I'VE LIVED HERE
IN THIS CITY
FOR OVER 40
YEARS!...AND
NEVER ONCE
HAVE I BEEN
BRUTALIZED
BY THE
POLICE!!"



RCOBB

Oakland, Calif., (Capitalist Reporter)
Pat Boone, the kid with the white
bucks and the well scrubbed face,
is broke and heading into personal
bankruptcy. Since his rise to star-
dom he has made 29 investments
that cost him 2-4 million in cash.
Pat just sez, "I have the reverse
Midas touch. Everything I touch
turns into zilch."



POST SELLERS

Bloomington

The Joint, 419 N. Main
JA's Liquors, Oakland & Main
Medusa's Book Store, 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
Tier 1, Colonial Plaza
U-I Food Mart, 608 S. Lee St.
Peifers Market, 919 N. Madison
De Vary's Market, 1402 W. Market
Harris Market, Morris Avenue
Hickory Pit, 920 W. Washington
Washington Square IGA, Wash. & Lee
Eastgate IGA, Mercer & Oakland

Normal

Lobby Shop, ISU Union
Neuman Center, 501 S. Main
Student Stores, 115 North
Mother Murphy's, 111 1/2 North
Caboose Records, 101 North
Minstrel Record Parlor, 311 S. Main
Ram, 101 Broadway Mall
Al's Pipe Shop, 101 Broadway Mall
Omega, 111 Beaufort
The Rack, 106 Beaufort
Hendren's Grocery, 301 W. Willow
The Cage, ISU Union
Post-American office, 114 1/2 North

The following statement--with altera-
tions, appears in the Post-American
every issue. If you've read it before,
please don't skip over the entire
thing, cause we have written down
meeting times for the next issue. We
need new people to come to meetings.

So if you don't want to read the
whole thing, slide down to the list
of meeting times and commit them to
memory. Thank you.

The Post-American is a newspaper of
uncertain origin and unidentifiable
management catering to the radical or
hip community. At least that's what
the Pantagraph says.

The Post serves as a medium of ex-
pression for a segment of society
known as the counterculture and the
movement. Within this broad spec-
trum exist widely differing opinions
and world views. We intend to print
all of them, with only two exceptions:
we will not print anything racist or
sexist. The Post is not published in
accordance with a well-developed
political theory with the aim of
propagandizing its readers into
stricter adherence to that theory.

Decisions are made collectively by
Post-American workers at almost week-
ly meetings which will be scheduled
in the paper every issue, like this:

Saturday, April 13 5:00 pm
Thursday, April 18 5:00 pm
Friday, April 26 8:00 pm

These meetings are at the Post-Ameri-
kan office, 114 1/2 North St. in Normal,
452-9221. Everybody interested in
working on the paper in any way
should come. We need people.

We also have office hours. Someone
should be in the office between 11
and 2, MWF; 11-4 T, Th, and 7-9 on
Wed. and Thurs. evenings. Stop on
by anytime.

Send all news articles, book and re-
cord reviews, how-to-do-it articles,
information, commentary, ANYTHING,
to the office. This includes
letters to the editor, which we
welcome, even though we don't have
an editor.

Subscriptions cost \$1.50 for ten
issues, \$3 for twenty, etc. Buy one
for yourself and a friend.

You can make bread hawking the Post--
7 1/2¢ a copy, except you only make 5¢
a copy on the first fifty papers.
Call 452-9221, 828-7026, 827-6309,
or stop by the office.

HAVE THE **POST-AMERIKAN**
DELIVERED TO YOUR
DOOR BY AN
AGENT of the U.S.
GOVERNMENT.



POST AMERIKAN

Enclosed is \$1.50 for the next ten issues.

SEND OR BRING TO...
Post-American
114 1/2 North St.
Normal, Ill.
61761

name _____
address _____ city _____ state _____
zip _____

CLASSIFIED ^{THEY'RE}
ADVERTISEMENTS ^{FREE, TOO!}

Derailleur bicycle repair--
Will do tune-ups, overhauls, and
some repairs on 5 and 10-speed bikes.
I'll also teach you how to do your
own work. Rates open to bargaining.
Call girl at 829-3576. If I'm not
there, keep trying.

I want one million people to
send me a dollar. Do it today.
Don't delay! Hurry! Only five
days left to send me your dollar!

Keith & Terry
9 Flora Way
Normal, Ill.

NMan, 20, would like to share apt.
or house with other man or men.
Would prefer location west of Main
and south of Market in Bloomington
Rent should be fairly reasonable
and pets allowed. If interested
call Jim at 829-5639.

Announcement

Gay Film Festival
April 26 at 7:30, CVA 147, ISU
Four or five films dealing with
different aspects of homosexuality.

POLICE ACCUSED OF BREAKING AND ENTERING

Arthur Morrison charged that Bloomington police broke into his apartment at 1101 E. Jefferson Street on Saturday evening March 9.

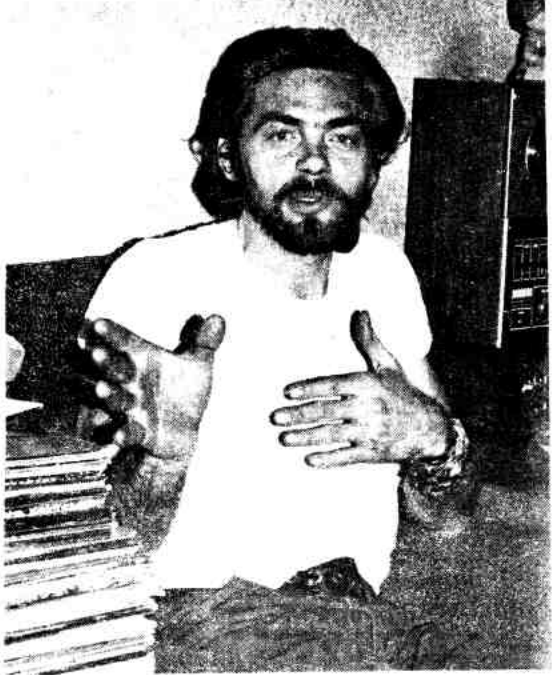
The police--officers Michael Detherage and Robert J. Friga --don't deny entering Morrison's apartment. They do deny breaking in. But the officers can't explain the discrepancy between their story and the facts.

Arthur Morrison had to spend the weekend in question in the county jail; it's a condition of his probation. He left his apartment at 6 Saturday night, locked the door, and showed up at the county jail at 7.

About that same time, according to Bloomington police chief Bosshardt, headquarters received an anonymous phone call saying that 3 runaway girls from the Morgan-Washington home could be found at 1101 E. Jefferson. Officers Detherage and Friga were sent to check it out.

Detherage and Friga tackled the two downstairs apartments first. According to the tenants; the officers asked about a Floyd Bounds and 3 young girls. None of the tenants knew anything about them.

The officers then went to Morrison's apartment. No one was home. And here is where the stories begin to differ.



ART MORRISON

According to Chief Bosshardt, Detherage and Friga deny picking Morrison's lock or jimmying the door. They claim that after no one answered their knocks, they just gave the door a little pressure, and it pushed open.

Morrison points out that his doors don't push open; they pull. Morrison's apartment door is on a public access hallway; to get to the hallway from outside one must go

through a double set of front doors. All three doors pull open; they don't push.

Detherage and Friga say that after Morrison's door opened by itself, they climbed the stairs to Morrison's apartment, saw no runaways, and left.

The hallway leading to Morrison's apartment also leads to a downstairs apartment. The doors of the two apartments face each other.

After Detherage and Friga had inquired at her apartment about the runaways, a tenant in this downstairs apartment said she heard the police out in the hallway at Morrison's door.

She opened her door and told the police that there was a hall light they could turn on. When she opened her door, she said she saw one of the officers with both hands by Morrison's door. One hand was jiggling the doorknob; the other was "doing something else by the door." "It looked to me like he was trying to pick the lock," she said.

Asked if there was a possibility that the door was unlocked, this tenant said no. The police spent too long trying to open the door, she said.

This tenant didn't actually see the police enter Morrison's apartment. The officers were still fooling with Morrison's door when she went back into her own apartment. A few minutes later, she said, she heard the police go up Morrison's stairs.

Morrison says there are scratch marks on the metal guide between his door and the jam. The scratch marks weren't there before, he said.

According to Chief Bosshardt, the officers had no warrant, nor did they have the "probable cause" necessary to enter private property without permission.

Asked what justification his officers had for entering the apartment even if the door did magically open by itself, Bosshardt said, "You can't tell where a door goes until you open it."

Presumably, then, Detherage and Friga claim that they not only passed through Morrison's door without forcing it, but that they also left Morrison's apartment as soon as they realized that it was a private apartment rather than a stairway to another public access hallway.

But Bosshardt also said that his officers reported determining that the runaways were not in Morrison's apartment. They could not have made such a determination unless they walked all through Morrison's apartment.

In fact, the tenants directly downstairs from Morrison's apartment reported that within a few minutes after the police had been at their apartment, footsteps could be heard upstairs. Someone--presumably the police--was walking all through Morrison's apartment.

Also, these tenants said, whoever was upstairs was there for several minutes, hardly the immediate departure Detherage and Friga described to Chief Bosshardt.

BOOK - HIVE

103 W. FRONT BLOOMINGTON

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

COIN & STAMP SUPPLIES

COMICS

GREETING CARDS

SMOKES

ADULT NOVELTIES & PAPERBACKS

5 AM - 6 PM MON - SAT
5 AM - 12:30 PM SUN.

828-3422



BURNING CORPORATION DEFENSE PRODUCTS DIVISION

MIDWEST MARKETING EXPOSED

When a person is hard up for money, they sometimes have to do strange things. Such was my case. I hadn't worked in a while and was broke. I was looking for a job for three weeks but kept getting turned down because of my long hair and beard. Finally out of desperation I cut my hair and shaved my beard. I applied at different places for about a week and a half, still no luck. Now I was really desperate. So I went to my folks' place and dug through the closet for my suit and an old sports coat. I had vowed never to wear them again, but here I was taking them to Bloomington. I felt so low. It felt like I was drafted into the army and I was wearing a uniform.

\$700 PHONE CALL

Anyway, two days later I got a phone call to come to a meeting at Midwest Marketing. I had called their office the previous week and was now surprised to hear from them. So I went in that night to find about 15 other men (no women) there to apply. All of us filled out the application form and listened to a man tell us of all the possibilities with his company.

He said that once we joined the "team" we would make \$700 a month and possibly more. We were going to sell home fire alarms. He said that this was not a door-to-door sales job, instead all leads would be supplied to the salesman by Midwest Marketing. If we sold a 5 & 1 set we were to get \$65 commission. We were to get the difference if our commissions came out to more than \$700 a month. He told us that Midwest Marketing was the distributor for U.S. Safety and Engineering, which has been in business for 35 years. It all sounded very good.

If I would have been naive, I would have thought that the whole thing was great. After all being part of a large company and making \$700 plus a month sounds pretty good. All thanks to seeing an ad in the Pantagraph. First lesson to be learned is "don't believe everything you read in the Pantagraph". (Some people call it the daily mistake). The Pantagraph doesn't look out for its readers, they just care about making the money from the advertising.

I was told that six persons out of the 15 would be called for the job. Needless to say, I got the call. The next day I was in the office and was given some literature to read. The second page was entitled "Front Talk". We were told to memorize it by Thursday. The one who could rap it the best was to receive \$10. The "Front Talk" was designed to get us into the front door of the customers home.

The rest of the literature was raps to be used when showing our presentation folder to the customers. The folder was put together in order

to instill instant paranoia in the customer. There was a lot of sexist parts to the whole presentation. The main line used on the women was "you as a housewife will be certain to be faced with the problem of fire since you are home most of the day". We were also told to memorize the last 4 pages of the literature. The last four pages consisted of the "wrap up". This was the pitch to "clinch" the deal.

TURNING IN

The 5 & 1 set sell for \$549.00. But Midwest Marketing has a "special finance plan" that would enable people to afford it. All the person has to do is put \$7 down and pay \$25.23 a month for 30 months. The whole bill comes out to around \$770.00. You may think this is high but Midwest Marketing has a "special advertising plan", also. With the advertising plan the buyer fills out cards and addresses them to his relatives, friends and neighbors. This is called "turning on", I call it "turning in". The sales representative takes the cards and mails them and the company calls up the new prospects and talks them into an appointment. For each presentation that's made the original buyer gets \$10. The buyer will get \$10 even if there is no sale.



This looks pretty good for the buyer, unless the buyer realizes that the money he/she would be making off the advertising has already been figured into the price. Sometimes the buyer can beat the game if he/she knows a lot of people he/she will make some money.

The contract for buying the fire alarms is unbelievable. The salesman is supposed to find out the buyers past 5 year history. The job history of the buyer and "his" spouse are looked into. A thorough check is done into his credit references. The salesman is also supposed to ask for an approximation of each persons salary. If a person is lucky, they will have a bad credit reference and won't be able to buy.

HUSTLER'S LAMENT

As I found out, the buyer isn't the only one to beware. This is a hustler's business, and the people who run the show will hustle the salesman just as they hustle the customer.

I was told that I would get \$700 a month. The ad in the Pantagraph quoted \$4.92 per hour. Both figures are misleading.

Upon completion of the training period (which consisted of memorizing the sales pitch) we were given two forms to sign. One stated that we did not apply for the \$4.92 an hour job. The other stated that we would only get \$700.00 a month if we made 12 presentations a week. Before I signed the second one, I asked if I would be supplied with all the "leads". I was told that I would. I asked if I would still get \$700.00 a month if I was not given 12 leads a week. And again was told yes.

One of the gimmicks is that the \$700 would be paid monthly. A salesman would get the money for commissions paid to him weekly. This way the salesman is pressured into making sales each week.

Towards the end of my first week, I was told that the leads would be given to the salesman on a seniority basis. Since I was not given 12 leads that week, the manager told me to get out there and hustle up sales.

I confronted him on the issue, claiming that I was misled. I was told that all the other salesman had to go through the same thing. One salesman didn't make any money his first month and had only a few sales his second month.

These tactics are purposely done on a salesman for two reasons. First, to pressure the salesman into pressuring the customer into buying the product. Second, is to leave the company free from having to pay the salesman. The customer pays the salesman for talking him into buying the product.

SALESMAN'S LUCK

So all in all, there is very little job security for the salesman. The salesman has to rely on his wits and fast tongue, also a lot of luck. If a person is good at manipulating people, this is a good job for him.

But, believe it or not, the customer and the salesman aren't the only suckers. A person can buy the distribution rights for an area or a state, by paying thousands of dollars. If U.S. Safety & Engineering went to Sears and told Sears to give them thousands for selling U.S.S.&E.'s product, Sears would kick them out the door.



"What are they complaining about? ... We haven't worked a day in our lives!"

Midwest (cont.)

BREAKFAST DEAL

During my training period, all the recruits were brought to Springfield for breakfast. We got a free breakfast and a sales pitch. There was a short movie of a lecture on salesmanship. The man in the movie told "why and how to use leading questions" in a sales pitch. After his lecture he answered questions from the people in the film. The last question was "how come the sales profession has such a bad name?" He said that the sales profession has been given a bad name because of the educational system. He said that there are some teachers who teach kids that the capitalist system is something evil and that these teachers don't look at the profession in its true light. He said that this was the land of freedom and that our forefathers came here because of four words, "The Land of Promise". The whole time he was saying this the background music swelled in a stunning rendition of "America, the Beautiful". As strange and unbelievable as this scene seems, its true.

P.T. Barnum once said, "There a sucker born every minute".

As bad as Midwest Marketing is, I have to admit the product is good. The alarm systems are made good and they are reliable. There is also a need for them in every home. Fire is a threat to every home. I personally would like to see a system in every home.

But something that is needed such as this should be gotten to the consumer as cheap as possible. The only people that can afford it are the rich or the middle class. The poor never have the money or the credit references. The people who can afford it are paying an outrageous price.

The man in the movie was talking about "freedom" and "The Land of Promise". What he was really saying was "This is the land where you are free to try and talk people into buying your product." The purpose of salesmanship, is not to have freedom for the consumer, but to manipulate the consumer into buying.

George A. Marsik

Midwest Misleads

Midwest Marketing has misleading want ads. They have carried an ad for a receptionist for some time now, however, when I went there to apply for the job recently, they claimed it was already filled. All they had open was a job telephoning customer leads for salesmen to try and persuade them to let the salesman into their home to make his pitch for the very expensive fire alarm system the company markets.

Barbara Wilson

Letters



That pretrial hearing in Ottawa in one of the cases against Jesse Donald Sumner confirmed some of our worst fears about Sheriff John W. King and the rest of his law and order people. They obviously will do about any thing they please to break a case.

Judge Leonard Hoffman chose not to believe Sumner and to believe the sheriff instead on almost every point, if we can believe the Pantagraph reports of the hearing. The issue wasn't whether Sumner was guilty of slaying three young women, but whether King and all the King's men didn't screw him over pretty good to get him to confess.

According to the other newspaper's story, Hoffman (any relation to Julius?) was himself a bit bothered because King and Sumner's wife were in cahoots to get the truth out of Sumner. Hoffman said that in other states there's been criticism of police who conspire with a suspect's relatives in order to crack a case.

King admitted that he let Mrs. Sumner visit her husband a number of times, and once even let her spend the night with him. She said on the stand that she was supposed to get anything she could from Sumner about the girls, then tell it to King. "And I always did," she said.

Mrs. Sumner said she now despises King because of the promises he made to her, then broke. The one which bothered her most concerns what the Pantagraph calls the morals charge, which actually is an aggravated incest charge against Sumner, who is accused of having had sex with his stepdaughter.

Mrs. Sumner said King and the detectives were after her to lodge another charge against Sumner because they were afraid he'd get out on bond before they could crack him. According to the paper, she helped him obtain information for that charge, which sounds like she must have told King whatever she knew about whatever had happened.

She said, according to that other source, that King promised her the "information" would never leave the room, and the next thing she knew, her husband had been charged with the crime. And Mrs. Sumner said the sheriff called her one night and told her to come to the jail because "Don's about to crack."

There was testimony by Sumner that King came to him and asked him how he'd like to be charged with the crime against his stepdaughter. This was before he'd "cracked" about the murders, remember.

And Sumner said King promised him that charge would be dropped, along with an obstruction of justice charge against Sumner's mother, if Sumner would confess to the crimes. And the Pantagraph said, Sumner cried three different times when he mentioned his mother, which leads us to believe King knew where to twist the blade. And Sumner's mother and sister both said they heard Jesse Donald ask the sheriff if the two charges would be dropped. They said they heard King reply that the charges would be dismissed, and

that Sumner should just be patient.

Yeah, and what about Sumner's testimony that King told him he had taken custody of Sumner's two sons and had given them to Sumner's ex-wife, who was "living in St. Louis with a black man," according to the Pantagraph?

According to King's reputation, this seems to be the kind of thing King would say when trying to crack a prisoner.

Then there was the check incident. When Sumner's attorney, public defender Marvin Gesell, first asked King about it, the man replied that he vaguely remembered something about a check but wouldn't tell Gesell anything pertinent about it.

The judge let Gesell put the sheriff back on the stand after his own detective, Joseph Woith, testified that King had given him the check and had told him to put it in the jail's contraband cell.

The check was for \$219 and was signed by Sumner on July 25, six days after he'd been arrested. Sumner testified that the check was to go for his attorney's fees, and that he had intended it be given to his sister.

When King got back on the stand, he said he'd refreshed his memory by talking with other deputies. He remembered the second time around that he had ordered the check put in the contraband locker after he had called Sumner's bank and found out Sumner didn't have \$219 in the account.

As if it was any of the sheriff's business how much money Sumner had. King said he talked to Sumner about the check and told him he wasn't supposed to have had it, or the ballpoint pen he signed it with, in the back of the jail. That's his policy, he said. Sounds like if you end up in the back of the jail, you'd better have somebody on the outside to make your bond for you.

And there was the time King let Dr. Duane Huwe over from East Peoria with a friend to pay Sumner a visit. Huwe was the father of Dawn Marie, one of the three Sumner allegedly murdered.

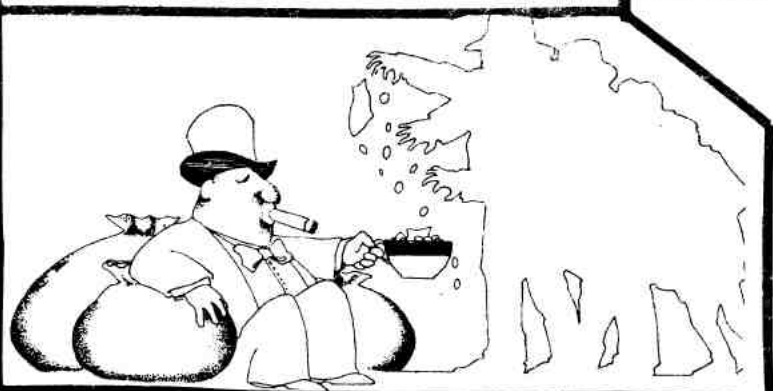
Now Sumner said he told the sheriff he didn't want to talk to Huwe unless he could talk to his attorney first. He said the sheriff told him he didn't need to talk to an attorney, that Dr. Huwe wasn't an investigator but was only looking for information about his daughter's disappearance. Whatever happened first, the meeting was held, and Dr. Huwe was allowed to impress upon Sumner that his daughter had been a good student and was helpful to people and didn't cause trouble.

Well, King got a lot of political mileage out of cracking the case. Nobody seemed to remember that the Normal police had done all the work on it and King not a bit until Sumner's wife came to town one day and started talking about what she knew to the sheriff's police.

And nobody seemed to care how King broke the case, just that he did. It was as if he could get away with anything, and break any law and deny any promises, just to get Sumner off the streets. There are ways to break a case without those legal and ethical circumventions, aren't there? Couldn't a good police force have done it without all the obvious conniving?

We thought Gesell put it well when he said that in terms of the result, the breaking of the case had been one of the best jobs of police work around. But in terms of the means to that result, he said, it represented one of the worst jobs around.

Well, we've become accustomed to that in the operations of the man who campaigned in the primary with statements that he had professionalized the department. If he's a professional, we'd rather have an amateur.





For more than a year now, the whole Philippines has been under martial law. Dictatorship and the rule of the gun have been imposed on forty million people by Ferdinand E. Marcos.

The regime has admitted to having incarcerated approximately ten thousand political prisoners. The Minister of Defense, no less, told the New York Times that within an eleven month period about six thousand people have been killed and/or become casualties under martial law. The underground papers, however, report a number twice as high.

There is no freedom of the press. All media is under government control. There is no freedom of assembly. Unions, peasant associations, student organizations and all forms of organizations are banned by the regime. Only those controlled by the government are tolerated.

With the increase of the military budget by more than one billion pesos in an annual national budget of eight billion--the subsidy for food production, health, education, and similar programs become, of necessity, substantially negligible.

The workers' discontent due to rising unemployment is only matched by peasant unrest due to the big sham of the regime's much-vaunted land-reform program.

An eight hour labor law had been enacted in the Philippines as early as June 1939. By June 1970, a minimum wage law stipulated a mandatory wage of eight pesos per day for an 8-hour work-day. Under the present martial dictatorship, however, one of the "better-paying" companies, the American owned Dole Pineapple in the southern island of Mindanao, reports with pride that it now can pay its cannery workers only about 12 cents per hour for an eleven-hour day!

At the current exchange rate of ₱6.70 to the dollar, "about 12 cents per hour" would be just about six pesos per day for an 8-hour day, or about eight pesos for an 11-hour day! This coupled with the ever-rising consumer price index--need one ask the why's of worker unrest?

It would seem that Marcos had no choice but to impose martial law as a prelude to dictatorship on September 21, 1972. For though by his own admission he entered politics in 1949 a poor man, by 1971, on the second year of his second term as President he was known in the Philippines as the wealthiest man alive, and in the international realm, he was referred to by Time magazine as the richest man in Asia.

With an economic empire including substantial interests in telephone companies, insurance, bus companies, Northern Cement, United Laboratories, Delta Motors, Oriental Petroleum, airline and construction companies, chain stores, newspaper and radio-TV networks, mining companies, etc., Marcos needed to stay on in power beyond the constitutional limit to protect so much ill-gotten wealth.

Unfortunately, for the Filipino people, Marcos found ready allies in the American Chamber of Commerce with its vast economic investments and in the American government with its numerous military bases. These US interests were overly afraid of the growing demands of the Filipinos as expressed by the numerous peoples organizations and an on-going Constitutional Convention, for simple economic independence.

As in the past, however, so now again--the Filipino people are determined to resist this native dictatorship. And though Marcos has tried so hard to label all opposition to his dictatorship as "Communist," the democratic Filipinos know what Marcos himself sometimes admits--that there are less than a thousand Communist Party members in the Philippines today. For the moment, they have as much chance of overthrowing the Philippine government as the CP of the U.S. have of overthrowing the U.S. government--almost nil.

Marcos and his allied American interests know that they now must contend with the democratic spirit of the Filipino people--the Democratic movement of peasants, workers, students, churchpeople, intellectuals and other sectors--the same spirit which is also the spirit of the democratic U.S. people.

*It is interesting that Bloomington-Normal's own Edward B. Rust is president of this fine organization

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May I beg your indulgence for a moment. My name is Charles Avila, and I am a national official of the Christian movement of peasants in the Philippines. I am presently in your country for what I hope will be just a brief period of exile.

I write to share with you the situation of my country and my people. Fully aware that, as an active citizen and a concerned Christian, you might already have had your hands full with quite a few other problems of oppressed peoples, may I, nonetheless, burden you with a bit more with the plight of a nation thousands of miles away.

I would like to tell you about a people whose history and aspirations have been very closely linked with your country's for more than a hundred years now. So close has America been to the Philippines that the present Philippine crisis brought about by martial law and one-man rule may any day suck America with her large military and business presence into a prolonged and agonizing conflict as frustrating and traumatic as Vietnam.

I would also like to share with you the inspiration and courage of the Philippine peasants and farmworkers who comprise the broad majority of the Filipino people. For two decades now they have endeavored to improve their lot and that of their countrymen by self-education and self-organization, and were gradually bringing about basic changes through militantly pacifist mass actions.

But the declaration of martial law last year, and resulting abolition of basic human rights like the right to peaceably assemble and the right of free speech now make the life and struggle of the peasant movement even more difficult. Hundreds of peasant leaders have been arbitrarily arrested many have been tortured, and in the testimony of one Catholic bishop, quite a few have been killed in jail before their guilt would be investigated or established.

A situation not unlike Stalin's Russia and Hitler's Germany now is present in my country which, for a quarter of a century, was fondly referred to by America as her showcase of democracy in Asia.

It so happens that you, the concerned American, can help us a lot in our efforts to bring political equity and social justice to the Philippines:

- 1) Please communicate with your Senators and Congresspeople and urge them to condition all economic and military aid to the Philippines on the restoration of civil liberties and the release of political prisoners.
- 2) The peasant leaders who are in prison and those who have to continue the democratic task of self-organization despite the oppressive rule of martial dictatorship need your financial aid very badly. We thank you for whatever amount you can give.

Toward genuine peace in the world and a more meaningful brotherhood of all peoples, I am

Yours in the struggle,
Charles R. Avila
International V-Pres.
Federation of Free
Farmers



ABOVE:
L. CHARLIE AVILA, (F.F.F.)
R. CESAR CHAVEZ, (UFW, AFL-CIO)

PEOPLE'S FOOD NEWS

After almost a year of hassles the People's Food Center is going to be officially open. The Center, which is located on the corner of Washington and Morris, will become the main warehouse and distribution point of People's Food.

As was mentioned, the hassles were many. When we first rented the store many people questioned our sanity. The place used to be called the Beehive grocery store. It had ceased operations three years ago because it couldn't meet health regulations. It had never been cleaned the whole time it had been closed. The place was dingy and dirty. Because of this many people refused to work on the place. So the main work was left to a few individuals who wanted to see it come about. Everyone was inexperienced in many of the jobs that had to be done, such as putting in a new floor, putting up wall board, installing a new heater and a three tub sink, to name just a few. The whole place has been painted inside and out. You would have to have seen the place to believe it.

The health inspector saw the place and remarked that it was a very good improvement.

The West Side Center will become the warehouse for the People's Food operation. We have the use of three coolers and a couple of freezers. Before we couldn't buy large quantities of food because we didn't have an area for storage. The advantage of buying a large quantity of an item is that it would cost the member less.

The Center will also be used for distribution. Members order their food on Monday from 12:00 to 4:00, Tuesday 2:00 to 8:00 and Wednesday 9:00 to 11:00 and pick up the food on Friday. We encourage people on the West Side of Bloomington to take advantage of the new facility. Either stop by the Center or give a call to 452-9221 or 829-3576. For the people in Normal, People's Food distributes out of the Newman Center also. We hope you join so we can get it together, have fun and save a little money.

DISTRIBUTION CENTERS--peoples food is getting too big therefore bureaucratic therefore more distribution centers are needed for the weekly food orders. if you are home between 4-6pm on fridays you could open your home as a distribution center for 2-10 food orders in your locality. that means that 2-10 people would come to your house once a week to pick up their food. you take their money and deliver it to mary landa at 909 s. center st. in bloomington. it is work but its a lot more fun than capitalist slave labor type work. the purpose is to decentralize the responsibility of pf from the "leaders" to the people in pf. DO IT call george 828-8536

BUYING CLUBS_ is another thing that would help organize pf. it means two or more families or people consolidating their orders and calling the consolidated order in as ONE ORDER. you can divide the food up when you get it home. its just cooperating with your neighbors

GARDEN--pf can have a garden this summer on the southeast side of bl. thru the generosity of the landowner if you have time energy etc to work the garden call george 828-8536

ART FAIR--pf will have a booth at the ewing castle art fair in bl. on april 27, 1974. we plan to sell (1) home made craft items donated by pf and community people (2) fruits and vegetables (3) pf cookbook with samples of cakes and breads recipes. if you can donate a craft contact leonard at 829-3576, if you can donate recipes for the book and help make the book or bake samples, see irene at 1404 n. center st., bl.

TRUCK--pf has just bought a reliable truck for the weekly transportation of the food from chicago to bloomington. its a 1963 international 2 ton with 14 inch bed, bought from earthworks in champaign. it is not paid for so there will be a truck fund campaign soon.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING PF BUT HAVE NEVER ORDERED BEFORE, YOU MAY OBTAIN AN ORDER FORM AT 114 1/2 north street, normal (pf office OR 1004 west washington st. bl. on fridays only, OR 1404 n. center st., bl. anytime. (basement apt.---near wesleyan univ.)



IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF PEOPLES FOOD PLEASE VOLUNTEER SOME ENERGY TO IT BY WORKING ON ONE OF THE ABOVE PROJECTS. PF IS NOT SOME THING SEPARATE FROM YOU. YOU ARE PEOPLES FOOD BECAUSE IT IS A CO OPERATIVE. PLEASE COME TO THE NEXT PF MEETING ON MAY 7, TUES. AT 7:30 pm AT 1004 west washington st. bl. THE MEETINGS ARE ALWAYS HELD ON THE SECOND TUES OF THE MONTH SAME TIME AND PLACE USUALLY. CALL 828-8536 for a ride. IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER OF PF BUT ARE SYMPATHETIC AND WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THINGS PLEASE CALL AT THE ABOVE LISTED PLACES. THANKS.

Sexist Tests



VICTORIA, B.C. Canada (CUP/LNS)-- In order to prove how women are channeled into jobs defined as women's work, members of the University of Victoria Women's Action Group recently took both the women's and men's vocational tests at the University's Counselling Center.

One woman rated high in public speaking and law as interests. Though the male test advises such a person to be a lawyer, the female results showed her suited to a career as a YWCA counselor.

Another woman whose main interest is music received the advice that if male she would be suited to be an orchestra conductor, but the female test suggested she be a piano teacher.

A third woman who took the two tests was advised to be a farmer by the male test and a farmer's wife by the female test!

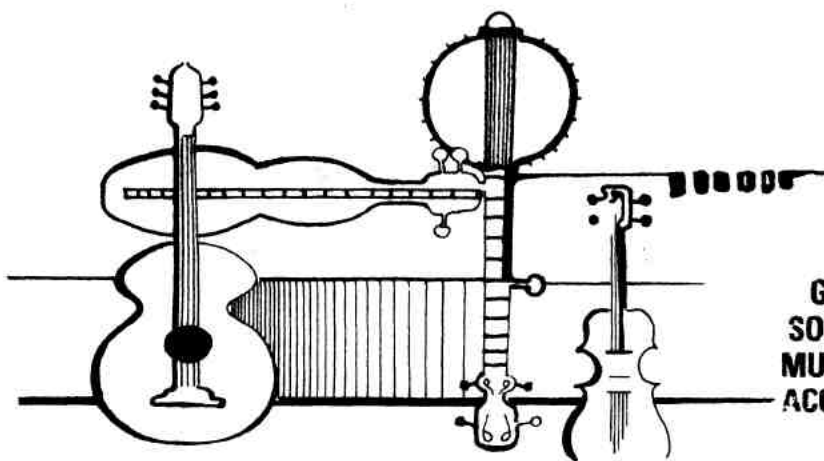
The tests, which are American-made, asks women, "would you like to be the wife of the President?" rather than "would you like to be President?" Male tests measure aggression, athletic prowess, and the desire to organize and rule people. Considered feminine by the women's test, is the woman who spends time in the morning putting on make-up, wears fashionable clothes, who likes to help people.

WELCOME IN SPRING

STOP AT
AX-IN-HAND

107 n. broadway

FOR THE
MOST IN MUSIC



GUITARS
SONGBOOKS
MUSICAL and
ACCESSORIES



THOUGHTS ON GAY PEOPLE & THEIR PARENTS

by e.m.j.

A little over a year ago, when my parents found a letter confirming their suspicions that I am gay, the commotion it caused was probably equalled only by the opening of Pandora's Box.

For many gay people, even those "out of the closet", the problems/heartaches of telling one's parents exceeds most other concerns. It is probably the most emotional topic of discussion for gays.

I think this is due partly to society's tendency to heap guilt on parents if a child is a non-conformist of some type. Whether the child is a hippie, a drug addict, gay or involved in an interracial marriage, parents feel this reflects back on them; that it is their fault and harms their image. In order to protect their image, parents encourage their offspring to conform. For example, my parents attempted to use financial security to manipulate my sexual preference.

This parental guilt syndrome affects gay people, too; they know that their parents have been conditioned to react this way to the knowledge of a child's gayness. So, many gay people will not tell their parents trying to protect the par-

ents from feeling this guilt. Except in unusual cases, this type of logic on the part of gays shows a reluctance to be honest and then deal with the shit that hits the fan. They would rather hide behind the "I'm only sparing my parents" image.

I am not denying that it can be pure hell, almost masochism, to tell your parents you are gay. But when we don't tell our parents, they never deal with it, never hear of anyone else's parents dealing with it, and when they do freak out, they have only old stereotypes to fall back on. My parents know no one else who has a lesbian daughter and they are too paranoid to discuss it with friends.

So why bother to tell your parents? Many gay people tire of playing games and are afraid of being caught in a lie. This is especially true if you're in a monogamous relationship - you can only be "just roommates" for a certain amount of time! Other gays had a close relationship with their parents and want to continue to be honest. There are other reasons, but it is not a subject which is treated lightly - not just casually mentioned in the course of conversation.

I might add that telling your parents is preferable to letting them find out. My parents, after find-

ing the letter, never miss a chance to lay the guilt back on me of being dishonest.

The right to choose who to tell is a precious one. Sometimes a gay person will confide in one parent, only to have that parent say, "Promise me you'll never tell your mother/father this!" Or in my case, my parents tried to bargain with me about my right to tell my younger brothers and relatives. It is a gay person's right to refuse to bargain like this.

It is also your right not to be expected to tell a whole host of people after telling one - or to "confess" as though being gay is a crime. I believe my gayness is not the most important thing about me. Simply telling people, as I would tell my phone number, infers that I consider my sexuality most important, sexuality is of primary importance and influence all we do. I refuse to have people see me through a "gay filter" - I want them to see me as a person.

So, it's a vicious circle - where does it end? I believe it ends by gay people telling parents, relatives, and friends, instead of putting it off and playing the game. This will make it easier for the next generation of gay people.



photos by dave nelson,
people's photo service

The National Campaign to Impeach Nixon (NCIN), a coalition of impeachment forces, has called for impeachment demonstrations in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. on April 27. NCIN also set April 15 to 20 as a period for "hometown actions," explaining that it is a time when Congresspeople will be home on Easter recess. The Washington March will also be preceded by three days of Congressional lobbying April 24 to April 26.

At a national impeachment conference held in Chicago in early March attended by 125 people from 37 cities, it was decided that the demands of the march, in addition to impeachment, would be: Roll Back Food and Fuel Prices; No U.S. Aid or Fuel Oil to Repressive Regimes Abroad; and Stop Repression-Defend Democratic Rights.



My Stomach

Sloshy muck
in time for lunch
and yet somewhat delayed
by untrapped gass
allowed to pass
before the chemist bray
the slime and globby garbage
that gathers from above
may be sick and smelly-
but from the tummy I love.
a Friend

Dear Sisters,

The Women's Union of Webster College invites you to attend and participate in the First Annual Women's Art Fair, to be held at Webster college, April 20 and 21, 1974.

The Fair is a celebration of woman-vision as expressed in the creative arts. It is a gathering space for women to share, grow, and explore our unique approach(es) to this life experience. The significance of feminism in our art, problems particular to women artists, and the future directions of our efforts are topics likely to thread themselves through the energy of the weekend.

If you have a song to sing, a poem to read, a picture or sculpture to show, a film to run, a dance to dance, or a craft to demonstrate join us in taking another step down the road toward the definition and realization of women's culture.

Events and participation in the fair are free of charge. Saturday and Sunday lunch will be provided for a small cost to cover the expense of the food. Morning refreshments will be free.

It is vitally important that you let us know immediately if you have any material to presents, if you want to lead a workshop, and if you need a place to stay or childcare. Women in the St. Louis area who have work in the visual arts to display must



Women's Art Fair

bring it to the women's Union at Webster College no later than April 15. Out-of-towners should try to send their work to the Union, but you can bring it with you if you let us know beforehand. Call the Women's Union at Webster College, 314-968-0500 ext. 345.

Joyously,
The women's union of Webster College

Schedule of Events

Saturday, April 20
10:00- coffee, donuts, registration
10:30- speaker, Betsy Damen
Artist and co-ordinator of feminist art program
12:00- lunch
1:30- speaker, Rita Mae Brown
lesbian feminist poet/author
3:00- music and poetry, planned and spontaneous
8:30- films: "The Girls" by Mai Zetterling and "Gertrude Stein, When This You See, Remember Me" by Perry Miller Adato

Sunday, April 21
early morning- ritual
10:00- coffee and donuts
10:30- workshops
12:00- lunch
1:00 - an afternoon of feminist films

470 E. Lockwood
St. Louis, Mo. 63119

WOMEN



❖ Lesbian Program

Thurs. April 25 7:30 pm

Film: Lavender

Presentation of Lesbian life

for further info call Cindy - 436-6173

❖ Women's Center Projects

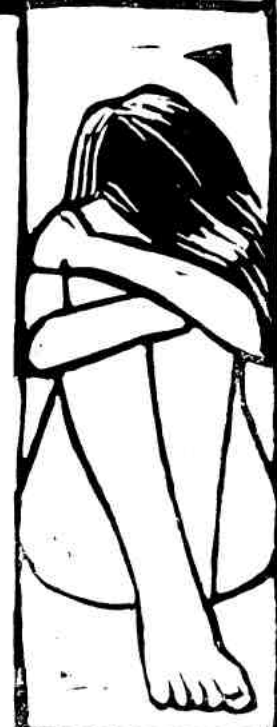
AUTO MECHANICS- CALL MARY OR LINDA 829-3576

SELF HELP- CALL JEANETTE 828-8536

INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP-

CALL BARB- 829-5639

NUTRITION AND ORGANIC COOKING- CALL JANET 452-5661



APRIL BROWN 1971



NFO TM has the **BLUES**

AND some **CAJUN** music, too



SAM LAY

MIGHTY JOE YOUNG

You still have three more chances to find out what New Friends of Old Time Music is about. And if you like Blues or Cajun music, you're really in luck. Shows are free and anyone can come and the music starts at 8PM or thereabouts, in the Prairie Room of the ISU Union.

Sam Lay Blues Band

Blues Pianists

Friday, April 19, the Sam Lay Blues Band from Chicago will play at NFO TM. Sam Lay, the drummer, played drums and sang on Paul Butterfield's first album on Elektra. He also played with Mike Bloomfield at some of Bob Dylan's first electric concerts. Sam was with the James Cotton Blues Band and now has his own band, in addition to doing some blues recording sessions with Sunnyland Slim and others. Sam Lay in blue is his most recent album.

Alan Hightman, the guitarist and Mark Brumbach on piano and harmonica have both worked with Sam off and on for four years. They have worked with Sunnyland Slim and others. Tom Paterson will play bass. Ron Dewar, formerly a member of the U of I Jazzband, will play sax.

Also, on April 19, we'll be having two fine blues piano players--Jimmy Walker and Erwin Helfer. Jimmy and Erwin play funky blues, Jimmy (Mister Natural of the keyboard) playing an older blues piano style and Erwin playing with a more jazz, classic and ragtime flavor. In addition to playing contrasting styles, they merge their styles and play duets. They have an album in the works on the Flying Fish label.

The BALFA FRERES

Friday, April 26, the Balfa Freres, a REAL Cajun band will be playing. In case you don't know what a Cajun is, here's an explanation. The Cajun people, from southeast Louisiana, are descendants of the Acadians, who used to live in what is now Nova Scotia. They came from France 400 years ago. The British tried to draft the Acadians into the Army to fight other French speaking people. When the Acadians refused to fight, they were exiled. They were not welcomed by English-speaking people on the Eastern seaboard, so they headed for New Orleans, where they heard people spoke French. New Orleans was too urban for these agrarian people, so they made for the swamps of southeast Louisiana, which is where they settled. Longfellow's "Evangeline" tells of the plight of the Acadians.

Originally, Cajun music was played with violin, triangle and accordion (the accordion being a result of Black influence in Louisiana). In the 1920's the guitar was added. Cajun music today is basically traditional Acadian (strong French flavor), with some Black and American country and western influence.

The Balfa Freres play the old style Cajun music, which Doug Kershaw does not do, so don't let anyone tell you he does. Dewey and Will Balfa play lead and rhythm violins and Rodney Balfa plays guitar. Nathan Abshire plays accordion. He was the first Cajun accordion player to record, back in the 20's. Tom Ahrens will play triangle. The Balfa Freres have played at festivals throughout the U.S. and Canada (the Philadelphia, Newport, and University of Chicago festivals among others). They have an album called The Balfa Freres on Swallow Records. They played their infectious music to an enthusiastic crowd at New Friends of Old Time Music four years ago. They said it was the best reception they had had in the North.

Mighty Joe Young

Mighty Joe Young and his blues band will play Friday, May 3. Joe has a long history of the blues and has played guitar with such luminaries as Howlin' Wolf and Otis Rush. Since 1963 he has had his own band and is in demand as a sideman at recording sessions with the likes of Willie Dixon, the late great Magic Sam, Albert King and others. Joe has 3 albums out--one on Delmark called Blues with a Touch of Soul, one on Sonet records, released in Sweden, titled Mighty Joe Young, and one on the label he was recently signed to, Ovation Records.

NFO TM shows will be at 8PM will be in the Prairie Room of the Illinois State University Union and are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Everyone's welcome.

WILLIAM BARKER BEATEN TWICE IN COUNTY JAIL

Though William Barker is currently locked up in the Vandalia correctional facility, he has written to the Post American and described two separate beatings he endured in the McLean County Jail.

One incident, which happened just last September, resulted in permanent disfiguring of Barker's nose. Barker says he was beaten for "smarting off."

Barker says that on the morning of Sept. 12, he was taken to court for an attempted burglary charge. While standing in front of the judge's desk, Barker had his hands on a little table or stand. A sheriff's detective accompanying Barker said to stand up straight. Barker says he didn't hear the detective at first, so the detective repeated himself.

Barker quotes the detective as saying, "Take your goddamn hands off the table and stand up straight."

"Look, all you have to do is ask; you don't have to go cursing anybody," Barker says he replied.

"Just do what I said," the detective ordered.

When Barker and the detective got back to the county jail, after Barker's court appearance, the detective asked at the front desk if there was anybody in the juvenile cells upstairs. There was somebody there, but the detective took Barker upstairs anyway. After they found both the juvenile and women's cells occupied upstairs, the detective led Barker downstairs again.

Barker said he turned around to find out what they were going to do with him, and the detective hit him in the eye, forcing Barker into a chair next to the front desk.

"Well, he started cursing me for smarting off to him over at court, and kept on hitting me with his fists in my shoulders and the side of my head, and once in the nose, which broke it. He kept asking me if I was ever going to smart off again and I kept on saying no, but he still didn't stop. Finally he stopped after about six or seven minutes, and that was it."

Barker said he never received any medical treatment after his beating; they would not let him see a doctor. Barker says his nose is crooked now because he wasn't allowed to have a doctor set it after it was broken.

In spite of the Sheriff's deputies physical appearance, and in spite of their behavior, they don't like to be called "pigs." According to Barker's letter, certain sheriff's deputies become very violent when they are called pigs.

This incident happened in the early summer of 1972, in the evening, right after "lock-up." According to Barker, the deputies were starting to go out front, but stopped when another inmate--Marty Hartley--called them pigs.

Thinking that Barker had done the name-calling, the deputies called Barker out. They unlocked the barred doors and Barker went out to the front part of the jail.

Barker says the deputies shoved him up against some lockers where inmates' clothes are stored.

According to Barker, three sheriff's deputies were involved-- Lt. Schroeder, Stanley Rader, and John Ledbedder.

After Barker was up against the lockers, Barker's letter says, "Rader stood up into my face and said, 'Now do you want to call me a pig?'"

After Barker denied doing the name-calling, Rader slapped Barker three times with his open hand. Rader tried to take Barker upstairs to the stand-up cell, but Barker wouldn't go. So Rader dragged Barker up the stairs by the hair, according to the letter.

Barker says that after about ten minutes in the stand-up cell, he heard noise downstairs and knew it must be Marty Hartley. "I couldn't see him, but I could hear them throwing him against those lockers, and he was cursing them."

Soon, Barker says, the door of the stand-up cell opened, and the sheriff's deputies threw Marty Hartley in. They held him by the hair, Barker said, and Rader hit Hartley in the back of the head as he threw Hartley into the cell. Barker says Hartley's head was still bleeding the next day.

SHERIFF KING, HIS JAIL, AND HIS DEPUTIES—ANOTHER 4-PAGE SECTION

Toilets, Letters, Visits Denied in Hole

After Sheriff King and his deputies beat John Geidl Sr. in November of 1972 (see Pantagraph 1/13/74 and adjoining story), they put him in the black cell for 4 or 5 days. Geidl says he sat in the totally dark 6 x 9 foot cell with four other prisoners.

Geidl said deputies are supposed to come once a day to let inmates out of the black cell to go to the toilet. During one of the 4-5 days Geidl spent in the "hole," however, deputies "forgot" to come until late at night. Geidl said he had to wait from noon one day until late the next night--over 24 hours--to use the toilet.

Asked what inmates do in the black cell when deputies don't let them use a toilet, Geidl said they figure out a way to go in the old ventilation hole "just like it said in the paper." (Geidl was referring to Post-American Vol 11 #12, which described inmates being forced to urinate either through the bars into the adjoining stand-up cell, on the floor, or into an old vent, which they must find in total darkness.)

During one of the days Geidl was in the black cell, his wife came to visit him. It was Wednesday, a regular visiting day, but deputies would not allow the visit. Geidl thinks the deputies wanted his face to heal up before an outsider saw it. (A similar situation--described last issue when Mrs. Charles Nestor attempted to visit her husband shortly after his beating--backs up Geidl's suspicion.) According to Mrs. Cyndi Geidl, deputies told her that John was not available to visit because he was being shipped out (taken to the state penitentiary system after being sentenced). But Geidl says he wasn't shipped out until quite a while later.

Also, Geidl said, sheriff's police stopped him from receiving letters at the jail. He showed a reporter an unopened letter addressed to him at the county jail. The letter had been returned to his parents, and was post-marked in the middle of Nov., 1972. Geidl said he stayed at the county jail until Dec. Other letters were returned, Geidl said, but hadn't been kept around all this time.



Hiram Waldron: saw it; wrote a letter-to-the-editor.

Another Bogus Battery Charge

Can a man doing nothing but standing on his front porch be arrested for the felony of aggravated battery? Yes, according to Sheriff King's deputy Stanley Rader, and King's reluctantly-dismissed ex-deputy Loren Reece.

John Geidl Sr., of rural west Bloomington, says that's just what happened to him in March of 1972. Several witnesses--including a TV repairman who was there--confirm Geidl's story.

Deputies Reece and Rader had come to the Geidl home to arrest John Geidl Jr. on a burglary warrant from Macon County. Earlier, however, John Geidl Sr. had called the police station, inquiring if there was a warrant out for John Jr. Geidl says he talked with Lt. Sprague at Bloomington police headquarters.

According to Geidl Sr., Sprague said, "Well there's no use in Johnny having to spend the night in the jail. Do you still have coffee at the Federal Cafe every morning?" After Geidl replied yes, Sprague said that Geidl should bring his son to the cafe in the morning, and he would be taken into custody then.

A half hour later, according to the Geidls, the sheriff's car pulled up at the Geidl home. According to the senior Geidl, only a tip from Sprague

could have informed the county police where the younger Geidl was at the time.

When the deputies' car pulled up, John Geidl senior went out onto the porch. Leona Geidl went to the door and watched, leaving the door ajar.

Mrs. Geidl had just got out of the hospital, after surgery for facial neuralgia. She was soon to return.

Hiram Waldron, who was fixing Geidl's TV at the time, observed the scene. He says that the deputies came up to the porch and talked with the elder Geidl. Then, according to Waldron, Mrs. Geidl instructed her son to get his coat. She said he was going with the county police.

According to Waldron's fresh recollections as printed in a Pantagraph letter-to-the-editor written shortly after this scene, Mrs. Geidl then went to the door to open it for deputies.

But, Waldron says, Stanley Rader forced the door open, pinning Mrs. Geidl between the door and the wall. Then deputy Reece entered the house, holding the senior Geidl bent over, handcuffed, with arms twisted behind the back. The elder Geidl was not fighting back, though he did yell to the deputy that his arm was being broken.

When John Geidl Jr. returned to the living room with his coat, he saw Rader coming at him, and Reece holding his father. John says he grabbed Reece's arm, saying to let go of his father. Rader started pushing John Jr. across the room. Waldron's observations confirm this.

Finally, John Geidl Sr. and John Geidl Jr. were taken into custody.

Waldron was left at the house with Mrs. Geidl. Due to injuries incurred during the incident, she had to go back to the hospital. She stayed in the hospital all that night, and most of the next day, according to her son.

The complete source of Mrs. Geidl's injuries is unclear. John Geidl Sr. says that after Rader slammed the

MO
POL

KING ENJOYS BEATINGS, EX-PRISONER SAYS

When John Geidl Jr. spoke with Pantagraph reporters early in 1974, he told of more than the one beating the Pantagraph reported in January.

In late 1972, Geidl was beaten by Sheriff King personally, according to the Pantagraph story. Geidl said a fight had broken out among inmates. King thought Geidl was involved, and tried to get a "confession."

The Pantagraph described the beating, but did not describe Geidl's perceptions of King's reactions.

Geidl said that most of the time King was slapping him around, King wore a big smile on his face. He said King kept yelling obscenities.

"King was getting off on it, smiling and sweating all over," Geidl said. Asked whether King's sweat was from the physical exertion of the beating, Geidl said no. "It was

from emotional excitement," Geidl said. "In my opinion, King was really enjoying himself."

Geidl distinguished between King's reactions, and those of the deputies who held Geidl down. According to Geidl, the deputies weren't having a disagreeable time, but seemed more to be going along with the beating, rather than enjoying it.

Though King was trying to find out who began the fighting among the inmates, Geidl couldn't understand why King was so worked up about the incident. "Inmates will get into fights," Geidl said. "But King acted like he was investigating a murder case."

Not true, according to allegations recently made by Jesse Sumner's attorney Gesell in pre-trial motions. According to Gesell's petition, King's men shoot shotguns over suspects' heads when a murder case is under investigation.

SHERIFF
COVERS
UP WHEN
DEPUTIES
GET
CAUGHT

door on her, he also smacked her in the chest with a blow resembling a karate chop. Waldron remembered only the door-slaming.

John Geidl Sr. swears that he "absolutely did not touch that man," referring to the officer who pressed aggravated battery charges. Geidl says that while standing on the porch, he simply asked the deputies what they wanted. After they said they were after the younger Geidl, John Sr. asked for their warrant.

According to Geidl Sr., Rader said "We don't need no warrant," and barged right on through the door.

At the same time, according to Geidl, deputy Reece grabbed him, threw his face up against the wall, and cuffed his hands behind his back.

John Geidl Sr. maintains that he did not provoke the police in any way, unless asking for the warrant is considered a provocation.

According to the junior Geidl, the county police had a problem figuring out what to do after father and son were taken into custody. Geidl Jr. says that at first his father was charged only with disorderly conduct; finally, after a few hours, the aggravated battery charge was slapped on. John Geidl

Jr. was also charged with aggravated battery (in addition to his original burglary charge), but this was later dropped.

According to what witnesses say, however, if either of the two were technically guilty of aggravated battery, it was the son. (Touching a police officer can be construed as aggravated battery, believe it or not.)

And what does a jury do when confronted with the choice of believing police officers or believing ordinary citizens? John Geidl Sr. was found guilty, and sentenced to a year's probation.

It's possible however, that with more and more reports of police duplicity, juries will begin believing ordinary people instead of the police.

John Geidl Sr. says that both sheriff's deputies lied on the witness stand. Also, Geidl says, Lt. Sprague lied. Geidl called Sprague as a defense witness, to establish that he'd agreed to turn his son in the next morning. Sprague, under oath, denied that the phone call had ever taken place.

Loren Reece, the deputy accompanying Rader on this caper, is no longer on the sheriff's force. Last summer, Reece fled the scene of the crime with Theodore Hardt, another ex-deputy, after Hardt shot a man at the corner of Clinton and Oakland.



RE ON SHERIFF'S ICE INCIDENTS

At least two incidents have come to the Post-Amerikan's attention where it appears that Sheriff King, like a good crime boss, covers up for his deputies when they get caught at something. When the public pressure becomes too great, however, King--like a "good law officer"--sternly suspends a subordinate for unprofessional conduct.

When a Pennsylvania man was shot last summer at the corner of Oakland and Clinton in Bloomington, it took a full week before the public knew that Sheriff's deputy Loren Reece had fled the scene with the person who did the shooting.

(It also took a while for the public to find out that Theodore Hardt, who confessed to the shooting, had only recently quit as a Sheriff's deputy. Hardt was charged only with aggravated battery, instead of the usual attempted murder.)

When the Pantagraph found out that a sheriff's deputy had been involved in the shooting, and had fled the scene, reporters asked Sheriff King about it.

Though King claimed Deputy Reece had been suspended, the Pantagraph story raised the implication that King was lying.

The Pantagraph, quoting King on a Friday, said King claimed that a letter had been sent the Monday before informing the County Merit Board of Reece's suspension.

But the Pantagraph also quoted the Merit Board's chairman as saying he never received any such letter, and

knew nothing of Reece's suspension.

When Reece later resigned from the county police force, King said he was sorry to see Reece go.

Another incident involving Reece is related in an adjoining story.

Another time Sheriff King covered up for a deputy, he had the help of State's Attorney Paul Welch.

Lt. Chester Finney was charged with trespassing after Daniel Sperry signed a complaint.

Clippings from old Pantagraphs tell the story excellently.

First is a short story from Feb. 7, 1972, telling King's cover-up. Headlined "Sheriff's Lt. Charged," the story reads:

"Deputy Sheriff Chester Finney, Lexington, was named Saturday in a trespassing complaint filed by the owner of a Bloomington machine shop.

Daniel Sperry, whose firm Mechanical Devices Co. is at 815 E. Oakland, charged that Finney drove through his property illegally Friday about 5 P.M.

Finney, a Lt. in Sheriff John King's department, had not been formally charged Saturday morning. Sperry signed the complaint in the day at the Bloomington Police station.

When the Post-Amerikan last issue reported Mel Armes' beating in the county jail, we did not print these photos above.

The pictures were in the custody of Armes' lawyer, and it took a bit or red tape to get them released. The Post did not get them until the last issue went to press, so we had to save them until now.

The photos were taken right after Armes was released from the jail. For the story explaining what happened, see last issue.

The marks on Armes' forehead are from a car accident. The other marks are courtesy of the county police.

Sheriff King said Lieutenant Finney drove through a parking lot at Sperry's firm at Oakland and Bunn--"in the line of duty"--to call police.

Finney wanted to get a stalled car removed from the intersection of Oakland and Hannah, he told police. The car was backing up traffic, he said.

Finney made the call from the Wareco Oil Co. station at Oakland and Clinton."

Only a few days later, Sperry wrote

KING'S COVER-UPS (cont.)

a detailed rebuttal to King's "explanation." Sperry's reply appeared on the Pantagraph's letters page on Feb. 11.

"The facts are (1) he was driving his personal car with wife and children. (2) He was advised to turn around and go out the way he entered or be reported for cutting the corner. (3) He said nothing about reporting a stalled auto at an intersection which was about 10 blocks from where he was. (4) He showed no respect for other traffic whatsoever at the corner where deaths and accidents have occurred due to the heavy traffic. (5) He was off-duty.

"To have read your article one would believe Mr. Finney was in a county sheriff's car equipped with lights and siren, which is not true.

"As far as I am concerned he was a John Doe and should be treated as such and Sheriff King should not make statements available to the press which stimulate my friends and acquaintances to ask me why I would have stopped a lieutenant sheriff's deputy who was functioning in the line of duty.

"In my opinion Mr. Finney wasn't acting "in the line of duty" nor

trying to get to a phone to report a stalled auto at Hannah and Oakland because (1) he could have asked to use my phone. (2) Why was he traveling south on Bunn at Oakland? (3) Why didn't he say something about a stalled auto, and (4) Why wouldn't he have stopped at Crusius Gas station rather than travel another block to Clinton and Oakland?

Let's face it, in my opinion he strictly was in a hurry and is using his position to belittle a citizen.

A Post-American reporter telephoned Sperry to find out what happened to his trespassing charge against King's deputy.

Sperry said he was called into State's Attorney Paul Welch's office the day before the case was to go for a preliminary hearing.

According to Sperry, Welch wanted to just drop the whole case. "We have to keep the image of the Sheriff's department good," Welch said, according to Sperry. Sperry insists those are Welch's exact words.

Sperry refused to drop the case, so the judge did it for him. After hearing the evidence, the preliminary hearing judge decided there was not



State's Attorney Welch: "We have to keep the image of the Sheriff's department good."

enough evidence for the state to continue the case.

Of course, when a police officer testifies against an ordinary citizen, that is enough evidence at a preliminary hearing.

Sperry feels the case was dropped simply because Finney was a cop.

king beat him, prisoner writes

Currently incarcerated in Menard Penitentiary, Steve Barnes has also served time in the McLean County jail. In a letter to the Post-American, Barnes described what happened to him in the McLean County jail around November of 1972:

"I got in a fight with another inmate, so King took me upstairs to the juvenile cells and grabbed me by the front of the coveralls and started beating my head against the wall and hitting me in the face with his fists.

"While King was doing this, Lieutenant Schroeder was holding my arms down. King kept hitting me and beating my head into the wall and saying that I was a bully!! I was 5'3" and weighed 135 pounds at the time. The guy I was fighting was about 5'10" and weighed 170. And look at the size of King!

"Well, after he got done knocking me around he threw me in the black box. About an hour later, Detectives Woith and Brown came and got me out of the black box and took me into a questioning room and Woith hit me in the face a couple of times. Then he asked me how I'd like to get kicked in the chest. Then he picked up a wooden billy-bat and asked me if I'd like him to hit me in the eyes and cut them open with it. Of course I told him no. Then he just hit me with his fist again and threw me back in the black box with two other dudes. I stayed in the black box for five days."

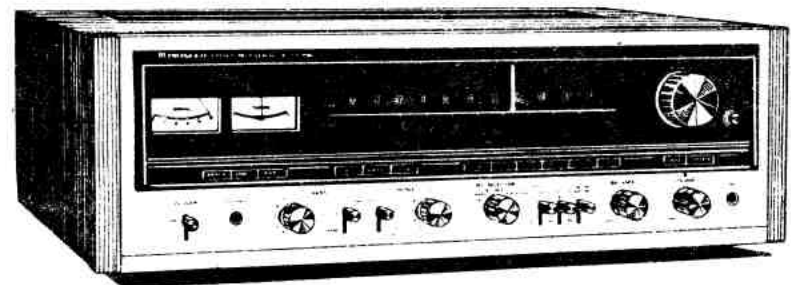
According to Barnes' letter, he also witnessed another beating about three months before his own.

Barnes said he "saw Lt. Schroeder throw Raymond Wey on the floor and hit him about 9 or 10 times. Then he locked him up in his cell."

Raymond Wey could not be reached for comment.

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BANKER SPEAKS WITH FORKED TONGUE ¹⁵



Dick and Pam Hall

Does a man's credit rating suffer simply because his wife spent a couple months on welfare five years ago--before he even met her?

Yes and no, says Heyworth banker Ron Shirk, it depends on who is asking the question.

Last January, Dick Hall of Bloomington put down one hundred dollars to hold a truck at Don Stone Ford. Hall told Wayne Thornton of Don Stone Ford that he wanted to finance the truck purchase through his bank, the Farmer State Bank of Heyworth.

Don Stone Ford contacted Ron Shirk, president of Farmer's State Bank. Shirk said the \$100 down was not enough, but if Dick Hall could get \$800 down, the Heyworth Bank would finance the truck purchase.

Dick Hall called the bank to confirm the proposition. According to Dick, Bank President Ron Shirk again said that if Dick got \$800, the bank would finance the rest.

That afternoon, Dick said, he got the \$800 from another finance company. Dick called the Heyworth bank, but this time Shirk had changed his mind.

"There's no way we can loan you the money," Dick reported Shirk saying. Dick said that from Shirk's tone, it sounded like he could not borrow any money, ever, from the bank.

Dick said he never bothered to ask why Shirk had changed his mind so quickly.

But Dick's wife, Pam Hall, wanted to find out why Shirk had changed his mind about the loan. So she called him.

According to Pam, Shirk said he changed his mind after talking to bank director Franklin Bert Lott. "Weren't you on ADC once?" Shirk asked. Pam said she had been on township relief for a couple months--in 1969. According to Pam, Shirk said that was why Dick couldn't get the loan.

TONGUE

Pam said that Lott had probably told Shirk about her being on relief. Lott, as township supervisor in 1969, had signed her relief checks.

Pam said that Shirk never said anything about how good or bad her and Dick's credit was. Shirk just talked as if her having been on relief five years before was the sole reason the loan was now being denied.

A Post-American reporter telephoned Shirk. Shirk completely denied ever agreeing to the loan in the first place. "They never even came in and filled out an application," Shirk said.

Dick Hall pointed out that it had been understood that a written application for the loan would have been a mere formality after the verbal negotiation.

Wayne Thornton at Don Stone Ford remembers seeing a form from the finance department saying that the Farmer's State Bank would finance the truck for the Halls if they paid \$800 first.

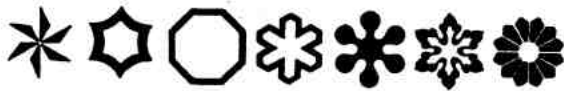
But talking on the phone with a reporter, Shirk also denied ever communicating such a loan to anyone--including Don Stone Ford's finance department. Shirk claimed never to have agreed to finance the truck with 800 dollars down.

Shirk admitted that Pam Hall had called him and asked why the loan was denied. But, according to Shirk, he never said it was because she had been on township relief. (Shirk did point out that Pam Hall had been on relief, though.)

Shirk claimed to have told Pam that the loan was denied because of "a few problems with some checks of hers a few years ago." But Pam says she never had a checking account until a year ago.

Asked if he had discussed the Halls' case with Bank Director Lott, Shirk hesitated. "Well, not that I remember, but I may have," Shirk said. "After all that was six months ago," Shirk protested.

Pam Hall produced a check stub showing that the \$100 paid to Don Stone Ford to hold the truck was paid January 14, 1974. It was after that check was written that negotiations with Farmer's State Bank began.



Franklin Bert Lott, who apparently told Shirk that Pam Hall had been on relief and urged that the loan be denied, is also a member of the McLean County Board. Lott is chairman of the Board's Law and Justice Committee. After the Pantagraph printed a 3-part series on the sheriff's police beating prisoners in the county jail, one county board member said that the Board should take no action and reach no conclusions. "We need a pretty good information base to make judgments," he said. Then Lott said that his Law and Justice Committee had reached a similar understanding about what to do about the sheriff--nothing.

MONDAY

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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APR. 1974



Write to a lonely prisoner?

Dear Post:

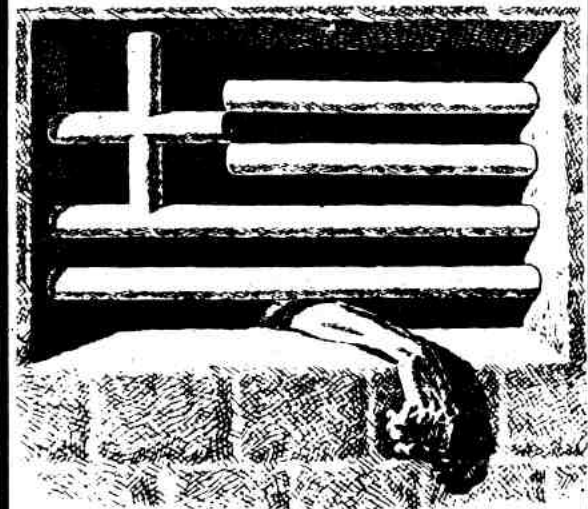
Mentally, things here are at their lowest, and because of this my head just ain't as beautiful as it generally be. I cope, I guess, because I realize serving time for possession of grass, in this day and age, is a gross archaic injustice.

I find that I've become quite lonely here of late, and I'd like your paper to convey my desire for correspondence to some of your many readers.

If it matters, I'm black, of average height and weight, and intelligent.

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WOMEN

Madison, Wisc. (LNS)--Joan I. Roberts, a young social psychologist who's active in women's studies movement and other activist groups was denied tenure (fired-that is) on Feb. 8 by her department (Educational Policy Studies) at University of Wisconsin at Madison. After taking over the tenure meeting of the departmental committee when it ruled against Roberts, faculty and student activists forced committee members to watch a guerrilla theatre on the necessity of women's studies. Then they burned the committee head in effigy. Roberts plans to take the matter to the courts.

Bonn, W. Germany (LNS)--Both conservatives and liberals are upset about a stamp issued on Jan. 15 with a picture of Rosa Luxemburg, who was executed 55 years ago for revolutionary activity. Objections to honoring her are based on her involvement in the founding of the German Communist Party after WWI. Postmaster General Herst Ehmke stated that Rosa Luxemburg was picked "because she is a fine example of a front-line fighter for female emancipation."



The Wall Street Journal reported that Nixon Labor Secretary, Peter Brennan recently called attention to a highranking woman official's presence at a House hearing, jesting "If you play the right music, she can strip and change."

WASHINGTON (LNS) --Alice Johnson, a Navy veteran, was fired from her job at the Brunswick, Maine Naval Air Station last summer after a conflict with her boss in which she refused to make coffee for him. Soon after that she was told that her job had been abolished.

The Navy claimed that they had eliminated Johnson's job because of a lack of money, yet they immediately began looking for a replacement for her. The Civil Service Commission concluded that Johnson was right and ordered her old job returned to her.

WASHINGTON (CUPI/LNS)--A Superior Court judge ruled, March 19, that the police here were discriminating against women in their enforcement of the prostitution statute. Judge David Norman dismissed charges against two women and said the Metropolitan Police Dept. was operating under a double standard by not arresting their male customers.

Norman held the case against the two women represented "a classic example of our historic double standard under which one set of standards is applied to females and another set of standards to males."

Henry Brown, who police have alleged is a member of the Black Liberation Army (BLA), was acquitted by a jury March 21 on charges stemming from the 1972 murder of two policemen on New York's Lower East Side. The two month trial came to an end after nearly three days of deliberations when the jury of nine men and three women ruled Brown innocent on two counts of murder.

Brown is one of several Blacks alleged to be members of the BLA who are currently facing trial in New York on either murder or bank robbery charges.

Both the press and the police have worked together to create a climate in which all attacks on police can be labeled "acts of the BLA."



Detroit, Mich. (LNS)--Augusta Giles, a black woman autoworker, has filed a \$1.5 million discrimination suit against Chrysler for firing her after a physical attack on her by a white worker. She asked for the \$1.5 million in damages because the firing was discriminatory, Chrysler allowed the use of racist epithets, and Chrysler refused to listen to her side of the story.

THIS SPACE
IS AN
OPTICAL
ILLUSION



PIGS & PUPPETS

New York (LNS) Attorneys from the Center for Constitutional Rights filed suit recently seeking civil damages against former attorney John Mitchell for having illegally wiretapped the telephone of Arthur Kinoy on a number of occasions. Kinoy also a lawyer for the Center, is noted for his representation of the Chicago 7 conspiracy defendants on their contempt charges.

Washington D.C. (LNS)- According to a recent report to a Senate Anti-trust Subcommittee, General Motors acting together with oil, tire, and highway interests beginning fifty years ago, deliberately wrecked the mass transport systems of this country in order to increase sales of their products. G.M. using leverage on the railroads (as the biggest commercial shipper of freight), was able to force railroads to convert from steam or electric trains to more costly less efficient diesel.

an oinker in memoriam

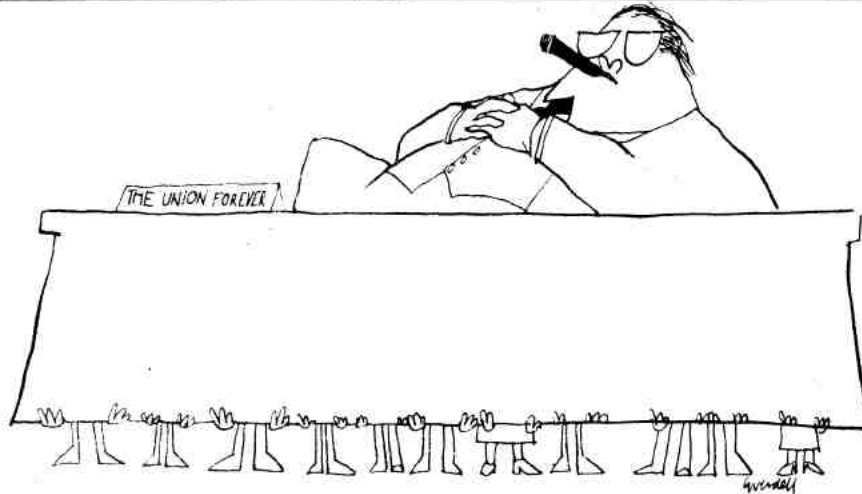
WILLIAM PENN PATRICK

founder of Holiday Magic Cosmetics... 43 years old at the time of his death last June in a plane crash... enthusiastic exponent of pyramiding schemes...forever jousting with governmental agencies...dabbler and meddler in right wing politics... established Learning Dynamics Institute for his executives and others to assist their 'personal development'...believed that torture and degrading punishments would build inner strength...to this end, students were shut in coffins, tied

to crosses, put in cages, forced to degrading sexual acts, beaten, tied spread-eagled with wires to testicles, doused with cold water, starved, kept awake, paraded nude before others for group humiliation...objects to make the subject weep and confess his short-comings. (Over 2,000 people 'graduated' from Patrick's LDI.)

FROM THE
CAPITALIST REPORTER

WORKERS



PARIS (LNS)--Since the middle of February, many of France's 300,000 bank employees have been on strike for a variety of demands. And at times they have backed up their demands by occupying the buildings where they work.

On March 16, some 25,000 bank employees--mostly women in their 20's--marched through the streets of the financial district. "We're demanding respect for trade-union rights, and freedom of expression and organization for the workers," said one worker. "We're also demanding better pay to keep up with the cost of living. It's all linked together."

Since the end of February, the big nationalized banks have been intermittently occupied by workers. The strike wave has also spread to private banks.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS)-- About 1,000 members of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (UE) union came to Washington March 20 to demonstrate against inflation and high corporate profits.

Almost all of the workers had given up one or two days pay to come to Washington to demonstrate and lobby. In some plants workers who couldn't go showed their support of the action by taking up collections to pay for buses to take others to Washington.

The union members came from Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, and upstate New York.

PARIS(LNS)--A three week nationwide strike against the French operations of the multinational typewriter and computer firm, Olivetti, ended recently when the company agreed to give in to many of the workers' demands. The settlement came after technicians, salespeople and clerical workers for the giant Italian owned firm occupied Olivetti's large exhibition and demonstration hall in the heart of Paris' swanky commercial, administrative and diplomatic center.

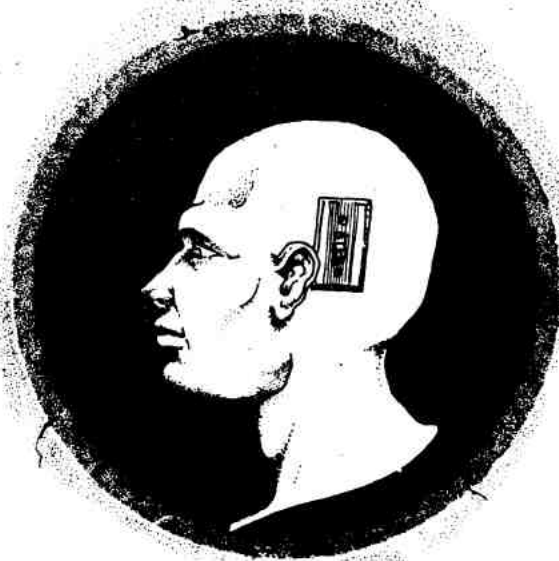
The strike began when a woman clerical worker, returning to work after giving birth, found herself shifted from one job to another, probably, speculated workers, in the hope that she would quit in disgust. In support of her right to her job, other clerical workers in the warehouse where she worked in a Paris suburb went on strike. They were soon followed by a general strike of all Olivetti employees throughout France.

ALTERNATIVE NEWS BRIEFS

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (LNS)--Recent demonstrations in Ethiopia escalated into an urban uprising that appears to have put an end to the absolute monarchy of Haile Selassie who has ruled the country for over 40 years. Taxi drivers and teachers spurred the militancy onward till the military fell apart and a general strike of 100,000 workers brought the country to a standstill. Demands from the strike included freedom of speech, press, the right of workers to organize. After the strike was settled 5,000 women industrial workers staged the first demonstration by women factory workers in Ethiopian history.

Denver (LNS) A \$10 million libel suit was filed February 25 against the Denver Rocky Mountain News by the Crusade for Justice, a Denver based Chicano organization, because of an article printed by the newspaper that a link existed between an attempted bombing of a Denver paint store and the Crusade. The National Lawyer's Guild attorney for the Crusade explained that in the past year "a number of articles" were found "containing incorrect facts, unchecked rumor..." The Crusade for Justice has played a major role in the growth of the Chicano movement in the Southwest.

MISC. STRUGGLES



Paris, France (LNS/PTS)--Citing a McCarthy era law, the U.S. State Department denied French revolutionary theoretician, Regis Debray, permission to visit the United States. The 1952 law invoked by the State Department states that persons "linked to the communist movement of any foreign country" are undesirable. Debray, a friend and admirer of Fidel Castro traveled with Che Guevara's column in Bolivia and was captured in 1967 by that government.

San Juan, Puerto Rico (LNS)--Armed right-wing terrorists attempted to bomb the offices of Claridad, the Puerto Rican Socialist Party paper, on March 16. In the shoot outs that ensued six people were wounded, including one of the assailants. The PSP stated that it believes the attack to be "government instigated."

Ann Arbor, Mich. (LNS)--Despite a petition signed by 6,000 people, Ann Arbor residents lost their campaign to prevent McDonald's from opening one of their burger joints in Ann Arbor. In spite of the petition which sited non-nutritional foods, intolerable litter situations, poor working conditions and racist and sexist practices as McDonald's only "contributions" to the community, the Republican controlled city council opened it arms to the Big Mac. Ray Kroc, head of McDonald's, gave a quarter of a million to Nixon's re-election campaign.

Clark Kent says:

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Mr. Kent is a star reporter for the Daily Planet.



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TESTIMONIALS!

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"Even though I am an over-cautious person when it comes to laying out a paper, the skills I have learned at the Post-Amerikan reassure me that Harold Linton's position can be jeopardized by anyone."

--JT, Bloomington, Ill.

My weight problem used to always get me down. I was embarrassed to ask for dates. But after I enrolled at PAWSI, I lost over forty pounds. I feel like a better person all over, and have an exciting dating life now. If I can just get the proper mouthwash, toothpaste, and deoderant, I might be able to get a steady girl.

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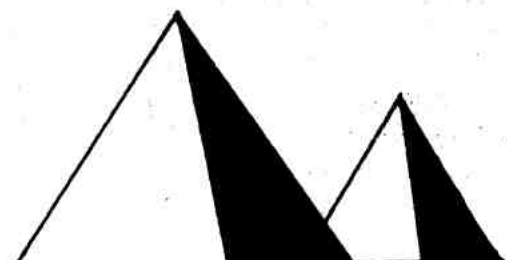
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SUSPECT LOSES TOOTH TO CITY POLICE

In its January series on beatings in the county jail, the Pantagraph recounted how Bob Malcolm lost a back tooth at the hands of the county police. Bob is also missing one front tooth, and Bloomington city police get the credit for that one.

Malcolm says he is not sure whether he started the scuffle with the city police or not. But no matter who started it, the city police soon got the upper hand, and took advantage of it.

When reading this story, as told by Bob Malcolm, keep in mind that police have authority to use only as much force as it takes to restrain a prisoner: if a prisoner strikes a policeman, the cop can strike back, but only until the prisoner is subdued. A policeman has no legal right to beat on a prisoner for "pay-backs" or revenge.

Bob Malcolm said he was arrested last August for disobeying a stop sign, reckless driving, having no valid registration, and theft under \$150. Bob said he was drunk at the time.

According to Malcolm, Bloomington police took him to the station, booked him, and put him in a cell. Bob's cellmate had two shirts; Bob had none. Malcolm said he started hassling his cellmate to give him a shirt. The officers came then and told Malcolm to "leave him alone."

Here is where Malcolm is not sure whether he started the fight. "It may have been my fault; I don't know. I might have said something to them," Malcolm said.

Malcolm said that all he remembers is seeing a glimpse of a key ring coming at his face, and then waking up in the booking room again. The key ring is a large ring with several keys on it--one for each cell.

When he woke up in the booking room, Malcolm said, he saw a fist coming toward his face. "I bit the fist, and then started fighting back otherwise," Malcolm said.

After taking on three cops at once in the booking room, Malcolm said he was beat on for about 5 minutes. Then the police took all his clothes off him and put him in the stand-up cell.

After about an hour or so, Malcolm said, the police came back. Bob peeked out at them through a small peep-hole in the stand-up cell's door. Malcolm said one of the officers spit through the peep-hole.

In retaliation, Malcolm gave the police a real provocation. Malcolm shimmied up the walls of the narrow stand-up cell. Then he tried to urinate on the police through the hole in the cell door.

Remember, now, police are justified in using only as much force as it takes to restrain a suspect.

"They yanked me out of the stand-up and worked me over again," Malcolm said. He was still naked while they beat him. Then they threw him back in the stand-up cell.

After two or three hours, Malcolm said, the police came back. They tapped through the hole with a blackjack.

According to Malcolm, the police said they were going to put him in the drunk tank. "They said that if I caused any more trouble," Malcolm said, "they would bust me between the eyes with the blackjack."



BOB MALCOLM

They threw Malcolm in the drunk tank, but still without clothes. After an hour and a half, he got his clothes back.

Because of his fight with the Bloomington police, Bob had to have his front tooth pulled. The dentist said there was no way to save it.



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VINCENT VAN GOGH



vincent van gogh was an artist who painted from 1880-1890 in western europe, that is holland, belgium, france. during his life he was pretty much ignored as an artist, and as a person, but soon after his death by suicide, at the age of 37, his paintings and his personality became famous. van gogh wrote that he felt very different from the people around him. his artist friends were painting in a more rigid style than vincent did, and this is probably because of their personal differences. the more rigid style called impressionism, was a style that society at that time and place approved of. van gogh said he did not understand or approve of that society. i want to show now that this difference between van gogh and the society was the cause of most of the misery in van gogh's life.

in america's public schools, van gogh has a reputation for being comically insane. van gogh wrote that his mind felt completely confused and out of control sometimes. his "disease" has never been diagnosed with certainty. the shrinks say that he was schizophrenic, epileptic, and/or a manic depressant. i think that van gogh was a person who felt a WHOLE LOT of anger at the world and could not express it, even in his paintings sufficiently. suppressed anger creates depression. depression is suppressed anger turned inward, at oneself. emotions are like physical functions in this way; if they are not allowed to happen naturally, then the person will become sick. for instance, if your body cannot digest some food, then the food will be vomited up, or if your bowels are obstructed, then the feces will eventually be vomited up in a liquid form. the emotions need to be expressed just as seriously. van gogh was an extraordinarily freaked-out depressed person. this is something that many--maybe most of us can relate to. van gogh finally burnt out at 37--in other words, his depression consumed all his energy until there wasn't enough left to cope with life any more, so he killed himself. there's nothing so weird about that, but at the time society thought it was weird and america's public schools still think it is weird today. van gogh was honest and emotional and kindly. society freaked him out then just like it has freaked us all out too.

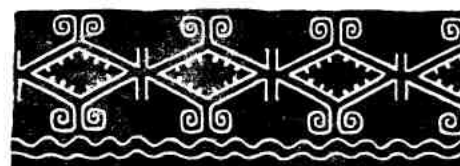
van gogh's letters are really easy to relate to and i enjoyed reading them. they have been published by grove press inc. as van gogh's autobiography. this book is available at public libraries and isu library.

the way that van gogh expressed violence says a lot about his personality. once in arles, france, he threw a glass of absinthe (a green bitter alcoholic liquor with the flavor of wormwood and anise) at paul gauguin's head but missed. a few days later he started to attack gauguin with a razor but stopped himself and went back into the house, where he cut off his left ear. this happened at christmastime, which is always a bad time for depressives. at another time van gogh threatened to kill his psychiatrist with a gun because the psych. had not framed a certain picture the way van gogh had suggested. van gogh stopped himself from shooting, went away, and a few days later he shot himself and died. both times van gogh turned his emotions on himself rather than unjustly work them out on the other people. it was harmful to himself but when you're depressed you don't give a shit too much. i think this shows that van gogh had a lot of concern for the other people because it's really hard to control your emotions when you are having a nervous breakdown, which was happening to van gogh. that is one of the reasons i want to share this study on van gogh; i want to show that he was a good person; his reputation does not tell much about that. it is good for us to have contact with people like him because we are influenced by our environment so much. we can control our environment and surround ourselves (to a certain extent) with beautiful things like van gogh's paintings and his life and that will be good for us.



van gogh was not perfect, however. one of his faults was sexism. this is a track that is always repeated when a woman studies a man. it's tiring for both of us (woman and man) but it has to be dealt with or it will never end. the story goes that van gogh cut off his ear and sent it to his lover as a token of his love. the truth, as closely as it could put it together, is that he took the ear to a nearby prostitution house which he "visited" sometimes and left it with the woman manager of the house, saying they should keep it as a souvenir of him. this is really ironic and incredibly supremacist. as miserable as van gogh was, surely these women were really more miserable. yet he wanted them to feel sorry for him. i bet those women were really disgusted. i have seen men do similar things in my own life--over and over, yet each time it happens it stuns me like i can't believe it. van gogh definitely had it rough, but he did not have to rent out his body to be fucked in order to sur-

vive. sexuality is really a sensitive, intimate personal thing and to have your sexuality opened and constantly assaulted by the man must be incredible dehumanizing. i am a woman, and i have been sexually assaulted by the man and it is horrible. i cannot find adequate words to express how horrible ego-sexual aggression is. the frosting on the cake, so to speak, is that van gogh rented those women.



sometimes van gogh talked about the problems of women in his letters. he once wrote that it was nearly impossible for a woman unmarried to support herself without renting her body, and how sorry he felt for the poor women. yet he fucked prostitute women. this is really weird, it has to be conditioning and ignorance. he was conditioned into insensitivity to women's feelings (as people) and so he could handle his own unnaturally created male ego.

another fault of his was that he was an intellectual snob. his family was middle and upper class so i assume he learned it there. i remember several times in his letters where he spoke about 'uneducated' people patronizingly. however, i think that he did not want to be snobbish and tried to change his attitude.

he was always trying to be open and he wrote several things later in his life that showed change.

i did not find anything in van gogh's letters to indicate that he was white supremacist, however considering his background i assume he was just as conditioned into this as everyone else. in general, however, he did not have a supremacist-type personality at all. i would say that he was an unusually humble person, every thing considered.

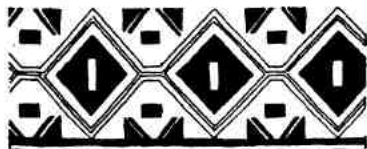
i have not done sufficient research to say that the conflict between van gogh and the society can be labeled fascism versus socialism conclusively, but from the things which van gogh wrote, i am sure that society destroyed him. it will destroy us all unless we defend ourselves better than van gogh did. from van gogh's descriptions of the society he lived in, it is obvious that it was a lot like today in america. there is only one hundred years difference. i was surprised that one hundred years did not make that much difference in the personality of the world but it is a good thing to learn about. van gogh wrote in a letter to his brother; "my poor friend, our neurosis, etc., is of course partly due to our somewhat bohemian way of life, but it is also a fateful heritage, as under civilization one gets weaker and weaker from generation to generation." (Nordenfalk, p. 159). this shows that van gogh was aware that society or civilization had broken him down. he



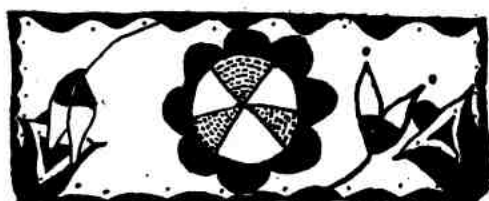
and the peoples cultural revolution

lived from 1853 to 1890, during the turnover from horsepower to the industrial age. he felt the difference in the pace of living. he disapproved of the profit motive, and he avoided the cities where he was subjected to it all. he wrote to theo, "there is nowadays a hurry and bustle in everything that doesn't please me....to pocket as much money as possible that is the way they do. i do not think that method wise. i think it will make them bankrupt... i am not indifferent to money, but i do not understand the wolves... in general there is more chance of finding a reasonable human being in the country than in the city. And the nearer one comes to the large cities, the farther one gets into the darkness of degeneration and stupidity and wickedness." (van gogh, 195)

van gogh wrote that he saw "moral grandeur giving way to material grandeur"... "for heaven's sake, what is the meaning of that social position and that religion which the respectable people keep up? oh they are perfectly absurd things, which make of society a kind of lunatic asylum, a perfectly topsy-turvey world!" (van gogh, p. 193)



van gogh had learned that the church was rotten through his experience with it when he wished to become a minister and then an evangelist; "there are really no more unbelieving and hard-hearted and worldly people than clergyman"--he believed in god and the general christian story, but he considered religion to be a practical code for everybody, and saw god in nature and reality. i think it shows in many of his paintings, particularly the "starry night" and the "starlit night" that van gogh felt a harmony between god and nature and reality and himself, and that is the kind of religion that he believed in. the attitude of the society around him made it very difficult to live a life of harmony; in fact made it impossible for him to even survive. i feel like that is what has happened to us the people of the revolution, and the the revolution is our struggle to survive, to live in harmony.



art was available only to rich people and this really bothered van gogh so in 1889 in arles, france, van gogh organized the "society of impressionistic painters" which was voluntary non-profit merge of artists to produce art which was reproduced as inexpensive prints. the painters would donate their paintings and every to make the prints, living together in one house and sharing equally in the expenses. the main problem with this plan was that the artists were all poor also and preferred trying to become rich and famous by kissing ass in paris. paul gauguin and van gogh were living together in arles at the time. they began some work on the merge but after three months van gogh had the nervous breakdown where he attacked gauguin, and then cut off his own ear. gauguin moved away after that; van gogh went to the mental institution, and the merge was never developed.

van gogh once wrote to his brother: "to succeed one must have ambition, and ambition seems absurd." (van gogh, p. 391) in a system based on capitalist ethics this is true, but in a system of cooperative voluntary work and shared products it is not true. the last one is the type of system that van gogh could have survived probably very well in. i thin that van gogh had a natural right to survive and i blame crazy capitalist greed for his death. capitalist greed has been destroying us all our lives and our work in people's food and other cooperative type things is our attempt to create a more adaptable environment for ourselves. the revolution is our fight to survive.

fascist conditioning creates in our minds the idea of RIGHT (as versus WRONG) RIGHT is a dangerous concept, and totally unnecessary to survival. RIGHT means AUTHORITY which means SUPPRESSION. we are all conditioned into supression and inside we are all angry but our conditioning and the government will not permit us to express it--or even be aware of it-- therefore the anger turns inward and creates depression. in order to escape depression, the people in the fascist society have replaced depression with CYNICISM. this is the reason why all the people of america are so grouchy and cynical.

THERE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE ANY
AUTHORITY ANYWHERE
THERE IS HARMONY EVERYWHERE
IF WE WILL LET IT BE
DO IT
COOPERATE

life does not compete with itself and it is unnatural for people to compete with each other. we will survive better when we work together for the survival of life. not just individual lives, but for life the collective concept. ALL THE PEOPLE TOGETHER ARE A NATURAL COLLECTIVE AND WE CAN CHOOSE TO BE COOPERATIVE. WE THE PEOPLE HAVE CHOSEN. WE HAVE CHOSEN TO BE WHAT WE ARE.



life does not seek to be on top of other life. this is so unnatural. every person has the same goal of every other person: to survive, to live. that is because we are life. out of recognition of what we are, we understand that we are in harmony. the human race is destroying itself because it has insufficient sensitivity to its own needs, ambition is negative to the survival of life. it is natural and logical that we should work together for our common interest: to survive.

not competition but cooperation is natural to the survival of life. not possessiveness but sharing is natural to the survival of life. this is a better way.

by a van gogh admirer and friend of the revolution

sources include books by H. R. Graetz, Hermann Jedding, Carl Nordenfalz, and vincent van gogh..

ATOMIC KAHOUTEK meets JOAN OF ARC: FOSSIL of FIRE

The raven of the ribonucleic holiday
contains its fastened feathers
with aluminum dreams of forever.

It,— cold, canned, killer winestein
—fermenting in isolated excretions of the vintage future,
waits for the frequencies of famine politics
to collide,
in caress of each other.

Punctured by repeating robot needlework,
like rivets through a child,
It gargles in the gravity of its groin;
regurgitating the grain of the galactic sandwich.

Though the residue of firebirds mindless droppings
fry in the sun bubbles of scientific discovery,
tick tock questions and canned illusions explode
crowding/clouding to convince every focus
that the source spreads its tail.

And the source is for sale.

wog





Todd, Todd Rundgren (Bearsville):

This is another album of contradictions from a performer who tries to embody them. Carrying the schizophrenia of his last album to greater lengths (literally: this is a double album), Todd Rundgren has created a brilliant and/or frustrating platter full of toons.

Like that earlier disc A Wizard/A True Star, this one seems to be tearing itself apart with two disparate impulses: one, the desire to involve a whole audience in the making of music; and two, the desire to fuck with said audience's head.

The first impulse gives us "Sons of 1984," with its massive audience singalong (almost totally obscuring the words (and thank god for lyric sheets!))

The second gives the most chaotic song ordering possible, embodying musical and thematic conflict.

David Heller (Probably the best music critic The Vidette has had) seems to think this album's song order an unsuccessful attempt at heightening musical effect. (You have this nice catchy lilting tune, "A Dream Goes on Forever," and you follow it with a frenetic version of Gilbert and Sullivan, and both songs are heightened in their opposition.)

Actually what Rundgren is working with is deliberate dis-orientation manufactured into the musical experience.

To this end he succeeds.

My basic objection with this album is towards the inclusion of several overlong electronic numbers that repeat effects overmuch and for the poor engineering of "1984," that almost totals the song.

Rundgren's talents as a toonsmith are put to such great

advantage, however, in "A Dream Goes on Forever," "Useless Begging," "Izzat Love," "Don't You Ever Learn," and the instrumental "Sidewalk Caffe" that I'm ready to forgive him anything.

And the kid can rock worth anything on "Heavy Metal Kids" (check the Bernstein-Sondheim influence) and "Everybody's Going to Heaven/King Kong Reggae."

And by its lonesome, R.'s version of "The Lord Chancellor's Nightmare Song" is the funniest production number since the Bonzo Dog Band put tracks on plastic.

The Tale of the Giant Rat of Sumatra, Firesign Theatre (Columbia)

Since their thank god only temporary dissolution, the disparate Theatre members put out several interesting if less interesting albums that made me wish the quartet were back together making records like Don't Crush That Dwarf Hand Me the Pliers and I Think We're All Bozos On This Bus.

And now that wish has come true.

In true fashion, the Firesign Theatre looks forward to the past on this record and gives us a look at the industrial revelation. And who better to take us on a tour of that historical moment--on both sides of the Atlantic--could there be but England's top pulp hero Hemlock Stones and U.S. of A's boy wonder of dime novelties, Frank Acne Jr.

Both heroes search for the villainous(?) Electrician, who has stolen the Zepellin Tube and hence stands in the way of repressive progress. (and who didn't appear on the Theatre's first album Waiting for the Electrician or Someone Like Him and who does appear here.)

To anyone accustomed to the Theatre's manner of presentation, let us say that puns abound in great density and that the story isn't as difficult to unravel as earlier pre-Dear Friends albums, being rather freakforward in its presentation.

To anyone unaccustomed to this sort of madness, let me say that the record takes repeated concentrated listening, but is worth it.

To everybody reading this, let me say it's good to see the most creative satire team up and back on its feet again.

BS

Critical

Comment Dept.

AND NOW A BRIEF PHILOSOPHIST PAUSE:

Many of us who read reviews and wonder why am I wasting my time doing this and not fucking somebody occasionally find ourselves puzzled as what if anything is "aesthetics." Many weighty tomes have tried in fact to scale that lofty topic down to size but none too successfully.

A close friend who unfortunately is no longer with us (he's in Arkansas and wasn't really that close to begin with but will be for the sake of the tone of this article) once wrote what seemed to my unlettered eyes the best answer to the aforesaid question:

namely, in a world of so much transient opportunity would you rather look at a Picasso or an Elmer Fudd?

My friend fogo answered thus: "Would you rather look at a Picasso or an Elmer Fudd? Does it make any difference to you who is President of USA74, like Nixon or who? Would you rather see the New York Knicks or Mary full of Grapes Mutha of Gawd in a Mustang or a Sikkim? Perhaps you would rather see an Elmer Fudd.

"But would you patronize an exhibit of Fudd originals? And those of you (or me) who would and know Art Fudd, would you rather convert an ignoramous to Picasso or Fudd? There are infinite planes of art, like an airport out of which you can only take one of many gates, yet to find any of these you must understand Us, Humanity, and partake of our Body and its worth.

"Some of Us is good and some bad.

"Some of Us have been before.

"And Some of Us isn't here yet in completion."

That fogo always was a cryptic rascal.

Kenny Dolt/fogo (wherever you are!)





MOVIE REVIEW: THE LAST DETAIL

The Last Detail is a superb cinematic description of the typical U.S. military lifer, or career man if you are not hip to the slang. Jack Nicholson portrays a 14-year man "Bad Ass" Budowsky, and is perfect in the role. I know. I spent four years in the Navy. I have seen the sadistic drunken misfits that are the so-called backbone of the U.S. Navy. I still bear the psychic scars of those unbelievable years.

Bad Ass and "Mule" Mullhall are both 14-year veterans of the U.S.N. One is a Gunner's Mate, the other is Signalman. (These are both rather low skill manual labor tasks.) The two of them are in transit, that is between duty stations and awaiting orders. Given the temporary duty of escorting a prisoner to the Naval Prison in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the two conceive the plan of completing their assignment as quickly as possible and then having several days off.

Larry Meadows is their "prisoner" (played by Randy Quaid). Only 18 years old and recently enlisted, his heinous crime is attempted theft of \$40. Larry Meadows has been sentenced to 8 years in prison. He has no previous record. His fantastic sentence for trying to cop \$40 is unreal even for the quasi-fascist U.S. Military, but the reason that Larry is being leaned on so hard is that the money was from the Polio Relief collection box. But still, 8 years for that? There is more to it than that though, because the Polio Relief Fund was the Commanding Officer's wife's pet charity. Therefore, justice must be done with a vengeance (or injustice). Luckily, Larry Meadows isn't black or he would probably get life. (By the way, you realize that when you go into the service you relinquish nearly all your civil rights. Political activity is forbidden except for voting. Trial by jury of your peers is out the window. If your offense is not too serious you get Non-Judicial Punishment (NJP) which is trial and judgement by your Commanding Officer. If the offense is more serious, like trying to steal \$40, you get a court-martial which is tried and judged by a panel of senior lifers, mostly officers. In NJP you don't have the right of counsel or even the right of rebuttal unless you are asked a question. The only appeal of NJP is to ask for a court-martial. You can have a lawyer in court-martial if you have the bread to hire one.)

Getting back to The Last Detail, we have two semi-pissed off lifers stuck with the job of taking an innocent kid to one of the most barbaric prisons in the country. As the trip and the movie progress Bidusky and Mullhall reveal the military mind. Drunkenness, sadism and false Navy chauvinism vie with racism, sexism and affectedly profane language for their turns to show themselves in these two typical lifers. Bidusky virtually drools when he asks Meadows if he has "ever been so mad that you wanted to bust a guy with all you got to bite his fuckin' ear off".

The mirror-like images that are

created of the two "career men" casts a shadow over the whole plot of the movie. Up until the "prisoner" is turned over to fierce-looking Marine guards at the prison, the two "brig chasers" have regretted their task somewhat. They have gotten Meadows drunk, taken him to a prostitution house and generally tried to show the kid a good time. In fact, for one brief moment just before reluctantly delivering him over to the prison I thought they might let him escape. But no, the sacredness of duty is too deeply ingrained. When Meadows makes a pathetic and half-hearted attempt to escape, "Bad Ass" chases him down with pistol drawn, ready to fire; he uses the pistol as a bludgeon to sadistically beat his victim when he falls down.

The final scenes have Bidusky confronted by a baby-faced Marine lieutenant with the fact that the prisoner has been abused. The Marine doesn't care about the prisoner's bloody head, he just wants to harass some sailors. Their exchange of officer-enlisted and Navy-Marine hatred is more realistic than I would have imagined possible to capture on film. Bidusky thinks he defeats the Marine in the veiled insult contest.

As the movie ends Bad Ass and Mule stride confidently away from the prison talking of what they will do with their several days off. The "prisoner" whom they had been reluctant to turn over half an hour before is forgotten. Bidusky drifts off on a cloud of euphoria after his macho victory. Navy life continues.

Unfortunately, the audience I viewed The Last Detail with thought that all the violence, profanity, and sexism portrayed on the screen was quite funny. The martial music of the soundtrack probably gave some people the impression that getting drunk and sailors fighting Marines was patriotic or natural. However, The Last Detail is frighteningly accurate for those of us who have been there and know it is true.



ice / cake/
i /
need / you/
on /
winterday /
and / night /
lightrain /
or /
darkeye /
you /
never / lie
or / write

stream wire /
ya /
jolt /me /
thru /
sleeting / streets /
you / prey /
cold / sigh /
i /
miss / you /
most /
any / single
day

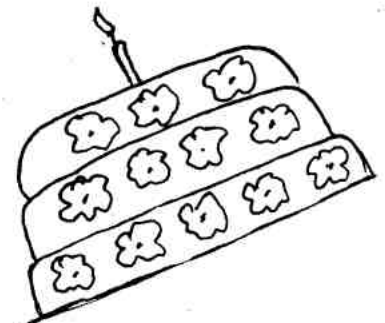
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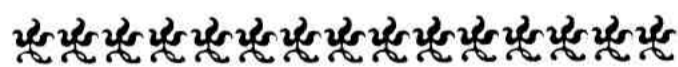
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