

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

11-1977

Volume 6, Number 7

Post Amerikan

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Battered Women: It can happen here. See pages 8-15.

Bloomington-Normal

25c

POST AMERIKAN

Vol. VI, No. 7
November 1977

YOU WON'T WAIT FOR THE
BUS IN FRONT OF MY
BUSINESS!!



ADDRESS CORRECTION
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61701

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

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

Anybody who reads this paper can tell the type of stuff we print. All worthwhile material is welcome. We try to choose articles that are timely, relevant,

ABOUT US

informative, and not available in other local media. We will not print anything racist, sexist, or ageist.

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

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

MEETINGS (Assume they begin at 6:30 unless it says otherwise.)

Friday, October 14
 Friday, October 21: Potluck
 Friday, October 28
 Wednesday, November 1: DEADLINE
 Friday, November 3: Layout Begins
 Sat. & Sun., Nov. 4 & 5:
 LAYOUT, beginning at noon
 Tuesday, November 7: Stuff new papers
 Friday, November 10

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

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

Beat High Food Costs with New Co-Op

Shopping in a supermarket here in the twin-cities is becoming a real challenge. With supermarkets' beautiful displays and soft music, a person tends to overspend. However, with the state of our economy--high utility bills, clothing costs and poor public transportation--folks can't afford to overspend at the fancy supermarkets. Especially with winter coming on, folks are going to have to cut back spending.

One solution in sight is buying food more cheaply than you can in supermarkets. This alternative to supermarket shopping could be organizing a food co-op or food conspiracy.

In one book, The Food Conspiracy Cookbook, the author, Lois Wickstrom, says, "When a group of people want to buy food cheaply, but don't want to pay rent or salaries or have a store, and are willing to work, they have a food conspiracy.... The food conspiracy movement includes people who want an alternative to supermarket shopping and desire direct control of the kind and quality of food they eat, as well as its price."

Ms. Wickstrom states that, "buying clubs and co-ops are other names for this (food conspiracy) kind of organization, but they

(co-ops) also apply to groups with paid managers, store fronts and profits."

Now in this sense consumer cooperatives have been happening since 1844. In Rochdale, England, a cooperative of 28 weavers formed a mill to help themselves keep alive amidst the industrial revolution and to preserve the art of weaving.

Gloria Stern in her book How to Start Your Own Food Co-op talks about many cooperative ventures, from consumer co-ops to producer co-ops. These cooperative ventures have been working since the early nineteenth century.

Ms. Stern states in her book, "There have been no consumer Co-ops that have managed to survive without some underlying philosophy to pull them through problems. It may be the very simple idea that is occurring to people now: that in order to mitigate the endless need for higher wages to cover higher prices, they have to handle some of the rising distribution cost themselves, either through their own cooperative labor or management."

There have been times when co-ops have thrived more than they do today in Bloomington-Normal. During the 30's Depression crunch, people really had to watch their money carefully, and a co-op thrived here during that period. If you're an avid Post-American reader, you'll remember our article in May about a co-op that existed early in the twentieth century in this community.

In January 1972, People's Food was formed and had a thriving membership for over three years. However, like a lot of co-ops and

volunteer controlled ventures, People's Food fizzled out.

Now, finally, I've reached the point in this article where I've been heading for hours. The purpose of this whole article is to see if some energy to use, work, organize another food buying conspiracy is floating around this community. At the bottom, side or middle of this article, you'll find a coupon to clip out and send to us (Julie and Jane). This coupon is just asking your name and address and phone to see if we can find out if there are some folks in the community interested in this food-conspiracy/co-op idea. If you've got ideas, send them along.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone number _____
 Please mail this coupon to Julie at
 703 N. McLean St., Bloomington
 Thank you.

GOOD NUMBERS

If you would like your service or organization's number listed, call us up at the Post-American office at 828-7232.

- Alcoholics Anonymous 828-5049
- American Civil Liberties Union 452-4831
- Community for Social Action 452-4867
- Dept. of Children and Family Serv. 829-5326
- Dept. of Health, Ed. & Welfare (Social Security Admin.) 829-9436
- Dept. of Mental Health 828-4311
- Gay Action/Awareness Union (community) 828-6935
- Ill. Lawyer Referral Service 800-252-8916 (toll free)
- Kaleidoscope 828-7346
- Lighthouse 828-1371
- McLean County Health Dept. 829-3363
- McLean County Mental Health Center 827-5351
- Men's Rap Group 828-6935
- National Health Care Services (Abortion Assistance: Peoria) 691-9073
- Occupational Development Center 828-7324
- Operation Recycle (after 5:30 p.m.) 452-8530
- PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone Help; also # for Parents Anonymous) 452-4422
- Planned Parenthood 827-8025
- Post-American 828-7232
- Project OZ 827-0377
- Public Aid 829-7057
- Rape Crisis Line (through PATH) 452-4422
- Small Changes Alternative Bookstore 829-6223
- Sunnyside Neigh. Center 827-5428
- Unemployment Compensation/Employment Office 827-6237

Post Sellers

BLOOMINGTON

- Book Hive, 103 W. Front
- Eastgate IGA, at parking lot exit
- The Joint, 415 N. Main
- Medusa's Bookstore, 109 W. Front
- The Back Porch, 402 1/2 N. Main
- The Book Worm, 310 1/2 N. Main
- South West Corner--Front & Main
- Mr. Quick, Clinton at Washington
- Downtown Postal Substation, Center & Monroe
- Bl. Post Office, Empire & Fairway (at exit)
- DeVary's Market, 1402 W. Market
- Harris' Market, 802 N. Morris
- Hickory Pit, 920 W. Washington
- Biasi's Drug Store, 217 N. Main
- Discount Den, 207 N. Main
- U-I Grocery, 918 W. Market
- Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland
- Bus Depot, 523 N. East
- Park Store, 909 S. Allin
- The Wash House, 609 N. Clinton
- Apache Junction, 204 S. McClun
- Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main
- Lay Z J Saloon, 1401 W. Market
- Pantagraph Building (in front)
- Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park (in front)
- IWU, 1300 block of North East Street

- Bi-Rite, 203 E. Locust
- Man-Ding-Go's, 312 S. Lee
- K-Mart, at parking lot exit
- Bonafide Gas, 914 E. Oakland
- Dairy Delight, Main & Miller Sts.
- Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main

NORMAL

- University Liquors, 706 W. Beaufort
- Pat's Billiards, 1203 S. Main
- Redbird IGA, 301 S. Main
- Divinyl Madness Records, 115 North St.
- Mother Murphy's 111 1/2 North St.
- Ram 101 Broadway Mall
- Hendren's Grocery Store, 301 W. Willow
- Alamo II Bookstore (in front)
- The Gallery (in front)
- South East Corner, University & College
- New Age Bookstore, 101 Broadway Mall
- Co-op Tapes & Records, 311 S. Main
- Bowling and Billiards Center, ISU Student Union
- Cage, ISU Student Union
- Midstate Truck Plaza, Route 51 North
- Upper Cut, 1203 1/2 S. Main
- Dairy Queen, 1110 S. Main
- Normal Community High School, 303 Kingsley
- Eisner's, East College Avenue (near sign)

OUTTA TOWN

- Galesburg: Under The Sun, 437 E. Main St.
- Peoria: That Other Place, 901 NE Adams
- Springfield: Spoon River Book Co-op, 407 E. Adams
- Pontiac: Semmens Drug Store, 123 Madison St.
- Urbana: Horizon Bookstore, 517 S. Goodwin

Corn Belt conquest reaches city park

The Withers Public Library building was sold last month to the Corn Belt Bank for \$100,000, but the bank has plans for the public park next door as well.

The Withers Park will be temporarily expanded when the Withers building is demolished and the land on which it sits is filled and planted with grass. The bank plans to destroy the old library building by Dec. 31, and to leave the site vacant for 3-5 years, until it gets ready to expand its present building.

Any new bank building will be set back 25-35 feet from Washington St., affording the public a better view of Withers Park, according to the proposal submitted to the library board by Corn Belt Bank President Harry M. Petrie.

How thoughtful.

These, however, are not the only plans the bank has for Withers Park. It has proposed a trade-off to the city council. The bank will take over maintenance of the public park, if the city agrees to construction of two walkways running through the park, from Washington St. to the bank's parking lot on Jefferson St.

One of these sidewalks would run diagonally from the corner of Washington and East to the northeast corner of Withers Park. The other will parallel East St. on the east side of the bank's new building.

Jeff Williamson, assistant city manager, told the Post-American that the city council informally agreed to the bank's proposal at a work session in September.

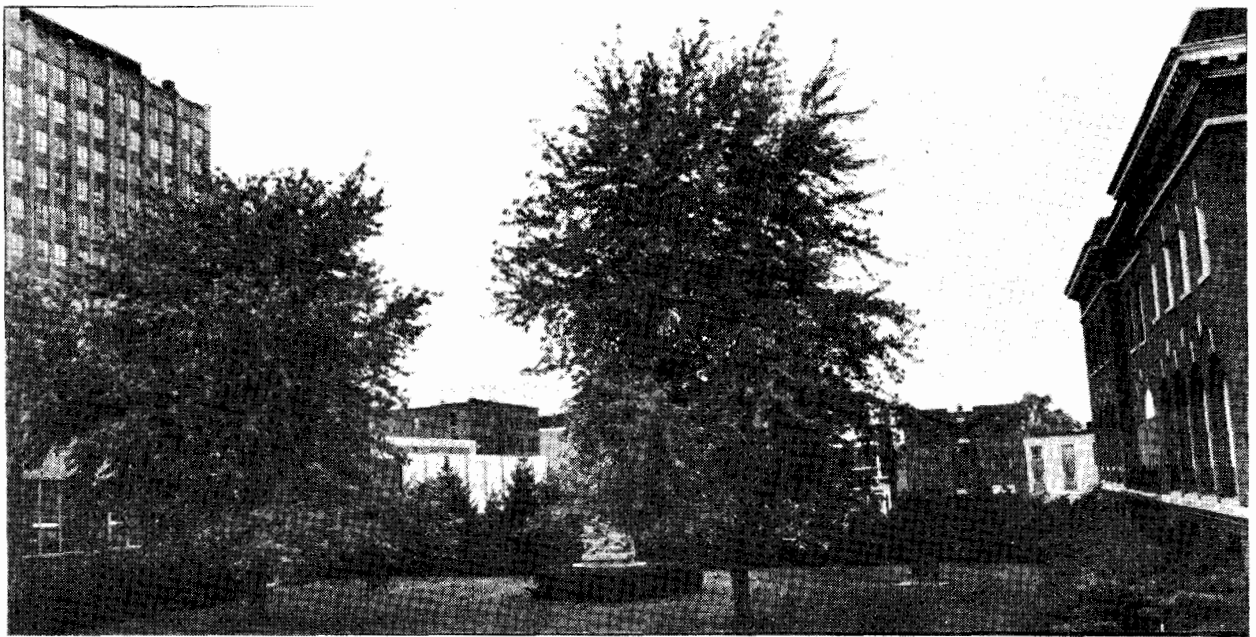
Both Williamson and assistant park director Keith Rich agreed that the city has never turned over maintenance of a city-owned park to a private corporation before.

The Pantagraph reported that the city elected to retain rather than sell the park, but that is wrong. The terms of the will which gave Withers Park to the city prohibit the property's sale unless another park of equal size is created in the immediate vicinity, according to David Stanczak, the city's corporation counsel.

So the city didn't choose not to sell the park; it couldn't sell it.

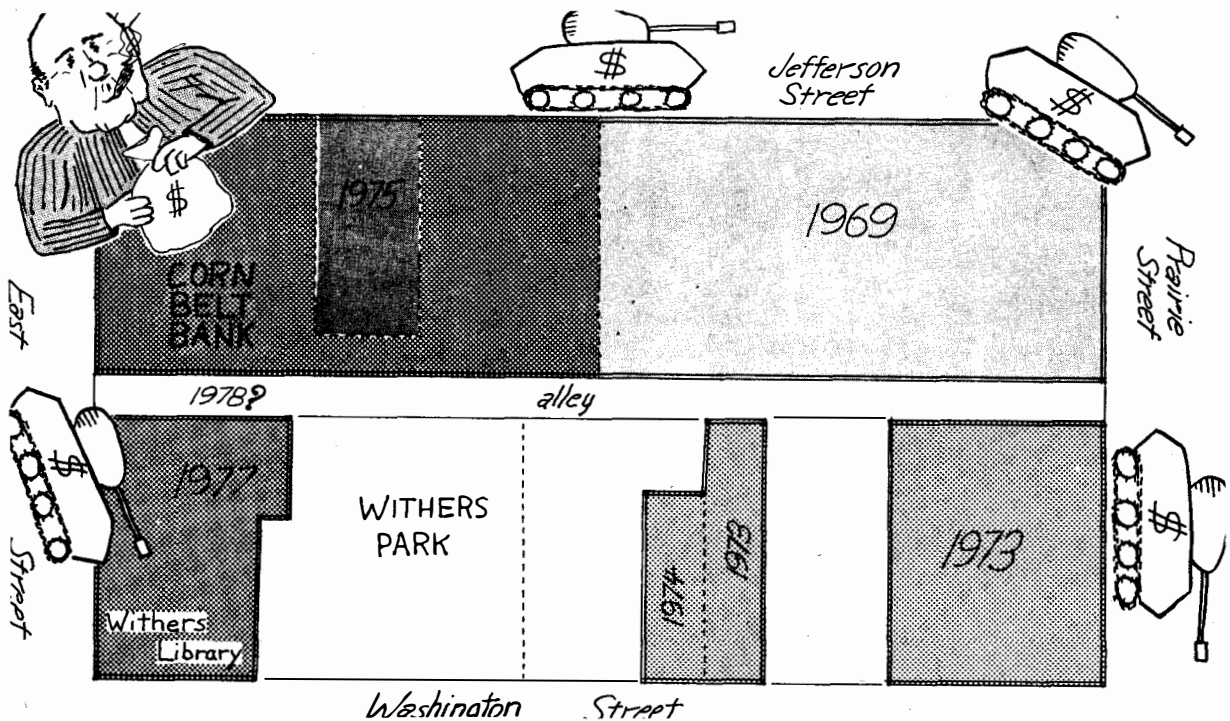
But the city has chosen to use public parkland for the benefit of a private business. Thanks to the city council, Withers Park may be destined to become no more than a decorative, green plaza for the Corn Belt Bank.

--Amanda Ziller

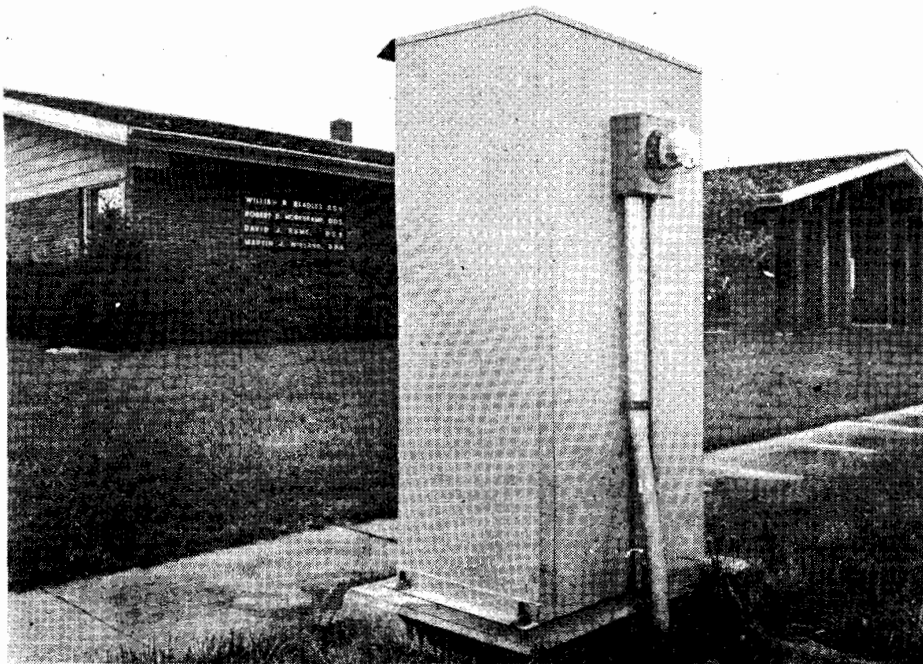


ABOVE: Withers Park remains one of downtown's only open spaces not paved over for a parking lot. Under terms of a will, the City can't sell the park. But an agreement to let the Corn Belt Bank build sidewalks across it may be the beginning of the park's conversion into the bank's private plaza.

BELOW: With its year by year acquisition of territory on its block, the Corn Belt Bank owns almost all the land bordering Withers Park. After the City vacates the alley, only two parcels remain independent of Corn Belt's control.



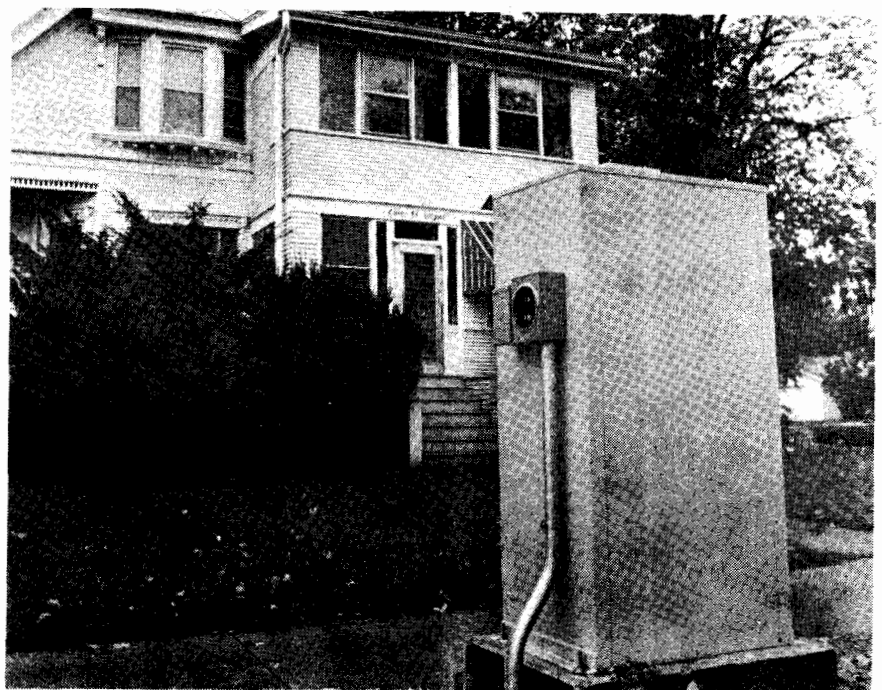
What's the difference here?



At left, a privy-like traffic control box sits at Regency and Washington Street, right in front of east-side offices owned by dentist Martin Wieland.

At right, an identical outhouse-like traffic control box sits on West Wood Street, even closer to a nearby building, a private home.

Prompted by complaints from the



irate east side dentist, the entire Bloomington city council traveled to Washington and Regency for an inspection of the offending box. They all agreed it looked like an outhouse.

Council members did not visit the west-side box.

The council agreed to spend \$1500 to \$2000 to get rid of the traffic

control box spoiling Dr. Wieland's view. While waiting for the smaller, less offensive box to arrive, the privy-like one must stay. But the city has agreed to paint the box to match Dr. Wieland's office trim.

No plans were announced to move the box on Wood Street, nor do the nearby residents get to choose its color.

Downtown businesses

Bus riders no longer enjoy the convenience of a central bus transfer center in downtown Bloomington, thanks to the city's obedience to the unjustified snotty whims of downtown merchants.

Instead of a transfer center--a central location where all buses stop and where riders can transfer to any other bus--the city council Sept. 26 approved a plan of "random stops." Beginning Oct. 17, the four stops are spread throughout the central downtown area. Riders now must walk up to two blocks to change buses.

A special task force was assigned to find a transfer center location acceptable to the city, the bus system, and downtown merchants. It failed. Every plan acceptable to the bus system was vetoed by store owners, who didn't want bus riders hanging around in front of their businesses.

Of course, there is no written law that says the city council must bow to the town's merchants. The city council chose to give in to the downtown businesses.

The "random stops" plan was called a compromise. Riders get bus stops near the old Courthouse, but they must give up much of the extra convenience and service the transit system planned to offer when new routes begin operating soon.

Until merchants stopped it, the downtown bus transfer center was one element of the transit system's master plan for new bus routes and schedules that are to begin soon, transfer centers with plexiglass shelters in downtown Bloomington, downtown Normal, and at Eastland Shopping Center were planned as anchor points where several bus routes would intersect. The buses were to arrive at transfer centers at the same time, to minimize waits for transferring.

The shelters have been erected in downtown Normal, but construction has been delayed in Bloomington while merchants pushed for a transfer center location which would keep the unsavory "riff-raff" furthest from their stores. Under the new "random stops" plan, shelters will be erected at only a couple of the downtown Bloomington transfer points.

The new plan will force riders to scamper from one stop to another to make a transfer. Pete Weber, transit system manager, says that passengers can ask drivers to use their two-way radios to hold a bus while the passenger hurries the block or two to the transfer point. But passengers will have to know about the radios in advance, and the drivers--under heavy pressure to keep tight schedules--will not like waiting. New riders will have a hard time figuring out where to wait for which bus, and drivers won't like to constantly answer riders' questions about schedules and directions.

The transit system's plan for convenient, simultaneous transfers is now impossible.

If buses must wait as long as it will take some of the system's more frail, elderly riders to walk two blocks, tightly timed schedules will be thrown way off. And if drivers keep their schedules, some passengers will miss their transfers. The alternative: give up the plan for simultaneous arrivals and departures.

"It's a giant step backward," one bus driver told the Post-American. "We're just going back to the plan that didn't work before."

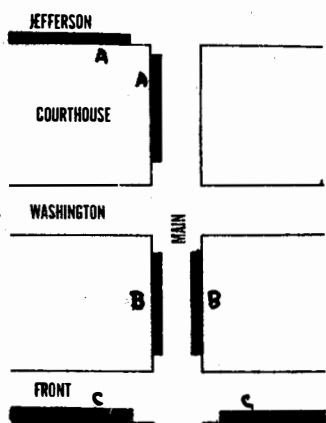
transfer center history

Since the spring of 1977, downtown Bloomington's bus transfer center has been located--against the will and vote of bus riders--on the south side of Front Street at its intersection with Main Street.

Before it was switched to Front, the transfer center had been in the 100 block of North Main, in what was always called a temporary location.

In late summer, 1976, the city council prepared to decide on a permanent location for the downtown bus transfer center.

To determine the preference of bus riders, the transit system conducted a poll. For a full week, riders were asked their opinions about three possible transfer center locations. They are listed as sites A, B, and C in the accompanying diagram.



Site B was the temporary location which bus riders were already accustomed to. Site A was especially safety conscious: by running buses on one-way streets on two sides of the Courthouse, riders didn't have to cross a street.

riders' vote ignored

Of 459 bus riders who voted, 248 chose site B, and 188 chose site A. Only 6 percent--29 riders--chose site C, yet that's the location city council members chose in August 1976.

After all, just because bus riders want a transfer center close to the Courthouse

square is no reason to put it there. Especially when the Downtown Council, a private lobby for downtown merchants, favors putting the bus riders as far away from their stores as possible. Some of the Downtown Council's more powerful members view bus riders as sleazy types who don't have any money to spend anyway.

Of course, when they voted to move the transfer center to Front Street, city council members pretended they were interested in safety.

But when the transfer center on Front was put into use in April 1977, bus drivers were forced to drive both unsafely and illegally.

illegal turns

Buses picking up riders at the center and then turning north onto Main were violating a traffic law which forbids the crossing of two lanes of traffic to make a turn within 200 feet of an intersection.

Confronted with this daily condition of unsafe and illegal bus driving, city council members were still reluctant to move the transfer center to a spot which did not require illegal driving.

Transit officials pressed for a solution, and riders grumbled about the new location, one they had never wanted in the first place.

A group of 25 bus riders unhappy with the new location even gathered to protest at a meeting of the transit system board.

At that meeting, the transit system chairperson, Robert Tate, blamed the mess on the city council and the downtown merchants whose desires were directing the council. Tate even hinted that bus riders should organize and protest to the city council.

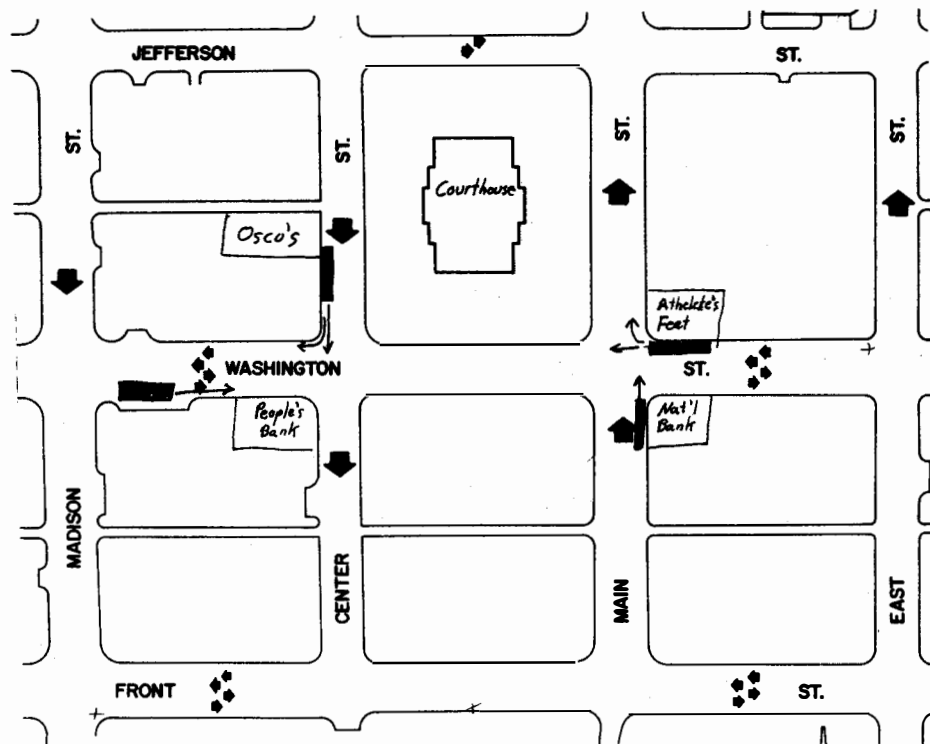
The Pantagraph report of that meeting quotes an unnamed source who said that Downtown Council members complained that "undesirable characters" lurked outside the stores while waiting for the bus."

To these uptight, snobby merchants, the south side of Front Street is an excellent location for the bus riders. There are no businesses on that side, and the stores on the north side are small and not influential in the Downtown Council. Some of the large merchants and bankers who dominate the business lobby even feel that some of the Front Street businesses are as undesirable as bus riders, and so belong with them.

But the large majority of bus riders want a more central location--nearer the concentration of businesses around the Courthouse square and North Main. In addition, riders are used to shelter while waiting for the bus. Although the transit system planned to erect plexiglass shelters, they are unheated. If the transfer center stayed on Front, bus riders would be literally out in the cold, no matter how harsh the winter weather.

As bus drivers continued to make illegal turns from the transfer center, transit system officials pressed the city council to find a solution. For a group who had claimed to choose the Front Street site for safety reasons, the city council was unusually reluctant to correct a traffic pattern which was so unsafe that it violated the law.

As the situation persisted without action, the transit system board of trustees threatened to resign unless something was done.



New bus stops

The black rectangles on this diagram represent the spots where buses stop downtown, beginning October 17.



veto bus transfer center

The only solution was to move the transfer center (like maybe where the bus riders wanted it in the first place?) or change the patterns of one-way and two-way streets.

In hearings on the possible street changes, downtown business people were overwhelmingly opposed. Since Mayor Buchanan had summarized the city council's viewpoint when he said, "As far as I'm concerned, downtown businessmen have complete veto power," the plan was quickly scrapped.

So the city council set up a special "Task Force" to come up with a proposal. Chaired by Ron Smith of the Association of Commerce and industry, the task force also represented two other influential business lobbies: The Downtown Council and Bloomington Unlimited. Representatives from the city, the regional planning commission, and the transit system also participated.

In the end, the group decided not to have a transfer center at all.

In his final report to the city council, task force chairperson Smith said that the old temporary location, (site B), the one most favored by bus riders, was "not really considered after our first meeting." There was too much opposition from nearby businesses.

Two alternatives discussed would have placed a bus transfer center on the square. But Roland's and Klemm's were so opposed that the plan was dropped, City Manager Bill Vail told the Post-Amerikan. Owners

"As far as I'm concerned, downtown businessmen have complete veto power."

--Bloomington Mayor Richard Buchanan, quoted in the Daily Pantagraph.

of those stores did not want to risk bus riders waiting inside their stores in bad weather.

After the task force bowed to Roland's and Klemm's wishes, the executive committee of Bloomington Unlimited put forward its plan: move the center another block west on Front, pushing the bus riders even further from downtown's central core.

Transit System Chairperson Bob Tate responded to the business sector's proposal with a curt reply that made it clear he was disgusted. Tate went on to say, "If all the other proposed sites are to be eliminated because of pressures from the merchants and property owners, the only workable alternative is to eliminate



Bus riders will no longer enjoy the convenience of transferring to any bus at one central spot. Thanks to downtown businesses, riders now must walk up to two blocks to transfer.

the transfer center completely...." Tate then suggested the "random stops" plan.

But even the four particular stops Tate suggested did not make it through the special task force. Both the People's Bank and the National Bank asked for--and

It's bad enough that merchants want to kick bus riders out of downtown. It's even worse that their organizations--like the Association of Commerce, the Downtown Council, and Bloomington Unlimited, are not embarrassed about pushing these snobby, class-prejudiced views. What's worst of all is that the city council obeys these business owners.

People with unpopular opinions are often dismissed--especially by city council types--as being only a "small but vocal minority."

When you compare the percentage of downtown businesspeople to the entire population, or even compare their numbers to the number of bus riders who voted to keep the transfer center near the old Courthouse, you come to the same conclusion:

The Association of Commerce, the Downtown Council, and Bloomington Unlimited represent a very small, but very vocal, minority.

But it's a minority that gets what it wants.

--Mark Silverstein

received--changes in the bus routes.

With four separate bus transfer points in downtown Bloomington, the "undesirable characters" that businesses find so detestable are spread out all over downtown, instead of concentrated in one place. The theory must be that while more businesses will have bus riders nearby, their lesser concentration will be more tolerable.

The four stops finally approved by the city council, and set for use beginning Oct. 17, are shown in the diagram in the lower left corner of the facing page.

Women Move Against AT&T

OOB--Around 200 women at Michigan Bell have filed a discrimination suit against AT&T. The suit charges that women are under-paid by as much as \$3000 per year compared to men's salaries.

By a 1973 agreement with the Justice Department, AT&T was granted immunity from discrimination suits in return for paying \$36 million in back wages to women and minority workers. The women filing the suit contend that the '73 settlement has done nothing to equalize present salaries and opportunities for promotion or transfer.

Cheating Bosses Set Record

Bosses cheated more workers of wages between Oct. 1, 1976, and March 31, 1977, than during any other 6-month period since the Fair Labor Standards Act went into effect 39 years ago.

Bosses underpaid 328,000 workers of a total of \$58.7 million during those six months, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

The underpayments were violations of the minimum wage and overtime laws and of the Equal Pay Act which requires equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex, race or whatever.

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Former Post reporter sues police and wins!

Galesburg store owner and publisher Mike Richardson won \$2,000 September 23 in settlements from two suits charging two Galesburg area lawmen with false arrest. Operator of a head shop/gift shop called Under The Sun, Richardson has also published the Galesburg Free Voice since April, 1976. He contributed articles to the Post-American under the title Galesburg Correspondent before starting his own paper.

Richardson sued a Galesburg cop and a Knox County Deputy for false arrest after an incident at George Wallace's campaign appearance at Galesburg's airport in March, 1976.

On March 12, 1976, Richardson and a few friends arrived at the airport with signs accusing the Alabama presidential candidate of racism. Before Wallace even showed up, a band of his supporters attacked the demonstrators, beating them and tearing up their signs.

As soon as the first Wallaceite thug knocked the protesting Richardson to the ground, Knox County Deputy Mark Schearer jumped in, or really, jumped on. (See photo.)

Instead of going after the swinging Wallace supporter, who had moved on to knock down and beat another protester, the Knox County deputy sat on Mike Richardson.

Only a week before, a letter Richardson had written criticizing Deputy Schearer had appeared in the Galesburg daily paper's Mailbox column.

At the demonstration, Galesburg police Captain Jerry Friend arrested Richardson for "aggravated battery." Friend pretended that he thought Richardson was one of the Wallace supporters who had kicked a State Trooper. At the same time, though, Captain Friend was berating Richardson for picketing Wallace. (The Police Captain accepted an orchid from Mrs. Wallace that day.)



The police rushed Richardson down to the police station on the "aggravated battery" charge, and only when Wallace was safely back on his plane did the police "realize" that they were holding the wrong man.

(The Wallace supporters were arrested for disorderly conduct and paid \$25 fines.)

Within a few months Richardson filed two false arrest suits, and acted as his own lawyer. He did all the legal research himself.

He had problems, since his complaints were thrown out of court several times because they weren't written the way lawyers are supposed to write them. But he hit the books, learned the mumbo-jumbo, and finally drew up complaints that suited the judge.

At times when his complaints were thrown out, Richardson tried to hire private attorneys to pursue the case, without any luck. They did not think a false arrest suit had any hopes of winning, Richardson said.

Richardson's suit was set for an October jury trial when the insurance company for the City of Galesburg offered to settle. Richardson agreed to settle for \$1000 on each count of false arrest, giving him a total of \$2,000.

Richardson views his victory as evidence that people should not be taken in by the mystique of lawyers. He succeeded in acting



Knox County Deputy Mark Schearer sits on Mike Richardson at a 1976 airport demonstration against George Wallace in Galesburg. Richardson sued for false arrest, and won \$1000 from Schearer, and an additional \$1000 from a Galesburg police captain. (Galesburg Register-Mail photo)

as his own attorney armed only with perseverance and a bare minimum of legal training: a couple courses in a junior college.

Accepting the \$2,000 out-of-court settlement means that both sides of the suit sign a paper saying that neither side is admitting guilt. But that's just for the courts. According to Richardson, even the lawyer for the police believed the police were in the wrong.



Andrea's favorite graphic cps

"I hope that this settlement will be a warning to all police for all time that abuse of the police power will not be tolerated, and this applies to unscrupulous MEG agents as well," Richardson said.



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Extra bucks for bank from housing?



If the City of Bloomington decided on October 10 (after this Post went to press) to help the future residents of a retirement village get lower rents, Bloomington Federal Savings and Loan Assn. will reap a substantial extra profit--probably as much as \$3 million.

Presbyterian Housing Program Inc. already had financing to build Westminster Village, a housing complex for retired people. So a city council decision to use its bond-issuing power to help the developers get cheaper financing has no effect on whether the housing is built.

But with city help Presbyterian Housing would save about \$2.5 million through the city's ability to get lower interest rates on its loans. The developers promise to pass their savings onto the village's 246 elderly renters, in the form of lower rents, \$25 a month lower.

According to Presbyterian Housing's figures, the tenants as a whole would save about \$73,800 a year if the city issues \$6.6 million in bonds to pay for part of the village. But the lender financing the project--Bloomington Federal--would make an extra profit averaging \$75,000 a year, according to Post-American calculations.

The reasons for Bloomington Fed's extra bucks are the usual financial tricks:

According to City Manager William Vail, Bloomington Federal will hold the mortgage on Westminster Village whether the city issues the bonds or not.

If the city is not involved, and if the mortgage carries the usual 9% interest rate, Bloomington Fed will receive about \$17.8 million in interest over the course of a 40-year mortgage. The savings and loan would pay taxes on that money, leaving a profit of about \$12.5 million.*

But if the city issues bonds for Westminster Village, those bonds will be tax free--which means Bloomington Federal would pay no taxes at all on the interest it receives. By not having to pay taxes, Bloomington Fed can save millions of dollars. Part of this savings would be passed on to Westminster Village by lowering the interest rate on the mortgage to 8%.**

Remember that if the city is not involved, Bloomington Fed stands to profit by about \$12.5 million. But the savings and loan would receive about \$15.4 million in profit if the city issues the bonds, according to Presbyterian Housing's figures on the interest rates.

That's a \$3 million bonus to Bloomington Federal's owners--just because the city wanted to help retired people get lower rents.

City Manager Vail supports this windfall profit for Bloomington Federal because he wants to help the middle-class people who will live in Presbyterian Housing. He says the renters will be "average working people. What's our

goal? To make everybody poor enough to get into public housing?"

Vail has a good point: retired people do have a hard time making ends meet. Even though the people who will live in Westminster Village will be better off than the poor sod who's worked 45 years only to wind up trying to scrape by on pitifully low social security benefits, the village's renters deserve a break. They've been exploited all their lives by the big corporations, too.

But does that mean the city should issue the bonds?

The Pantagraph doesn't think so. It argues that the city shouldn't risk its credit rating (in case

The council didn't ask any embarrassing questions like that even though Robert Lenz, the attorney for Presbyterian Housing who's pressing for the deal, is known to have a number of ties with Bloomington Federal.

But what gets me most is this:

Every time the government tries to help one group of people (like elderly renters) it winds up giving extra profits to somebody (like Bloomington Fed's owners) who already have far more than enough. And everybody else loses because

"That's a \$3 million bonus for Bloomington Federal's owners--just because the city wanted to help retired people get lower rents"

Westminster Village goes bankrupt) since the city will get the retirement village anyway. That's a rotten argument: it puts money (the credit rating) before people.

The city council is hesitant about the bond issue too--but not because Bloomington Fed would get an extra \$3 million.

The council knows about the extra bucks because City Manager Vail wrote to it, in a memo dated Sept 1: "There would also no doubt be some profit to the lending institution, in this case Bloomington Federal, as the money they would be loaning Presbyterian Village would be earning tax free interest."

Still, the council voted 3-1 Sept. 19 to give tentative approval to the bond issue. It reversed itself, 3-2, on Sept. 26, and made its final decision Oct. 10. But the council probably never even asked how much extra there was in the deal for Bloomington Fed.

of the lost taxes (on tax-free interest) and the lost services they would have had for those taxes.

As near as I can tell, this whole process only makes things worse. The rich are richer and almost everybody else is poorer.

Well, remember what the city manager said about "making everybody poor enough to get into public housing"? It looks like he's right, no matter whether the city helps pay for housing or not.

He's right about something else too:

"They've got the money and you need money to do anything," Vail told the Post. "Of course, they're going to get something for it."

That's the problem. Precisely.

--D. L. and M.S.

Footnotes.

*Bloomington Federal's after-tax profits were figured by using the Wall Street Journal's estimate (June 1977) that average corporations pay about 30% of their profits in federal taxes.

**Presbyterian Housing figures the interest rate will be 8% on city bonds, instead of the 9% on a regular mortgage. That's how it figured it would save \$2.5 million (or \$25 per month per tenant for 40 years). City Manager Vail, in a Post-American interview, spoke of a 7.5% interest rate on tax-free bonds, but he was probably thinking of regular municipal bonds--which carry a lower rate of interest than do bonds of the kind that would be used for this project.

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Battered Bloomington

Battered Women
p. 1 of 8

"I was asleep and I heard something. ...He came in the window off the porch through the kids' room....I wandered around for a minute looking around. I was standing in the kitchen when he came in.

"He started not making any sense at all and wouldn't explain what he was talking about.

"He picked up a knife. He stabbed me. I tried to get away from him.

"There were pop bottles next to the refrigerator. He picked one up and I think he just broke the first one on the floor. Then I was going for the door and he had hold of me--I was yelling--and then he broke one on the sink and had it up to my throat and he said, 'If you scream, I'm going to cut your throat.'

"He started telling me he was going to kill me.

"And then he just started beating me with his fists. I didn't really know how to get out of the apartment because I couldn't get the kids out any way except past him.

"So I didn't really know what I was going to do and I was trying to talk to him to settle him down, but he was too far gone.



"We moved into the living room and he had me down on the couch and he was trying to cut me with the bottle. I'd try to get up or move away from him or something and he'd kick me in the mouth and then he told me that he was going to kill me, and he came at me with the bottle and I must have put my foot up or something because he cut me across the foot.

"That started making pools of blood all over and I told him, 'Look, I'm really bleeding and I need to go to a hospital....'

"Then I saw car lights, and I knew it was the police, but they didn't come to the door.

"I convinced him that the police were out there and that eventually they were going to come to the door. He walked me over to the window and looked out and they were just standing out there with their flashlights in the street....So I convinced him that if he took off out the window through the back yard he could get away.

"So he took off out the window."

The woman telling this story is 19, lives in Bloomington, and has two children. For about a year and a half, Tracy (not her real name) was struck by her boyfriend, and sometimes beaten up.

Local police, the state's attorney's office, and social service agencies couldn't keep Barry (not his real name, either) from returning again and again to harass and abuse Tracy for a whole month after she had kicked him out of her apartment--even though Tracy signed battery charges against Barry twice before the stabbing incident. She had also tried to sign trespass or other charges against him, with no success.

Many women, tied by marriage, emotion, children, or financial dependence to men who physically abuse them, never try to make the men leave, although many of these women try to make the men stop beating them.

Tracy, however, tried every way she knew to keep Barry away from her. She might as well have been trying to make the sun shine at night.

In the Beginning

After Tracy had been through a divorce, Barry impressed her as "the most mellow guy I'd ever met in my life."

But Barry had a drinking problem and was in frequent trouble with the law--public drunkenness, forgery, fighting, etc. During their first months together, when Barry got hurt, angry, frustrated, and drunk, he would break windows. After a while, though, he started to hit Tracy--but only when he was drunk.

After each incident, Barry would be sincerely sorry and hurt about what he'd done. Both of them thought afterwards that each time he hit her would be the last. Tracy says that "when he's all right he's the nicest person that you'd ever want to meet."

How this section happened

Reporters on the Post-Amerikan started writing these articles after we found out about a particularly startling (for us anyway) case of physical brutality to a Bloomington woman, a case which was worsened by the outrageously insensitive and bungled handling by police and court authorities.

We realized that such beatings are relatively common happenings, and in a certain sense are not "news." But the very fact that such beatings are commonplace is itself a heavy indictment of the social conditions which make wife-beating common.

The feminist movement has become increasingly aware of wife-beating, seeing it--like rape--as one of the direct, physical ways that women are oppressed. Until recently, both rape and wife-beating were ignored by the media and by "authorities," and they are still largely hidden problems.

Women began creating rape crisis centers to deal with a problem no existing agencies or authorities were dealing with well.

In the same way, women have also begun opening "safe houses," temporary

shelters for women beaten by their husbands or lovers.

So after accidentally running into the story of the Bloomington woman's ordeal with the courts, the police, and her ex-boyfriend, we wanted to put her example into a more complete context.

That's why we also wrote about battered women in general, the growing movement to build safe houses, the reaction of police and prosecuting attorneys, the reasons women stay with men who beat them, and what the different social service agencies in Bloomington-Normal say about the problem.

Coming to Terms

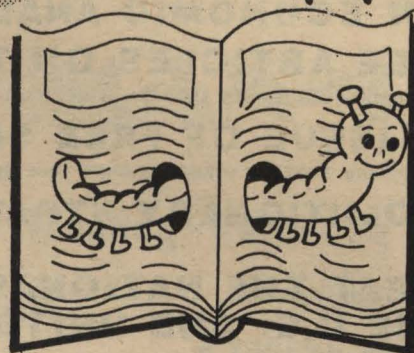
Post-Note: In several places in these articles about battered women, we've used the term "wife-beater" to refer to men who physically abuse women they've been in an intimate relationship with. We're using the term wife-beater to include husbands, boyfriends, and ex-husbands and ex-lovers for simplicity, because there's no other one term that is short, understandable, and generally used.

THIS FALL, WHY NOT CATCH UP ON YOUR READING?

the **Book Worm**

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READING

Woman: Nowhere to Turn

Battered
Women
p. 2 of 8

Finally, though, Tracy and her young child moved out, and she and Barry saw each other less.

In the spring of 1976, while Tracy was pregnant with Barry's child, he was picked up on drug charges and extradited to Florida. When he returned in the autumn of 1976, things went real well between Tracy and him, and they lived together again.

But on Feb. 17, 1977, Barry was arrested for a heroin sale and a marijuana sale he'd made to MEG agents a year earlier. He was in jail until March 2, when Tracy borrowed \$1000 to get him out on bond.

And then things started to get bad again. Things were all wrong for Barry, and he began to lose control more and more. More and more often he wasn't able to make any sense when he talked. He began to hit Tracy even when he wasn't drunk. Tracy later discovered some hypodermic needles, and looking back, she thinks Barry was probably shooting up some kind of drug as early as March.

Tracy began to suspect that Barry would never stop beating her and that things would not get better.



State's Attorney Ron Dozier:
**"I'm concerned with
the image of my office."**

(See story on pages 12 & 13.)

So on April 30th she told Barry to leave. Barry struck her and took her car without her permission, and Tracy signed battery and criminal-trespass-to-vehicle complaints against him. Normal police, who picked Barry up, also charged him with driving on a suspended license and illegal transportation of liquor.

Barry stayed in jail over the weekend and got out May 2nd on \$1000 personal recognizance bond.*

(please turn the page)

*Supposedly, the purpose of making arrested people raise money for bond is not to keep them in jail, but to make sure they show up for their trials. If they don't have the money to post bond and there's no reason to think they won't show up in court, they can get out on personal recognizance. This means, basically, that the judge trusts them to show up in court. Also, if a person has to post bond, the amount actually paid is 10% of the total bond.

THE DEAL

Drug Bust More Important Than Woman's Safety

THE DEAL: What's a corpse compared to a drug bust?

How many things can you think of that are more important than protecting somebody's life?

Is busting people for drugs one of them?

In the adjoining story, about the repeated battery of a woman, we report that State's Attorney Ron Dozier admitted getting Barry's bond reduced to the amount he had already put up. Although he knew that Barry had been beating Tracy, Dozier got Barry out of jail so that he could work undercover for the Normal police, setting people up and making drug buys. That was in May.

To follow Barry's development from woman abuser to narc, we need a quick flashback.

Barry was busted on two drug sales--one of them heroin--in Feb. '77. While out on \$1000 bond (put up by Tracy), he hit Tracy and took her car April 30. Dozier personally OK'd Tracy signing battery and criminal trespass charges that night, which was when he learned of Barry's history of violence. He also learned that Tracy wanted nothing more to do with Barry.

Barry was arrested by Normal police on April 30, and spent the weekend in jail on the battery charge. He got out on personal recognizance bond May 2. That's also the day he made two drug buys for Normal's fledgling undercover drug squad.

On May 3, Barry skipped a court hearing on his heroin charge. A warrant was issued, and the judge instructed that Barry's original \$1000 bond was no longer enough; now he would need an extra thousand.

Barry was picked up May 6, and since he didn't have the extra thousand, he stayed in jail.

Barry's lawyer tried to get bail reduced to the original thousand. He asked Tracy to testify at the bond reduction hearing, but--for her own safety--she wanted Barry

in, not out. She refused to testify, and tried to get her \$1000 back. (She couldn't get it because bond was listed in Barry's name).

Meanwhile, Normal police were pressuring Dozier to agree to the bond reduction, so that Barry could work as a narc some more. Dozier agreed, and Barry got out again, May 13, on Tracy's original \$1000 bond.

"It was against my first inclinations to do anything at all with Barry," Dozier told us. "But the police convinced me that he would work out all right and after personally talking with him it seemed like he'd work out all right.

"And I did agree to reduce bond, and as a result Tracy got hurt and I think that that clearly is going to have an impression on me any time in the future I'm every asked to let anybody out on reduced bond to do any work for the police," Dozier told the Post-Amerikan.

Before getting Barry out of jail, Dozier lectured him about staying away from Tracy and staying out of trouble generally. Dozier threatened that if Barry did mess up, he would be back in the county jail.

Like Tracy, Dozier was charmed by Barry's personality when sober. After talking to Barry, Dozier was absolutely convinced that Barry would sin no more (if you don't consider narc sinning).

Barry's personality and apparent on-top-of-it-ness were not all that convinced Dozier that Barry would "straighten up." By narking for the Normal police, Barry was going to get his probable 2-6 penitentiary sentence (for the heroin sale) reduced as low as 1-3.

Dozier says he was concerned enough about Tracy's safety to issue a stern warning to Barry. But he wasn't concerned enough to make sure he was informed if Barry did do something.

And Barry sure did do something. The day after he got out of jail, Tracy found him passed out on her front

porch. She found some needles on him, and took them. When he woke up, he wanted them, and she refused to turn them over. He beat Tracy again and was charged for a second time with battery.

The above comes directly from the police report.

Because it was an "ordinary" misdemeanor, Dozier never learned that Barry was in jail, nor was he informed that a police report indicated that his narc was using needles.

Incredibly, Barry got out on personal recognizance bond again. And he returned to Tracy's apartment right away. That's the night he was charged with disorderly conduct.

Dozier claims that he knew nothing about the second battery--nor about the later arrest for disorderly conduct--until our interview with him months afterward.

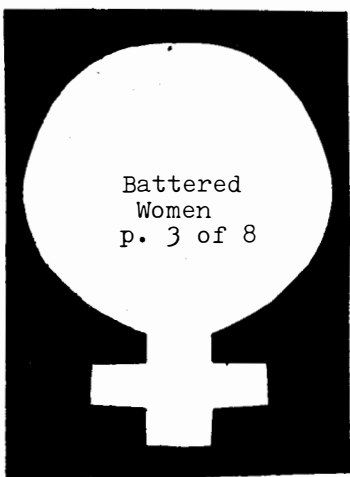
Since Dozier was unaware that Barry was violating their agreement, Barry stayed free. He stayed free until the night he attacked Tracy with the knife and broken pop bottle.

Dozier finally saw what was going on. Barry never got out on bond again, nor did he get the lower sentence he was trying to "earn" by being a narc. But Tracy was nearly killed before the law finally got Barry away from her.

The police's willingness to play "let's make a deal" with a probable addict at the expense of a woman's safety is pathetic and irresponsible enough.

But to have a legal system so bureaucratic and out-of-touch that Dozier--who had to be pressured into overcoming his reluctance to let Barry out on reduced bond to "work" for the police--never found out that Barry returned immediately and attacked a woman he was specifically told to stay away from under threat of more years in prison...

Why that's almost as outrageous as the petty ruthlessness of the original deal.



Nowhere to turn

The police said yes, and the neighbor did. Barry was charged with disorderly conduct--which got him out of the house.

10

**Continued
from last
page**

This cynicism is well-founded, unfortunately. Because court resolutions--fine or jail time--do not help problems of "domestic violence," especially when the couple is married, the woman frequently wants charges dropped before trial. (See "Police, Courts Solve Nothing" on an adjacent page.)

Barry's bond was \$250. A man in jail with him gave Barry the \$25 he needed to get out.

The last time

Finally, in the early morning of May 25th, only a week later, Barry broke into Tracy's apartment and committed the horrors described at the beginning of this article.

Back and forth

A few days later, Barry landed in jail for skipping a court hearing. After a week, State's Attorney Dozier got him out so he could be a narc. (See adjoining story on "the Deal.")

On May 14, the day after he was let out, Barry beat Tracy with his fists and a child's broomstick horse. Tracy signed a battery complaint, but Barry got out--again--on personal recognizance.

Tracy had, by this time, told Barry again and again that she wanted him to leave. It wasn't that easy.

When Post reporters talked to State's Attorney Ron Dozier, he said that he advises women not living with their batterers to sign criminal trespass charges every time the man abusing them steps foot onto their property.

Yet the police told Tracy several times that she couldn't sign a trespassing complaint.

Tracy believes that at least part of the reason that police were not helpful during her ordeal with Barry is that they consider her a "tramp." Another is the attitude of one cop who said, "You picked him, and now you're stuck with him."

No matter what the real possibilities for legal action in a case like this are, they are usually interpreted to the people involved by an individual male cop, a cop who is very likely to bring his own prejudices to the case. These prejudices range from blatant sexism (the battered woman is a "tramp") to cynicism about the woman's sincerity about following through on the charges by showing up in court.

No help

Throughout April and May, Tracy tried everything she could think of to get help. Both she and her mother talked several times to State's Attorney's Dozier, his assistant (Brad Murphy), Barry's lawyer (assistant public defender Thomas Iben), and several police about psychiatric treatment for Barry, about keeping him in jail, and about getting him back into jail.

And, of course, none of this did any good.

Tracy also attempted to find help outside the legal system. She called Lighthouse (a local agency that deals with alcohol and drug abuse), but that agency can only take people who come to it voluntarily or are ordered there as part of a court sentence.

In a Post interview later, Ron Dozier said that Tracy could have obtained a court order (a "restraining order") forbidding Barry to set foot in her house. But none of the authorities from whom Tracy sought help bothered to tell her about this. (And it probably would not have worked out. She would have needed an attorney, which costs money she didn't have. She would have been eligible for legal aid, but so many other poor people have so many legal problems, the legal aid office is swamped, and they could not have been much help until next December or something like that.)

May 16th, the day Barry got out on personal recognizance for the 2nd battery charge, he returned to Tracy's home and passed out, dead drunk. She called police to the house, and they told her that there were no charges she could sign.

However, Barry had just been in a fight in a neighbor's yard, and Tracy asked if the neighbor, who had pressed charges against one of the other men in the fight, could also press charges against Barry.

After Barry fled from the apartment, Tracy went outside, thoroughly upset and bleeding, to talk to the Bloomington police. After hearing that she had signed two battery complaints against Barry in less than a month, and that Barry this time had cut her with a knife, beat her with a pop bottle, and held a broken bottle to her throat and threatened to kill her, the police advised her "to contact the State's Attorney's Office." (I quote from their report. The reporting officer was Keller; second officer was Bock.)

In a later interview, Dozier agreed that the police had mistakenly treated Tracy's case as though it came under the screening policy designed to discourage battery charges resulting from domestic fights. (See "Police, Courts Solve Nothing.")

Dozier agreed that the officer's report cites Tracy's two previous battery complaints as reasons for not taking her knife wounds and pop bottle-inflicted cuts seriously.

A cop did take Tracy to the hospital (and the cold, hostile ride she endured, panicky and hurt, was almost as gruesome as the beating itself.) The cop assured her that police would be out looking for Barry.

They didn't look for him at all.

Both Dozier and Assistant Chief DeVault agreed, after reading police reports, that police were not out looking for Barry that night, not while Tracy was in the hospital, nor after she was taken home.

If Tracy's parents hadn't spent the night at her apartment, she could have been beaten up again when Barry came back around 4:30 a.m.

Tracy's parents scared Barry away, and Tracy's mother hurried to the police station. (Tracy didn't have a phone.) The cops finally sent a squad car out, and caught Barry a few blocks from Tracy's house.

When Tracy asked one of the cops if they'd been out looking for Barry during the three hours since the first attack, he said "Of course not," as if she were crazy for asking.

Barry was booked for aggravated battery--a felony. Bond was set at \$25,000, and he never got out of jail again.

In mid-summer, Barry agreed to take a 2-6 year sentence on his heroin sale charge, in return for all other charges being dropped. He was sentenced to the penitentiary Aug 25.

And that was the end of that.

Tracy's experiences as a physically abused woman are in some ways very, very different from those of most beaten women. Many such women are married to the men who beat them. Most of the men are not in so much trouble with the law.

But one thing is the same: they cannot find an answer to their problem.

And Tracy's feelings, too, may be common to many abused women:

"I feel sorry for me, in a way, that all this had to happen, though I don't sit around and look back on it. But I guess I feel really sorry for him because I guess I did really love him, and I guess in some ways I still do."

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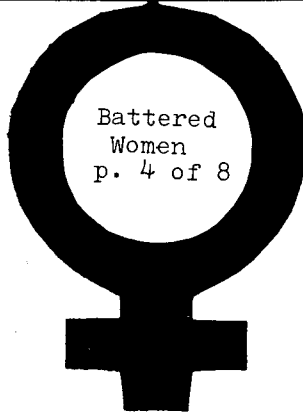
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Two Women's Stories



Post-Note: A friend of some Post staffers has worked with both DCFS and Sojourn House in Springfield. We asked her to write about her experiences with battered women.

In the course of my work for the Department of Children and Family Services, I meet and become involved with many different types of women. It seems to me that all of these women are abused in some way--psychologically abused by a sexist, racist society, physically abused by the hard work, hunger, and insufficiently-prepared-for childbirth and mothering which seem to accompany poverty. To attack all these abuses at once will take a revolutionary process far greater than we have going now, but there is one form of abuse these women undergo which can be dealt with and overcome--the physical battering which they have learned to accept at the hands of men in their own homes: husbands, lovers, fathers and sons.

I'd like to talk about two different women, each abused by her husband. These two cases remind me of the "good news-bad news" stories. One woman, with help, used her power to remove herself from her situation; the other woman remains in her home, being abused at least once a week.

When I first met Marie, she was separated from her husband John, who had gone to live in another state. After running up a hundred-dollar phone bill, they decided to try a reconciliation. John had been physically abusive to Marie and their two young sons before, but this time he said that he had gone in for psychiatric help and promised to behave himself. He cried over the phone, swore he loved Marie and the kids, and begged to come home.

Marie decided to give him another chance. When John had been home exactly four days, he beat Marie very badly. I went over to pick her up one morning and when she opened the door I was shocked by her face--it was one big bruise, all red and swollen, and she had strangulation marks on her neck. She also had a perfect fist-imprint on her back, right in the kidney area. I asked what had happened, and she pointed to John, who was sitting there talking on the phone as if nothing was wrong. The fight had started the night before and he had been beating Marie all night long. My first impulse was to start yelling at John, but I held back and asked Marie if she wanted to get out of there. She was more than willing, so we grabbed the kids and left John to his phone conversation. In the car, Marie told me that she had absolutely had it, felt that she had given John the last chance he deserved, and she really wanted out of her marriage.

When a repeatedly abused woman reaches the point of saying "that's it," I feel that it's urgent to help her get on with some action. We called legal aid right away, and they accepted Marie as an emergency case that day. (They normally have a two- to three-month waiting list.)

By afternoon, her divorce papers and a restraining order against John had been drawn up.

One thing we discovered which was absolutely incredible to me was that in order to get a divorce for physical cruelty, the wife has to be beaten up not once but twice--"two separate acts of brutality." Also, if the woman has "conjugal relations" (sexual intercourse) with her husband between the two acts, that cancels out the first one--some checks and balances system! The way the lawyer got around this in Marie's case was to divide her all-night beating into before midnight and after midnight and write it up as two separate days.

Marie never returned to her home again while John was there. She spent the first night at my home, another night at Sojourn House (Springfield's shelter for abused women) and finally returned home after a caseworker convinced John to get out.

Even though the divorce papers and restraining order were written up the day that John beat Marie, it took the Sheriff's office 30 days to serve the papers on John. In the meantime he returned to the home twice, ripped off Marie's T.V., slashed up her mattress and trashed her house. None of our law enforcement officers would go to the home because no papers had been served. I called the city police, explained what John had been doing, and was told "Lady, as long as they're married, it's his T.V. and his mattress, even if the wife does pay the rent." A neighbor of Marie's called the city and county police while John was beating down the door and trashing the house, and both agencies refused to respond.

After this stuff had been going on for about three weeks, the process-serving department at the county sheriff's office told Marie that it had lost the papers!



(all names changed in this story)

At this point I called the sheriff's office and insisted on speaking directly to the sheriff. He was in a meeting, but, incredibly, he called me back. I told him the whole story, including the fact that John was now threatening to shoot Marie. He didn't actually promise me much over the phone, but the papers were strangely relocated that afternoon, and the process server called to reassure me that they would be served.

Marie was so frightened by this time that she moved to another town to hide herself and the kids from John until the divorce hearing--another 30-day wait. John found out where she was staying and continued to harass and threaten her by phone.

One agency which was very helpful and supportive through this whole ordeal was Springfield's new legal aid office, the Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance. The people there are very active on behalf of their clients, explain all procedures in terms that anyone understands, and push for the best settlement for the woman and kids.

Finally, the divorce hearing date arrived. Marie was a nervous wreck, and John showed up to make one last obnoxious stand, but his accusations were so phony and his answers to his income and work history so pitiful that he came out very subdued. Unfortunately, John's income has been so low that Marie was awarded only \$100 a month child support for two kids. After the judge heard all the stuff John had pulled, he threw in a permanent restraining order that prevents him from even calling her.

As soon as the hearing was finished, we went out for a celebration lunch and tried to convince Marie that it really was all over. We also let her know that everyone was proud of her for keeping herself together through an incredible hassle.

My other story doesn't have nearly as nice an ending as the first one, but it's a lot more typical of what usually happens to abused women, at least the ones I come in contact with.

Betty is about 30, and married for the second time. She has two older children from her first marriage and two babies by the second husband. She lives in the oldest public housing project in Springfield, and is frightened of her neighbors and her neighborhood. She is the sister of one of my clients, who told me several times about the brutal beatings Betty's husband Sam gives his wife at least once a week. He

beats her with his fists on her temples and the back of her head, bounces her off walls, kicks her repeatedly and chokes her.

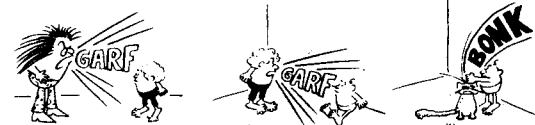
The police will never come out when someone finally calls them; they say they don't get involved in husband-wife fights (what they don't say but probably mean is especially in the housing projects).

One day I was looking for my client and found Betty instead. She ran across the street, hopped in my car with her eight-month-old baby and wailed

"Would you please help me?" Her eyes were both black and swollen, she had huge lumps on her temples, and her voice was hoarse because she had violently been choked.

I asked her what she wanted to do and she was ready to leave Sam but had no money and no place to go. She was also worried about her kids, because a policeman had told her that if she left Sam she would have to leave her two babies with him because they were "his." (The policeman was lying.)

First I drove Betty to the Children and Family Services, where I could get absolutely no help for her. One of the male case workers said "She always goes back to him--she loves that stuff and we're sick of her." He told me to take her home and dump her off, but I just couldn't do it. We got her neighbor to watch the baby and I drove her over to Sojourn House.



There, for probably the first time in her life, she sat in a room, with four sympathetic, interested, women and told her story. They were already overcrowded, but they promised Betty that they would welcome her and her kids at any time. They wanted her to stay that night, but she was uncertain and confused and decided to return home.

That was over two months ago, and Betty still hasn't left Sam. She did threaten him with divorce and he straightened up for a while. But is now beating her again. One new and hopeful sign is that she has remained in contact with Sojourn House and has said several times that she wants to go there. The workers there always listen, encourage her to come, and hope that someday she will. I really don't know all of the things that make Betty stay with Sam and "take what she has coming" (her phrase). My guess is that what she has seen of society and experienced at the hands of state agencies has made her more frightened of facing the world alone than of living with a man who brutally abuses her.

Battered
Women
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Battered Women: Police,

Many battered women turn first for help to the criminal justice system, a system so powerful that, not very long ago, it could take two years out of a person's life for smoking marijuana.

What do local criminal justice officials say they can do to stop the physical abuse of women by husbands and lovers?

Not much, basically.

Post reporters talked to State's Attorney Ron Dozier and Bloomington's assistant police chief, Lewis DeVault, about battered women generally and about the Bloomington woman's story we cover in this section specifically.

Both DeVault and Dozier talked at length about the impossibility of solving the problem of battered women within the legal process.

DeVault's main argument was that if the woman being beaten is determined to find a solution, she will find it. And she will probably find that pressing charges against her husband or lover is not the solution.

DeVault is pessimistic, perhaps even cynical, about the futility of pressing charges: "If the guy is arrested and charged, he'll usually bond out, and then it's up to a court case. And then once he leaves here, Lord knows what's going to happen from that point on."

What Women Want

State's Attorney Dozier believes that arresting a wife-beater for battery has a "temporary sobering effect," and that the guy then stops. . . . for a while. (Tracy and Barry's case, of course, is a glaring exception.)

But once the legal process is started, Dozier realizes, the courts don't help any more. If a wife-beater is convicted of battery, he will be fined and/or jailed. If the woman doesn't intend to leave the guy, what good does his being fined or in jail do her? All it means, very often, is that she has to work harder to make ends meet, because she's out \$100 in grocery money, or worse, her man loses his job while in jail.

(It's unfortunate that while Dozier sees that jail is no solution to wife-beating, folks in authority generally don't realize that jail is also no solution to drug abuse or other things people get locked up for. Sociological studies show over and over that the problems at the roots of destructive behavior are made worse by jail, not better.)

Dozier says that most battered wives don't want their husbands in jail. They want their husbands to stop beating them. Dozier's probably right.

Dozier also says that most battered women who turn to police and courts don't come looking for their men to get fined or given a jail sentence. They come looking for immediate relief, which Dozier says the criminal justice system is not designed to provide. For one thing, Dozier points out, the wife-beater gets out on bail right away, while the case drags on through the criminal justice system for months.

But in saying the system can't provide the "immediate relief" battered women want, Dozier forgets his statement that the very filing of charges does have a "sobering effect" on the wife-beater.

Here's the key to Dozier's seeming contradiction: Dozier doesn't like women filing charges unless

they will follow them through all the way through court. He views women who file charges and later drop them as a problem, despite his beliefs that 1) filing charges brings some "temporary relief," and 2) that the result of the court case--jail or fine for the man--does not help the situation.

Dozier feels he looks foolish by letting women sign complaints that are later dropped. "I'm concerned for the image of my office," Dozier told the Post-American reporters.

To discourage people from filing complaints unless they intend to follow them through, Dozier instituted a misdemeanor screening policy in the last year.

Previously, a battered woman could sign charges whenever she came to the police station, and have the man arrested right away--even if the incident occurred a couple days before.

Under Dozier's new policy, a woman can't sign charges at the police station unless there is an immediate danger to someone's life, limb, or property.

Instead, women must go through a 3 to 10 day "cooling-off period," have a conference with an assistant state's attorney (during working hours, of course), and convince the prosecutor that the case would result in an actual conviction.

"I honestly thought that when we began misdemeanor screening, and we sit down and explain to these wives and girlfriends exactly what they were getting into by filing criminal charge, the number of court appearances they would have to make, and what they'd be expected to testify to, and the fact that we would not let them drop the charges, that we would rarely ever get anybody then. . . . who didn't go through with it," Dozier told the Post-American.

But, as many as 50% of the women who still press charges, after the cooling-off period and the warnings, still want to drop charges against the men who beat them.

"And that is one tremendous problem," Dozier concluded.

Post reporters brought up the fact to Dozier that so many women try to use the criminal justice

system "improperly"--by filing charges and then dropping them--just because battered women don't have any other alternatives.

"Yes, that's it exactly," the State's Attorney agreed.

Case-Hardened

A Post reporter, talking about the example in the adjoining article, pointed out that Tracy had finally had it with Barry, wanted him to leave, but couldn't get any help because nobody took her seriously. Dozier was asked if he thought that other women in Tracy's position were similarly not taken seriously.

"I'm sure that it happens, many times," Dozier admitted. "I'm sure that in this office it happens too. After a while you get an attitude--and you find it creeping up on you whether you want it to or not--that 'This is just another domestic dispute.' And you tend not to take the thing seriously."

"In the husband-wife battery situations usually the pattern of beating is so great that it's a little difficult to get overly concerned when they say 'Well, this time he's going to come back and beat me,' when they've known for the last ten years that he's going to beat them again," Dozier continued.

Assistant Police Chief DeVault is not even sure that all battered women want their men to stop: "I've come to the conclusion, in the years that I've spent out there on the street, that some women really like this type of living. Hard to believe, maybe, but I do believe it. Because it's so repeated.

"We've got families in this town right now that the woman, once a week, is just literally beat to hell. He comes home drunk, she makes the wrong (!) remark, and he just beats the hell out of her. It goes on every week. We're never brought into the picture at all. She accepts it. It's part of her married life, apparently."

And this is something that might not always occur to a straight white male: There is often a difference between liking a situation and accepting it because you know of no way to reach better alternatives.

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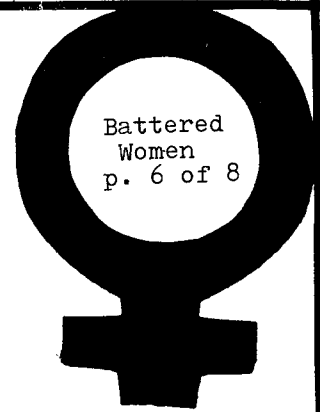


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Courts Solve Nothing



And, of course, most authorities that a battered woman will turn to for help are straight white males. She will have no emotional advocate--no one to say, "I understand; it is not your fault; don't be ashamed."

She will be lucky if the men she appeals to even treat her problem as important. DeVault and Dozier do that, at least when talking to Post reporters. And it's a good thing, because there's little else they can do.

Aware that the criminal justice system is powerless to really deal effectively with wife beating, a grass roots movement to stop physical abuse of women is developing safe havens all over the country. Battered women can stay at places of refuge for a few days to get relief, counseling, support, and time to sort out their lives away from the immediate situation at home.

Assistant Chief DeVault's reaction was lukewarm when asked about these safe houses. But Dozier says one is needed in Bloomington-Normal.

Support Systems

Why do so many people, who should know better, blame woman abuse primarily on alcohol abuse, itself another symptom of deeper social disturbances? Why do so many people, who should know better, blame woman abuse on vicious cliches like "the woman asks for it" or "likes it" or "deserves it"? Or on weak but convenient theories like a certain type of man's supposed Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde personality?

Why are people so pessimistic about the chances of ending woman abuse?

Why has no one, up until the movement for safe havens, had any power--money, knowledge, legal right--to really do something about woman abuse?

Nobody said it, of course. Nobody we interviewed--not the assistant police chief, not the state's attorney, not the victim--went beyond saying, "Law and order will not stop woman abuse" to say, "Abuse of women will not end until sexism ends."

And so, of course, no one went further: sexism will not end as long as a whole system of values, beliefs, and government which supports it goes unchallenged.



Where can you go?

When a woman is being beaten up, the most immediate thing she needs is someplace safe to go. That's what has prompted women all over this country--and in seven others--to set up safe houses, or refuge houses, to take in battered women and their children on a short-term basis.

These refuge houses grow up in many ways. The first one was started in 1965 in Pasadena, Cal., by women from Al-Anon, a self-help group for families of alcoholics. Sometimes women's groups have started legal aid services, or counseling centers, or rape crisis services, only to find themselves expanding and changing into battered-women shelter services, because the need for them is so great. It's so great that every time a refuge house opens up, it's filled to capacity and stays that way. The main problem safe house staffs complain of is not having enough space for all the women and children who need refuge.

Safe houses vary a lot in the way they're organized, their rules, and the political beliefs of their staffs. What they have in common, basically, is feminism and not enough money. Their services are free or based on a sliding scale. Most of them allow no men. Most of them provide peer counseling and group discussion in an attempt to help the battered

woman gain back self-respect and decide what to do next. Most of them have to struggle to stay in existence every single day.

They usually start with contributions from individual women in a community and then try to get funding from foundations and government programs and stuff. That funding is sometimes hard to get and keep. First, many safe houses are staffed by collectives who don't fit the President, Vice President, Board of Directors blanks on grant applications, and sound too hot to handle. Second, many of them can't abide the strings that are so often attached to grant money. Third, sexism is rampant--a New Hampshire state commission refused to allocate money for a safe house because such things invaded "the right of privacy" (the husband's, of course) and "these women's libbers irritate the hell out of their husbands" (Chicago Tribune, September, 1977).

If you'd like to irritate the hell out of someone's husband by starting a safe house here, you should look up Del Martin's Battered Wives (San Francisco: Glide Publications, 1976), Chapter 10. You might also talk with staff at Sojourn House in Springfield and Mary Berg of the refuge house in Elgin.

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Why Battered Women Stay

Battered
Women
p. 7 of 8

"Why do women stay with men who beat them?" You can ask that question in as many tones of voice as there are answers. And it's those tones I'm going to talk about first.

Pity, Disgust, Distaste, Confusion, Hostility, Righteous Indignation, Curiosity.

These are some of the attitudes that social workers, cops, friends, and relatives have toward abused women.

In her book *Battered Wives*, Del Martin presents one woman's reason for staying with her abusive husband:

"I listened to some of my married women friends. They weren't being beaten, but the things they went through--what happened to them--seemed even worse to me. In spite of our occasional fights, believe it or not, I had it a lot better than they did."

Del Martin writes that, "This response is a common one and sounds eminently sane until one realizes that a woman may be risking permanent harm or even death in her occasional fights with her husband."

I personally find it hard to judge so simply that physical abuse is "worse," or more degrading or less tolerable than psychological and emotional abuse that each of us endures or fights every day.

And this notion--that physical abuse is somehow the ultimate monstrosity--helps maintain one of the reasons women stay with men who beat them: shame, guilt, the fear that someone they respect will find out that they have been abused and perhaps accepted that abuse passively for a long time.

If a woman finally overcomes her other reasons for staying with an abusive man, she needs a lot of support to face the scorn that comes from many people who believe that she stayed for so long because she liked being beaten, or because she just "didn't have the guts" to leave, etc. (See "Two Women's Stories" in this section).

A second and often overwhelming reason why women don't leave is money. (I'm not making any effort to list these in order of importance. Some studies have been done to see which are the biggest reasons why women stay, but the lists I've seen don't seem conclusive.)

Child support after divorce is sometimes set way too low, and often is not awarded at all. Statistically, as the years go by, the less chance there is that the man will pay at all. 84% of those who are supposed to pay child support stop paying completely within four years.

In a society in which people move around so much, that man on the lam gets harder and harder to find.

Women are often untrained for and afraid of taking their place in the wage world. (And a curtsy in the direction of those of you women who pulled yourselves up by your own brastraps and think everybody should: Don't hoard that moxie--spread it around!)

Like money, children are an obvious factor in any woman's decision whether to stay or leave. Some women may decide to leave abusive lovers or husbands "for the children's sake," others may decide to stay for the same reason, believing that any father figure is better than none at all.

Sometimes strong emotional ties between a child and the abused woman's partner make the woman hesitate to take the child and run.

And, of course, strong emotional ties of some kind--anger, pity, feelings of responsibility, something we might call love--still exist between the woman and her partner while she is considering whether to leave or stay.

Often a man who doesn't want the woman to leave him will play upon some of the woman's affectionate feelings with promises of reform. A woman who is confused about her other options may believe these promises, especially if she can remember better days.

The wife-beater who's trying to convince a woman to stay by promising to stop drinking, take more interest in his family, etc, has the widespread belief that wife-beating is caused by one simple problem working for him.

Another reason that women stay with abusers is so obvious that it's often overlooked. Fear.

Sometimes when a woman takes action against her abusive partner, the immediate results are worse than the original situation.

In many oppressive jobs, people are afraid to try to organize a union to change bad conditions because bosses can find even worse stuff to do to them in retaliation and punishment.

In the same way, a woman who calls the cops or tells a neighbor about her abusive partner may be put back in her place by getting even worse conditions (more severe batterings) or less money to support the family. In the long run, of course, it would probably still be better for the woman to leave, but that's assuming she has a place to go.

And that's another reason women stay with men who physically abuse them. They often don't know how to get any better living situation.

Safe havens (see story on refuge houses in this section) still exist in only a relatively small

number of U.S. Cities, although their number is growing.

Parents, children, and other relatives of the abused woman may live far away. Also, blood relationship certainly doesn't guarantee support.

Abused women may not have formed closed friendships in their community. This violation could be due to having to move around a lot because of job transfers, the time and energy involved in day-to-day household drudgery and taking care of children, preoccupation with career (her own or her partner's) and so on.

So where to go when you finally decide to leave the no-good etc. can be a real problem, especially if compounded by not having very much money or by having children that will have to be welcome where you move. (Notice that it's not usually just one reason that keeps a woman with an abusive man. It's a regular smorgasbord: three for the price of one.)

And for our last reason, there's good old--and I do mean old and tired--feminine socialization.

Women are taught to feel guilty for the queerest things. For example, the failure of their relationships/marriages.

Many battered women report that they have felt to blame for their own beatings. They didn't get this far-fetched idea all on their own without any help, it must be admitted. Lots of people, mostly men, in "positions of responsibility"--like politician, police officer, and pollster--would sleep a lot better at night (or whenever) if they could firmly convince themselves that the abused woman is herself responsible for her problem.

And it's sometimes easier to sell an idea to yourself if you've already sold it to somebody else. Remember Madison's ex-Judge Archie Simonson's ruling that the rape of a 16-year-old female by a 15-year-old male was caused by the way women dress?



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With Wife-beaters

Tracy's case (see Bloomington woman's story in this section) is a good example of a problem I bet lots of other women face. What good does it do you to kick your old man out if everyone's going to act like he's still your burden?

Tracy's story shows that all of a sudden non-marital relationships that are usually seen as "illegitimate" and frowned on can become very legitimate in the eyes of "the law."

Another thing battered women get a lot of grief about is not showing up in court, dropping charges often, etc.

I think a lot of what state's attorney Ron Dozier said about the criminal justice system not being the place to solve "domestic disputes" (see story on local authorities' attitudes toward wife-beating) is right on the mark. (I reserve the right to

make my own conclusions about that fact, though).

But people often don't know where else to turn, the law's supposed to serve and protect, right? If we can spend barrelsful of money to pay expensive Secret Service people to protect some straight white man that five people owning nine-tenths of this great country of theirs (and the other one-tenth is owned by one of their sons-in-law) have decided is going to be president, why can't we spend a few measly bucks on protecting women from abusive husbands and lovers?

Some people might look at it that way, anyway. (I might myself, even.)

Anyway, after women make the somewhat-understandable mistake of thinking that they

might be able to get some protection from the criminal justice system, they quickly find out that that's not the answer.

They realize that, as Dozier says, they don't really want their husbands or lovers in jail; they want the men to stop beating them. As a matter of fact, the abused women may even want the whole world to be a different way.

But who do those women call the next time they get beat up?



Roots: Why men beat women

Men beat up on women because they're frustrated with their jobs, because of their perverse urge to prove their masculinity, and because they can get away with it.

A lot of them feel the pressure of being the family's breadwinner. They can't quit their jobs, and their jobs don't give them enough money or self-respect, so they go home and take it out on their wives. One study (McKinley, 1964) found that the more job satisfaction and self-direction people have at their workplace, the less violence occurs in their home life.

The idea that masculinity equals force pervades our culture. Men usually act tough and aggressive about women, and striking them is just one more way to be tough. The men think it will give them respect.

They get away with it because police, judges, and social service workers believe, deep down, that wife abuse is the man's privilege (he can do what he likes with his own property) and the woman's fault (what did she do to provoke him?). The woman doesn't have the physical, legal, or cultural support she needs to make the man stop or to leave him.

Wife beaters get away with it in spite of the gravity of their crime. The police act like calls from battered wives are a joke. Yet the police in Kansas City found that ninety percent of murders within families had been preceded by at least one phone call to the police.

Wife beaters get away with it on a massive scale. A 1969 study reported violence in 64% of long term marriages and 36% of short term ones.

Where else can a man find such a safe outlet for his frustrations?

What they say about what they do

The Post called some of the social service agencies in Bloomington-Normal to see if any of them offer service specifically for women who are physically abused by husbands or lovers. None do but almost all of them offer some services that might be helpful to abused women. Here are our mini-reports:

--Rape Crisis Center. They're not trained specifically to deal with battered women, but they will. They're not sure how much they could really help a battered woman, but they would do any kind of counseling that the woman might want.

The legalities of battered-woman cases are different than in rape situations, but the Rape Crisis women could call Sojourn House (a safe haven in Springfield) to find out things the woman could do. They have dealt with a couple * of battery cases in the past, and would go to court with the woman if she wished. Call through PATH: 452-4422.

--Lighthouse: They don't deal with the problem of woman abuse unless it comes up in a case they already have. 828-1371 (mainly for drug and alcohol problems)

--PATH: They would deal with a battered-woman call in basically the same way they handle all their calls. That is, they would deal with the woman's feelings, then make a referral, probably to Rape Crisis or Mental Health. It's less likely, but possible, that they'd make a referral to the police if such a desire was indicated by the phone call. 452-4422.

--McLean County Mental Health Center: They do outpatient counseling, so could help a woman look at the handling of the relationship, do problem-solving, etc. 827-5351.

--Crisis Intervention Team (part of M. C. Mental Health Center): They can be called at any time: to intervene in a crisis situation. For example, they could be called at the same time as police if an abused woman wants to press battery charges. 827-5351.

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I'd like to say HI to my mommy, my daddy, my granddaughter Sarah, my poodle Nooky, my...



Professor Petr Beckmann obtained his BSc. and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Prague Technical University in Czechoslovakia, and soon became head of the Wave Propagation Department at the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, where he also obtained his Dr.Sci. degree. Invited as visiting professor to the University of Colorado in 1963, he subsequently remained there as full professor. He is the author of numerous scientific papers and 13 books, among them the widely quoted *The Health Hazards of Not Going Nuclear*, and a monthly newsletter, "Access to Energy" both available by writing to Box 2298, Boulder, Colorado 80306.

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CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!
YEAH! ALL RIGHT!
HE'S OUR MANN!

And for fairness and balance, we have taken great risk in bringing to you a representative of the dangerous radical fringe of anti-nuclear horror propagandists, Mr. H.W. REDPIECE! Sit down, RED! Now, ON WITH THE SHOW!

That's Hero W. GREENPEACE, not Redpiece. I used to take my dog to work with me at the Browns Ferry nuclear plant, but after he gave birth to three-legged chickens, I got turned off on nuclear!



BOO! HISS!
SIT DOWN!

Gentlemen, Ralph Nader claims that nuclear power is not safe. He says it is also unnecessary if Americans will cut their energy demand enough. Just how safe is nuclear power?

Compared to other forms of large scale energy conversion, nuclear power is the safest. It is the safest not just in some aspects, but in all aspects, including terrorism and sabotage, and certainly including power plant operations, accidents and waste disposal.

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Now wait a minute! I worked in one. I know! You drop a grenade in the cooling system and you'll have the biggest melt-down, blow-up, crash-down blow-down you'll ever see! In a plant the size of the CLINTON, ILLINOIS, nuke, there is more radioactivity than in 2,000 Hiroshima-sized A-bombs! It could wipe out three cities in one fell swoop! Show me a solar collector that can do that!

Hey, Dad, what about SMALL SCALE energy conversion? Wouldn't it be cheaper and safer to generate just enough energy of the right kind right where it's needed with solar, wind, water, biomass, alcohol, etc.?

Sure, Son, But there's not much profit for us nuclearphiles in that approach.

That's right. If Dresser Industries had to depend on decentralized energy sources, our profits might drop by as much as \$150,000,000 a year! And that's bad for profits!

Professor Beckmann, I don't believe that you responded to Ralph Nader's irresponsible, blasphemous, slanderous charge that nuclear power is UNNECESSARY if Americans cut their demand enough.

As for Nader's claim that nuclear power is unnecessary, that argument is false and irrelevant.

THAT'S RIGHT! Even if nuclear power was unnecessary, we would still have to have it!! You betcha!

Unnecessary? Did he say UNNECESSARY? AAAUGH!!

I can't stand it!

Mom, where would all the nuclear engineers work, if we went to a solar economy?

Ask your father, dear!

But Dad, I don't need any more candy! Mumph! Gag!

I know, Son, but you've got to have it!

Could we cut back our energy demand?

CUT BACK? We can't cut back, not even a tidbit! Why, how could we grow? HUH?

Even if it were possible to cut back our energy demand by 50% (which I don't for a moment believe), it would still make sense to generate the rest by the safest method possible, which is nuclear.

The U.S. would use 1/3 less energy today if it used energy as efficiently as Sweden. West Germany is twice as efficient as we are in space heating and four times as efficient in transport! Using technical fixes on the market today, the U.S. could double the efficiency of its energy use by 2000, thus allowing GNP to double using no more energy than we use today, according to the National Academy of Sciences!!

Well, I'm sure not going to give up my Instant-on Steam Iron or my Frost-Free burial vault for any two-bit Pinko Communist energy freak!

You said it, Martha! Stand up for your Lifestyle! It's inviolable right as an American.

Can I live in Sweden? Huh, Dad, can I?

Oh, don't be silly! Don't you know the Quality of Life is 1/3 less in Sweden?

Professor Beckmann, assuming solar energy is too dangerous and unprofitable to ever be used, which is more dangerous, nuclear or coal?

We have 66 nuclear reactors now licensed to operate in the U.S. Last year they generated almost 10% of our electricity. There has not been a single reactor-related fatality in the generation of commercial power anywhere in the United States. On the other hand, between 20 and 100 lives are lost each year for every 1000 megawatts of electricity generated by burning fossil fuels.

Exaggerating again, Petr! You should be ashamed! Less than 9% of our energy supply is electric. Of that, only 7.6% comes from nukes. Altogether nuclear power provides only 7/10 of 1% of our energy! And the choice is not between coal and nuclear! By 2025 we could have a completely renewable energy system based on solar energy. It would be safer, saner, & cheaper. Please don't use coal as a whipping boy to justify nuclear!

PUT ME DOWN! Petr should have read Amory Lovins' new book, *SOFT ENERGY PATHS* (Ballinger, 1977). I should have stayed home.

Hey Mom, How come Petr left the "E" out of his name?

Oh, Petr leaves out lots of things! Like during the indoctrination session, he kept leaving out "commercial" and "in the United States." They almost had to bring in Dixie Lee Ray!

At least there would have been a woman involved! Male chauvinist nuclear advocates!

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Not in OUR reactors! Why, our new design makes melting impossible by encasing the entire reactor with a gigantic freezer!

If there were a total loss of cooling, which is unlikely considering all the safety precautions and back-up systems, the molten core would gradually melt through the pressure vessel and the concrete floor and sink into the ground. It would be a slow process during which corrective action could be taken. Otherwise, it would eventually stabilize in a pocket of fused earth at a depth of 20 feet or so, possibly more, where it would be safe until salvage operations could begin.

Might I point out that in 1970 the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) was tested at the National Reactor Testing Station. 3 times out of 3 tests, the ECCS failed to deliver cooling water to the core! Also, a loss of coolant accident, or "blow-down," occurred at DRESDEN 2 in Northern Illinois in 1971.

All right kids, take out a sheet of paper. Assume a pipe cracked, and the melting core at 5000°F will reach ground water in 4 hours, creating a steam explosion that will vent radioactivity to the outside. In 30 words or less, describe 7 or more alternative corrective actions that can stop the meltdown.

??! I can't even think of ONE!

SAFE? He calls a melted radioactive fuel core SAFE?

Did he say SALVAGE? Who would ever want a melted uranium fuel core?

Mi Amin, Col. Qaddafi!

13

14

In the other pro-nuclear corner, wearing a scowl, is our heavy-handed utility man, PROFESSOR BERNARD-COHN! Say Hi, Bernie!

And my Kitty Cat Fermi, and my...

Hey, Dad, when I get my BS, will I be able to speak TRUTH?

No, son. You must have a Ph.D if you want to speak TRUTH!

GROWL! SPIT! SNARL!

Professor Bernard L. Cohn is professor of physics and chemical and petroleum engineering at the University of Pittsburgh, and Director of the University's Scaife nuclear laboratories. He received his BS from the Case Institute of Technology in 1944, his master's from the University of Pittsburgh in 1948, and his Dr.Sci. degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1950. From 1950 through 1958 he was Group Leader of Cyclotron Research at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He is the author of numerous scientific articles and two textbooks on nuclear physics. His book, Nuclear Science and Society, published by Anchor Press/Doubleday in 1974, is an authoritative statement of the safety and promise of nuclear power.

And in the Pro-Bigness corner is Cornelius J. Dresser, who has agreed to buy a two-page spread in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL JULY 20, 1977

at his own expense to bring responsible reporting of the outcome of this debate to American capitalists everywhere! Say something, Corny!

big-Big-BIG bigger! Bigger! BIGGER! Yes Sir! That's Us! Growth! Profits! Money! MONEY! WHEEEE!

And my pet gerbil Dixie Lee and...

Hey, Dad, when I become a capitalist, can I make \$5.00 a second, too?

Sure, Son, Sure.

Dresser Industries, Inc. is a leading supplier of engineered products and technical services to energy and natural resource industries around the world.

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 1976, consolidated net sales and service revenues amounted to \$2.23 billion, and net earnings were \$156.8 million.

To learn more about Dresser, please write for our Annual Report.

Limited copies of this interview are available upon request by mail to Dresser Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 78, Dulles, Va. 22021.

Serving the power industry

AIRETOOL expanders and cleaners · ASHCROFT gauges and instruments · CLARK compressors · CONSOLIDATED safety and safety relief valves · DEWRANCE valves · DRESSER piping specialties · ELECTRA motors · FOOTE-JONES gear drives · GALION hydraulic cranes · HANCOCK valves · HARBISON-WALKER refractories · JEFFREY coal mining, processing and conveying equipment · LEROI air compressors and drifters · LODGE-COTTRELL precipitators · PACIFIC pumps · ROOTS blowers and vacuum pumps · SECURITY blast hole bits · SHAW-BOX cranes and hoists · WAUKESHA engines and generator sets · WHITNEY roller chains.

DRESSER INDUSTRIES DRESSER

Thank you, Petr! Our next question comes from a Japanese-American girl formerly of Nagasaki, who asks:

Let me! Let me! Lemme tell ya! Not a bit! Not one itty-bitsy tiny bit! Why...

Hey, It says here in the POST-AMERICAN that a nuclear plant fueled with pickled cucumbers blew up & contaminated 200 square miles with HOT PICKLE RELISH!

The idea that a nuclear plant can blow up like an atomic bomb is just preposterous. It is physically impossible. Not highly improbable, but utterly impossible. An explosive nuclear chain reaction is no more likely with the type of uranium used as power plant fuel than it would be with pickled cucumbers.

Not so fast, Herr Doctor! According to the National Academy of Sciences, nukes built after 1985 will not have enough uranium to last 30 years, so we will have to use plutonium breeders, and they CAN explode during a meltdown, just like an atomic bomb! Three operators were killed by an atomic explosion at the SL-1 reactor at Idaho Falls, Idaho on January 3, 1961!

That is a scare tactic by a self-appointed expert! Always be sure your experts are appointed and paid for by the nuclear industry!

Shoot that wild-eyed pinko-horror propagandist!

Who let him in?

BLAM!

Now-A spontaneous question from our audience!

Yes-I planted cucumbers and now I'm afraid to pickle them! Tell me why pickled cukes are as likely to blow up as a nuclear power plant?

This is because uranium for explosives is enriched to more than 90% "pure," while uranium used to generate nuclear power is only 3.5% "pure."

Actually, Petr is only off by a factor of five or so on that one! It's the natural unenriched ore that is 3.5%. Fuel rods are usually enriched to about 20%, but some reactors use, bomb-grade, 90% pure uranium-235!

Hey, Dad! It says here in the New York Times that in 1975 we sold 40 kilograms of 90% pure Uranium-235 to South Africa to fuel the Safari Reactor. Isn't that dangerous?

Don't worry, Son. That's only enough to make 4 ATOMIC BOMBS. We have over 30,000. They are no threat.

Yeah! And they're far away, too. They're our good buddies!

EXTRA! EXTRA! Read all about it! Carter cuts off aid to South Africa on Apartheid issue. Vorster swears revenge!!

Hey, Boss! There's some South African dude outside with a bomb in the back of his Land Rover! He wants to know where downtown is. What'll I tell him?

Tell him anything! Just get him out of here!

But there have been "incidents" at nuclear-power plants that lead people to believe disastrous accidents are possible.

Oh, Yes! There have been so many that it has become quite a burden on our P. R. Department to whitewash them. Like the time that British reactor at Windscale went out of control and contaminated 200 square miles of farmland-- why, people are gullible enough to think that sort of thing could happen in the U.S. of A.!

RUBBISH, I say! HOGWASH!

Scare tactics by self-appointed "experts" and irresponsible reporting by the press have made some people believe that All industrial operations occasionally have operating problems. But when these happen in a nuclear plant, they are talked about in "doomsday" or "end of the earth" terms.

Operating problems?? You call a meltdown an operating problem? What about the nuclear explosion at the SL-1 reactor that killed three operators? You call that an operating problem?? Gahh...

HEY! LOOK! Another scare tactic by a self-appointed expert! Shoot him before he scares someone!

BOOM!

Another question from our audience!

Professor Cohen, I'm a school teacher in Lagoona Beach, Michigan. My kids insist that the old Fermi plant is still radioactive, even tho it was closed down and sealed up in 1972. What would you say to my kids to convince them that there is nothing unusual about having a burnt-out nuclear plant in their neighborhood?

When the Fermi reactor in Michigan had a partial fuel core melt down in 1966, there was no difficulty in promptly shutting down the reactor. All their safety systems worked exactly as planned. The reactor was later repaired and resumed operation. Ten years afterward, a reporter wrote a book about it called "We Almost Lost Detroit." It was blatantly false, and widely quoted. There's nothing that could possibly have happened in that plant to cause any loss of life in Detroit.

On the other hand, the automatic shutdown failed, and it had to be manually shut down. Unless the meltdown was planned, some safety system somewhere didn't work exactly as planned. The repair took 3 years and subsequent explosions caused it to be permanently closed 3 years later. The Rasmussen Report is also blatantly false and widely quoted. A study of the accident potential of the Fermi plant was carried out by Professor Henry J. Gomberg at the University of Michigan! Henry, what did you conclude?

133,000 people could have been killed. Total damages could have been \$24 BILLION.

Confiscate that professor! Sure, boss!

Hey, Dad, who pays if the damages exceed the \$0.56 BILLION maximum set by the Price-Anderson Act?

You do, son.

From now on, NO MORE TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE PRESS ROOM!

There has been talk about nuclear plants discharging hot water into streams and lakes, and thus endangering marine life. How serious is "thermal pollution"?

Not serious at all! We never worry about it! Hot air-Hot water-It's all the same!

"Thermal pollution" is mostly an abuse of language. Every power plant, nuclear or not, uses water to cool its condensers. In the process, the water is heated. If the water is then discharged into a river or lake, it may raise the temperature in the body of water by a few degrees. This may drive out some species of aquatic life, but it provides a habitat for other species for which the water previously was too cold. The warmer water does not kill aquatic life. It may shift the spectrum of species, but very slightly.

Yeah, shift in a few Humans Mutatis here, shift out a few Homo Sapiens there...

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! ALLIGATORS INVADE POWER PLANT!

Isn't thermal pollution a Red Herring?

No! It's the absence of Red Herrings.

Well, Folks, That's it for round one! Final Score: Imperial American Nuclear Profiteers-27 Vocal Minority Horror Propagandists-0

ALLIGATORS-28

See you next month for round Two!

Hey! There's nobody out there!

2222 BURP-2222

HEY! BERNIE! Let go of my Leg! Hey!

RRRUFF!

GROWL SNAP FROTH



Accused Rofstad murderer unfit for trial

At a competency hearing Sept. 16, the accused murder of ISU student Carol Rofstad was found mentally incompetent to stand trial.

David Wittmer, a mental patient with a history of 25 years of psychiatric treatment, confessed to the murder late in May 1977.

Later, he said he had never murdered anyone, and had only confessed in order to gain a transfer to the Chester State Hospital, a mental health facility with prison-type maximum security.

Despite the retracted confession, State's Attorney Ron Dozier charged Wittmer with murder. Dozier then started proceedings to determine whether the mental patient was competent to stand trial.

The same day Wittmer was found incompetent, he was whisked away to the Chester State Mental Hospital, just as he had wished all along.

According to Illinois law, Wittmer will be examined every year to see if he is fit to stand trial. State's Attorney Dozier considers it unlikely that Wittmer will ever be brought to trial.

A Post-American article last issue criticized Dozier for filing charges against Wittmer without consulting a grand jury. Considering Dozier's expectation that Wittmer would never be able to stand trial, and considering several pieces of evidence pointing to Wittmer's innocence, the Post-

American raised this question: Was Dozier going for some easy public acclaim, trying to close the Rofstad murder case with a charge he would never be compelled to back up with evidence?

The Post quoted Dozier's contention that he had intended to present some evidence publicly, because he thought Wittmer would undergo a preliminary hearing before the court determined his mental competency. However, Dozier said that plan was thwarted when the judge ruled that Wittmer's fitness for trial would be determined before any evidence was heard.

The Post-American pointed out that Dozier would not have had to present much evidence at the preliminary hearing anyway. The article speculated that Wittmer's confession, even though retracted later, would have been enough.

Dozier took strong exception to that assertion, arguing that he had intended all along to present "all the evidence we had" publicly at the preliminary hearing. Later, he told the Post-American that he wouldn't have presented all the evidence, but he would still have offered more than just the retracted confession. Dozier added that if he had known in advance how things were going to turn out, he would probably have taken the Wittmer case to the grand jury.

On Oct. 3, State's Attorney Dozier said that Normal police are still not convinced that Wittmer murdered Carol Rofstad. They are still investigating the murder.

Dog killer ponders his fate

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Bloomington police officer William E. Rusk looks thoughtful at a Police and Fire Commission hearing Oct. 7. Suspended from the force for shooting his neighbor's 110-pound labrador retriever, Sept. 21, he may get kicked off the force. Rusk also faces charges of criminal damage to property and trespass. The Bloomington cop admits shooting the dog while he was off duty, and says he used his own--not his service--revolver. Rusk shot the dog while it sat on a deck outside its owner's bedroom, and the owners found a bullet lodged in their bedroom wall. Rusk killed the labrador in retaliation for the big dog's killing of Rusk's poodle. The Oct. 7 hearing was continued to a later date, pending "further investigation."

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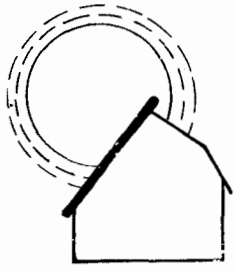
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Post pages get energized

The Sun Spot

by Brian Crissey
P.O. Box 463
Bloomington, IL 61701



Beginning with this issue of the Post Amerikan, I will be writing a monthly column-and-comic feature about nuclear power and its alternatives, especially solar power.

If you have information to include in this column, an idea for a cartoon, or a response to some error I have made, write to me at the above address. Consider The Sun Spot a clearinghouse for energy-related information for the Midwest.

City Challenged

The Champaign-Urbana Chapter of the Prairie Alliance has challenged Bloomington and Springfield to "Ring In Clinton and Wring Out the Nukes." A strategy-and-tactics session Sept. 17 set into motion a conspiracy to obstruct the Clinton Nukes. The key: get at least one town on each railroad route or highway in or out of Clinton to make it illegal to transport nuclear waste materials through the town. Result: the Nukes will not be able to operate. Canvassing and petitioning to gain support for an ordinance to ban the transport of nuclear wastes through C-U begins Oct. 22. The C-U Chapter also plans a community teach-in, a benefit concert, and a full schedule of other events. (See Calendar of Events, below.)

City Accepts

What is Bloomington-Normal going to do? Come to the October 24 meeting of the B-N Chapter of the Prairie Alliance (PA) and find out!! Our town is right on the ICG railroad line, the most probable rail route for wastes. If you love your mother, come help us stop the Clinton Nukes! (See Calendar of Events, below.)

Waste Burned

Several months ago, workers at the Abbott oil-burning power plant on the U of I campus informed the Prairie Alliance that radioactive waste oil was being burned in small amounts in the plant. Safety and labeling procedures were deficient, and the fall-out from the smokestack plume was suspicious. The PA studied the situation and presented a set of demands about the treatment of the waste to the Vice Chancellor of the University. On September 22, he reported that the suggestions for improved handling of the wastes had been implemented. The Vice Chancellor agreed to the PA demand for a public meeting on this issue, providing that toxic, carcinogenic and other dangerous substances be discussed too. This forum will take place Nov. 1 (see calendar).

Poison Lost

The CIA told Congressional investigators that about 400 pounds of weapons-quality uranium were stolen from a private plant in Pennsylvania in the Sixties, probably bound for Israel. At a hearing August 9, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) announced that it could not locate 1200 pounds of nuclear material. At the same hearing, Robert Fri, Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA, nee AEC), topped all the contestants by revealing that ERDA could not account for over 32,000 pounds of weapons-grade material. Altogether, the material could be assembled into more than 1,000 Hiroshima-size nuclear weapons. The Sun Spot Nuclear Klutz of the Month Award goes to Bob Fri!

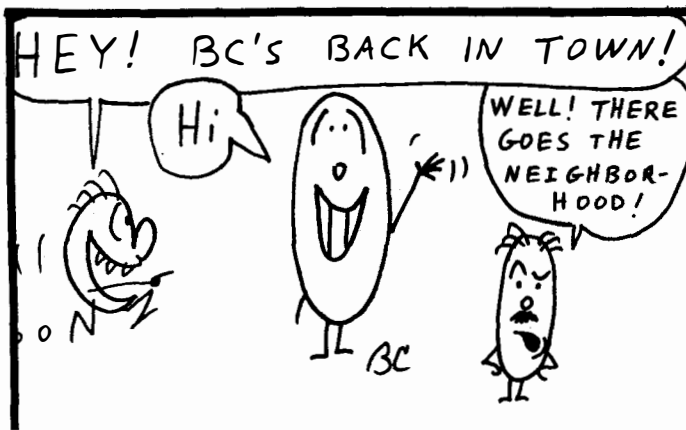
Sunny Illinois

Governor Thompson signed the Comprehensive Solar Energy Act of 1977 in September. It declares as state policy "that the use of solar energy systems should be encouraged as conserving nonrenewable resources, reducing pollution and promoting the health and well-being of the people of this state." Further, it calls on the state to demonstrate the use of solar energy and to encourage the construction and use of cost-effective solar energy systems. An important tax advantage for solar users is that tax assessments on solar-heated or cooled additions to homes can be no larger than if the additions were conventionally heated or cooled. A companion bill makes it illegal for a utility company to charge higher rates to solar customers or to "subject any customer utilizing solar energy to any other prejudice or disadvantage on account of such use."

Garbage Lake

A July 15 report from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Regional Office near Chicago accused the Zion nuclear plant of dumping radioactive waste into Lake Michigan over the past several years and not reporting it. Zion was also cited for four other abuses.

In a "very serious" incident, the NRC found that during a test in which 5,000 gallons of cooling water drained out of the reactor, the plant operators were unaware for 40 minutes the drain on the reactor's emergency cooling system. Keep up the perfect record, fellows! And good luck, too!



Sun Spot Takes On Nuclear Industry

On July 20, 1977, Dresser Industries, a megabusiness that feeds off the faltering nuclear industry, paid several hundred thousand dollars to run a two-page spread in the Wall Street Journal to extol the virtues of nuclear energy and exaggerate the dangers associated with opposing it. Granted, it is dangerous to oppose nuclear energy (remember what happened to Karen Sikwood?), but this ad is full of misleading statements, oversimplifications, factual errors, and conveniently ignored information. There are so many counter-arguments that a proper response would be heavy and tedious for you to read. But you do need to know why the ad is wrong.

That is why the center spread of this month's Post-Amerikan begins a three-part cartoon response to that ad. The original ad pretends to be a spontaneous interview with two unbiased nuclear scientists. Our response tells you what you would have seen and heard if all the anti-nuclear arguments had not been omitted from the transcript. I hope you enjoy it.

NO

The Clamshell Alliance reports that Vermont Public Interest Research Group was successful in getting 38 town meetings in Vermont to vote to ban the transport of radioactive waste materials through their towns. If they can do it, we can do it! Come on, Bloomington!!

Solar phone

Do you have a question about solar heating or cooling? Call free 800-523-2929 or write the National Solar Heating and Cooling Information Center, P.O. BOX 1607, Rockville, MD 20850.

Calendar Of Events

Mon., OCT 17, 11:00 p.m. Channel 3 TV "Nitecap" Phone in your questions on nuclear power and ask the experts. Guests include Charlotte Ford of the C-U Chapter of the Prairie Alliance, good ol' BC (that's me), and either Bruce Green or Al Cassella of Sangamon State. Ask me something easy like, "Are you the famous scientist who said he'd eat plutonium?"

Late OCT, Channel 3 local news: A series on energy with Debbie Johnson, including interviews with Clintonuke officials, good ol' BC, solar architect Ted Myer, solar system engineer Saf Dari, and solar authority Ed Francis of ISU.

Sat, OCT 22 10:00 a.m., Education 2, 219 N. Broadway, Urbana. Action Day, C-U Chapter of Prairie Alliance. Canvassing and petitioning for ordinance to ban transport of rad wastes through C-U. Rally at 3:00 p.m. at Crystal Lake Park, where Councilwoman Bernadine Stake will speak.

Mon, OCT 24, 7:00 p.m. Newman Center, 501 S. Main St., Normal. Bloomington-Normal Chapter of Prairie Alliance meeting. Main topic: Preventing rad wastes from passing through our town. Organizing meeting. Be there with a friend.

Sat., OCT 29, all day, University YMCA, U of I, Urbana. Community Teach-In on Nuclear Power. Music, mime, literature.

Tues., NOV 1, 7:30 p.m., 319 Gregory Hall on Wright St., U of I, Urbana. Open forum on burning radioactive oil in the Abbott Power Plant and other hazardous operations of the U of I.

Sun., NOV 13, time not yet set, Channing Murray/Red Herring, U of I., Urbana. Benefit concert for Prairie Alliance featuring the United Mime Workers, Prairie Grass Pickers and Kristin Lems. \$1.50.

A Note On My Biases

I wanted you all to know that I used to favor nuclear energy, then I was open-minded for awhile, and then I became irreconcilably biased against nuclear power. It's an abomination. Really. Next month I will give you a full statement of where I'm coming from. (Bloomington, Baltimore, Washington, and Monticello, IL, among other places), and how it was that I chose to be here now. For the time being, suffice it to say that after getting a doctorate in energy modeling from the Johns Hopkins University, I spent two years at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., with the committee on Nuclear and Alternative Energy Systems, studying energy futures for the U.S. out to the year 2010. In short it looks very grim unless we push solar now and stop nuclear power. I will attempt to convince you that this is the case through my actions, cartoons, and words.

--Brian L. Crissey
a.k.a. BC

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

letters

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Thou Shalt Read the Pantagraph

Dear Post Amerikan,

I was interested to read that neither D. Colt nor TeleCable suspected that "It's a Miracle," a religious show, was being telecast over WRAU, Channel 19, the evening of Sept. 1.

Perhaps Colt and the cable TV people should invest 25 cents in a Saturday Pantagraph, in which they would find the "Television-Radio Guide." As you will note from the enclosed issue, Pantagraph readers were not in the least surprised to find that program and another preceding it on Channel 19--about Rep. Michael (R, Il.)--telecast. Both were listed.

I am sure they were surprised by the 15-minute slip-up at TeleCable and I can't do anything about their incompetence, but your statement that the religious show was "unmentioned in the tv listings" is simply inaccurate.

Sincerely,
Evelyn Feltner
TV-Radio Ed.

POSTNOTE: Most students of comparative TV listings will agree that TV Guide, the small, nationally known magazine, usually provides more information on more shows than does the Pantagraph's Television-Radio Guide. Although the Pantagraph has the edge on single-issue prices, TV Guide subscriptions are cheaper than a subscription to the Pantagraph. (In fairness, however, it must be noted that the TV Guide's owners are considerably more right-wing than the Pantagraph's, if you can believe that's possible.) Finally, free listings of TV shows are available in many supermarkets. Denny Colt used one of these, as well as TV Guide.

WJBC Makes Racist Remarks

Dear Post,

On Monday, Oct. 3 I was listening to radio station WJBC and heard some very inappropriate remarks by Paul Dunn. Dunn made several derogatory references to Armenian people and their homeland--Armenia.

Of course Paul Dunn can get by with this type of racism in Bloomington where there are only a couple of Armenian families. However if Paul Dunn was in a larger metropolitan area with a greater Armenian population he would not only have to apologize but he would lose his job as well. (Maybe that's why he stays in Bloomington.)

Police Harrass NCHS Students

Dear Post,

We were all out in the parking lot, before school at N.C.H.S., when a cop pulled up and stopped at the end of the lot. It was only 8:15 and school didn't start until 8:30. Well the cop just sat there and everybody jumped out of their cars, shut the windows, locked the doors and went inside, except a few other guys, and I. When the cop went by, he was smoking a cigar and trying to look like the biggest hard ass in the big exciting city of Normal. Now I am not saying that all the cops in Normal are like that, wasting time hanging around the schools and looking tough, but a lot do exceed their powers and go around trying to bust little high school kids for marijuana, because there is nothing else to do in this town. There are very few murders and the cops don't know how to catch the larger dealers around here, so they go after pot smokers.

--A Normal Community High School Student

Post-Note: We are vaguely aware of other instances of police harassing NCHS students before school, and we would like to know more. From reading the Pantagraph court notices, it seems that Officer Frank Zayas busted a student for resisting arrest last spring simply because the student locked himself inside his car when the cop drove through the parking lot. That resisting arrest charge was dismissed for "insufficient evidence" in late September, and we would like the student involved to please contact the Post-Amerikan. Call 828-7232 or 828-6885.

While Armenians suffer the discriminatory repercussions of a minority people it is unfortunate that some will attempt to gain publicity through such low-life means as demonstrated by Paul Dunn.

As one Armenian offended by Paul Dunn and his racial slur, I demand a public apology. I would like to see WJBC clean up its broadcasts by removing such blatant racists from the air.

Even though it's Bloomington, it's 1977 everywhere.

M. Meketarian
One pissed Armenian

Not Human or Right

Dear Post,

Human or civil rights? HA!

If you've ever heard the saying, "When you're in jail you don't have any rights," believe it.

I'm currently incarcerated in the county jail on trumped-up charges, but of course the whole system is "trumped-up."

In the past 12 days I haven't had a shave, I've had only three showers, no recreation, no library visits, no phone calls to relatives or attorney, and no news.

Apparently one prisoner's mental anguish got to be too much and he cracked a window in our cell block. And now here we all sit. Because I wasn't awake to see who did it I got locked in this 8 by 10 cell and deprived of the usual jail house privileges.

Whatever happened to the right of a "disciplinary hearing" as stated in the rule book, I'll never know.

Several months before I got here a man burned his mattress, so again there was mass punishment--everyone was deprived of right to deal with nervousness by smoking.

I think the taxpayers should get a closer look at the way this jail is being operated. After all it is their money.

The correctional officers get paid an average of \$850 a month, \$950 for sergeant. They spend half of their time either sitting or standing around bullshitting, drinking coffee or whatever.

In the 65 days that I've been here, I've requested to see the social worker (assitant warden) at the least fifteen times and the warden (director) just as often. Since there was no minister, I wanted to talk to them about some personal problems. But of course I haven't gotten to talk with either the director or assistant. The director even failed to give another inmate a message from his minister.

Treatment like this can be the stem of mental anguish and probable trouble among the inmates. This can cause more of the new jail to be destroyed.

If Sheriff "nose picker" King and his pawns would think more about civil and human rights and mainly helping criminals, instead of trying to make "bugged-up" animals out of accused and sentenced criminals, they would be earning their money in a more satisfying way for those of us who have, and will pay taxes.

Sincerely yours,
R.E. Kinzinger

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Disagrees With CETA Article

Dear Post Amerikan:

I disagree very strongly with your article about CETA. Obviously the author went there with a very closed mind and didn't even go through the complete five day orientation. I did, and not only found it helpful, but also educational. And where else can you get training for a good job, and get paid for it? After orientation, I went through a four week course, and after that CETA helped me find interviews and places to apply. I found a job within two weeks.

I found all the CETA people helpful, polite, and really interested in the progress I made. The author also failed to mention that "intake" only takes ten minutes. I filled out only one form the entire length of my contact with CETA. I suggest that in the future you really do some investigating before you write an article on something you know nothing about!

Sincerely;

Mrs. Kim Carr

Landlord Helpful, Reader Says

Post-Amerikan:

I have been a reader and supporter of the Post Amerikan for several years. I have been impressed by many of the articles appearing, and disgusted by quite a few others. Since my disgust was usually based on personal preference or opinion, I have not written in to complain before. However, I feel a recent article was biased and unfair to such an extent that a rebuttal is in order. I refer to the articles concerning Fred Hafner.

I am not qualified to comment on the first article, since I know nothing of Mr. Hafner's financial affairs. The article dealing with the house on Linden Street, however, upset me. I have no doubt the people on Linden had many problems with Mr. Hafner. Was any effort made to contact Mr. Hafner regarding these problems? I think at least part of the trouble would have been rooted elsewhere. Even if the story was totally accurate, it seems to be an isolated incident. I did not see any follow up letters or articles concerning Mr. Hafner in the following issue.

Prisoner Responds

Dear Post,

In Post-Amerikan Vol. VI No. 6, Oct. 1977, you ran a story headlined: Are Prisons Banning the Post?

The Menard Correctional Center is letting the Post in (speaking for myself that is). I don't see why the prison officers aren't letting them into the residents in other prisons.

Author's Note: I did go through the entire orientation, and I too got a job that I'm very happy with through CETA.

The article does not criticize CETA's effectiveness in training people and finding them jobs. I wanted, instead, to express my disagreement with many of the attitudes that the CETA orientation pushes. Finding jobs for people who need them is certainly important. It's also important, I think, for agencies like CETA to have high consciousness about why it's so hard for so many people to get and keep tolerable jobs.

I am not writing this letter as a friend of Mr. Hafner's. My only contact with him has been through apartment renting, and it has always been positive. As a program coordinator for Kaleidoscope, I have had to find apartments for many people wishing to become foster parents for our children, and also apartments for the young people themselves when they reach eighteen. Many landlords in Bloomington-Normal will not rent to us. However, Mr. Hafner has not only rented to us when we applied to him, but has also gone out of his way to find other accommodations if he had nothing available. He has also been quick to respond to any maintenance needs that our people have had, and has been fair concerning the return of security deposits. He has even allowed us to overstay a lease when no alternate apartment was available.

I will close by saying that I will remain a reader of the Post, but I would request that derogatory articles about community people be based on at least two or three incidents rather than one.

Thank you,
Edward E. Cotton

I know that Illinois prisons are supposed to let any books or newspapers in. This was the decision of the Department of Corrections, in Springfield Illinois, last year. 21

In closing, I would like to say: You're the best newspaper I ever read. So keep up the good work.

Thank you for your time.

Yours,

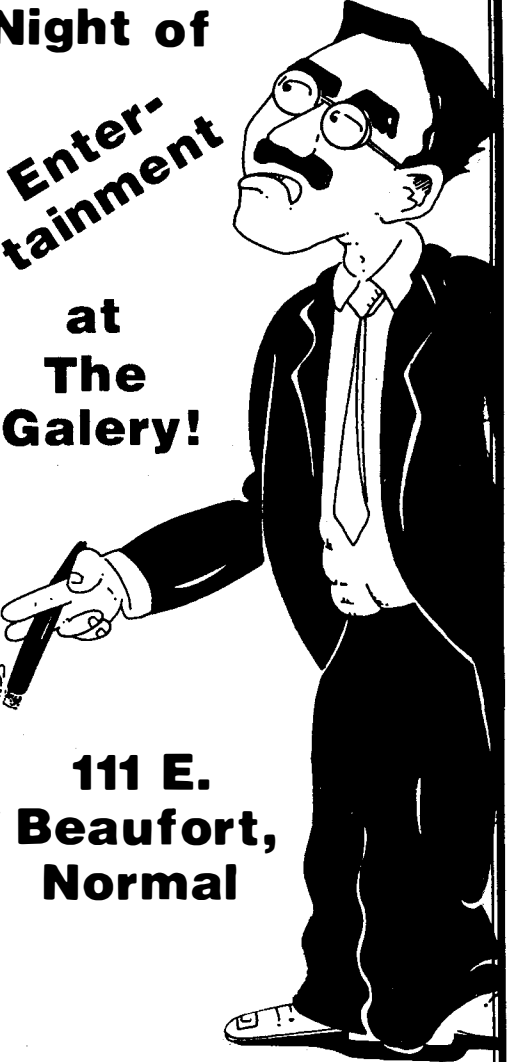
Steve Bergeron

POSTNOTE: We're still investigating reports that some prisons are not letting the Post in. So we encourage prisoners we haven't heard from yet to help by letting us know if you're able to get the Post.

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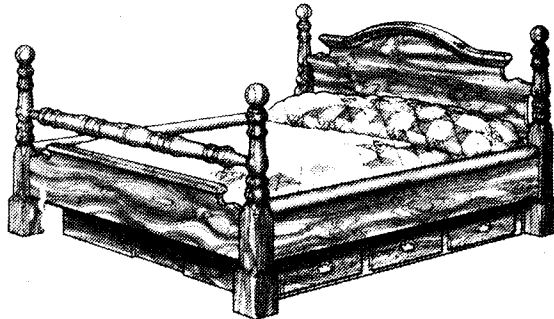
GALLERY I

Thurs., Oct. 13 -- Mark Sanders
Fri., Oct. 14 -- Steve Simms
Sat., Oct. 15 -- Jill Watson
Sun., Oct. 16 -- Bryan Cox
Mon., Oct. 17 -- PINKY
Tues., Oct. 18 -- Mike Buzius
Wed., Oct. 19 -- Kris Schaffer
Thurs., Oct. 20 -- Patty Bartlett
Fri., Oct. 21 -- Jim Vasilou
Sat., Oct. 22 -- "Rock Star"
Sun., Oct. 23 -- Steve DeLoria
Mon., Oct. 24 -- Bryan Cox
Tues., Oct. 25 -- PINKY
Wed., Oct. 26 -- Chris Cox
Thurs., Oct. 27 -- Deb & Jan
Fri., Oct. 28 -- Tony Sacrimbolo & Terry King

GALLERY II

Thurs., Oct. 13 -- John Briggs
Fri., Oct. 14 -- Suzy Bogguss
Sat., Oct. 15 -- "Up Your Tempo" formerly Hit & Miss
Sun., Oct. 16 -- Willy Berry
Mon., Oct. 17 -- Jeff Ichihashi Jazz Band
Tues., Oct. 18 -- " " " "
Wed., Oct. 19 -- Chuck Schwarz
Thurs., Oct. 20 -- John Novotny
Fri., Oct. 21 -- Jill Watson
Sat., Oct. 22 -- Shawn Cullinaire
Sun., Oct. 23 -- Bo Radley
Mon., Oct. 24 -- Jeff Ichihashi Jazz Band
Tues., Oct. 25 -- " " " "
Wed., Oct. 26 -- Chuck Schwarz
Thurs., Oct. 27 -- John Briggs
Fri., Oct. 28 -- Jim Vasilou

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Disappointed Reader Criticizes Post

Dear Post-Amerikan:

I am writing with regard to the September issue of your newspaper in which appeared a letter in reply to your article on banks. It was written by a Mr. "T".

I was very disappointed and a little disillusioned to see the manner in which you displayed this letter. Most people will just pass the article over because it is difficult to read. Perhaps this was your purpose. This letter was a carefully thought out, well written letter and it deserved a more fair treatment than it received.

The "Typist Note" at the end of the letter was also a disappointment. I am sorry to see the P.A. resort to juvenile tactics with thinking that they don't agree with. The pure and idealistic purpose of a newspaper is to supply the population with an unbiased view of the news and both sides of a controversy. Many times letters to the Editor can serve that purpose. When you only publish articles that are in agreement with your thoughts, then your paper does not become a beacon for all the people, but more of a "William Randolph Hearst" type of publication. I feel it is very important that the Post-Amerikan does not become a one-sided sounding board and that it serve the community. It is a great opportunity. Don't blow it.

This purpose cannot be served if you are only interested in writers who think your way and if you put down people who have another side to express. History is strewn with examples of those that refuse to listen to others whose thinking does not agree with their own.

Post-Amerikan, a little more professionalism in your journalism, please.

Very truly yours,

Carol J. Herdien

ps The headline was biased and unfair.

Better uses for MEG money

Dear Post,

I was disappointed that there was no mention in your October issue concerning Thompson's funding of MEG. Not everyone reading The Post also reads The Pantagraph so there still may be some uninformed souls.

The MEG operating in Bloomington-Normal received over \$157,000.00. The only MEG who received more was the one in Carbondale. Local narcs now have \$157,000.00 to buy drugs with. That's a helluva lot of dope!

The thing that puzzles me is why Bloomington-Normal? Sure there's cocaine (if you can afford it), speeders (if you can stomach them), pot (so what?), and you might run across some weak hallucinogens. But downers are almost unheard of and smack dealing is nil. Why not use that \$ to rehabilitate junkies in cities like Joliet, Peoria, Galesburg and Moline?

I for one am curious to know just how much of this \$ will be used for drug enforcement and how much will end up in some red neck's pocket.

Swan

POSTNOTE: See page 23 for article about MEG funding.

And the Response...

Post Note:

I think that many readers feel the same way Ms. Herdien does, and therefore some explanation is clearly in order.

At the Post-Amerikan meeting, we were faced with the problem of the long, repetitive letter that Ms. Herdien writes about. I supported reducing its size instead of just summarizing the main points and leaving out the rest.

We all knew we couldn't afford to print the whole letter in our usual type size. We'd measured it, and it would take up a whole page and a half of solid type--a page and a half we didn't have to spare. (Very few papers would consider printing such a long letter.) I felt that cutting content from it would be more unfair than putting in the whole thing smaller. None of us knew how small the print would be when we decided to reduce it. If we'd known, we might have made a different decision, because Ms. Herdien is certainly right about its unreadability.

At that same meeting, some people (including the typist) thought we should not print the typist's note after the letter. I supported putting in. The Post is an alternative press, and one way the Post is different is that its typists get to express their opinions in it. (Can you imagine Newsweek or the Pantagraph letting their typists comment on what they type?) I've always thought that our Typists' Notes were a neat tradition--I once wrote one myself that was longer than the article it was a note to!

It's true that this typist's note Ms. Herdien writes of was added in the heat of passion. But I liked

it--I knew that the woman who typed the letter is poor, and at the time she was holding down two jobs to keep body and soul together, and it must've really galled her to spend several volunteer hours on Friday evening typing a letter that said nasty things about poor people. I thought after being so noble, she should at least get to put her two cents in, even if her comments were rather heated. I realize that my thinking here is kind of unusual, but there it is.

Another way the Post is an odd newspaper is that we do just print articles that we (meaning the staff) basically agree with, and we admit it. We don't necessarily think that both sides of every controversy should get space in our pages--especially if one side gets plenty of space in the pages of national and local mainstream media, and the other side only gets space in dinky little papers like ours. We see our job as presenting the side you don't get on T.V. news and in Time and the Pantagraph. So we are biased in what we give space to.

We're also biased because we think that some beliefs and their resulting actions are oppressive, and we won't print stuff that supports such beliefs. For instance, we've refused to print racist letters-to-the-Post, even though the people who wrote them were sincere. And we've refused to print anti-gay raps.

These biases are what made us not want to devote a page and a half of our paper to a letter which supported the status quo in banking and had damaging generalizations about poor people in it.

After thinking about Ms. Herdien's letter, I'm not sure that we dealt with our dilemma in the best way possible. I do hope that I've explained why we saw it as a dilemma.

--Phoebe Caulfield

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

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State funds revive MEG units

Six Illinois MEG units will stay alive on state money that Governor Thompson signed over to them in mid-September.

The Peoria-based MEG unit, which operates in cities over a six-county central Illinois area, received all \$157,750 it asked for.

The state funds provide half the undercover drug units' budgets. The other half comes from the cities and counties which comprise MEG's membership. Some of the governmental units, like Bloomington, provide personnel instead of cash.

As the Governor had promised earlier (see last issue), he didn't approve funding for all the Illinois MEG units. The largest one --Cook County's--lost its funds. Those narcs had already stopped working when federal funds expired July 1.

The Peoria-based MEG had cut expenses and laid off employees, but continued operations all summer.

MEG units will now be under the Illinois Dept. of Law Enforcement, which will dish out the money and (supposedly) monitor the covert operations to make sure that no funny business occurs.

Under the old federal grants which originally set up MEG units, the Illinois Bureau of Investigation was supposed to monitor the units and uncover illegal or unethical goings-on.

But after investigations confirmed a series of ACLU charges of illegal and unethical operations, it became clear that the IBI monitoring was a farce. Almost all of ACLU's charges of MEG wrongdoing were found to be substantiated, according to a special report by the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission Executive Committee. And none of those instances of unethical law enforcement tactics were ever uncovered by the IBI.

Previously MEG units--especially the Peoria-based MEG--went after marijuana for about 30% of their cases, but only in direct



violation of an ILEC directive. That order, established when the downstate MEGs were first set up in 1974, said that MEG should go after hard drugs, and basically leave enforcement of cannabis laws to local police. Under the new law which Governor Thompson signed, MEG units are instructed--for the first time in their history--to go after marijuana offenders.

Now that MEG's financial future is assured,

new units of government may soon be joining. The cities of Monmouth, Morton, Marquette Heights, Tremont and Chillicothe have all expressed interest in joining.

Units of government which currently give money or personnel to MEG are: the cities of Bloomington, Peoria, Pekin, East Peoria, and Peoria Heights; plus the counties of Tazewell, Peoria, Fulton, Warren, and Knox. McLean County and Galesburg were founding members, but later dropped out.

MEG bored meeting: the usual circus

Visitors to the MEG Bored of Directors meeting in Peoria September 30 enjoyed the usual circus show.

But some of the clowns didn't show, and the meeting lacked a quorum. The newly refunded undercover drug unit was off to a predictable, bumbling start.

An unusual number of inquiries from reporters asking MEG what it would do with its new state funds prompted an unusual MEG move: invitations, signed by MEG boss Jerry "Superspy" LaGrow himself, were mailed to central Illinois media.

MEG bored members have a history of dodging the press, even to the point of adjourning meetings after five minutes so they can discuss the real business privately--over lunch.

After MEG held one secret meeting without notifying the press last spring, a Post-Amerikan reporter tried to file criminal charges (for violating the Open Meetings Act) against MEG Bored Chairperson Harold Bosshardt. Peoria State's Attorney Mike Mihm let MEG off with only a stern warning: media requesting notice of meetings must be notified in the future, or MEG would face prosecution.

Since then, the Post-Amerikan has received regular notice.

More news media than usual attended the September 30 MEG meeting, but without a quorum the reporters were wasting their time. There were more reporters than members of the Bored of Directors.

MEG Secretary-Treasurer David Watkins opened by hollering at Mike Richardson, the barefoot editor of the Galesburg Free Voice. Though Watkins, who is also Warren County

Sheriff, had once threatened to arrest Richardson for attending MEG meetings barefoot, he later backed down. This time, Watkins warned Richardson he wouldn't get away without shoes when the MEG Bored meets in Warren County. "Because I run it there," Watkins explained.

In his report, Watkins complained that the Springfield bureaucracy has not yet sent MEG its new money. Consequently, he said, plans for hiring new agents to replace those laid off in July should be delayed until October 15. Adopting the slang of the drug-using culture he so despises, Watkins referred to strengthening the undercover unit as "cranking up."

Director LaGrow's report was unusually brief. On more than half the items, he introduced the subject, looked warily at the crowd of reporters packed into the room, and then said, "We can talk about this another time," or "I'll send you a letter on that." Translated, LaGrow's statements probably mean, "We'll go into this at lunch."

When Pekin's police chief began offering specific details on he and the Knox County Sheriff donating new officers to MEG, LaGrow looked especially dismayed at the security leak. He quickly dropped the conversation, mumbling that the discussion was "premature."

When "Superspy" LaGrow requested some new --but not brand new--cars for his undercover agents, Bored Chairperson Bosshardt sprang into action, immediately searching out a source of supply. "You've got an old car, Mark," Bosshardt suggested to one of the Post-Amerikan reporters, "We could use yours, couldn't we?"

The reporter suggested an exchange, with the Post-Amerikan gaining the use of MEG's sophisticated camera equipment.

MEG Chairperson Bosshardt: "That's all, folks!"



LaGrow didn't comment, but Bosshardt sounded agreeable, and urged the reporter to prepare for negotiations at the next MEG meeting, which might have a quorum.

The meeting was short, and probably would have been shorter if MEG officials hadn't thought that the assembled reporters deserved to learn at least something about MEG after traveling up to 40 miles.

Reporters learned which cartoon character a veteran career police officer most identifies with. It shouldn't have been a surprise.

"Like Porky Pig says," Chairperson Bosshardt concluded, "'That's all folks.'"

With that, Bosshardt knocked off work for the day, and for the entire next week, which he spent with hundreds of other Porky Pig fans at the International Association of Police Chiefs' annual convention in Los Angeles.

IN GRAND JURY TESTIMONY

MEG boss misrepresents,

Though MEG Director Jerry LaGrow has been a narc for ten years, he hasn't picked up much knowledge about the illegal drug use he believes so fiercely in fighting.

In grand jury testimony April 12, LaGrow either deliberately misrepresented the truth (not surprising for him), or else showed shocking ignorance about a substance commonly known as angel dust.

Laboratory analysis almost always show that angel dust contains phencyclidine, also known as PCP.

Testifying before a Tazewell County grand jury in a PCP sale case, LaGrow told the assembled citizens that PCP was "the Chicago heroin, for the most part. It's not heroin but considered the rich kids' heroin."

"It sells for the same amount of money and is used for the same purpose," LaGrow continued.

Actually, PCP is far cheaper from heroin, differs significantly in its effects, and is not called either "Chicago heroin" or "rich kids' heroin."

Legally, PCP is used as a strong animal tranquilizer. It's used to knock the animals out on Wild Kingdom on TV.

When sold for illegal recreational use, it is usually called angel dust, or simply "dust." Substances sold as THC (either spelled out, or pronounced "tic" or "tac") are also really phencyclidine. Real THC, short for tetrahydrocannabinol, marijuana's active ingredient--is very rarely found, because it is too difficult and expensive to synthesize.

While many people know that one commonly used illegal drug is an animal tranquilizer, not too many know that it's the same as phencyclidine or PCP. If MEG Director LaGrow had wished to ring some bells in the grand jurors' heads when he mentioned PCP, he might have mentioned that PCP is the animal tranquilizer they've probably heard about.

But in the entire grand jury transcript, LaGrow never mentioned that PCP is an animal tranquilizer.

MEG stories on these three pages by Mark Silverstein.

Instead, he sensationalized the description of the drug his agent had purchased, by calling it "the Chicago heroin."

Contacted by the Post-American, spokespeople for 6 Illinois drug abuse education and rehabilitation agencies all disagreed with LaGrow's statements. The agencies were Project Oz and Lighthouse in Bloomington, Gemini House in Champaign, Alternatives in Chicago, and Stonehenge I and Stonehenge II in Peoria.

Workers in both Peoria drug abuse agencies--located in the same town as LaGrow's MEG headquarters--said they had never heard PCP referred to as "Chicago heroin" or "rich kids' heroin."

Stonehenge I is a clinic dealing only with heroin, and David Minish of that agency challenged LaGrow's statement that PCP sells for the same amount as heroin. "It's much cheaper than heroin," Minish said. Peoria heroin addicts will spend from \$50 to \$150 a day on their habits, Minish went on. But entire grams of PCP usually don't sell for more than \$40. Minish doubted that PCP users could do as much as a gram in one day.

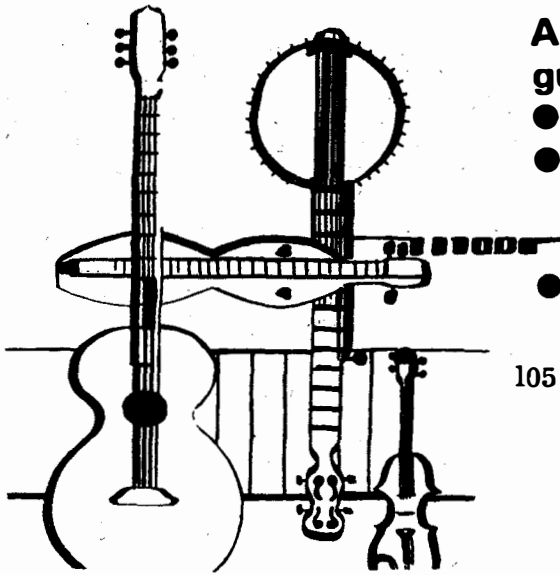
Peoria's Stonehenge II provides both residential and outpatient treatment facilities for users of non-narcotic drugs, including PCP. A worker for that agency agreed with Minish on all points, but had slightly different estimates for the actual cost of PCP and heroin.

Peter Rankaitis, who directs Project Oz, also, had never heard of LaGrow's terms for PCP. "heroin and PCP are miles apart in their effects," Rankaitis told the Post-American. He, too, agreed that PCP is far cheaper than

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sensationalizes angel dust

heroin. Rankaitis' program is licensed by the Illinois Dangerous Drugs Commission.

Gemini House is Champaign's drug abuse referral agency. John Barry, the agency's Community and Education Coordinator, expressed surprise when LaGrow's grand jury testimony was read to him over the phone. "PCP is much cheaper than heroin, and it's not an addictive drug at all," Barry said. He, too, had never heard of PCP referred to as any kind of heroin, except for one case of "consumer fraud" where a drug dealer substituted PCP for what was supposed to be heroin. Barry said a heroin addict could spend anywhere from \$25 to \$200 a day in the Champaign area, but he could hardly conceive of someone taking PCP every day. "It would just blow you away too much. We've never encountered a case like that."

Only one agency worker thought he had heard PCP called "Chicago heroin." Dennis Kaylor, Community and health services director for Project Lighthouse in Bloomington, said he had once heard the term used by "someone in the teenybopper 12 to 14 year old bracket." But Kaylor disputed LaGrow's statement that PCP costs the same as heroin, and pointed out that the tranquilizer is not known to be physically addictive.

Another drug abuse agency worker suggested that the Post ask a Chicago-area agency about "Chicago heroin." We did.

Randy Weber works for Alternatives, Inc., a drug education project which is also one of two state-licensed street drug analysis programs. Weber said he had never heard of PCP being called "Chicago heroin," nor "the rich kids' heroin." He had once heard a North Shore suburban police officer refer to PCP as the "heroin of the suburbs."

Weber agreed that PCP is cheaper than heroin, is not addictive, and differs significantly from heroin in its effects on users.

"In terms of its pharmacological effect and its chemistry, it is not related to heroin in any way at all, and in that sense it is a misnomer to call



MEG got its state funding, and the undercover drug unit and its boss Jerry LaGrow (pictured above) are still targets of Post-American investigation.

it the heroin of the suburbs," Weber told the Post-American.

However, Weber appeared so convinced that PCP is becoming such a threat to health in the Chicago suburban high schools, he seems willing to overlook sensationalizing its dangers. Weber is willing to call PCP the "heroin of the suburbs" in order to communicate the message that PCP is the drug people should be concerned about.

Weber says PCP is more available than any drug in the north suburban high schools. "Kids can get PCP faster than they can get pot or beer," he emphasized.

Weber says he doesn't know of any substance used for recreation that is worse than PCP, with the possible exception of glue-sniffing. "That's how great of a threat it is," Weber said, "The use of PCP has reached epidemic proportions."

While all the agencies contacted viewed PCP as a dangerous drug, only the Chicago-area agency talked about an alarming increase in its frequency of abuse. That may reflect an actual geographical difference, or it may simply reflect the particular concerns of Chicago's Alternatives, Inc.

If Jerry LaGrow wanted the grand jurors to perceive PCP as a dangerous drug, he could have done so without calling it "Chicago heroin." And since his agents are directly involved in the drug market, he should surely know better than to tell a grand jury that PCP sells for the same amount of money as heroin.

But LaGrow probably figures he can tell a Tazewell County grand jury anything he pleases, and get away with it. And the more he describes the drug-using culture in scary, sensational terms, the more important he looks to the people he is scaring.

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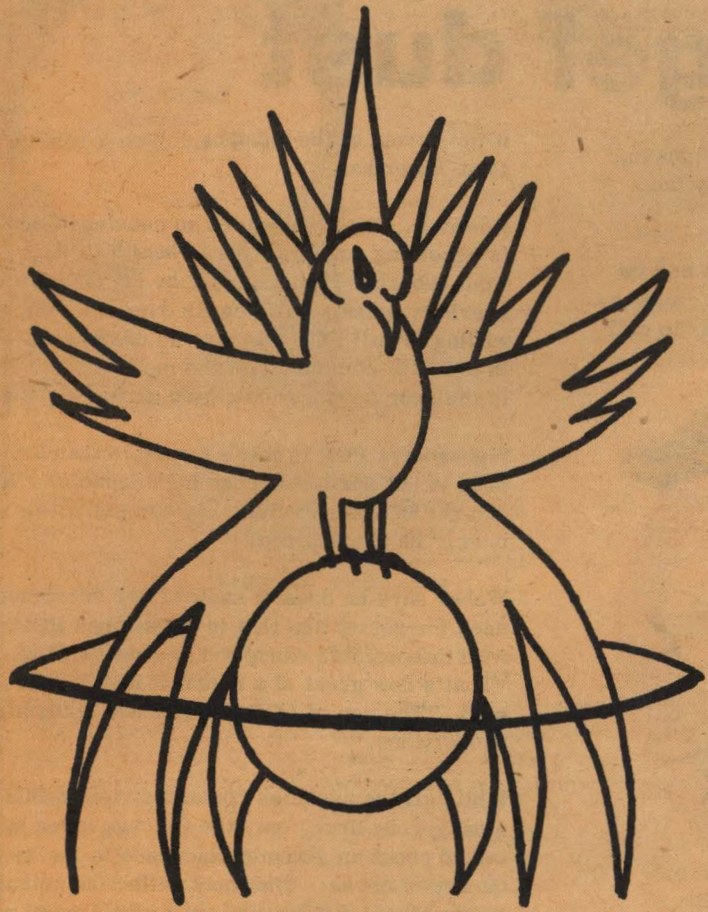
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Bradley Furthers Anti-Abortion Cause

When Governor Thompson vetoed the abortion aid cut-off bill it was one of his better political moves. Yes, folks, Governor Thompson could not support prejudice against poor people by signing the abortion aid cut-off bill.

However, when the Illinois State Legislature meets for its fall session on October 24, Rep. Gerald Bradley (Democrat-Bloomington) and his partner in crime, Rep. Leinenwheer of Joliet will file a motion to overrule the Governor's veto. This will be the third time they have tried to push this bill through the legislature.

Bradley, co-sponsor of the bill, stressed in a telephone interview that this bill did not deal with abortion itself, but rather with the allocation of welfare funds. Bradley said he feels that welfare funds should not be used for abortion.

He likened the poor woman's need for an abortion to the desire of a middle-class person for a face-lift which s/he cannot afford. He added that "you and I" are entitled to a lot of things, too, but we can't expect the government to pay for them.

When the interviewer suggested to Bradley that the aid cut-off would only affect poor women, he offered that there are other ways to help the poor. He added that sometimes he doesn't feel they do enough to help themselves.

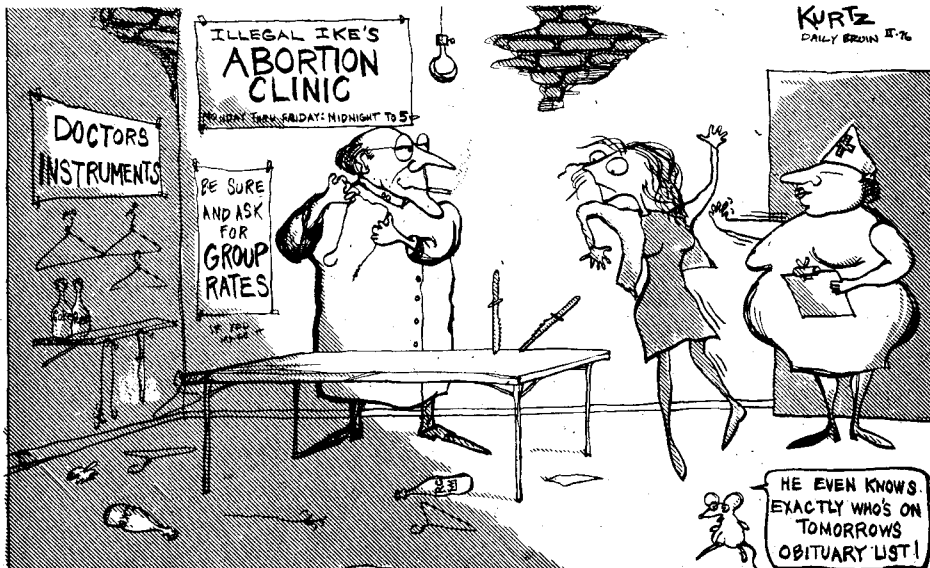
Bradley suggested that the interviewer take a look at the welfare rolls. He said, "The same families are on welfare year after year." Well, by denying women the right to terminate unwanted pregnancies, Bradley will help this pattern continue.

Bradley claims that a woman who already has children, and receives Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), can scrimp, save, and endure minor hardship in order to afford an abortion. However, according to statistics released by researchers at Planned

Parenthood's Alan Guttmacher Institute, the average cost of an abortion is greater than the monthly income of a welfare family in all but 13 (thirteen) states and the District of Columbia.

The average cost of an abortion, nationwide, is \$280, but the average monthly AFDC payment is only \$238.

"Under these circumstances, it seems clear



that not very many pregnant women on welfare will be able to get together the money to pay for their own legal abortions--and if they do, it will be at the sacrifice of basic necessities, of food and shelter for themselves or their families," the authors of the report said.

In the long run, Bradley's bill will cost the taxpayers more money than an abortion would cost.

It seems to these reporters that Bradley is being used by some Birth-Right folks to help get real anti-abortion bills back into action. These anti-abortion forces are very

active, well organized minority who seem to be doing the "Right" thing.

Just think about it. With birth control not being taught and provided effectively, there's going to be a lot of unwanted children hanging around on welfare.

If a woman can't afford to have an abortion because she's on welfare and has limited funds, and tries to abort herself or find a

cheaper illegal abortion, the problem is likely to be even worse than paying the original \$280 for a safe legal abortion.

If the Birth-Right folks get their way and start making abortions more and more impossible, we'll have another problem on our hands. More and more over-population, leading to more and more problems.

Children don't just need to be born to grow; they need clean air, space, food, and most of all love.

--Amanda Ziller and Eve

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Nov. 3--To be announced

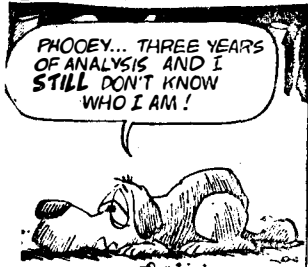
Nov. 4-5 JUMP IN THE SADDLE--country-swing, \$1.00 cover

Nov. 10--ALL-STAR FROGS--on Trouserworm Records, \$1.00 cover

Nov. 12-- **SON SEALS BLUES BAND** -Alligator \$1.50 cover

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The War Cry of



Case history #11432.

Subject: Norman Podhoretz

Age: Old enough to know better.

Personal details: White male, editor of Commentary magazine, long-time member of the militant Committee on the Present Danger.

DOCTOR'S NOTE: For convenience, the following transcript has been shortened. All direct quotes from the patient, Norman Podhoretz are clearly

marked as such. Significant comments have been underlined. (Quotes from Harper's magazine, October 1977.)

Doctor: Oh, yes. Now, Norman, tell me about your ideas, the ones about how we'd all love war if it weren't for a few gay liberals who refuse to let the media tell us about the joys of sharing mangled intestines and clotting blood with some idyllic trench or brightly burning peasant hut.

Podhoretz: "All one heard about and saw (during the Vietnam years) was the horrors of war...No heroes emerged, only villains and victims, and nothing good was accomplished by American troops and American arms, only evil: only destruction, misery, and guilt."

where were the TV cameras during the good moments of the war? Why didn't NBC broadcast the satisfaction of savage slaughter well done, the ecstasy of electronic elimination of potential communists, the exquisite pleasure of forcibly putting a 12-year old girl in a family way?

Doctor: Anything else?

P: "Every year, it seems, the struggle against military spending grows more intense. While the Soviet Union engages in the most massive military buildup in the history of the world, we haggle over every weapon. We treat our own military leaders as though they were wearing the uniform of a foreign power."

(Doctor's note: The patient shows clear signs of a typical military-industrial complex.)

Doctor (gently): Go on, Norman.

P: "Ideological pacifism" is only one of the evil residues of Vietnam's legacy of chemical defoliation and mechanical murder. There is also the "native anti-Americanism" "in the idea that Americans consume more than their 'fair share' of resources" and "in the view that the main threat to the liberties of the American people is the American government itself...the FBI and the CIA..." And there is the "altered American attitude toward Communism," which is symbolized by Jimmy Carter's refusal to publicly call for another holy cold war to exterminate communists everywhere, now and forever.

(Doctor's note: Lingering Cold War trauma. Notice how the patient's refusal to face reality in regard to excessive consumption of raw materials carries over into his belief that he's still living in the 1950's.)

Doctor: What do you think is the cause of all this, Norman?



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Battle in Boise Over Firings

OOB-Seven women have been fired from the Boise, Idaho police department since last January. They were dismissed without hearings or prior notice. Boise's police chief refuses to discuss the cases, saying only that they involve the state law against homosexual relationships. According to the Idaho Statesman, charges resulting in the firings were brought after a month-long departmental investigation of complaints from citizens and other officers.

A Citizens Committee for Civil Rights has been formed in support of the dismissed officers. Most of the Committee's members are gay, but they are approaching this as an issue of fair employment practice in general, not gay rights. Five of the seven fired have filed grievances. One has been heard and the others are pending. If they get no relief after the grievance procedures, they are prepared to go to court.

Amerika: A Case Study

P: Homosexuality "account(s) for a good deal of the pacifism..."and a good deal else that's rotten in America. "For whatever else homosexuality may be or may be caused by, to these young men...it represent(s)...the refusal of fatherhood and all that fatherhood entailed: responsibility for a family and therefore an inescapable implication in the destiny of society as a whole."
 "The list of these young men is almost endless...It was through their writings, their political activities, and the way of life they followed that an indispensable element was added to the anti-democratic pacifism...a generalized contempt for middle-class or indeed any kind of heterosexual adult life...The best people looked to other men for sex and romance."

(Doctor's note: Notice the patient's confusion over the word "people," how he thinks it refers only to "other men." Also notice his protection of his own militaristic "anti-democratic" tendencies onto the pacifists.)

P (continues): "Anyone familiar with homosexual apologetics in America today will recognize these attitudes...They are purveyed by such openly homosexual writers as Allen Ginsberg, James Baldwin, and Gore Vidal...in whose work we find the same combination of pacifism..., hostility to one's own country..., and derision of the idea that it is threatened by anything but its own stupidity and wickedness."

(Doctor's note: The patient uses "openly homosexual" as if it were a derogatory phrase, but his own argument that homosexuality leads to pacifism--the opposition to war or to the use of violence to settle disputes among people--clearly breaks down if he were to apply the same standards to it. For both ancient Sparta and the Kaiser's Germany "openly" or tacitly condoned male homosexuality, yet both were highly war-like.)

P (continues): "Vidal praises homosexuality for serving the alleged ecological need to control population growth." He's like the man who argued that it was less evil to be homosexual than to force a "fourteenth baby on the body of a worn-out wife." It's simply not true. Just look at the Bible. Women are supposed to have babies. At least real women like Anita Bryant and Phyllis Schlafly are starting to bring the truth to the American people.



(Doctor's note: The patient's willingness to openly support the oppression of women is consistent with his military-industrial complex.)

Doctor: Didn't you say something about "sluttish antinomianism" a minute ago? Would you care to elaborate?

P: That's what George Orwell called the homosexual subculture. "Sluttish." He's right. They think anyone can be a homosexual, if they just have enough faith. That's what antinomianism means, having faith in faith. And they'll do anything to spread their sick faith, just like a slut.

(Doctor's note: The patient lapsed into complete incoherence at this point.)

DOCTOR'S DIAGNOSIS: The patient has extensive delusions which are centered on an exceptionally strong desire to return to what he considers a superior past. This period in the past is characterized by a strong desire for respect and for obedience to his strong identification with the military and his desire to have homosexuals and women returned to a status of clear inferiority. On a deeper level, his delusions are probably based on a deep-seated hatred of women: he equates male homosexuals with women ("sluts") and exhibits considerable hatred for both groups.

This patient's illness is not uncommon. There are a great number of men, especially white men, who yearn for a return to the days (the 1950's are the most commonly chosen period) when their faith in their imagined superiority was unchallenged. Their illness is symbolized by their inability to accept the redefinition of the word "people" to include women.

Prisoner details harassment at county jail

Post-Note: We've printed a lot of articles about shocking goings-on in the old McLean County jail-- beatings of prisoners, the black box, the stand-up cell, etc. But in prison, there's also the day-to-day denial of rights that most of us take for granted, and that is what this prisoner talks about.

 When I got busted back in December, 1976, I had the opportunity to stay at Sheriff King's Hotel. I was in there for 3 months, some of the time in the old county jail, then the new county jail when they had the transfer.

When I was in the old jail, I ran into a problem one morning. It was sheet and towel day, so I passed in my stuff. When the guard came back on the North Side for count, I had one towel I was using for a pillow. You're issued only one towel, but a guard had given me an extra one and forgot about it. The guard who was counting asked me where I got the extra towel, and I told him it was given to me one day when I went to the doctor.

After that he left, only to return an hour later with another guard. He told me to get up and give him all of my cigarettes, magazines, books, and matches. I asked him what the hell was going on and he said, "We're here to lock you in your cell." I would have swung on him, but I wouldn't stand a chance with King's Klan.

I asked the guard why I was getting locked in my cell and he said cause I had an extra towel. After that they shook me down and found a pack of cigarettes I stashed. I waited until the next day, then started raising hell and beating on the bars cause there was no excuse for locking me in my cell. The guards came back and took me out, then put me in a cell in the holdover with no blanket and only a mattress on the floor.

When they wouldn't let me out, I cut my arm. Just a cut that would get me to the doctor and let me tell him what was going down. Only it turned out that the doctor was one of King's Klan. He put a band aid on my arm, then told the guard to take my shoes and comb. Then I was locked back up.

I lay down for a while and fell asleep. Now check this out: a big guard who was still wet behind the ears came in the holdover. He came back to my cell and told me to stand up and stick out my arms. I asked him why, and he said, "Just do it, smart ass." I took my arms out of my sleeves, which I was using for warmth, and he

looked at me and smiled and said, "OK, see ya later." Every half hour he would come in with another guard, laughing, and tell me to stick my arms out. Just when I would get a little warm and half asleep, he would come in.

The next day they took me to Brokaw Hospital to see Dr. Bey. He asked me what my problem was, and I told him I didn't have any problem. I said the best thing he could do for mewas to set up appointments for the nutty guards at the county jail. Dr. Bey is a Psychiatrist.

They took me back to the jail and locked me up again. That night, we were transferred to the new jail and I was put back with the other prisoners.

The new jail has six-man cell blocks. I wasn't out of my cell too long; then I was locked up again, this time for LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW. I was looking out of the window and a guard saw me and told me to get away from the window.

I asked him if it was against the law to look out the window. He said, "I'll fix your ass," then came back with a sergeant. He told me to get in my cell and I told him to get ----- I figured if they were going to lock me up this time, it would be for something. I did go along then, though, cause about five more guards came back. I knew

I was going to beat my charges in court and I didn't want to go back to the streets all scarred up. So this time I was locked up for five days in my cell.

I did beat my charges in court. I was found not guilty, only I wasn't released until the next day. A guard that didn't dig me told me I wasn't going anywhere until my parole officer was contacted. I finally got hold of my P.O. the next day at 11:00 A.M. and was released.

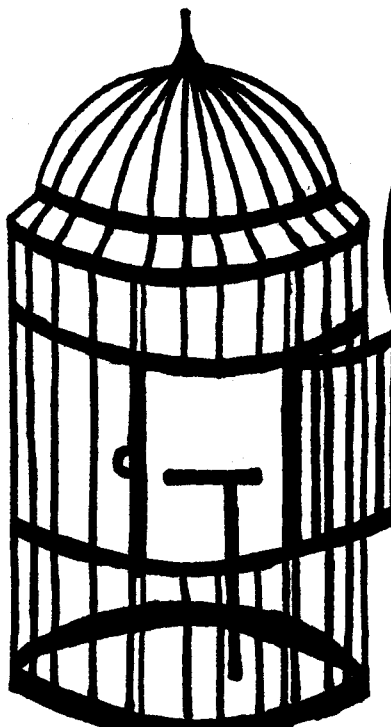
I had to find the right guard to give me a phone call, a young female guard. Bad thing about it is, I was back in the county jail 25 days later on a parole violation. Lucky for me I was only in there for five days; then I was transferred to Joliet. But in those five days, I had a hassle the night before I left.

The same big guard I mentioned before came in my cell at 2:00 A.M. and told me to shut up. Thing is, I didn't even say anything to him. Now that I think about it, I wish he would have hit me cause I would have tried my best to knock him out. I was on my way back to prison so I didn't have anything to lose.

But don't worry, people, Big Boy don't work at the county jail anymore. Take some advice if you ever get busted: try like hell to bond out.

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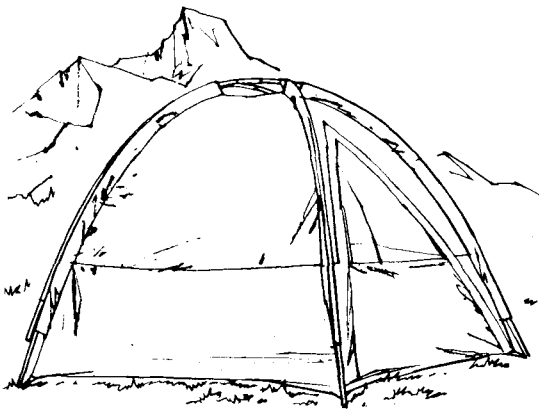
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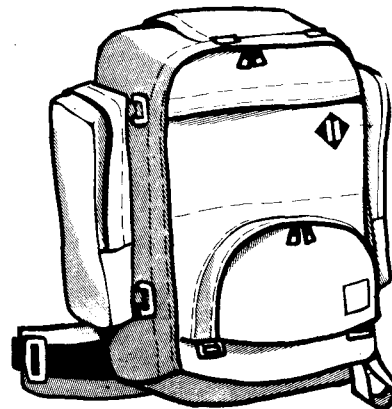
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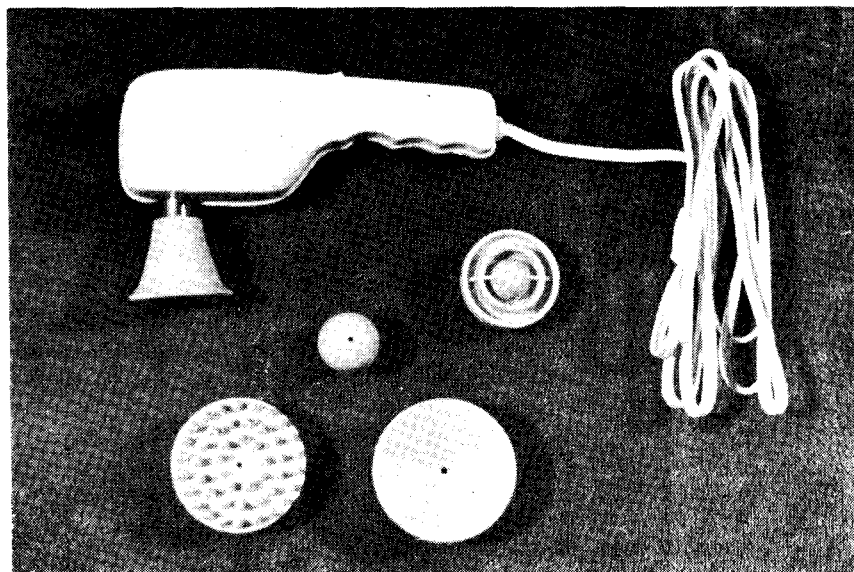
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SMALL CHANGES



Small Changes Bookstore located at 409A N. Main St. in Bloomington, finally has a sign. Our thanks go to Lisa Kuhn, who put a lot of hours into making it.

For those of you who don't know us, we're a non-profit alternative bookstore run by a collective of 5 women.

At Small Changes you'll find used books for a quarter, women's records, books by and about women, alternative health and living books, gay, movement and how-to books (how to be a beekeeper, for example) and lots more. If you can't find what you want, we'll special order it, and maybe order some for the store, too.

--Ann

P.S. If everything goes as planned, we should have alternative magazines (Country Woman, Seven Days) by next month.

happenings

Re: J.P. Stevens--

Tues Oct. 25 Film "Testimony: Justice vs. J.P. Stevens" Barbara Merrill of Amalgamated Textile Workers will speak, followed by a reception at the University YMCA, Urbana, Ill.

RE: Kent State--

Fri., Oct., 14 Rally on U of I quad in the afternoon by "The Independent Kent State Move The Gym Support Committee"

Oct. 15, midnight--candlelight vigil on quad, U of I.



anita
 bryant
 revue

Great American institutions need constant support and care to grow and stay strong (like space in a Radical Newspaper). And we all know that the Gay movement is a well established American institution, here to stay.... So here are some lines to keep us laughing and gay.

"California orange juice growers don't care what else you eat."

Letter to the Florida Citrus Commission: "Due to Anita Bryant's vicious attack on homosexuality I am switching to eating prunes. -I will send you the results in a few weeks."

To keep this monthly (hopefully) column going send in any humorous lines you have gathered to the P.A.

UFW Supporters re-energize

The Normal-Bloomington United Farm Worker Support Group has begun to gather its forces after the long summer months. Supporters continued to boycott non-union head lettuce, table grapes and all Gallo wines in addition to demanding the Union label in food stores.

A major portion of the incentive for regrouping was provided by a decision from the Third Constitutional Convention of the UFW held in Fresno, CA., August 26-28 to send an organizer to as many towns with major universities as possible. Gary Clements from the Chicago Boycott was sent to Central Illinois to spend three weeks at campuses in Normal-Bloomington and Champaign-Urbana.

Clements began work in this area with an educational seminar on Sept. 26. The well attended seminar began with a brief history of the Union, followed by the film "Why We Boycott" and an update that included news of an election taking place that very day.

Another decision from the convention, concentrate one by one on the large growers who have already had elections, gave the group a direction for action. Mailgrams to put pressure on growers to begin negotiations and efforts is to raise funds for workers on strike were set as priorities. The present target is the O.P. Murphy Co., a tomato ranch which produces year-round in the Salinas Valley. The UFW won an election there in 1975 with certification completed by March of 1977 and Murphy refuses to recognize the UFW as a union and continues to harass known supporters among his workers.

A second meeting, October 3, broke the large group into five committees to work out details for the first fundraiser, a coffeehouse, planned for early November.

So, through educational seminars for the community, pressure through mailgrams, and fundraisers, the Normal-Bloomington Support Group proves itself not only alive but very much active in keeping the Twin Cities informed. It also provides an opportunity for everyone to demonstrate support--via the fundraisers.

For donations of time, ideas, and/or money, or more information, call 452-5046.

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De-Grade the Grading System

It gives you knots in the stomach, pains in the head, terrible remorse, and sweaty palms. If your best sweetheart gave you those symptoms with such regularity, your friends would tell you to dump the turkey.

I think we should dump the grading turkey, too. The hell with the corporations and graduate schools who use college grades to decide who to hire. Let them make up their own tests to see how much you know. They can afford it.

People in this world put in hours of study and work to learn carpentry, cooking, comparative religion, linguistics, tennis, political philosophy, bicycle repair, French, lead guitar, chess, double crostics, electrical wiring, nutrition, bridge, biology, and bee keeping. And more. And they do it without grades.

They do it because they've freely chosen the subjects (and notice that those subjects aren't all "relevant" or connected with "real life"). They do it because somewhere along the way their interest and curiosity awoke and grew and became a real heartfelt desire to learn something. And if they pursue that knowledge, they experience the most joyful work and the most profound satisfaction ever. And if they aren't able to pursue it, they feel thwarted and bitterly disappointed.

Compare that with the system of learning at the university. You go there, and your awakened interests and curiosities are secondary--because they're probably not the Right ones.

No one tries to get you to shake off the shadows of your parents; teachers; and friends' interests, and really think about what you're curious about. Instead, the university picks out some nice varied interests for you and promises to let you loose on what you really like in a couple of years.



Hah. By that time they've got you so nervous about your blasted career that you'd deny yourself a whole smorgasbord of luscious ideas if it was spread out in front of you. And you know why you're not hungry? Because you've Eaten the Whole Thing!

The Whole Thing consists of a combination of these beliefs: that you will surely get a highly paid job if you get good grades in college. That you will surely be happy with a highly paid job. That you will be unbearably miserable with a low-paying job. That you will certainly have to settle for a low-paying job, or--gasp!--no job at all, if you do not get good grades. That you are quite likely to starve to death if you don't acquire a highly paid job. That you will positively pine away without a new Lincoln, a Marantz amp, and a Fox 'n' Hounds haircut. That every respectable authority up to and including God believes that you should--yes, morally should--go to college, get good grades, and get a highly paid job.

How about all that joyful work and profound satisfaction? Is that what you feel as you drearily smudge the lines of your ill-written text book with a 69-cent yellow magic marker to keep yourself from falling asleep? Is that what you feel as you

sit in the twentieth row of a lecture hall, with your wet winter coat, your damp scarf, hat and gloves, your kleenex, five \$11.95 textbooks, your backpack, your Bic pens, your art portfolio, and three crumbling spiral notebooks that say "Love is..." on the front, squished into a two by two space with a puke-colored ten-inch formica square to write on? Is that what you feel the night before a test?

And finally, have you noticed your fellow students feeling thwarted when a class is cancelled? Have you seen their bitter disappointment when the professor says that there won't be time to discuss chapters ten and twelve? Have you passionately wished that your department would offer an even more advanced level of study? Probably not. In fact, to look at the university, you'd think that the most exciting thing about learning was getting out of it.

What a performance this is, on the university's part! What secret powers, to make your stomach shrivel at the mention of a midterm! What mesmerism, to compel you to sit huddled in the same dreary place at 8 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday! What sleight of hand, to conceal your own instincts from your concious mind! How do they perform such magic?

It's all done with grades.

--Phoebe Caulfield

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