

Northwest PASSAGE

Bellingham - Seattle Volume 17, No. 6: December 5 - December 19, 1977



SHOULD THE STATE HANG DON SNOOK?



Naming the Great Northwest: A New Short Story



Right-On Readers: Books for Children



Houston Women's Conference

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IN THIS ISSUE



★ Donald Snook has been on death row since July. In a significant article, the Passage examines his life, page 4.

★ The National Women's Conference in Houston: an on-the-spot report, plus details of the National Plan of Action, page 8.

★ Looking for a good book for a young friend? A panel of writers has compiled a list of non-sexist and anti-racist books for children, page 12.

★ Exciting new fiction: "Naming the Great Northwest," page 6, and poetry: "How Poetry Came Into the World, page 17.

Informed Sources	3	Views/Reviews	20, 21
Educator Interview	7	Energy Update	22
George Jackson Brigade ...	11	Connexions	23
Community News	14, 15, 16	Gimel Beth	24
Paper Radio	18, 19		

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Northwest PASSAGE

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Seattle:
1017 East Pike, 98122
phone: 323-0354

Bellingham:
1000 Harris, 2nd floor of
the Good Earth Building
P.O. Box 4105, 98225
phone: 734-6284

Bellingham

Rachel da Silva, Steve Fosler, Connie Czeschin, Judy Calhoun
David Henderson, Brian Siebel, Darol Streib, Eileen Kirkpatrick
Jim Hansen, Scout Mitchell, Kate Cranor, Lynda Siegel

Seattle

Chris Wagner, Doug Honig, Barbara Wilson, Ed Newbold, Martha Boland, Bill Patz, Larry Greenberg, Tracy Smith, Elliot Stoller
Diane Summerhays, John Burroughs, Bob Newman, Bill Corr
Chas Hanson, Christine Hurley, Spring Zoog, Michael Drew

Letters

Red & Black

Dear Friends,

On Saturday morning, November 26, we found the windows at Red and Black painted with swastikas. A few hours after the store opened, we received a threatening phone call. The caller (an unidentified male) said that unless we stop carrying material that is "against the Republic and Christianity", the harassment will increase; next the windows will be broken; then the store will be firebombed. In light of the fact that other tenants in the building could be hurt, we agreed it was proper to notify the police.

We are presently taking additional security measures to protect ourselves from further attack, at a considerable expense to the store. We would appreciate financial support from Red and Black customers and community members who can afford to help up foot the bill.

Most important, we want the community to know we will not be intimidated by verbal or violent threats against the store, and will continue our work as we have in the past.

Thanks for your support,
Red and Black Books Collective

Old Business

Dear Northwest Passage:

Roxanne Park's article on the Hildt-Marshall contest for Seattle City Council (*NWP*, 10-24-77) raised more questions than it answered in regard to the relationship between electoral politics and social change. The candidates were introduced as "two of the better candidates to come along in years", but the content of the article paints a picture of "business as usual".

Whatever the specific outcomes of elections, corporate and governmental bureaucracies (private and state capital) continue as the real centers of decision making and tend to retain their powers of initiative (or non-initiative). If people participate at all, it is usually defensive to prevent the worst from happening. Elections also inevitably involve political parties, and the history of parties, whether socialist or otherwise, is one of institutional aggrandizement and perpetuation of the division of society between a minority of order-givers and the vast majority of people who carry out the decisions of those in power.

If a qualitatively different society is to come about, it will be through liberating transformations of family, peer groups, schools, voluntary organizations, neighborhoods, and work places. These institutions structure how people react to the events as well as initiate them and are crucial to the emergence of a self-managed socialist society.

Jack Lattemann

Simple Review

Dear Passage Workers:

I'm writing now to comment on Robert Marquee's review of *Max Havilaar*. I found his analysis of the film's politics very distressing: such simplicity is a lazy virtue at best. And this simplicity has led Marquee to find fault where there is none and to make outrageous comments either absurd, misleading, or just plain wrong. Now what is it that Marquee says?

First, he finds that *Max Havilaar* is "on the surface, at least...an attack on Dutch colonialism." This is misleading and Marquee's first mistake. Colonialism is not the real subject of this film. It is more the context, the exotic background for the protagonist's actions. (For a film explicitly concerned with colonialism, see *Burn*, starring Marlon Brando.) And the real concern of *Max Havilaar* is, to use the movie-poster cliché, "the story of one man's fight against the system." Dutch colonialism is that system and the progressive-minded young diplomat, Max Havilaar, is that man.

(The other major concern perhaps is not immediately evident to American viewers because it has to do with the Dutch people and the place of the story of Havilaar in their culture. It is something like their *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.)

Because Marquee sees *Max Havilaar* as primarily a film about colonialism, he is led to the conclusion that the focus is too much on the main character. "But for all its posturing," says Marquee, "*Max Havilaar* depends too much on the notion of the moral superiority of the colonialists. There is too much of the 'white man's burden' in this film to

(continued on next page)

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make it an effective political statement." First, I can't believe that Marquee is accusing the film of "posturing," which is, in today's political lexicon, tantamount to calling someone a child murderer. And I can't believe that Marquee sees the film depending on the moral superiority of the colonialists. Does he believe that the hypocritical colonial governor was morally superior, that the two colonialist men abusing the native women when Havelaar arrived at the island were morally superior? Only Havelaar and his wife among all the colonialists display any signs of morality. And far from being the "flaw" of the film, this "dependence" on Havelaar's moral superiority is the main focus of the film.

Havelaar was a moral man who wanted morality directing his governorship. He tried to treat the East Indians with dignity and respect for their traditions. He tried to do this alone, he tried to do this without the direct support of the peasantry, he tried to do this without really understanding colonialism, without understanding what he was up against. Of course, Max Havelaar was defeated. The impossibility of his position, the inadequacy of his analysis, his place in history, as well as his moral correctness, are painfully obvious. But to see Havelaar's personal defects as defects of the film is too simple. His flaws are the film's strengths.

Marquee is wrong in this, too: Havelaar is not pictured as the person who will save the people. We know from the very first that Havelaar failed at that, we already know that he will save no one. But we also see that he has learned his lessons, lessons which his contemporaries studiously avoid. Perhaps, if we look deeply enough, if we avoid the easy condemnations our historical position affords us, we too might learn a thing or two.

Brad Beck

P.S. The paper looks wonderful! A definite sensual pleasure. All the other art articles were very good, especially the one on Punk, even though Luna's comment on myths sounded a bit like Jiminy Cricket singing "When you Wish Upon a Star."

Keep up the good work. The Passage is hardly dull, dry, and boring, or depressing, though it certainly is political.

Red School

Dear NWP,

The Left in Seattle is extremely fragmented; even non-sectarian socialists are divided up among diverse groups that differ less in their perspective than in the specific issues they work on the the specific constituencies they represent. At the same time there are numerous people who understand the need for pervasive social change, but for one reason or another, do not belong to any group at all.

This division not only weakens our movement, it makes it difficult for us to reach out to unradicalized segments of the population. We need a visible focus, a place where we can work together and that represents our strength to the rest of the community. This is the reason that we in the New American Movement are hoping, with the aid of many others, to set up a socialist school and center. Such a center would provide a vehicle for educating the population at large about our common politics and a visible alternative to the sectarian left.

We basically visualize a place, either in a store front or a house, with a room large enough for meetings and some additional

office and storage space. The center would be run by an independent collective made up of representatives of all involved groups as well as anyone else willing to put energy into the project, and financed by user fees, office rents, and donations. It would be located either in Wallingford or Capitol Hill, and would hopefully open by February 1st. NAM has been looking at places for over a month, and has already found some that would be suitable, provided there were others joining with us in this effort. The idea is definitely feasible.

For this reason we are calling a meeting on Dec. 11th at 6 pm at 806 N. Allen for interested people and groups to make plans for a center and school. If you wish to come to the meeting, or if you would like more information about the school or about NAM, call 632-7880, or 323-4640.

Michael Wold

A COMMENT BY THE PASSAGE

"We wonder to what ruling class sympathies you are attempting to pander by these blatant efforts to police your own pages."

a rhetorical question from from an "Independent Collective."

It happened this way. David Rockefeller walked in the room, pointed, and said,

"Cut it."

He handed over a thousand dollar bill.

"Thanks, David. Shall we adjourn to conference?"

We went into the standing bar equipped Passage conference room and adjourned to the sumptuous couches and hurriedly undressed. Our kisses were hot and heavy. Then David said,

"Remember 69?"

"Yeah, the year between Chicago and Kent State."

The tension was incredible. He came like a billion dollars.

Last issue in our letters column we ran a letter from "an Independent Collective" criticizing us for printing a letter from the George Jackson Brigade without noting that the letter had been edited. In fact, without noting that a ten point program of sabotage had been left somewhere on the floor.

For this they rightly, but perhaps too vindictively, criticized us. But printing their letter and our response to it, seemed to imply that the editing reflected a collective position of the NWP. It did not. The person who typed the letter, edited the section out. An

unfortunate example of worker control. It was left out after a debate in the office about what to do with the letter. The conflicting viewpoints were never resolved. The process reflected our overwork (No time to check all the pages for content.) and our lack of organization instead of "an arrogant and authoritarian posture" as the letter of criticism stated.

Since we are open collectives, and we are worker controlled, there is no "NORTHWEST PASSAGE." Or rather each one of us carries his/her own, and we try to bring them together. THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE we produce is far removed from our platonic ideals but in each issue we are getting closer. It's an exciting and frustrating task and we ask you to join us in it, to help us make it through this dark pre-revolutionary night.

David Henderson

What do you think about the Northwest Passage? We'd like to hear your opinions about articles, graphics, or anything else in the paper. Letters to the Passage are always welcome, and are read with great interest by the staff.

Informed Sources

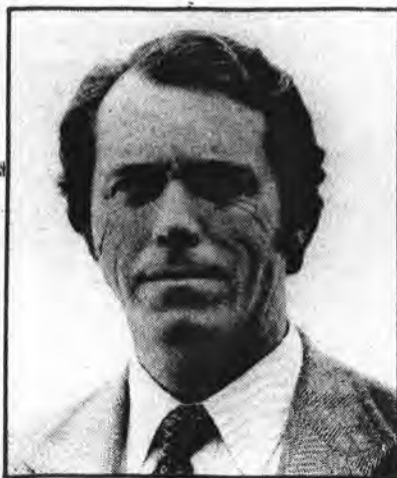
Not too long ago the Department of Transportation was talking up a passenger-only hydrofoil ferry program for the Sound. The Department hoped to have the craft scurrying between Seattle and Victoria by day, while serving commuters going from Seattle to Vashon and Suquamish in the morning and evening.

The plan is languishing, but not dead, because of fierce public opposition in Vashon, lukewarm support in Suquamish, and because of the questionable economics of the gas guzzling hydrofoils.

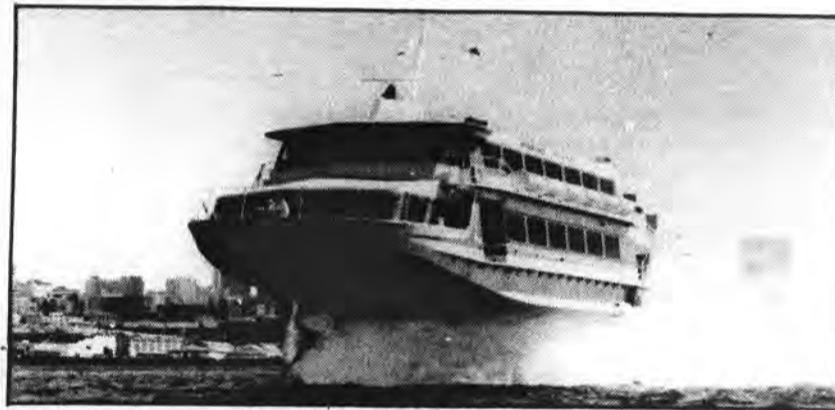
Meanwhile, Ken Balcolm, who directs the Orca killer whale study is wondering why nobody from the Department ever got in contact with him about the possibility of a collision between whale and hydrofoil, and precautionary action to prevent such an occurrence.

(The danger is real: a Navy hydrofoil killed a grey whale off southern California and in Venezuela two collisions between the Boeing-built craft and marine mammals involved human fatalities.)

"I don't know if anyone in the ferry system has given it much



Jack Cunningham



Hydrofoil: headed for a collision?

thought, but if they did, they never bothered to ask us anything about it," said Balcolm.

The Orca Study, based in Friday Harbor, is tracing killer whales in their jaunts about the Sound, studying their distribution and population dynamics.

Jack Cunningham, newly elected Washington congressman, from the 7th district, is lining up to oppose the new Panama Canal Treaty, which will come before the Senate and may see House action as well.

Informed Sources has learned that the congressman feels it is a "give away" and what is worse, a Cunningham staffer informed our source, "We are not only giving it to them, but we are paying them to take it." (Rent payments under the treaty increase from \$2.3 million to \$10 million per year.)

Other members of Washington's congressional delegation (Jackson, Magnuson and Pritchard) haven't made up their minds, or mustered the courage to speak them. Lloyd Meeds, however, is cautiously leaning toward supporting the treaty.

For a look at how the Panama

Canal Zone became ours to "give away", turn to page 18.

Harley Hoppe, King County Tax Assessor who lost last month in his bid for King County Chief Executive, is not planning ever again to seek a higher office. This can be viewed as good news to people opposed to the objectification of women as sexual commodities. The mannequin pictured below adorned the front window of Hoppe's campaign headquarters during the race.



Harley's Angels

Photo by Elliot Stoller



photo Dennis Dimick - Walla Walla Union Bulletin

Man on Death Row: An Intimate View of Don Snook

Bill Patz

"It is the poor, the sick, the ignorant, the powerless and the hated who are executed." --Ramsey Clark, former U.S. Attorney General

"He is a very intelligent, warm and beautiful man when they let him be real. What the state did to him on the third floor mental health unit, and in other places is way beyond belief, and it is not something one just gets over. When he remembers that, I can see the rage in his eyes even though he smiles. . . . If anyone should be hung, it should be the State of Washington, and every son of a bitch in this state that plays with people like that, and like they still are with others." --Carl Harp, W.S.P. prisoner describing Don Snook

The first time I saw Don Snook's name was about a year ago on a press release that I picked out of a pile of mail in the Passage office. I remember it having to do with a man who said he was literally being tortured in an American prison. It sounded more like something from the Phillipines or Chile. I guess I either felt helpless to do anything or just didn't believe it, for I set the press statement back down to be absorbed in the ever-shuffling of office papers.

The next time his name came up was a phone call this Fall from his defense committee asking us to give Snook coverage. This time he had been sentenced by a

Walla Walla court to hang for the murder and rape of another prisoner at the Washington State Penitentiary. He needed publicity and support. I paid more attention this time, though at the moment I was unaware of how very interrelated the two incidents were.

BRING BACK THE DEATH PENALTY

Donald Snook had been sentenced to death. I had almost forgotten that this state had re-established the death penalty. In 1975 the voters had passed the capital punishment Initiative, 316. By the time I went to talk with members of the Defense Committee, however, I knew a little more. Actually, Washington now has two death penalties on its books. The 1-316 version, and one passed this spring in the legislature when it was feared the former was vulnerable to a constitutional challenge.

The basic legal controversy concerning capital punishment which prompted action by citizens and legislature goes back to a significant U.S. Supreme Court ruling in 1972 (*Furman vs Georgia*). The Court's ruling effectively made the death penalty on most state books unconstitutional. The laws, as written, did not insure against arbitrary decisions being reached by juries and judges. Evidence presented by capital punishment opponents had shown that non-white people (mostly black) and poor people (almost exclusively) were the ones who ended up receiving death sentences, and then again in similar proportions were actually executed. The Court determined that no clear standard for insuring the practice of non-discriminatory senten-

cing and killing was being provided. This was very insightful, but typically ignored the fact that economic, racial, and sexual prejudice exists in the entire legal system, not to mention society.

But the Court did not rule capital punishment per se to be unconstitutional, and following the '72 decision, state legislatures and citizen groups avidly went to work to devise laws that would circumvent the Court's ruling. Washington's present laws were part of this movement to bring back the death penalty.

Don Snook's Defense Committee believes that use of the death penalty is "simply society's cop-out from dealing with its social problems as well as another weapon used against poor people and minorities." The focus of their attention, however, is on Snook's treatment as a prisoner. Phil Gerard and John Rowe are members that I talked to. Generally attacking the trial itself as being unfair, they maintain that "Don's trial should never have been held in that town at that time." For one thing says Gerard, "the people around Walla Walla and the local press are generally contemptuous of the prisoners at the penitentiary." He thought a recent statement by the state representative from the area, Gene Struthers, characterized the general attitude. The major newspaper, the *Walla Walla Union Bulletin*, quoted Struthers as suggesting that "stricter enforcement of prisoners is needed . . . Walla Walla (pen) is not one of those places where you have much chance for rehabilitation, because those guys are three-time losers before they even get there."

Besides regarding them as losers, Gerard maintains, at the time of Snook's trial "people were more hostile than

usual." Starting on July 18th, the trial came only seven weeks after the longest prison strike (47 days) in state history had ended. During the strike most media coverage featured the prison administration's contention that the men had to be locked round-the-clock in their cells, because the situation was so 'dangerous'. (The story told by the prisoners, however, was that they collectively were refusing to come out as their only means of protest.)

Don Snook, coming to trial for murder and rape, was one of those 'dangerous' men. "Not only that," points out Gerard, "Don is gay, and his homosexuality was played up by both the prosecution and the press . . . 'Why else would he rape another man!?' . . . The other strikes against Don were his reputation as an 'uncooperative inmate' and the fact that he'd been convicted the previous year of murdering another prisoner. (Though we believe this charge should have been either manslaughter or assault and is under appeal.) . . . From the press coverage of the trial, the picture most people saw of Don Snook was the prosecution's description of a man who went around with 'his eyes lit up', 'bragging' of his crime. Not mentioned was the fact that only one person witnessed him 'bragging' of a crime he supposedly tried to cover up."

Amidst the publicity and sensationalized aspects of the case the jury went unsequestered. Beneath all this, though, just who is Don Snook? The state, of course, and the media establishment know him to be a tough con, unpredictable and capable of killing. The image isn't entirely undeserved. Snook himself admits to having done his part to foster it. In letters he has written to friends he describes himself as feeling personally insecure at times and alone, and on occasion extremely angry, even violent. He acknowledges he has acted like a clown and bully at times, and of his "reputation as a nut . . . This was my way of saying to others, accept me . . . Sick, I know."

The other side of Snook is that he's a sensitive person. He is trying very hard. He is growing in awareness of his own problems and others. "I will not stop fighting the injustices of this prison even though I may die." From talking to John Rowe of the Defense Committee, who knows Snook personally, and from the letters he has written to friends and to me, I have learned more about Don Snook the man, who the state is willing to execute.

GROWING UP IN AMERICA

When Don Snook was eleven he knew that he was "different." He was gay—a knowledge he couldn't articulate, but which was always there to undermine his self-image as he learned how "a man" should be. "My parents wanted me to be 'somebody they could be proud of,' Snook writes. "I'm not sure what they wanted exactly. . . . My dad was a captain on the Vancouver police force. . . . My mom? When I started getting in trouble for drugs and fighting in school, she said something must have happened to me when I was little and fell on my head. . . . They still don't know I'm gay."

When Snook was 15 he was banned from the Olympia school system for his continual fighting. He was sent to Cascadia Diagnostic Center and then Greenhill Correctional Center. This first taste of institutional life reinforced his isolation and alienation. He ran away frequently. He was 17 when the authorities brought him back and offered him a choice of either a prison stint at Monroe "Reformatory" or joining the Marines. (His parents had already signed papers necessary for an under-age inductee). Snook says he was "patriotic" when he joined up in 1970. "Then after 6 months I freaked and was discharged to the VA hospital's psych ward."

Rowe, who has counseled with vets and ex-prisoners for several years, elaborates: "At first Don liked the Marines. They played up those very qualities which he had always emulated—toughness, violence. He was in a special division—the Seals. . . . I've known of units like his, which taught special tactics of killing and torture. . . . to get information from prisoners. . . . not to mention that it is all presented in an air of racism and sexism. . . . Someone like Don, who has never had much self-confidence, finds himself being praised for being. . . . well. . . . an animal. . . . He gets into the Marine role, the status, the acceptance for being violent, but then without a strong vision of himself as more social, can't turn it off."

People who dominate or harm others suffer a certain kind of personal violence themselves. They believe they can get real emotional sustenance from violence, from

winning or from machismo. They can't. To Don Snook who had bought into this myth all his life, it took confinement in the VA hospital, where physical violence was done to him, to make him realize that he was being victimized.

"In the VA I received over 70 electro-shock treatments along with constant drug therapy. . . . I could hear their voices. . . . I knew they didn't really care. . . . Somehow I was able to keep from breaking."

Two and a half years later he was released. In a matter of months though, according to Snook, he got mad at his aunt, stole her car and she called the police. He ended up in the Washington State Pen at Walla Walla.

"I came to this place very young and scared. I knew I had to get a real bad ass reputation."

THE WORLD OF 'THE THREE-TIME LOSERS'

In prison Snook came across people, who at the bottom of the heap like himself, were fighting back—prisoners who later helped organize the strike; prisoners who were filing their own lawsuits. He started reading some of the radical newspapers and books that get passed around prison. But it was also a place where outward personal weakness made one fair game for physical and emotional demands of tougher inmates. "I came to this place very young and, as the term goes, very pink; I was scared. I knew, or thought I knew, that I had to prove myself and fast. . . . I felt I had to get a real bad ass reputation to keep others back and/or to impress others." Snook's bad ass reputation had one sure result. He ended up in W.S.P.'s Behavior Modification Program.

Throughout the country these Behavior Mod units are known for their brutality, in their attempts to break (rehabilitate) resistant prisoners. One such unit at Marion, Illinois gained notoreity, when prisoners there were able to persuade the U.N., national tv, and a Russian journalist to take a closer look at "human rights" in the U.S.

The doctor under whose charge Snook ended up was known to inmates as "Mad Dog" Hunter.

John Rowe describes what they did to Snook. "On and off for 18 months he was sent to BMP. Two weeks of crawling on the floor, wearing diapers, taking all food from a baby bottle. . . . Over a four month period he was chained to his cot. . . . often with arms raised above his head for as long as 18 hours. . . . Heavy doses of Thorazine and Prolyxin. . . . Hot and cold water treatments. . . . Being forced to piss and shit on himself because he couldn't move or was chained, and then beaten ('spanked') with a strap for doing so. . . . Taunts of 'Queer', 'Baby Queer' wafted above all this as if to remind him why he was so abominable."

This was in 1975. It takes one's breath away, but Snook was only one of many who have suffered at the hands of people like Dr. Hunter and guards willing to assist. Thanks to several prisoners who stood up to this treatment by filing suits, Walla Walla Legal Services, a liberal legal aid group, in 1976 was able to get the Behavior Modification Program shut down. Snook, too, later that year filed a legal suit.

It was during his period of treatment in the BMP, however, that Snook tread over that fine line of acceptable and unacceptable violence. He got in a fight that ended up in a man's death. It landed him his first murder rap, and moved him a step closer to death row where he is now. What happened is both tragic and bizarre,

yet understandable.

According to Snook, he learned that his lover, a young gay prisoner named Michael Brookshire was sleeping with another man. Jealous, Snook told him to quit it, but shortly thereafter came upon Brookshire and another prisoner in bed together. They broke up right then and there, and Snook told Brookshire he'd better not ever speak to or come near him again. The two moved apart in the prison, but sometime later Brookshire was moved onto Snook's tier, and as Don puts it "we got in an argument, I got mad, and choked him." Brookshire died 13 days later in the prison hospital.

Not denying that Snook was wrong in assaulting Brookshire, Rowe helps put this event into perspective.

"While Michael and Don had freedom in their relationship, they were pawns, too. At W.S.P. a prisoner can frequently choose who their cellmates are going to be by paying someone to move out, so a buddy or lover can move in. The man asks to be transferred, and the guards may oblige. The other person moves in. . . . Now the guards know exactly what's going on. They know who's sleeping with who, who's married, who's whoring around. They even use this knowledge to their own ends, for example moving a gay prisoner into a cell with a rowdy, defiant prisoner in hopes of sexually pacifying him. . . . They knew, everyone knew, about the breakup and Don's anger. . . . There was even a circulated memo directing guards not to allow the two together. . . . So shortly there after, why on earth did they move Brookshire back onto the very tier where Snook was. . . . You can get an idea of what an ill-favored prisoner is up against."

A JURY THAT WOULDN'T BE HUNG

Snook was by the end of 1976 a regular resident of the prison's Intensive Security Unit (segregation). It was at this time that he filed his suit against the Behavior Modification Program, and on January 12, 1977 it was accepted for a hearing before the District Court. Because of the lurid details, the suit got statewide broadcasting and newspaper coverage. Particularly embarrassing to the prison was a statement by program director Dr. William Hunter to the Walla Walla Union Bulletin saying that "the prison health program practiced (what he termed) a 'relearning program' (which) included bed-chaining and diapers." The legal suit's acceptance and the press coverage all followed 3 days after a prisoner and friend of Snook's, Gordy Noel, was found dead in his cell hanging by a sheet from the bars. Originally adjudged a suicide, it was not until Snook's suit hit the papers that he was charged along with another man of raping and then himself killing Noel.

The first controversial ruling in this trial came before it even began. In light of the atmosphere of hostility toward the prisoners following the strike, Snook's lawyers asked for a change of venue. It was denied, and the trial began July 18th in Walla Walla. Every person entering the courtroom save the jury, prosecution, and judge was bodily searched. There were armed guards in and outside the courtroom. The defendant and defense witnesses were shackled arms and legs. This trial was to see the tightest security ever called for in Washington. A special witness chair that could be bolted to the floor across the room from the jury was installed, so dangerous were these men deemed. To the defense's objection that the jury would be prejudiced by these 'precautions,' the judge ruled that instructing the jury to overlook them in finding their verdict would be enough.

The evidence seemed manufactured. Supposedly Snook and another man raped Noel, then went to shoot a game of pool. Following that, Snook came back to kill him so he wouldn't tell, and hang him with a sheet to imitate a suicide. The prosecution's witness learned all this when Snook "bragged" to him of the killing he had supposedly tried to cover up.

Apparently this prisoner was the only one Snook chose to tell. Also two men were alledged to have raped Noel, but the pathologist in the autopsy report was not able to verify that rape had occurred. The court seemed to assume it could have though. Gerard says this is an untenable interpretation because "by court standards rape of a man is just as

(continued on page 10)

Naming the Great Northwest

Chas Hanson

This is the story of how I first learned the name of something in the Great Northwest. Although I've lived here all my life I make no claim to knowing much about the things that clutter the Great Northwest. I will leave the wholesale identification of this region's flora, fauna, and geographic wonders to those Northwest writers who have recently moved here and know all about those kinds of things. For sure I can identify one thing in the Great Northwest and eventually I hope to show why.

By the Great Northwest I mean an area bounded by Oregon on the south, Hoquiam, Washington on the west, the Canadian border on the north, and the Cascade mountains on the east. This is my Great Northwest, the one I've lived in most of my life because I was too small to leave. The one I still live in because I don't know how to leave.

Any way I've lived all over this region and have had numerous hometowns such as: Bremerton (birthplace), Shelton, Bellingham, Tacoma, Longview, Vancouver, West Kelso, Toledo, Montesano, Stella, Gig Harbor, Port Orchard, Jauna, Fife, Milton, Belfair, Victor, and Seattle. You might say, "Gee, that boy's been around." But if you'd bothered to check a map of western Washington you'd soon realize all these places are no more than a couple of hours apart.

I have seen a lot of different views of the same locale. I've seen firs, cedars, occasional madronas and a whole bunch of trees whose leaves drop off in the fall. I saw a lot of brush beneath the trees and a lot of brush that was beneath nothing except a usually gray sky. At one point I learned the gray was clouds. I think I knew all along the rain came from the gray. Rain has also come down from blue skies but that's another story.

I've seen dairy farms, truck farms, berry farms, apple orchards and down by Chehalis I even saw a turkey ranch. Many Great Northwestern sights have disappeared under the trample of the east coasterner and the hated californian and if you missed them that's your tough luck. You should have grown up here, it was just grand.

Two things I never saw as a child were the Goldfinch, our state bird and the Western Rhododendron, our state flower. I did see their names on the handout sheets we received in school from which we memorized all the pertinent information about the Great Northwest. I had heard rumours that both the bird and the bush could be found up in the San Juan Islands. But I've never bothered to go up there and find them out.

I was eleven years old when I was sure that I knew the name of at least one thing in the Great Northwest. I learned the thing's name from Henry. Henry was Uncle Henry until he married my mother, then he became my dad, or sir. He was my step-father, and he was an ass-hole. I'm sure you are aware that step-fathers are often cast in the ass-hole role. And all that follows may seem tedious. But writing about the Great Northwest *is* hard work. So please, let me have some satisfaction, even if this satisfaction is only in the form of petty revenge.

I hated Uncle Henry not so much because of his cruelty, but because of the timing of his cruelty. He really had bad timing. He was always knocking me around when it suited him, not when the punishment suited the crime. By the time he got his knocking me around synchronized with my many misdeeds, it was too late. I had gotten big and could knock him around back. As a consequence I never learned from my mistakes and all he ever learned was that I was getting big enough to leave home, finally.

But six years previous to my leaving home I learned the name of something in the Great Northwest and as much as I hate to admit it, Uncle Henry taught me the name.

I don't think I learned the name from Uncle Henry because he possessed any special knowledge of the Great Northwest. No, I learned the name from



Uncle Henry because he had absolutely no fishing ability and he refused to admit it. I was an OK fisher for an eleven year old, but even if I'd been the worst eleven year old fisher in the Great Northwest, I'd never have been a match for thirty-one year old Uncle Henry.

We were vacationing at my soon-to-be a step-aunt's cabin. I loved my soon-to-be a step-aunt and she loved me. So much so that she taught me how to work crossword puzzles and how to play solitaire twenty-five different ways. We got along fine. She lived on the Puget Sound, on a small bay which will remain nameless, not because of any sense of propriety on my part but because I never learned the bay's name.

Uncle Henry and I climbed into the small wooden boat, a dingy for you nautical buffs, and I rowed out to where the big ones are. We had to catch a big one because Uncle Henry had promised everyone at the cabin, including four hunting dogs, a big one for supper. No one especially cared about Uncle Henry's promise for dinner. My soon-to-be a step-aunt had some steaks thawing in the sink and the hunting dogs just wanted their Tyrell canned dog food.

But there we were out in the middle of this unnamed bay. I was puffing from the strain of rowing. I still remember how hard it was to row Uncle Henry's fat ass around. He planted it in the stern of the dingy causing the boat to lift up from the water. This made my oar strokes barely able to scratch the surface of the bay. I rowed back and forth, back and forth. Uncle Henry called this trolling just like a real sportsman. I did have breaks from this rowing or trolling, however. I got to quit whenever Uncle Henry needed his bait changed or whenever he snagged his trolling gear and lost it. Then I, because he didn't know how, had to replace all the flashers and spinners and multiple hooks and crap Uncle Henry deemed necessary to catch a big one.

The day was growing late and still no bites. I decided to try closer to shore, where we probably should have been all along. I remember gliding over one of those big stumps that is submerged by high tides. The kind of stump that sinks down into gloomy depths and makes me wonder what kind of unspeakably creepy creatures are sitting under it laughing at my fear.

Uncle Henry finally had a strike. He jerked so hard on my fishing pole, trying to set the hook, that he almost fell out of the boat. Somehow, the fish kept the hook in its mouth. Then Uncle Henry became the dingy's navigator as well as a sportsfisherman and family provider.

He had me turn the rowboat left, then right, then left again. Then right, "No I said left, left!" Until the fish, disgusted with our act, broke the surface by the dingy and slapped the water. Uncle Henry cried, "Cutthroat! see that red slash under its gill? It's a goddamn Cutthroat trout!"

The Cutthroat trout then ran under the boat, cut Uncle Henry's line and was gone.

Uncle Henry's lower lip stuck out, much farther than his upper lip. He looked like he might be practicing to use that lower lip as a landing net in case he ever again hooked another big one. He didn't have anymore bites that day, nor any other day that I know of.

He, of course, blamed me for the loss of his Cutthroat. I could tell because on the way back to the cabin he would not look at me and he kept mumbling, "Cutthroat, a goddamn Cutthroat." Then back at the cabin he told everyone in many words the loss of the big one and their dinner was, indeed, my fault. No one seemed to care. My soon-to-be step-aunt had already prepared the steaks in a manner termed by my soon-to-be step-uncle as ala-burnt-to-hell and the dogs were lying in front of the t.v. their bellies full of Tyrell's.

Anyway that is how I learned the name of the Cutthroat Trout. The first thing I could name in the Great Northwest.

Chas Hanson, regular staff member of the NWP and ace angler, works as a teacher's aide and is currently writing a detective novel.

I am often asked whether I approve of compulsory education. I usually reply that I do and that I wish we had it; we have only compulsory attendance.

John Bremer

In 1968 Philadelphia's public schools faced a problem: they didn't have enough space for high school students. In answer, the idea arose to dispense with the traditional school building and instead hold classes in libraries and museums along the Ben Franklin Parkway.

To implement the idea, the city turned to John Bremer, a British educator who had headed a community-controlled school district in New York. As its Director, he helped expand the Parkway Program far beyond its original concept. His aim was not simply to relieve crowding, but to provide a different kind of education, one that would break down the barriers between school and the community.

Parkway began in January of 1969 with 143 students (chosen by lottery) and 9 teachers. Regular academic offerings were joined by a wide variety of courses ranging from Law Enforcement to Modern Dance, from Film Making to Clipper Ships. Professional people from the community often taught classes in their specialties. Typically, a leather craftsman taught his/her art in his/her own shop, and a reporter taught journalism in the *Evening Bulletin* office.

Blessed with creative teachers and turned-on students, Parkway flourished. The June, 1969 lottery drew 10,000 applicants. The program expanded to 500 students, and course offerings mushroomed to 250. Educators came from all over the world to study the "school without walls." Parkway came to serve as forerunner for hundreds of publicly-sponsored "alternative schools."

Bremer left Parkway in 1970. He later served as Commissioner of Education for British Columbia under the New Democratic Party government. He now teaches at Western Washington University in Bellingham, where he was interviewed by the *Passage* about his philosophy of community-based education.

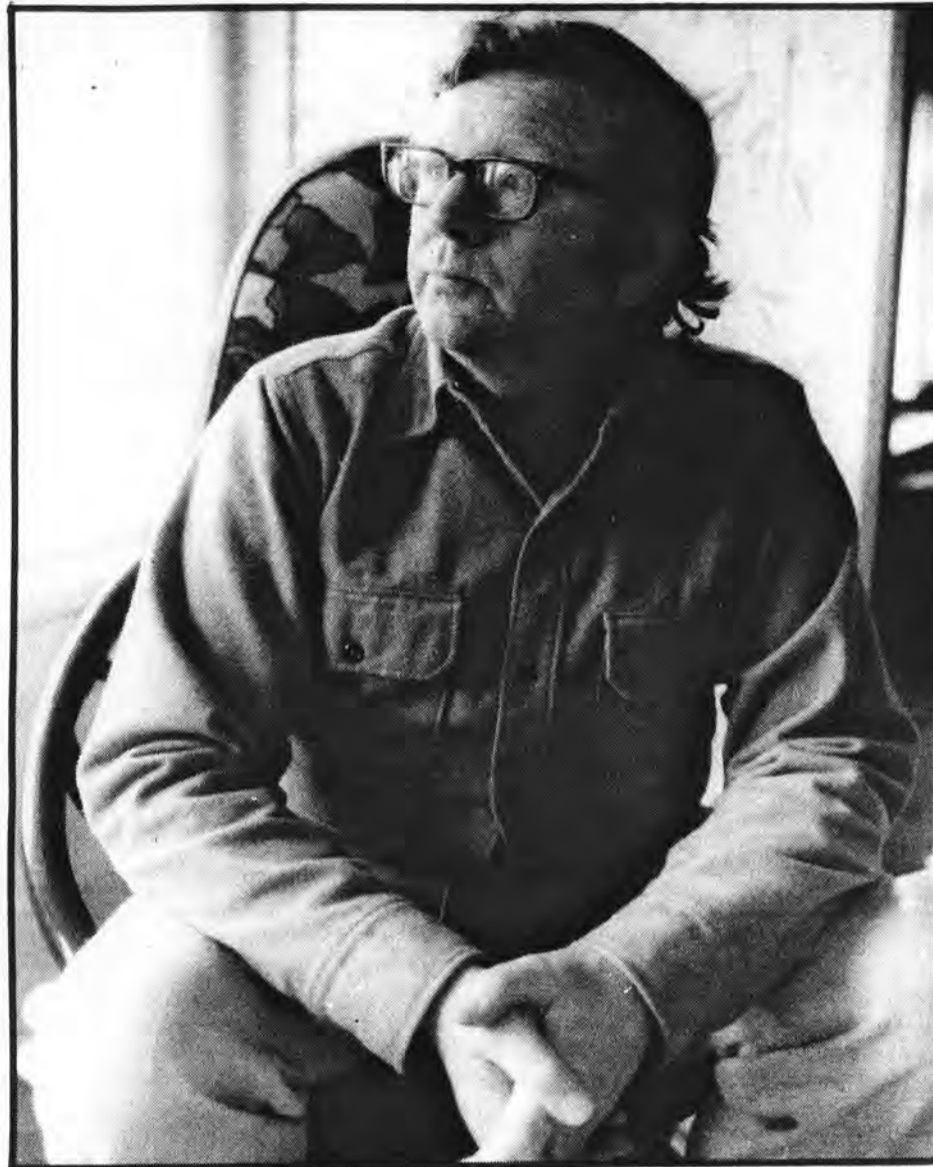


photo by Michael Drew

John Bremer on...

School Without Walls

American Education: Our schools imagine that students learn best in a special building separated from the larger community. Within this separated refuge, students are expected to learn in so-called homogeneous groups known as classes; and within these classes, students are isolated from each other by the seating arrangement and the competition for approval. It is seldom that they are allowed to cooperate in a systematic, friendly manner.

Finally, within these "boxes"—the school houses and classrooms life is self-reflecting, with no relation to anything outside of itself. And so it becomes a fantasy, it becomes unreal. It is a common feeling that what is learned in school is only learned for the purpose of school. This is the well-known irrelevance of education.

How to Organize Schools: Everyone talks as if buildings, finances, curriculum, books, and so on were the real problems of education. Actually, the critical issue is the social organization of education. At Parkway, I found the absence of a building a blessing. If you start with schools in boxes, all you can do is put people in boxes.

The City as School: The city should be viewed as community property. That is, the city belongs to us all. (By "city" I mean wherever one lives and whoever we live with.) Obviously I don't mean that individual pieces of property are not now owned privately. But it's amazing what percentage of cities are publicly-owned— for example, streets and roads and the access to buildings. Students need to make use of these areas for their education.

A lot of people in the city have technical expertise—they understand logging, warehousing, finances, etc. Students will learn a lot more by going out into the city and meeting all these people. You make these people realize they have an obligation to help students.

In Philadelphia, I used to get calls all the time from people offering to teach courses. Most hadn't realized till then they had something to offer. They were glad to give some of their time as long as they weren't called "teachers." From my experience, I even think it would be feasible to run an entire school system on a community-based approach.

Education for Urban Renewal: We talk about reviving the cities, about urban renewal. Unfortunately, urban renewal comes to be seen as shopping malls—the idea that we need to resurrect the downtown area so the people will shop there.

The real problem is social renewal. We need a greater sense of cohesiveness in our society. You can't have successful urban renewal without it. You can put up new buildings, but they'll be just as dead as the old ones.

You have to take the notion of community-based education very seriously if you want to make city living viable. If students saw that they could make a difference to the city—that it was theirs, that they did have a part to play in it—they would contribute a lot of energy to the renewal people claim they want.

Alternative Education: "Alternative education" is just a label. All true education is a matter of alternatives. Education is a free act by a learner. There is only freedom when the learner can make choices.

The whole concept of Parkway was that different people learn and teach best in different ways. You could be in Parkway and have a highly conventional, subject-dominated program. You could also be in Parkway and never take a conventional course. Or you could sometimes take one, sometimes the other, or be involved with both sorts of programs simultaneously.

I regret that a lot of people have narrowed the Parkway idea. They've seen it as a way of dealing with students who can't learn in regular schools. Well, in one sense, no student can learn in a school building what he or she can learn out in the community. This sort of program should be available to everybody, not just your "hyperactive" student, slow student, or whatever.

Student Participation: You can turn people into observers, and that's what education has done for so long. But they must be participants, capable of making their own decisions.

Take the way we handle television. There is no systematic way children are helped to develop a critical awareness of television. That's almost criminal negligence.

It's important to introduce children to the process of television. They need to have inexpensive videotape equipment so that they can make their own programs, not just analyze the work of others. It breaks down the notion of people as passive receptors.

I see students' roles as that of artists, taking on the inherited past and seeking to create something new from it. They add to, purify, and recreate society.

Education and Politics: All education is political in the sense that it teaches people whether or not they're expected to make a contribution, how to do it, with whom to do it. We tell our students all the time about the virtues of good citizenship. It seems to mean keep quiet, be obedient, don't make waves. That's crazy, especially in a democracy.

Unfortunately, some people see community-based education mainly as a way to provide vocational education on the cheap. Now I want people to be able to make a living. But before we are butchers, doctors, or whatever, we are citizens. If we don't learn how to be citizens, all the rest doesn't matter.

Interview conducted by Doug Honig



Photo by Daily Breakthrough

*National Women's
Conference 1977*

HOUSTON: AN INSIDE REPORT ON THE NWC

By Michelle Celarier

HOUSTON—Government speakers called it a "turning point in history". It was billed "American Women on the Move", the first congressionally-mandated National Women's Conference (NWC) in this country. An outgrowth of the 1975 International Women's Year observations, it was the largest gathering of women ever in U.S. history. For four days and long nights in this muggy city dripping with the new wealth of oil, thousands of women from all 50 states and U.S. possessions met. They met in caucuses and workshops, on stages filled with women's culture, in excruciatingly long lines waiting for the restroom or a cup of coffee, and in the Sam Houston Coliseum where 1,442 elected delegates debated and voted on 26 resolutions. On November 18-21 all issues of social concern, from alcoholism to world peace, became specifically *women's* issues.

It's been widely commented that the proposals women worked so hard to endorse have no legislative power. But the demonstration at Houston will not easily be dismissed. For those in attendance, it was a protest movement—despite its legitimacy. Grass roots activism, a display of media pageantry and some fine tuning of feminist theory due to right wing attacks cemented feminism's future in American politics.

A Majority Movement

Houston became a household word in women's circles last summer after state conferences for election of delegates were seized upon by the right-wing as fertile grounds for organizing. Attending a number of state meetings, they stated they represented a "majority" of women, women concerned about the family and Christianity and opposed to the ERA, child care, abortion and lesbianism. While they managed to elect

20% of the total conference delegates, 15,000 supporters held a counter-convention in the Astrodome Nov. 19. That number was at least matched by feminist observers at the NWC, whose numbers were estimated from 20,000 to 40,000. Women's groups across the country had held fund raisers to send women to Houston with one express purpose: to be there. Sheer numbers would prove that the women's movement itself was a majority movement, not just run by career women, female politicians and a handful of "radical lesbians", as the right wing so often stated.

And so they came. The diversity of women was spectacular in itself, an effective discreditation of the myths surrounding feminism. Women wore hardhats with both pro-ERA and pro-family emblazoned on them to counter anti-feminists who had chosen "pro-family" as their self-appointed name. Catholics for abortion passed out literature; buttons read "every mother is a working mother". A two-day long cultural event which attracted large crowds was produced without the IWY Commission's funding. A product of the burgeoning women's culture, it featured such artists as Washington's Maggie Savage, oldtime left folksinger Malvina Reynolds, Washington D.C.'s extraordinary black women singers, "Sweet Honey in the Rock", and conductor Antonia Brico.

The grass roots militancy of this variegated grouping of women became apparent as the decision-making of the plenary sessions evolved. With input from the state meetings, the IWY Commissioners had drafted 26 resolutions into what was called the "National Plan of Action". After approval by the delegates, the plan was to be presented to President Carter, pinpointing "barriers to equality" for American women. (See p. 10 for a summary of the plan.) A "pro-plan" move by conference leaders was originally endorsed by a number of state delegations (including Washington's) and various caucuses. The position was simple: make no amendments to the resolutions but pass them as is. Pro-plan activists said they feared the conservative forces would hang up debate with parliamentary pro-

cedure and that time could run out before all the issues were heard if special interest groups demanded stronger resolutions. It was an effective strategy; only one amendment was passed the first day of voting. Also, the gay caucus supported the plan to insure that the conference would deal with the issue of lesbianism which was fourth to the last on the agenda.

But not all caucuses were so agreeable. Concerned that no minority women had helped draft the resolution on minorities, that caucus demanded a stronger one. So did the caucus on "sex and poverty", which managed to push through a resolution on welfare which opposed President Carter's workfare program and recognized welfare as wages for women's work in the home.

Rural women also demanded a stronger plank. As one Idaho delegate said, "We live in a very conservative state. Back home they say we're rubber stamps. We don't want to be a rubber stamp of the IWY Commission. How can we go back and try to pass the ERA if we don't debate and differ instead of going along with it all?"

The NWC was constantly compared to national political conventions, and observers of both expressed amazement at this insistence by women to actually debate the issues. As Gloria Steinem said, "This does not happen at political conventions. When the Democratic Party presents the party platform, it's accepted. It's all worked out beforehand."

The largest visible pressure group of non-delegate status were lesbians. Prior to the "sexual preference" resolution, they carried balloons stating "We are everywhere" which filled the observation seats in the Coliseum. It had been questionable up until the conference whether the mainstream feminist delegates would support lesbian rights or retreat from the right-wing criticism that feminism, with the help of lesbianism, was destroying the family and undermining society. (Half page ads in Houston newspapers for the counter-convention showed a little girl asking the question: "Mommy, when I grow up, can I be a lesbian?")

During the debate, some women maintained that

supporting lesbianism would injure efforts to pass the ERA, which, after all, was the "primary goal" of the conference. But experienced veterans of the women's movement knew otherwise; lesbian support was not to be dismissed lightly. In a surprise statement, Betty Friedan spoke in favor of the resolution, admitting she'd been justly criticized as "anti-lesbian" in the past. Friedan, who consistently emphasized ratification of the ERA, said "This issue (lesbianism) has divided us too long", noting that "it will continue to be used against us." And while most liberal feminists could concede to it as a civil or "human" rights issue, lesbian author and theorist Charlotte Bunch pointed out the importance of erasing the stigma of the label "lesbian", as it is one which can be used to threaten all feminists.

The jubilation of the victory for lesbian rights was overwhelming; a candlelight vigil outside the Coliseum immediately ensued where women linked arms and sang, "Lean on me, I am your sister."

Media Pageantry

As moving as the candlelight vigil was, it was not the only show of media pageantry at Houston. One delegation of women waved banners with bras dangling from them which read "We didn't burn them." And when the abortion resolution was passed, right-to-lifers paraded around with pictures of dead fetuses. With 1,500 journalists in attendance, the press caught it all. They outnumbered the delegates for a number of reasons. The fight between women which was expected created a high level of news interest. And when it didn't happen, reporters resorted to interviewing men in the aisles: ("Why did you come to the women's conference?"), and criticizing the hotel accommodations.

Many who came to Houston also represented the developing feminist media, a substantial part of the women's movement. Instead of spending the entire time on the conference floor, they often could be found talking to exhibitors in the convention center, attending the numerous workshops on skill-sharing or taking in some women's culture (including a performance of the Broadway hit, "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf"). At any rate, press passes were easy to obtain. The IWY Commission had been criticized for not being open enough about the state meetings, and it was bending over backwards to make the national event accessible to everyone who was interested.

Including the Right Wing

By the time of the Houston conference the presence of the right wing, who'd been hurling all the criticisms, was mitigated. With a minor percentage of the delegates (including the all-white Mississippi slate which contained five men), they concentrated efforts on the counter convention which anti-ERA leader Phyllis Schlafly headlined. (Would Mary have left Jesus in a day care center? they demanded.) A few protestors urging feminists to repent marched in front of the Coliseum, and one scuffle between feminists and right-wingers was reported. On the conference floor, efforts were towards tolerance of the opposition views, at least from the chair. An attempt to unseat the Mississippi delegation was ruled out of order. Because of its racial composition the delegation could not adequately represent the state's population, agreed the Commission, though it added that the Mississippians should not be condemned for their political persuasions (such as alleged membership in the KKK).

Anti-feminists were still a vocal minority. Their lack of adherence to parliamentary procedure caused them to be cut off at the microphone repeatedly, an act which enraged them. When one delegate arose to oppose lesbianism, she'd barely got the "God in Heaven" out before the chair cautioned lesbian supporters who filled the Coliseum to "stay in order" and let her have her say. Anne Saunier, one of the most impressive women at the entire conference, chaired Sunday's meeting for nine hours with one break. Introduced as a housewife and mother of two from Ohio, she kept the almost carnival-like atmosphere inside the Coliseum at a minimum and demanded, at the outset, not to be addressed as "Madame Chairman" as had the previous chairs.

"You may call me Madame Chairperson, Chairwoman

or Chair," she said, "But I can never be a man."

If the anti-feminists had any positive effect on the movement, it has been to force feminists to more carefully define and broaden the women's issues. For instance, child care was often talked about as a way to save the family, especially as more women are forced into the workplace. And discussions with women from France and Israel about their child care programs were held. The resolution on homemakers actually gave them higher status and proposed economic security by demanding changes in social security and marital laws. And rather than presenting the issue solely as one of "choice" women speaking in favor of abortion criticized opponents for being concerned about the "right-to-life" only until the moment of birth. In addition to the refusal to bow to lesbian-baiting, these concepts indicated a certain sophistication of the movement—and they were getting national exposure.

It was an exhilarating experience to be with so many women of feminist persuasion, such different kinds of women, women who were recognizing their second class citizenship and demanding change. Walking down the exhibition aisles was like being in a candy store as a child; there was too much to choose from. The list of women's activities seemed endless, as did the piles of literature to be carted home. Every woman in government, including three First Ladies, addressed some portion of the convention at one time or another. Lectures by women in high government positions, entitled "Briefings from the Top" proved informative, though not particularly inspiring. Their presence commanded respect for the women's movement in the eyes of the government and the media, a whittling away of the image of "bra-burners". However, it was unfortunate that the history of the women's movement in the "official briefing book" totally discounted the efforts of the "women's liberation" movement which analyzed sources of oppression and engaged primarily in "consciousness-raising". Some credit must be given.



Photo by Michelle Celariér

The Unanswered Questions

The questions which remain are: who is this hodgepodge of women activists, where are they taking the women's movement, and can it ever hope to encompass a large enough group of women to force social change? With such gains as affirmative action, abortion and lesbian rights in jeopardy and women's wages still half those of men, the answers to such questions are critical.

The criticism of the mainstream women's movement from the left has always been that it is "white and middle class". But Houston presented a shift in that reality. The larger state delegations made special affirmative actions to elect delegates to represent low-income and minority women. Almost 25% of the delegates had incomes of less than \$7,000 a year, though that figure may include homemakers whose husband's incomes were not accounted for. Trade union women were under-represented, though, and after the first day of the plenary, the labor caucus chairperson commented: "You'd think there's no working women here. Everybody who gets to the microphone is either a housewife

or a professional." The conference's employment resolution was weak on talk of organizing women. But it did call for full employment, equal pay for work of equal value, and veiled support of labor law reform which would make organizing women into unions easier.

Still, there is a major change in the tone of the women's movement in 1977 with increased discussion about women as homemakers and in traditional fields of female employment. The strong welfare resolution is one indication. Another is the recent establishment of a "Commission on Working Women" to study women in the clerical, retail and service industries, those in which 80% of American women work. Certainly the emphasis on changing women's economic status by entering management, politics or other "non-traditional" or male-dominated fields prevails. But the fact that most women cannot do that (or may not even desire it) is beginning to gain a trickle of support.

Urging ratification of the ERA and numerous social reforms—including increased government services for battered women and abused children, women offenders, older women and victims of rape as well as those already mentioned—the women's conference set itself up for further attack from conservatives. Not entirely Bible-toting fanatics, the anti-feminists also decry the intrusion of the federal government into people's lives. Even the ERA is portrayed as some sort of legislation about sexuality.

Pandering not only to people's fears of change and indoctrinated sexism, the right-wing also caters to a prevalent mistrust of government among poor working people, who see their paychecks eaten up by taxes and probably receive few benefits from the state. Through its resolutions on disarmament and world peace, the NWC actually endorsed a whole restructuring of national priorities towards meeting the human needs it so aptly laid out. Whether the movement can successfully demonstrate to working and low income women that this combination is possible will certainly be one measure of its success.

Another will be a vision for implementation. Even a few of the delegates had some post-conference blues as they wondered what would happen to the "National Plan of Action". One woman expressed the common fear: "It's a little like telling Daddy what you want for Christmas."

The only resolution which was defeated was the proposed creation of a Cabinet-level women's department to consolidate all governmental agencies dealing with women's issues. The Department was also to serve as overseer of discrimination complaints, a clearing house for information and statistical data on women and would follow up the recommendations of the NWC: a permanent pressure group.

Spearheading the opposition was Friedan, who called the department an extension of the "ghettoization" of women. A closely debated issue, its opposition may have also come from a political fear that such a move was too radical. While the ghettoization theory holds some merit, there is also the chance that such a high level women's department could be extremely powerful.

Clearly some sort of continued unification which the conference signaled is necessary. It is necessary in order to expand the knowledge women have of each other's political experiences and knowledge, to reduce the bureaucratic duplication and, in the end, to build a stronger women's movement. It is simply necessary in order that "American women on the move" can keep moving.

The National Plan of Action

The following is the summary of proposals adopted:

Arts and Humanities: The president should require that women be allowed equal opportunities in federally funded cultural institutions, grant-awarding boards and in the granting of governmental funding.

Battered Women: Congress and state legislatures should expand legal protection and provide funds for shelters for battered women and their children, and change laws so that married women have protection from abusive husbands.

Child Abuse: The government should continue funding for treatment of abused children and states should provide additional services.

(continued on next page)

Houston Plan

(continued from page 9)

Child Care: The federal government should assume a major role in providing "comprehensive, voluntary, flexible-hour, bias-free, non-sexist quality child care." Collective bargaining agreements should be encouraged to contain child care provisions.

Credit: The federal government should vigorously enforce the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974.

Disabled Women: Present legislation covering disabled women should be enforced, and more should be enacted.

Education: The president should direct vigorous enforcement of laws prohibiting discrimination in education, and state school systems should eliminate sex stereotyping by reviewing books and providing special teacher training.

Elective and Appointive Office: The president, governors, political parties and other groups should work to increase the number of women in elective and appointive office with a goal of equal membership by 1985 on all state boards and commissions.

Employment: The president and Congress should support full employment and vigorous enforcement of anti-discrimination laws. Equal pay for jobs of equal worth to upgrade wages in traditional jobs should be instituted. The president should support labor law reform which would make organizing women into non-unionized jobs easier.

Equal Rights: Amendment should be ratified.

Health: Federal legislation should be passed to establish a national health security program, and expand the authority of the Food and Drug Administration. States should enact a patient's bill of rights. Drug and

alcohol abuse centers should treat the special needs of women.

Homemakers: Federal and state governments should base their laws relating to marital property, inheritance and domestic relations to recognize the contribution of each spouse. The government should develop programs to help displaced homemakers.

Insurance: State legislatures and insurance commissioners should adopt the model regulation to eliminate unfair sex discrimination on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

International Affairs: Peace and disarmament efforts should be intensified, with the U.S. initiating nuclear disarmament. Reconversion of the economy from military spending and sales to meet human needs should occur. Women political prisoners worldwide should be given their "human rights".

Media: The media should employ women in all positions and the government should continue to study the impact of sex role stereotyping in the mass media.

Minority Women: The government should recognize the double discrimination suffered by minority women on the basis of both sex and race. Specific problems include involuntary sterilization, poor employment and housing and failure of compliance with affirmative action guidelines. Special needs of American Indian, Asian/Pacific, Hispanic and black women are demanded attention.

Offenders: States should reform their sentencing laws and practices to eliminate discrimination in the treatment of women in penal institutions. Community-based institutions such as half-way houses should be instituted.

Older Women: Government should provide for a dignified life for older women, including housing, health care and no mandatory retirement; legislation should

be passed for displaced homemakers with Social Security recognizing their economic contribution.

Rape: Revision of rape laws, providing graduated penalties and recognizing rape of spouses; more funding for prevention and victim compensation should be instituted. Rape prevention and self defense should be taught in the schools.

Reproductive Freedom: Women support the Supreme Court decision providing for abortion, oppose legislation banning Medicaid abortions and demand sex education in the schools.

Rural Women: The president and Congress should establish a rural education policy to eliminate poverty and isolation; rural women deserve equal ownership rights. A presidential committee should investigate the problems of migrant workers, and programs should include all minorities.

Sexual Preference: Congress and legislatures should eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in employment, housing, public accommodations, credit and the military. Child custody rights should not be contingent on sexual preference; sodomy laws should be repealed.

Statistics: The government should provide more data on women.

Welfare: Congress should defeat President Carter's welfare reform proposals which would eliminate food stamps, CETA training and CETA jobs paying more than minimum wage, adequate day care and introduces "workfare" where welfare mothers would be forced to work off their grants-without wage, fringe benefits or collective bargaining rights. Welfare should be seen as wages for work in the home. Also, unions should actively organize women to upgrade pay and working conditions for women in traditional employment.



Michelle Celarier is on the staff of the NWP and writes on women and the labor movement.

Don Snook

(continued from page 5)

detectable as with a woman. Tissue tearage or swelling, and sperm are the usual signs." Lastly Snook supposedly offered another prosecution witness \$10,000 to knock off the prisoner he'd first confessed to. To this charge Snook, who maintains his innocence, responded, "Where would I get \$10,000?"

Snitches gain favors from the prison administration. That is why some take the risk (of being ostracized or killed by other prisoners.) They may get time off, early parole, or even instant 'freedom'. The star prosecution witness was transferred from segregation at W.S.P. to general population at lower security Shelton, officially "for his safety". The prisoner who was supposedly offered money is now on parole. Snook's comment is "they were all playing for favors or the streets." The jury however didn't quibble about the possible motivations driving the men who testified, and found Snook guilty. First degree murder by a prisoner under the new law draws an automatic death sentence. And that is what Snook has now.

HOW LONG IS THE LIFE LINE

There are prisoners in the U.S. who have spent up to fourteen years on death row waiting for the process of appeals on their trials and sentences to run its course. Right now Snook's first appeal is due in January, but he currently does not have a lawyer. Starting with two appointed by the court, he fired one during the trial and now is asking that the attorney presenting the appeal be replaced. Neither he nor his Defense Committee at this point have enough money to hire a lawyer of their choice. An execution date, which was stayed pending his appeals, could be reset if the appeal is not filed. Also, there are a handful of others in this state currently facing the death penalty. Rulings by the court on capital punishment or either of the death penalty laws in their cases could effect Snook's situation as well.

Meanwhile, Don Snook remains just one of many who are trying to survive and find some hope in a difficult place. A notorious guard on his tier now makes quips like "I sure hope they don't retire me before they hang

you." Petty injustices add up. Snook now writes, "The appeals process could be very long, possibly 10-15 years. I must remain here in segregation . . . which is cruel in itself. Each day I die a mental death."

But in Walla Walla there is presently a group of people who believe that prisoners can't afford to wait for sympathetic groups outside or legislative reforms to improve the condition of their lives. Growing out of the spirit of the 47-day strike they have formed task forces which focus on different areas of prisoners' rights, as well as attacking the devious prejudices of prisoners themselves. Committees to fight racism and sexism are a part of this. The 'Men Against Sexism' committee believes that prisoners need to look after their weak instead of preying on them. The committee has gained permission to send a prison friend of Snook's, Carl Harp, to counsel with him once a week. "Don Snook, underneath . . . is a good man, with lots of love and good vibes when he can turn them on . . . His struggle is to overcome what they have done to him, and I am trying to help him so he is not alone as I was and others are."

John Rowe of the Defense Committee, aside from the work the group is doing to publicize and raise money for Snook's case, has also been giving Snook personal support. One conversation I had with him in particular impressed me, as an example of what is possible in the 'prison movement'.

"Don's name was given to me as another gay brother who needed assistance . . . I wrote him, and he responded . . . After several letters, well, I found myself liking him . . . I've been doing prison support work for many years, and I knew that professionally, and for the sake of staying clear in my work, I shouldn't have gotten involved . . . Also, well, our age difference- I'm fifty and he's twenty-four . . . and for myself, knowing that he may be executed or at least probably never get out before I die . . . I told him my hesitancy. And he defied me. He was warm and supportive . . . He wrote 'I know that I love you. No matter what you or anyone says, I know that's how I feel' . . . I know he needed me partly because he needed somebody, but after awhile I realized that I needed and wanted his love too."

Finally Don Snook writes, "if I am murdered by the state I hope my fight will not be worthless, that people will be inspired. . . I hope one day all of society will become aware of how the prison authorities and the capitalists, who even make the street a prison, operate . . . and that they all fight . . . Though I don't want to die I feel these things must change . . . if it takes death, then it must be."

Contributions to the Don Snook Defense Committee would be greatly appreciated. The address is Box 12020, Seattle, Wa. 98112. Letters of support can be sent to Don Snook 62718, Box 520, Walla Walla, Wa. 99362.

Bill Patz is on the NWP staff, and does daycare by night.

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FBI Grabs Rita Brown

GJB Rethinks Strategy

ada3/NWP



Rita Brown, a member of the revolutionary George Jackson Brigade, was captured by the F.B.I. in Seattle on November 4th. In a mimeographed "Message from Rita Brown" she describes her arrest in detail.

November 4th, 1977 just after 1pm I was returning from Richmond Beach Park where i'd been playing w/ a dog named Dillinger. i passed thru a shopping center at 8 NW and NW 185 where sit two banks. The feds (4 of them) were on my tail at this point driving a copper/brown Ford Ltd, 4 door sedan; license YYZ214 (24). There are no visible antennas other than a normal radio one. They even hide their police radio in a hump mount plastic garbage bin. i proceeded on my way; noticed a suspicious car in my rear view mirror after crossing Aurora at 105th. The thing that made their car suspicious was the clean cut agent look/smell of the 4 straight white white males aboard. i turned right on Meridian; the feds followed. I turned right (w/out signaling) at 175th; the feds followed. i was intending to get back to Aurora and drive for a distance in heavier traffic, but i fucked up. i turned right into a medical plaza thinking it was a drive thru to another street; the feds followed. They knew they d been made and must have thot i was trying to ditch them so they made their move. As I was turning around in the parking lot, they blocked my way w/ their car, and two of them headed for my car. One of them showed his gun and opened the passenger front door, demanded the car keys, and said he was FBI. i was told to slowly get out of the car and place my hands on top of it. i was frisked, asked for id, and told i was under arrest for bank robbery. i was turning into a boxed parking lot there was no time or space for defense; the bust itself probably took less than 1 minute. Also, it would be suicidal to engage in a gun battle when outnumbered 4-1.

Rita was handcuffed, according to her letter and made to wait in the back seat of a car while two more cars of agents arrived, fingerprinted her and asked her about the GJB. Rita states that *i told them i had nothing to say to them about who i was or anyone else. So we chit-chatted a little about the weather, dogs, red-tape, etc. when i felt they were getting too manipula-*

tive w/ the conversation i shut up or changed the subject (e.g. The fingerprint agent told me he caught a cold working late on a cold night in Bellevue at a Mercedes Dealer; i told him he should buy long underwear and swallow some garlic as a natural antibiotic). other bits of info; Fbi agents gross about \$2,000/mo; some of these were from SF; no local police were openly used. I'm sure they got some bits of info from my side of the conversation, but most of their plays seemed intended for me to cop to being the woman bank robber they are seeking. i do not believe any serious security mistakes were made.

Meanwhile the Brigade itself heard about Rita's arrest on their police radio scanner. In "An Open Letter Bo (RitaD. Brown)", the rest of the GJB members recall their escape and analyse their mistakes.

They realized that "since we had neglected to remove Dillinger's (our dog-also in the slammernow) rabies tag, it wouldn't take the Feds long to trace it back to the house."

The letter describes in detail how the brigade evacuated their house, in the process abandoning "90% of our supplies and equipment."

Fully half of the letter contains an analysis and criticism of events which led to Brown's arrest.

Overall, we made the mistake of too much doing with too little thinking and discussion. Since returning from Oregon, we quadrupled our workload with little or no change in our methods of work. During the last two months we did two bank robberies, four or five bombings, a thirty page political statement, a major criticism of John Brown Book Club, and worked throughout on putting together another bank robbery. We were also working on a couple of other major actions that we can't talk about for security reasons. We also did four or five full tune ups on our vehicles, built a canopy for our truck and did all the shit work maintenance that takes two or three hours out of every day.

During this period we had almost no division of labor; tasks were completed on a pretty much hit or miss basis of who was free and capable defined spontaneously, as they came up, with very little advance planning.

To correct the mistakes which led to Brown's capture, the brigade said it will "develop and implement a realistic division of labor" to insure that areas of responsibility are clearly defined. They also stated that members will "set aside one day each week solely for meeting" and "will immediately develop a set of evacuation plans."

"Throughout the period of rebuilding," continues the letter, we will continue the process of analysing and defining the mistakes that led to this defeat. In this way, we will transform the raid and your capture from a defeat into a solid foundation for the new base."

The letter closes with a love poem to Brown from "Jory." Brown is presently being held in Oregon, where she will stand trial for several bank robberies.

FUZZWATCH NEWSLETTER

The Rita D. Brown Defense Committee will be putting out "Fuzz Watch," a newsletter to inform the community about the FBI/police investigation of the George Jackson Brigade. Included will be descriptions of agents and their cars and details of agents' visits (but not names of people visited).

So far agents have visited lesbians, women with children, prison activists, a movement press, herb shops, and natural food stores. They seem to be zeroing in on the lesbian community, people with a history in the prison movement, and people who worked with Rita before she went underground. On each occasion, they've shown pictures of 3 alleged members of the GJB. At the herb shops they claimed somebody in the GJB was a valerian user.

The defense committee advises people not to talk with agents. It points out that while it is a felony to lie to an agent, it is a citizen's legal right to refuse to talk or supply i.d. The committee also advises people not to try to get information from agents, but encourages people to notice agents' names, appearance, and cars.

Some legal people have volunteered to come to people's homes if an agent comes with a subpoena or search warrant. Contact Paul Raymond at 622-0340 or the Ntl. Lawyer's Guild at 622-5144.

Fuzz Watch will be available at Left Bank Books, It's About Time, and Red & Black Books. Information can be left for Fuzz Watch at these places. The committee warns people not to relay information by phone.

The first Fuzz Watch is now out and contains descriptions of agents and their cars, a sample of what a legal search warrant looks like, and a form for recording info on agents.

Ferries Pass Up Northwest Passage



Seattle ferry riders will not be getting the opportunity to pick up a Northwest Passage, either in the Seattle terminal or on board the ferries. SAGA, concessioner for the ferries, refused the Passage permission to set up racks in either places last month. Stan Moffit of SAGA said the Passage had a lot of "strong articles" and that it wasn't what ferry riders wanted. When the Passage rep pointed out that it was selling briskly at the train station nearby, Moffit said, "we have to cater to the people who ride the boats, their needs, wants, desires, likes and dislikes. . ." and refused permission. (SAGA has made the ferries offlimits to all but the major d dailies, while other papers, such as the Seattle Sun, are on sale at the terminal.)

Seattle University students are also being 'protected' from the Northwest Passage, which was rejected from the bookstore because a Passage distributor acknowledged that many on the NWP staff favored freedom of choice for women wanting abortions. Seattle U. bookstore carries other newspapers similar in format to the Passage.

The Northwest Passage urges readers and supporters to patronize shops and restaurants that carry the Passage and let them know you appreciate the service. And if you ride the ferry and like the Passage, you might tell SAGA. (SAGA phone no. 623-2237) They don't know you exist.

Finding human values in children's books

The authors of this article: Kate Cranor, Lynda Siegel, Scout Mitchell, Patty Robison, Audrey Spurrier, Leslie Baker, and John McClendon, were members of a class at Fairhaven College studying children's literature.

Reading Between the

How many children's books have you found in which a girl is building a tree house rather than watching her brother and his friends play in one, or in which a black person is a doctor, or in which Grandma talks on the radio about the Gray Panthers rather than rocking her life away, cat on lap? We began looking for children's books that create positive and realistic images of women and minorities, and that deal with human relationships in realistic ways. We reread books we had read as children, picked out books at random from the Bellingham Public Library, and asked young friends to recommend books that they'd enjoyed. We spent hours scouring the local bookstores to find out what was in stock. We didn't find much.

On the one hand there are the classics, expensive and outdated in their stereotyped roles, as in Doctor Doolittle's portrayal of "the Great White Father, nobly bearing the White Man's burden." And then there's the junk food of children's books; the big, brightly packaged inexpensive shelves full of Richard Scarry books, Golden Books, and Walt Disney favorites.

On to the Library

Libraries buy about 98% of all the children's books published, therefore we found a much greater selection of books at the children's room of the Bellingham Public Library. June Pinnell, the children's librarian is

attempting to update the collection, but there is still a lot of "Betsy and Billy meet the Italian organ grinder" on the shelves, so watch out! In this library, as in others, expressing your concern will affect the choices the librarian makes.

Recommended Resources

An excellent book which explains and promotes the philosophy of human values in children's books is *Human (and Anti-Human) Values in Children's Books*, put out by the Council on Interracial Books for Children. It contains discussion and definitions of the terms used in the Values Checklist (see accompanying article), which it utilizes as its standard of evaluating the books, as well as over 200 pages of reviews of books that have minority or feminist themes or that deal with social concerns or issues. The council also publishes a bulletin eight times yearly, with articles and reviews of recent children's books.

The Council's address is: 1841 Broadway, New York, New York, 10023. *Human (and Anti-Human) Values* sells for \$7.95.

It's About Time bookstore in Seattle has the best selection of pro-human children's books in the area, as well as a collection of reviews of them. A workshop on Human Values in Children's Books will be held at Fairhaven College on Jan. 19, sponsored by Women Space.

We limited our search to fiction books, since biographies and non-fiction require some background knowledge. Another limitation we faced was the inability to locate many of the newer books reviewed by traditional children's book journals and CIBC. Thus, books such as *Sing to the Dawn*, a story about a girl in a Thai village struggling with traditional beliefs about the woman's role, could not be included.

We felt comfortable in reviewing non-sexist books by our own standards, but we were somewhat wary of reviewing books which reflected an experience radically different from our own. We relied on other reviews when it came to recommending books about minorities or other cultures.

The books in the following list are available at the Bellingham Public Library and sometimes at local bookstores. The titles at the end are taken from the recommended list in *Human (and Anti-Human) Values*, but were not available for review. The list is divided into three categories: Pre-school and early years (up to around seven), Middle years (8-12), and Into Teen Years (everything after 12).

Our list is only a beginning, but hopefully, combined with the information in this article, it will enable those who are concerned with the literature available to children to evaluate books in terms of the values that are expressed—either openly or implicitly—and become more aware of the role these books will play in the lives of children.



"Wild Bill Hiccup"

Anti-Human Values: A Guide



"Mommy"

Sexism—Most women in children's books are portrayed solely in "typical female roles" such as housewife and mother, while men are typically shown as the breadwinner. In illustrations women are frequently pictured in the kitchen attired in a dress and apron. Femininity is equated with passivity, weakness and the ability to be easily influenced, while masculinity is associated with toughness and rugged individualism. Children's books are most prominently sexist by omission—out of any ten picture books, only one will have a female main character, and the chances of that character representing a positive, non-stereotyped image are remote. Generally the pronoun "he" is used as a neutral term.

Racism—Racial stereotypes in children's books vary with the minority presented; Asians are docile, Native Americans are almost always Navajos and tend their sheep very well, black families rarely have a father figure. Racism by omission is even more pervasive, minority characters are not present in situations where they naturally would be (as in urban settings). Solutions to racial problems are often presented in the form of a "Great White Father" who helps the minority character where s/he is unable to help him or herself.

Ageism—Old people in children's books seem to have no real function in the society in which they live. Their role is limited to being passive, helpless, ill or decrepit. Very rarely are any characters capable of performing any tasks which are productive or enable them to maintain self-sufficiency.

Elitism, Materialism and Individualism—Many children's books still show our society as the land of opportunity, where anyone can get anything if they just try hard enough. The value system is defined primarily in terms of material possessions, and competition is encouraged to obtain and maintain these possessions. This competitiveness promotes the "me-first" attitude where the welfare of the individual is more important than that of the group.

Escapism and Conformism—Escapist books encourage the reader to wait for luck, magic, or help from some rich and powerful person in order to solve problems. The main character is basically a good person and is thus rewarded by the intervention of an outside force who solves all of their problems. Escapism discourages children from examining problems realistically and then acting. Conformism accepts that the "usual" way of doing things is the only solution that can be acceptable for solving the problem.

VALUES CHECKLIST

	ART	WORDS		ART	WORDS		ART	WORDS	N.A.	
anti-Racist			non-Racist			Racist omission commission				
anti-Sexist			non-Sexist			Sexist				
anti-Elitist			non-Elitist			Elitist				
anti-Materialist			non-Materialist			Materialist				
anti-Individualist			non-Individualist			Individualist				
anti-Ageist			non-Ageist			Ageist				
anti-Conformist			non-Conformist			Conformist				
anti-Escapist			non-Escapist			Escapist				
Builds positive image of females/minorities			Builds negative image of females/minorities				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Inspires action vs. oppression			Culturally authentic			Literary quality				
						Art quality				

Generally, the term "non-" before a negative value means the book was neutral, "anti-" means the book made some positive impact.

The List

PRE-SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS

The Girl Who Would Rather Climb Trees; Miriam Schlein. An active girl is given a present of a doll—and she doesn't know what to do with it. She figures out what the adults want, and puts the dolly in her room, walking out saying "Shh....dolly's asleep," then goes off to what she really wants to do—climb trees. Displays a positive image of girls.

A Bedtime Story; Joan Goldman Levine/Gail Owens. Role reversal with the little girl putting her exhausted parents to bed for a change. Excellent illustrations and writing. Highly recommended.

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day; Judith Viorst/Ray Cruz. That's what it is all right, from morning 'till night. Excellent illustrations, anti-escapist story as the little boy learns that some days are like that—even in Australia.

Lorenzo and Angelina; Eugene Fern. Excellent story and illustrations of a young Latin American girl and her donkey. The story is told in two parts, with both the girl and the donkey telling the story from their own stubborn point of view. Colorful illustrations of mountain and village scenes.

On Mother's Lap; Ann Herbert Scott, illus. by Glo Coalsen. This beautifully illustrated book is about a young Inuit boy who finds mother's lap comfortable and roomy enough for assorted toys and favorite things, but is hesitant about sharing it with the new baby in the family. The text is brief and well written.

My Nursery School; Harlow Rockwell. The little girl in this anti-sexist book describes her day at nursery school. The watercolor illustrations are clear and appealing.

Apartment 3; Ezra Jack Keats. It's a dark, rainy day, and Ben and Sam search their building for the person who plays the harmonica. They find the musician to be the blind man who lives on the first floor. The text is well written and the illustrations are superb.

A Wolf of My Own; Jan Wahl, illus. by Lillian Hoban. The little girl in this story is given a puppy for her birthday, and together they explore the world. The impressionist style illustrations are lovely and the text is wonderfully written.

Gilberto and the Wind; Marie Hall Ets. A Chicano boy considers and describes the wind, what it does to the things around him, and his own relationship to it. I change the pronoun he to it in reference to the wind when I read this story. Other good titles by the author are *Another Day* and *Just Me*.

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All Upon a Stone; Jean Craighead George, illus. by Don Bolognese. This nature study book about the peculiar behavior of mole crickets is beautifully written and illustrated.

Maxie; Mildred Kantowitz, illus. by Emily McCully. This is a story about the loneliness and isolation of an older woman in the city. When she breaks from her usual routine, all the people who were affected by that routine come to find out what happened to her. It's a lovely story with effective illustrations.

MIDDLE YEARS

This Time, Tempe Wicke?; Patricia Lee Gauch. Story of a very brave, strong girl who uses her wits to save her horse from mutinous Revolutionary War soldiers. The book is anti-sexist and portrays a very uplifting image of a woman.

Rudi and the Distelfink; F.N. Monjo. This is the story of a Pennsylvania Dutch family. The women are portrayed as being very important members of the family, although seen in traditional roles. Beautiful illustrations.

Poor Richard in France; F.N. Monjo. History of Ben Franklin, including some personal details of his life which makes the book very humorous.

Ashanti to Zulu-African Traditions; Margaret Musgrave. Explains some traditions and customs of 26 African tribes, beginning with the letters from A to Z. Anti-racist, very resourceful, incredible illustrations.

The Quitting Deal; Tobi Tobias. Story of a mother and daughter who work together supportively to break some bad habits. Interesting illustrations, anti-sexist.



Drawing by Judith Gyn Brown from *Melissa, The Girl Who Would Rather Climb Trees*, (Harcourt, Brace & Janovitch, 1975).

The Times They Used to Be; Lucille Clifton. A black mother reminisces to her children about the olden days. Clifton captures the beauty of the black dialect. Beautiful illustrations.

An Eskimo Birthday; Tom D. Robinson/G. Coalson. Traditional and modern elements of Eskimo life presented in this story of an Eskimo girl's birthday. Anti-racist, beautiful charcoal illustrations!

The First Snow; Helen Coutant/Vo-Dinh. Allegory of a Vietnamese girl who learns about death by experiencing her first snow. Anti-sexist, anti-racist.

The Tennis Menace; Alex B. Allen. This book is the story of a boy and girl actively competing against each other in sports. Anti-sexist.

Benjie on His Own; Joan M. Lexau. Touching story about a small black boy whose grandmother is sick and how he helps her. Anti-racist.



Drawing by Gail Owens from *A Bedtime Story*, (E. P. Dutton, 1975).

INTO TEEN YEARS

Danny, the Champion of the World; Roald Dahl. A lively adventure story which includes drugging pheasants and poaching them from the woods of a nasty, rich oaf, but which has at its core a very loving relationship between a sensitive father and his very capable son. A fine read-aloud story from a writer who has certainly struggled and improved since previous offerings.

Mom, the Wolfman and Me; Norma Klein. A very warm story about Brett, a twelve-year old girl, and her mother. Brett has never met her father and is quite comfortable with the fact that her mother was never married. She and her mother share a close relationship that grows to include her mother's lover.

The Real Me; Betty Miles. Eleven-year old Barbara is faced with sex discrimination in choosing classes at school. She tells of her own efforts to change the school's policies and also her right to have a paper route.

Phillip Hall Likes Me, I Reckon Maybe; Bette Greene. A fine, low-key story of a black girl in Arkansas who is proud of being second best at most things, but who finds that being assertive with Phillip doesn't cause her to lose out on her friendship, but only strengthens it.

From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler; E.L. Konigsburg. Claudia, fed up with the dull routines of her life, runs away to the Metropolitan Museum of Art with her brother Jamie (who doesn't share her sense of adventure but does have money.) A delightful Newberry Award winner with very positive portrayals of young and old alike.

Julie of the Wolves; Jean George. The extraordinary story of a young Eskimo girl who survives on the tundra by learning the language of the wolves, but who then must learn to survive in a world that is adapting to new ways. Extremely well-written, knowledgeable and moving, a story to be shared with friends. A Newberry Award winner.

Garden of Broken Glass; Emily Cheney Neville. Brian is a 13 year old white boy living in a low-income part of St. Louis. The story revolves around the interactions between Brian and black schoolmates and neighbors who are his age, and his growing awareness of the racist attitudes and realities that exist in our culture.

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry; Mildred D. Taylor. Cassie is a young black girl growing up in Mississippi during the early 1930s. Cassie and her brothers are unaware of the racist attitudes of her neighbors until incidents directly involving her family begin to happen. An excellent book for any age over eleven. Cassie is a strong character in the face of prejudice. A Newberry Award winner.

Dust of the Earth; Vera and Bill Cleaver. This is the story of a mid-western family in the early 1900's as told through the eyes of 14 year old Fern. She feels the distance in their family relationships more so than the others. The family faces many physical and economic hardships, and the cooperation that evolves from these hardships draws the family closer than Fern had thought possible.

Zanballer; R.R. Knudson. At last, a non-sexist sports book! Zan, disgusted when the girl's sports season is cancelled and replaced with dancing classes, organizes a revolt which changes a motley group of classmates into a football team. The playbook, with lines like "The quarterback fades to pass. She holds the ball high over her head..." adds to understanding of all the football terminology.

Dragonwings; Lawrence Yep. The story of a young Chinese immigrant to San Francisco around the time of the earthquake, this book offers a view of the Chinese in America which shows them as ordinary as well as extraordinary people. The literary quality is high--the combination of interesting adventure with cultural realism is a rare treat. For over 12.

Recommended by CIBC

YOUNGEST BOOKS

Around and Around Love; Betty Miles
Hooray for Me; Remy Charlip and Lillian Moore
Amy and the Cloud Basket; Ellen Pratt
Becky and the Bear; Dorothy VanWoerkom

MIDDLE BOOKS

Sing to the Lawn; Minfong Ho
Song of the Trees; Mildren D. Taylor
Last Night I Saw Adromeda; Charlotte Anker
New Life: New Room; June Jordan

OLDER BOOKS

Fast Sam, Cool Clyde and Stuff; Walter Dean Myers
After the Wedding; Hila Colman
The Cigarette Sellers of Three Crosses Square; Joseph Ziemian
The Girl with Spunk; Judith St. George
The Glad Man; Gloria Gonzales
Ludell; Brenda Wilkinson
The Meat in the Sandwich; Alice Bach

community news

Pay'n' Save Struck

As the Pay-N-Save strike enters its second week, no further negotiations are set at this time.

The employees of the Bellingham Pay-N-Save Store went on strike November 20th after their negotiating committee rejected a firm and final offer from the company that would have kept the clerks below the wages paid by other union employers in the area. Bill Johnston, President of Retail Clerks Union Local 240, the local the clerks are members of, said that the company wanted to take the health and welfare coverage away from the clerks and substitute an inferior company plan.

The Pay-N-Save Corporation also wanted the union to accept sub-minimum wage scales through 1980 in an apparent effort to work teenagers in the place of adult clerks for less than the minimum wage established by Federal Government.

For sometime, the Retail Clerks Union all over the State of Washington has been running into difficulties in negotiations with the Pay-N-Save Corp., which has refused to bargain in good faith, and attempted to rid itself of any kind of union representation in its stores.

"Let's face it," Johnston said, "the

entire labor movement is under attack in this state, or for that matter, all over the whole country." He added that the company had tried to get the employees of the Bellingham store to decertify the union even before negotiations started, but they could not get one clerk to support the company-sponsored move. This shows that this corporation is not really interested in good labor relations, but wants to do things their way 100 percent, or not at all.

Officers and strike committee members of Local 240 said that they plan to wage an aggressive campaign against the company, and will move to hit at the store at their own front door from the start. Johnston said, "We know they are trying to freeze us out, so there is no sense in just sitting in front of the Bellingham store waiting for a settlement, we must continually be on the offensive."

The union reports that the response from the general public has been very good and sympathetic to the plight of the striking clerks. All union members are asked not to shop at the Pay-N-Save store in Bellingham, and the same appeal is made to all other concerned citizens.



Jim Hansen

Still Spying After All These Years

Last week the Seattle Police Department confirmed what community activists have suspected all along—that the Intelligence Section of the SPD continues to spy on organizations and individuals because of their political beliefs and activities.

A lawsuit was filed six months ago by the Coalition on Government Spying on behalf of 42 plaintiffs who seek access to intelligence information maintained on them by the Seattle Police. In response to interrogatories in the suit, the SPD supplied the plaintiffs with a listing of whom among the 42 plaintiffs the SPD was still actively interested in. The list includes three organizations—the American Friends Service Committee (a 60-year old independent Quaker group), the National Lawyers Guild (a national as-

sociation of law students, lawyers, legal workers and jail house lawyers) and el Centro de la Raza (a local Chicano organization).

Fifteen individuals, many of them leaders in the three named organizations, were also listed. There is no way to know how many other files the intelligence section maintains, in addition to the 18 it has admitted.

The Seattle Police refused to disclose the contents of the intelligence files because they claim disclosure would impede current investigation of unsolved felonies in the Seattle area or would be harmful to informants' life, physical safety, property or right to privacy."

The plaintiffs in the lawsuit expressed outrage at these reasons for withholding the information. In a

statement issued last week, Ann Stever of the American Friends Service Committee said, "Our organizations are engaged in lawful activities in our community. We are not law breakers, we have not committed felonies. There is absolutely no legitimate reason for the SPD's investigation of us."

None of the organizations expressed any surprise at the disclosures. Stever said, "As national organizations, the AFSC and National Lawyers Guild have for years felt the effects of spying and harassment by intelligence agencies. The Seattle Police De-

partment is not unique in its intelligence practices."

"We know that thousands of tax dollars have been spent to surveil us, tap our phones and even sift through our garbage," said Roberto Maestas, representative of el Centro de la Raza.

The City's lawyers have offered to go before a judge—without the plaintiffs or their attorneys present—and explain why the information should not be disclosed to the plaintiffs.

Court action in the case will continue on December 9 at 1:30 pm in King County Superior Court, before Judge Frank D. Howard.

For further information on this issue or the lawsuit or to obtain speakers, contact the Coalition on Government Spying at 624-2180.

—Betty St. Clair

Light Brigade Recharges

Brandishing plastic sabers and a court order, the Light Brigade mounted another assault on the rate structure of Seattle City Light. Demonstrating on November 30, the Brigade insisted that the power utility state publicly that it will not cut off anyone's lights for refusal to pay the draught surcharge.

On behalf of 638 ratepayers who withheld the surcharge, fifty protesters marched up to Supt. Vickery's office to demand an absolute guarantee, not just assurances, that lights will not go out on those who are protesting City Light's rate policies.

Meeting in the office of Assistant Supt. Joe Recchi, the Light Brigade was told that City Light's compliance with a court order just issued by Commissioner Robert Dixon "guaranteed" that lights "might" get turned off because "we cannot differentiate between surcharge notices and other kinds of notices" of delinquency.

Since the Light Brigade was just as angry that cut-off notices were being sent out at all, City Light's "guarantee" provoked little enthusiasm. Describing Recchi's statement as "totally inadequate," Light Brigade spokesperson Bert Nelson led the demonstrators directly to the Mayor's office. Although Mayor Uhlman was in his office, he would not meet with Brigade spokespersons. Nevertheless, the Brigade succeeded in making its basic point, that "the industrial sector is charged less the more it consumes, while individual consumers who have been conserving energy now face a surcharge, a seasonal charge and continuing rate increases."

(The Light Brigade is a coalition task force of the Southeast Seattle Community Organization (SESCO). SESCO holds regular meetings on the first and third Monday at 5614 Rainier Ave. S.)

George Du Vall

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Members of the bank workers' union at Seattle First National Bank have received an important boost in their longstanding dispute with the bank. The National Labor Relations Board filed an "unfair labor practice" complaint against the bank and will bring SeaFirst to trial in March of 1978. In the meantime, the NLRB ruling has also provided the First-Bank Independent Employees Assn. (FIEA) with several legal protections.

On November 1, after four months of stalled talks, the bank had unilaterally implemented its 'final proposal'. The tactic had two purposes: to discredit the union by ignoring its very existence and to buy off bank workers with a hefty first-year economic package. Coupled with this was a move stopping automatic union dues check-off, drying up the union's only source of funding.

The FIEA reacted quickly, calling for membership meetings across the state and by filing unfair labor practice charges against the bank with the NLRB. The meetings drew large turnouts. Despite expressed conservative sentiment, the contract was rejected in an official poll by 82% of members present.

On November 9, the NLRB ruled in favor of the union and informed SeaFirst that it must return to mediation and bargain in good faith if it wanted the com-

Sea 1st Strike Gains

plaint lifted. On November 28 the bank issued a press release stating that it would no longer try to settle the charges. By rejecting the NLRB's conciliation move, SeaFirst was betting that the Board would back off and leave the bank in firm control of the situation. But the next day the NLRB took its strongest stance yet, bringing forward the official complaint that is the basis of the trail against the bank.

With the ruling, SeaFirst exhausted its offensive strategy and must now wait for the union's move. Its wait, however, will not be an easy one. Under the cover of the NLRB decision, an FIEA-authorized strike would be 'protected', guaranteeing workers their old job back upon ratification of a contract of end of the strike. Back pay under a protected strike situation is also common practice. The decision also limits the bank's ability to call for a de-certification election.

In recent years, this maneuver has succeeded in eliminating representation at hundreds of workplaces across the country by combining harassment and sophisticated personnel relations in pressuring the rank and file to 'vote-out' their union. The earliest the bank could hold such an election would be ninety days after the conclusion of the NLRB trial.

So the FIEA now has room to breathe. The only serious problem facing them is dues collection, which is being handled at the workplace by the local union reps. The bank's action in this case has backfired, causing widespread resentment amongst workers. And the increased contact between workers and their union (through direct dues collection) may actually strengthen rank and file identification and support.

The FIEA is continuing its program of economic sanctions against SeaFirst. The amount of deposits

withdrawn by sympathetic unions, businesses and individuals is well into six digits and increasing. The results of the authorization vote for a three-day strike have not been released yet, but this remains one of the two strongest moves left for the union. The other would be affiliation with an international union, some contenders are lining up, especially the Retail Clerks Union (who are now in an organizing drive at Old National Bank in central Washington) and the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (who are attempting to organize Crocker Bank in California).

Unless there is a drastic turnaround in the infrequent mediation sessions, there should be little movement until next year. In that period the FIEA should have enough time to bolster its membership, strengthen its economic sanction, and prepare for informational picketing. It can lay a solid foundation at the workplace for a possible strike or affiliation, or both. Time is now on the side of the bank workers and their union. But what will be done with it remains an open question.

Bob Rehm

"This was a beautiful undeveloped area now they want to build condominiums. They're going to 'Californize' the place, says one Island county resident in response to rumors that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has several projects in store for the state owned lands on Whidbey Island. The plans include the clearcutting of land adjacent to a popular state park and a proposed land lease bringing condominiums and commercial development to the shores of a presently undeveloped lake.

Two groups comprised of concerned Whidbey Island residents called "Save the Trees" and "Evergreen Islands" have been organizing to fight the DNR's land use policies for state owned land on Whidbey Island—with some success. This August the chain saws and bulldozers were halted with an emergency restraining order (now an injunction pending full trial) in what is to become a legal test of the "timber management" practices of State Land Commissioner, Bert Cole of the Department of Natural Resources.

The legal issue concerns whether the DNR is obligated to consider the environmental impact of their timber sales decisions as well as alternative land-use plans proposed by other agencies such as State Parks, Fish and Game, or public interest groups, under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA).

SEPA was enacted in 1971 to "protect Washington's natural environment from further degradation and destruction motivated by economic concerns without consideration for environmental consequences."

The DNR, however, claims to be exempt from SEPA guidelines in its "timber management" activities. Walt Parker of the DNR told the Passage it was hoping to be exempt from the guidelines because of the small size of the tracts in question. According to Amelia Heilman, spokesperson for "Evergreen Islands," "The SEPA only requires that agencies rationally consider environmental consequences before taking any

Whidbeyites Resist The DNR

major action. But they (DNR) want to be exempted from even these minimal requirements."

Specific projects planned by the DNR in the Whidbey Island area include clearcutting on a 680-acre tract of forest adjoining Deception Pass State Park on North Whidbey Island. The most heavily used state park in Washington State. Heilman feels that, "There ought to be some expansion of Deception Pass State Park. It's presently a very heavily impacted park and I don't think it's appropriate to use an area right next to the park for commercial timber."

Another consideration is the effect clearcutting will have on adjacent park lands. Part of the proposed clearcutting lies next to a swamp area which is included in the State Park and state foresters have expressed fears that blow down in the swamp would occur once the protecting timber is removed.

Another proposed Department of Natural Resources project is a commercial lease on 350 acres of presently undeveloped timberland around Heart Lake on Fidalgo Island at the foot of 1200' Mt. Erie. A Seattle man has made application for lease which could include the building of condominiums, restaurants, motels, or other commercial developments.

The owners of a small grocery and gas station about a mile from Heart Lake aren't impressed with the plans: According to Joe Coelfield, "Sure, it would mean more business for us, but we'd rather do without it."

Other DNR proposals would include clearcutting in the Dugualla Bay area on a 589-acre DNR tract a few miles south of Deception Pass, which contains some of the last old growth timber on Whidbey Island, and logging or other development on about 2400 acres of property owned by the city of Ana-

cortes in the core of Fidalgo Island surrounding Mt. Erie.

While the status of these DNR projects is uncertain at this time, the court actions spearheaded by "Save the Trees" this summer, may have forced the Department of Natural Resources postpone some of their plans. The application for lease of land around Heart Lake has been "held in abeyance" while studies of alternative use of the area are undertaken.

Meanwhile "Evergreen Islands" is preparing to fight if the DNR decides to go ahead without meeting legal requirements. Amelia Heilman's sentiment is that "They're likely just to wait until they think the heat's off, then they'll try to go ahead."

To contact these groups, write:

"Save the Trees"

Northwest Fund for the Environment
119 South Main Street
Seattle, WA 98104

"Evergreen Islands"

P.O. Box 223
Anacortes, WA 98221

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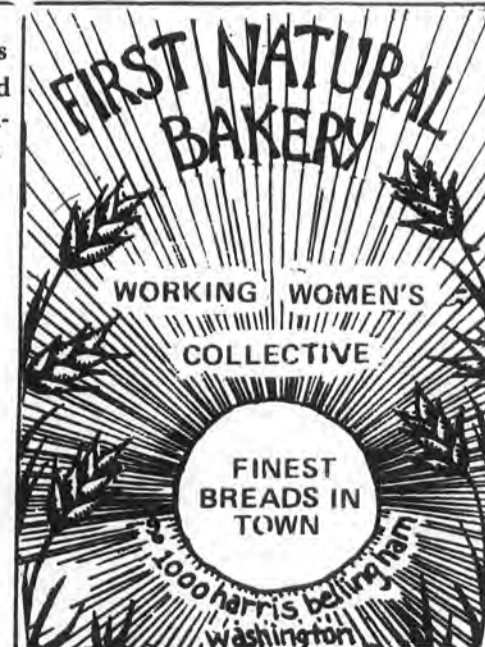


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community news

On Monday, November 14, Seattle Crabshell Alliance carried their anti-nuclear message to the workers and officers of Chem-Nuclear Systems in Kirkland, the largest low-level radioactive waste disposal company in the United States. Chem-Nuclear was targeted by Crabshell to dramatize the growing urgency of the nuclear waste issue.

Seattle Crabshell said it was not demonstrating against the necessity of a waste disposal service,

to expedite obtaining the nuclear waste dump near Cimarron. Chem-Nuclear New Mexico is 70% owned by the parent company, the other 30% belonging to Jack Daniels, a political crony of New Mexico governor Jerry Apodaca, and to the law firm of Toulouse, Krehbiel and DeLayo, attorneys for Chem-Nuclear and lobbyists for Chem-Nuclear in the New Mexico legislature.

Crabs Hit Chem-Nuke

since radioactive waste unfortunately *does* exist; but, explained Crabshell, "we are demonstrating against the continued production of lethal waste materials when a safe and responsible plan for waste management *does not* exist." Crabshell's position reflects the recent recommendation of the White Council on Environmental Quality that the government stop issuing licenses for new nuclear plants unless acceptable ways are found to dispose of radioactive wastes. Crabshell also shares the concern of recent studies (the Mancuso and Bross Reports) that continued exposure to low-level radiation does and will cause increased malignancies in people over a period of years.

Crabshell's action at Chem-Nuclear was a joint demonstration with Citizens Against Nuclear Threats (CANT), an anti-nuclear group in Albuquerque which also demonstrated against Chem-Nuclear on November 14. In New Mexico there is much local opposition to Chem-Nuclear's plans to build an atomic waste dump near Cimarron, including a bill in the New Mexico Senate which would prohibit the importation of nuclear wastes into the state. CANT told Crabshell that New Mexico residents are angry that a corporation from Washington State can buy part of an historic area of New Mexico (the Vermejo Ranch owned by Pennzoil Corp. of Houston) for \$200/acre, fill it with poisonous garbage, and make millions of dollars profit.

Crabshell explained that Chem-Nuclear is determined to have the Cimarron disposal site because of its central location for the growing nuclear power industry in the Southwest and Midwest. Chem-Nuclear has even created a subsidiary, Chem-Nuclear New Mex-



John Stamets, *Seattle Sun*

The demonstration on Monday began with a tribute to the memory of Karen Silkwood. Speaking from a flatbed in the Yarrow Bay parking lot, Crab Emily Arfin recalled how the discovery of falsified records, the intimidation, and finally the plutonium contamination of her own body, led Karen Silkwood to speak out against the nuclear giant Kerr-McGee.

Three years ago, on her way to deliver evidence of unsafe working conditions at the Oklahoma plutonium plant where she was working, Karen Silkwood was killed in a suspicious car accident. The accident remains a mystery to this day, and the manila envelope containing the evidence has never been found.

Solemnity was followed by the crusty chords of

the Crabshell Band, featuring Shelly and the Crustaceans. The Crustaceans were socko boffo in their bright orange crab suits, complete with pinchers, as they sang the ballad of the "Three Little Fishies" swimming care-free in the ocean. . . until they swam into the waste-outfall line near a nuclear plant.

A drum beat was the signal to begin marching to the plaza area of Chem-Nuclear's "quad", led by Crab Guila Howard in radiation suit and mask, pushing a battered, rusted-out barrel symbolizing the grim reality of the radioactive waste disposal business.

At the plaza the Crabs had planned the demonstration to include a different approach to anti-nuclear protest. As an appropriate non-violent confrontation, the demonstrators attempted to go directly into the offices of Chem-Nuclear to demand that its officers come outside to answer questions about public safety, worker protection, and the nuclear scene in general. But, blocked by the Kirkland police, only three Crabs were allowed into the building.

Many of the demonstrators were from the East Side, a few of which were members of a theatre group called EGAD, Eastside Group Against Destruction. The group dramatized the problem of waste disposal with a large black "nuclear reactor" that kept depositing bags of "waste" which were ineptly handled by Pat Burns of Issaquah playing a Chem-Nuclear worker who kept dropping the bags.

Returning to the plaza after a thirty minute meeting with president Bruce Johnson, and without a Chem-Nuclear spokesperson, the Crabshell delegation went right into an unrehearsed skit around the chat that had just taken place inside. "The answers we got in the office and the satirical answers in the skit were almost identical," said Helene Ellenbogen, a member of the Crab delegation. Police cameras rolled as the Crab stand-ins for Chem-Nuclear officialdom gave stuffy corporate responses to the Crabs' queries.

The skit concluded, and a corporation confronted, the demonstrators left and Chem-Nuclear went back about its business. But outside Chem-Nuclear's door, a battered barrel stood as a silent witness that a point had been made.

Crabshell intends to keep the momentum going and is already organizing for a major action at Satsop next spring or early summer. Over 300 "Satsop Pledges" have been handed out and Crabshell has already promised WPPSS personally that next year one thousand people will stand on the twin-reactor site and say no to nuclear power in Washington.

(Seattle Crabshell meets each Wednesday at 7:30 at 747 - 16th East; call 325-8512 for more information.)

China Friendship Struck

Association in Bellingham is now an organizing committee and will become a local chapter at the sub-regional meeting in Eugene, Oregon, in January. Among other things, "local" status will give us a turn at having spaces on the tours to the People's Republic of China, sponsored by USCPF A.

Membership in the Association makes

you eligible for these tours as well as discounts on books and programs. You also receive the regional newsletter telling of coming events, study groups, etc.

In January the Bellingham chapter will be sponsoring a visit by Joan Hinton, a nuclear physicist who has spent the last 30 years in China working on communes. Anyone interested in helping to

organize publicity for that event can call John at 676-3023 or Scout at 734-6504 after 6.

Another upcoming event is a slide presentation of the peasant paintings of Husien county which will be shown in various areas of the community. These slides are based on the art show which will be touring the country next fall.



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HOW POETRY CAME

by david henderson

1.

Once upon a time
a strange thing
was in a man's heart.
He cried out.
God heard
and said,
I will release it
but it is of you
and you must walk with it.
God did and the man did
but the presence seemed sad
so the man prayed
to find out what to do
but no answer came.
So the man gave up prayer
and said to it
I will give you
half my tongue
so you shall speak
and the man did
and it spoke of sorrow.
Why are you sad?
said the man
but it did not hear
for it was deaf.

So since god would not answer
and it could not hear
and the man wanted company
the man cut off one of his ears
and he gave the ear to it

and said
Why are you sad?
and it said
I speak and hear, but cannot see
the point of this
for I am blind.

So the man cut out one eye
and gave the eye to it
but still the presence was sad;

Why are you sad?
said the man
and it said
I speak, hear, and see
but I cannot grasp, I cannot touch
this fleeting world.

So the man cut off one hand
and gave the hand to it
but still it was sad.

Why are you sad?
said the man
and it said
I speak, hear, see, and grasp
but cannot understand
the meaning of this all.

So the man,
who was generous to a fault,
opened his skull
and gave it half his mind
but still it was sad.

Why are you sad?
said the man
and it said
I speak, hear, see, grasp,
and understand but still
it seems all is outside of me.

So the man knew
what he must do.
He opened his chest and
tore out half of his heart
and gave the half of heart
to it.

But the man was mistaken.
It grew strong and sang a happy song
but the man began to die.
So with his one good hand
he wrenched the half heart
back from it
and put the half heart into
his chest and lived.

It was still sad,
It spoke, heard, saw, grasped,
and understood sorrow.

It was also bloody.
It was also a poem.

And the man, the first poet.

And she and he and it
had babies you had
lots of babies in those days
and half the babies
(you know how genetics work)
had it inside of them
and half of the babies were poets
and that is how poetry
came into the world.

2.

Well, the man and it
walked around the earth
but the man felt a funny
having only half a tongue,
one ear, one eye, one hand,
and only half a mind
so the man made a deal
with it.

Come and dwell
in my body
and we can have
a whole tongue,
two ears, two eyes,
two hands, and a mind
and we shall still walk
together around the earth.

And so they did
and it was the first limited
partnership
for the man did not share
his heart.

Anyway, the man and it
were walking outside
of where eden was supposed
to have been
and ran into a very nice person
a daughter of eve, and she
was intrigued by the strange man
and they told each other stories
and she said
your story seems very much like
one my father tells
although his is different
but why be so grim?

and so they went down
to the local bar
and drank and smiled at each other
and were happy enough

and so they got married
though adam didn't really like
his son-in-law
and the man and it stopped wandering
for the dowry of the daughter
was toil
so she and he and it
toiled.

3.

This poem has a tongue
It speaks to you.

This poem has an ear
It hears you laughing.

This poem has an eye
It sees you sitting there.

This poem has a hand
to grasp, or caress.

This poem has a mind
It understands your problems.

But this poem has no heart
the poet tore it out, he needed it.

This poem has no heart
O, but the stains are terrible.

INTO THE WORLD

David Henderson is continuing his pas-
sage through life in Bellingham, WA.

**NWP
History
Lesson**

How the Canal Zone Became Ours to Give Away

A treaty proposal which allows for a gradual 22 year withdrawal of U.S. control over the Panama Canal Zone will soon be before the U.S. Senate. The treaty has already been ratified in Panama, where it got 2/3 support in a general referendum, despite criticisms that it was too little, too late, in recognizing Panamanian sovereignty.

But in the U.S., the treaty has been widely denounced in conservative circles as a "giveaway"—an abdication of property that is rightfully and morally ours, to people who don't deserve it. A small dose of history will help put this view into perspective.

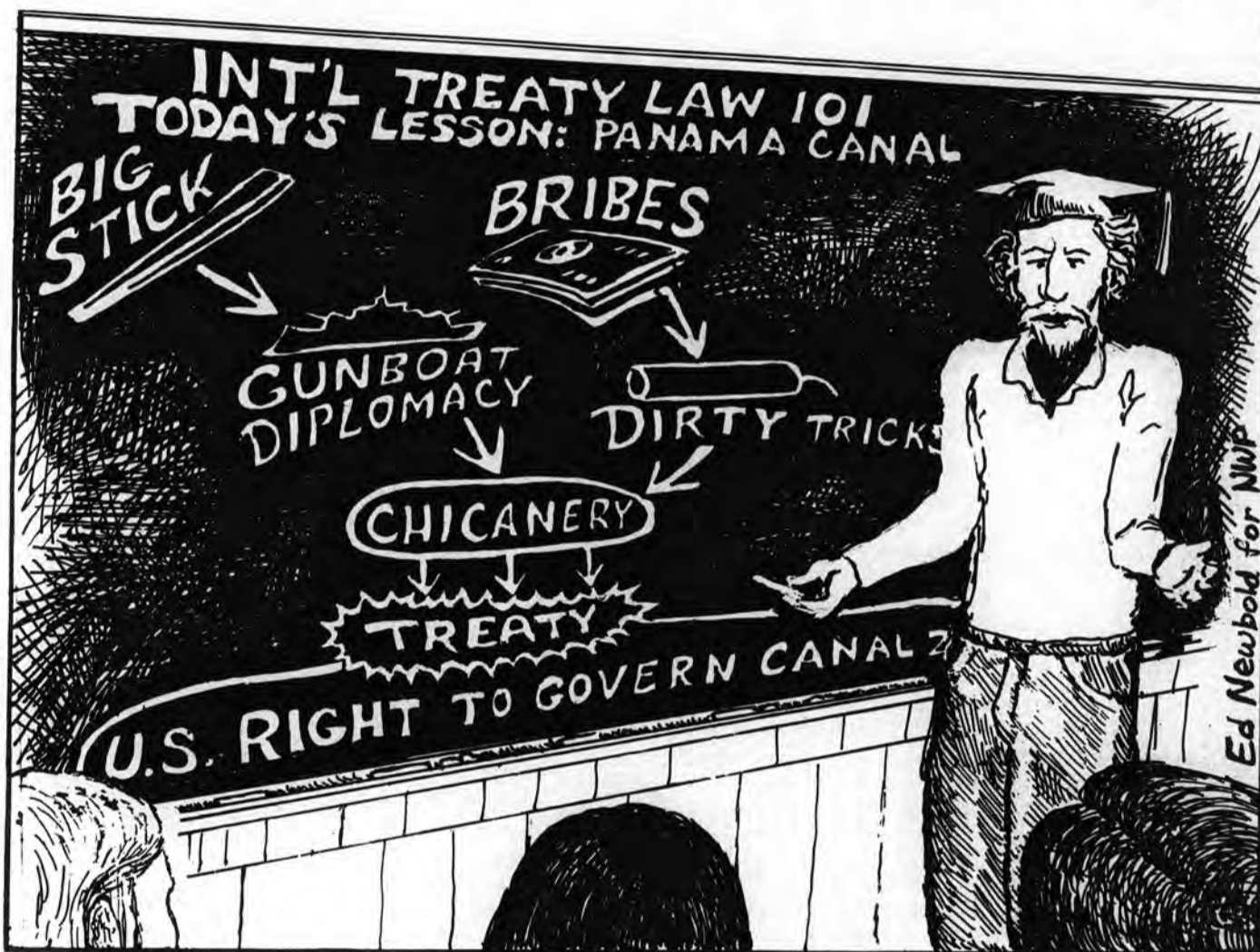
"Contemptible Creatures"

The time is 1903. Teddy Roosevelt is anxious to begin work on a canal across the isthmus of Panama, which is presently a part of the nation of Colombia. Dismayed that the Colombian Senate has voted to hold out for more money than the U.S. has offered in the Hay-Herran Treaty, Roosevelt snaps, "Those contemptible little creatures in Colombia ought to understand how much they are... imperiling their own future." Roosevelt decides to "have no further dealings with those Bogota People."

A new plan is devised, one that will capitalize on the discontent of the impoverished citizens of the isthmus. Instrumental to the plan is the wealthy French engineer, Phillippe Bunau-Varilla. Bunau-Varilla had been a central figure in the unsuccessful French attempt to build a canal and therefore had contacts in Panama as well as easy access to the doorbells of top U.S. policymakers.

Dirty Tricks, 1903 Style

Bunau-Varilla, with assurances of gunboat protection and diplomatic assistance from the U.S., went about organizing a "revolt" in Panama. The coup occurred on November 3, but was immediately placed in jeopardy by the arrival of a force of some 500 soldiers, under two generals, from Colombia. The



troop had landed on the Atlantic side (Colon) and needed to travel to the site of the coup (Panama City) by rail. An American in charge of the railroad conveniently "lost" all of his railroad cars, finding enough only to transport the two generals, along with assurances that the rest of the soldiers would follow. The Generals were arrested on arrival in Panama City by a Colombian general who had been bribed \$50,000 to do so.

Meanwhile, two U.S. gunboats, the Nashville and the Dixie, had shown up in Panamanian harbors. The Colombian force remaining in Colon, which never

did get rail service, eventually left for home under a bribed colonel (\$8,000).

"Just Sign Here"

The U.S. wasted no time. It recognized the new country on Nov. 6, three days after the coup, and managed to close treaty negotiations before a Panamanian delegation sent to help draft the treaty could arrive in Washington.

Bunau-Varilla, acting without instructions from the new government, signed the treaty on Nov. 18. He had rewritten the original Hay-Herran Treaty to read "in perpetuity" instead of "a 99 year

lease". No Panamanians ever signed the treaty, none ever saw it before it was signed, and none knew of the "in perpetuity" clause until the treaty had become 'law'.

In the years that followed the construction of the canal, the Zone became a base (14 bases, to be exact) from which the U.S. government could continue its "big stick" policies in Latin America. A school for Latin American officers in the Zone, The School of the Americas, boasts such graduates as Chile's General Pinochet.

And the United States A.I.D. operation to kill Che Guevarra was organized from within the Zone.

The Zone has also been a holdout for racism in the tradition of its founder, Teddy Roosevelt. Southern style segregation, with "whites only" facilities, excluded Panamanians in the heart of their own country, and even outlasted segregation in the U.S.

In 1964 violence broke out in the Zone. The U.S. military killed 21 Panamanians (4 U.S. soldiers were killed) in the process of restoring 'order' and U.S. rule to the Zone.

While there have been no flareups since, nearly all observers agree that inaction by the U.S. in returning the Zone could seriously aggravate tensions in the coming years.

If Reagan, Thurmond, Helms and the other ringleaders of treaty opposition have their way, we may soon have more Panamanian blood on our hands.

—Ed Newbold

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The Philippines

Human Rights --Marcos Style

There is some good evidence that the Philippines are becoming another Vietnam, according to John Caughlan, a Seattle lawyer who visited that country last summer with a team investigating reports of human rights violations. "It's a ways off still, but we maintain bases and advisors there, just as we did in Vietnam," he said.

Caughlan, speaking at an event sponsored by the Friends of the Filipino People, discussed his first-hand experience of the Philippines under Pres. Marcos dictatorship. He was one of five members of a Human Rights delegation, headed by Ramsey Clark, which attended the World Peace through Law Conference in Manila last August.

"We used the Conference as an excuse to go to the Philippines and investigate conditions there under martial law. All along Marcos used the World Law Conference as a platform to show that martial law is 'different' there."

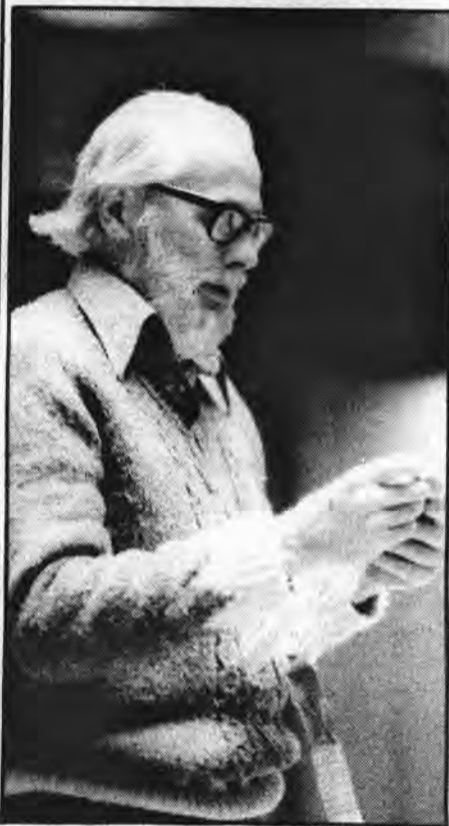


photo by Elliot Stoller

In 1972 Marcos declared martial law. He claims it is still necessary to insure internal and economic stability, and that it doesn't violate Filipino people's human rights. His Minister of Defense insists that no one is tortured.

But what Caughlan and his team saw indicated otherwise. An Amnesty International investigation produced a list of 88 frequently identified torturers; it was presented to the Marcos regime in 1975. So far only four have been brought to trial.

While in Manila Caughlan attended the trial of two of the four, men charged with torturing Trinidad Herera. Herera is a Catholic civil rights leader who was arrested, tortured, and then released in the wake of public pressure from around the world. "Her torturers were tried by

the military, which is directly responsible to Marcos; everyone--judge, jury, and prosecutor-- were military personnel," Caughlan explained. "The prosecutor even claimed Herera was trying to discredit the government with her charges of torture."

The verdict--not guilty.

Other evidence of Marcos' misdoings came in a British videotape documentary that Caughlan brought with him. A newspaper editor was interviewed and told the story of a 55 year old shoemaker who had "done no harm to anyone." The police came knocking with the request that he be at the police station immediately. An hour later, his wife was called and told to come pick up his body. For reporting this, the editor's newspaper was banned.

To investigate the many stories like this that surround the prison camps, the delegation wanted to have a first hand look. Ramsey Clark got as far as the Under Secretary of Defense for detainee affairs, José Crisol. Crisol absolutely refused them permission. "Only family members allowed," was his only explanation.

Caughlan did get to visit Tondo, a huge slum outside of Manila. "It's one of the worst slums in the Orient. Unemployment is 75%, sewers are open, and drinking water must be carried in. But the people are very well organized, and right under the noses of the government," he observed. (Even meetings are illegal under martial law.)

Most observers agree that there is no external threat to the Philippines today. In this circumstance, our bases there only serve to defend and bolster the Marcos government from internal opposition, according to the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) and Caughlan. Marcos is now demanding \$1 billion in military aid as rent for U.S. bases in the Philippines.

Should the U.S. government pay rent, these bases would support the Marcos dictatorship even more. "That regime wouldn't last 15 minutes without the aid and presence of the American military," Caughlan asserted.

Caughlan urged everyone attending the event to put pressure on Congress to get all U.S. bases off the islands. Also, he said, "Regular inquests and protests about individual detainees have been effective at procuring the release of prisoners in the past. The idea is to communicate with the governments of the U.S. and the Philippines about all detainees so that common people can't be picked up and tortured without public outcry."

Interested persons are invited to contact the FFP and help with its "adopt a prisoner" campaign. Call Susan Robb at 525-9683.

-Jim Bernthal



photo by Elliot Stoller

Seattle Rally

Death sentences for three men handed down in the Philippines sparked this rally outside the Philippine Consulate in Seattle on Nov. 28.

The three men are Senator Benigno Aquino, a leading Liberal Party critic of Marcos before martial law; Victor Corpus, a Lieutenant who defected from Marcos' military to join the New Peoples Army (A leftist guerrilla group operating in the Luzon province of the Philippines) and Bernabe Buscayo, a leader of the New Peoples Army.

The following day, after a storm of international protest, Marcos announced that the three men's trials would be reopened. This time they will be allowed to present evidence in their own defense.

SHORTS

DOWN THEIR THROATS

Business Week readers found their November 21 issue, from pages 22 to 46, entirely devoted to a "Special South African Advertising Section." Buy South Africa, invest in South Africa, and visit South Africa, was the message of page after page of ads mixed in with "articles" like a speech by the South African Foreign Minister: "Take an interest in our affairs, communicate with us... but do not try to thrust conflict and calamity down our throats, we will not have it."

Needless to say, "conflict and calamity" in South Africa is reserved for black throats.

--the staff

TROJAN OCCUPIED

122 members of the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance were arrested as a 3 hour sit in at the Trojan nuclear power plant, near Rainier, Oregon, was ended by a contingent of 90 State Police-men. The demonstrators were released on a mass bail bond after they collectively refused to co-operate with a plan to set high bail for second offenders and out of staters. TDA says that during the the impending trial for 2nd degree criminal trespass they will bring in Dr. Ernest Sternglass, dissident authority on nuclear power, and "put nuclear power on trial."

--the staff

LEARNING CAN BE FUN

Senators, their wives and staff are vacationing at citizen's expense. They'll be leaving on a slow boat to the Canal Zone on Dec. 24 for a fact-finding tour. The most important facts to be found could only concern clouds, waves and sea gulls: it will take four days to travel down and four back. Total time to be spent in the Zone: two days. "You're taking a boat?" we asked one senator incredulously. "Either that," he answered happily, "or a very slow plane."

--Walt DeeCee in *New Times*

PSYCHED-OUT

An enterprising airline this past summer hired two psychiatrists as special security guards, with orders to arrest anyone showing signs of "mental instability."

Within minutes after they began looking for subjects, one of the psychiatrists arrested the other.

--Mother Jones

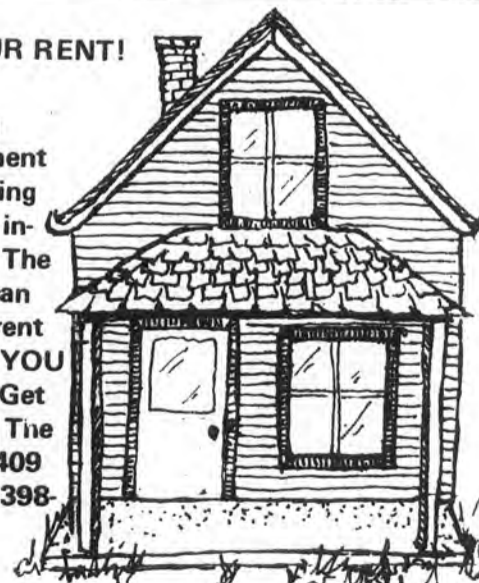
W.A.R. AGAINST RAPE

Seven women in Austin were attacked by the "choker rapist" before the police department got around to publicizing the assaults. When this became known, Austin women reacted in outrage and formed Women Against Rape (WAR). They leafleted the Hyde Park area where the rape had occurred and put up posters, giving a description of the rapist. They also confronted the police, held self-defense workshops and organized a march of 300 women.

--Off Our Backs

LET US HELP PAY YOUR RENT!

If you are a two or more person family renting a home or apartment in Whatcom County (not including Bellingham) and have an annual income of less than \$8 to 12,000, The Bellingham Housing Authority can accept your application for the rent subsidy program. **THE MONEY YOU SAVE IS THE RENT WE PAY!** Get more information by contacting The Bellingham Housing Authority, 409 York St., B'ham. Phone County 398-1119 or City 733-7117.



VIEWS/REVIEWS

"Heroes"... Fonzie Home From Vietnam

Heroes is Hollywood's first attempt to come to grips with the Vietnam war, ushering in a series of new films on the topic. Light and entertaining, it nevertheless portrays for the first time the disillusionment, anger, and alienation that so many Vietnam veterans feel.

The story of a Vietnam veteran struggling to deal with his experiences in the war, the movie skirts any issues that were specific to that war (anti-communism, neocolonialism, the protest movement in and out of the armed forces, etc.)

Instead it chooses to emphasize the personal trauma and the scars, physical and mental, that come from being in a war. Particularly when you survive and your buddy who was trying to save you doesn't make it.

But the war is sort of a sideline to the main action in *Heroes*, which is predominated by a love story a la *The Graduate*, warmed over.

The plot follows Jack Dunne (Henry Winkler of the "Fonz" fame) out of a mental hospital and onto a quest to get

her his combat comrades from various parts of the country in the hopes of starting a worm farm.

On the bus he meets a woman, (Sally Field), who is having second thoughts about her imminent wedding to a man we don't get to meet.

She can't help but notice Winkler who is acting like some kind of Yippie throwback-half charmer, half jerk--taunting the bus driver and communing with his worms.

Field, who is continually having to bail Winkler out of desperate situations, is inevitably won over with compassion for him. Throughout the movie, she is generously giving of support, but is repaid periodically with Winkler's self-indulgent rebuffs.

In one scene Winkler angrily takes off hitchhiking solo in search of a buddy who Field informs him cannot be contacted--without so much as a final goodbye. In another Winkler physically abducts Field into a bathroom merely to tell her his feelings.

While the movie passes this behavior off as a result of the war and Winkler's loose bolts, it seems strikingly typical of Hollywood's traditional perceptions of the acceptable way for a man and a woman to relate--and we couldn't dismiss the message that we were supposed to be charmed by it all.

Also in line with Hollywood's idea of

how a man should act is Winkler's irrepressible ready-to-fight machismo--a machismo that is never confronted by the constraints of reality.

Consider one scene in which Winkler walked unarmed into a bar filled with 6 or 7 hostile country cowboy types (the country people are all mean and tough--right out of *Easy Rider*) who have just mugged him. He wants his money back. In real life, of course, he would have had his ass kicked in short order. But with the help of typical and tired Hollywood fight scene choreography and special sets that allow a getaway car (driven by Field) to smash through a bar wall and back out again, he survives, money recovered.

Winkler has been quoted in *In These Times* as questioning whether "the country is ready for" *Heroes* yet. Perhaps that is the reason the film exhibits an unwillingness to discuss any of the serious issues of the Vietnam war, choosing instead to obscure them with comedy, adventurism, and the lightness of Hollywood antics.

The movie is worthy and important for the glimpse it provides into the emotional effects of that war on those who fought in it. But the wounds of Vietnam will not be healed by movies that dodge any effort to deal with the nature of that war and the reasons we were forced to fight it.

Chris Wagner & Ed Newbold



Jim Hansen

**Against The Grain:
A Carpentry Manual For Women**
Written and Illustrated
by Dale McCormick
Iowa City Press, 1977

Against the Grain answers anyone's objection to a separate women's technical literature. It's the only book we know that conveys a positive, supportive, unpatronizing view of women working alone and together on serious carpentry jobs. Technical information can be gotten from many sources, but all those sources will use the language and assumptions of the dominant male culture. It makes a big difference to both women and men to read sentences like, "If there are two women working on the wall, the next step - nailing the plates to the studs - will be easier." (p.72) Dale McCormick also assumes that women can be good carpenters, so that instead of making al-

lowances for women's size and strength, she describes the techniques that any sensible person can learn to use to maximize her/his effectiveness.

As a manual, *Against the Grain* falls halfway between a good basic how-to book and a heavy duty reference. There are chapters on tool buying and use, lumber and fasteners, and almost every phase of new construction--walls, windows, doors, roofs, stairs, and concrete.

Dale McCormick took great pains with the layout of the book, as she explains in the preface, and her efforts were successful. There are many excellent drawings (she did most of them), both informative and amusing. She has created an elaborate cross-referencing system in the margins to keep track of definitions and discussions of methods that apply in other chapters. In each chapter a few basic dictums are set out from the text in boxes, and they are very well chosen; both the novice and the experienced

carpenter will find them helpful to remember.

It's hard to criticize a book like this for what it leaves out, because there is so much material to cover. There are always arguments on method among carpenters, so there might be times when one of us would do something differently than she describes. But this problem can only be dealt with by looking at several manuals for comparison, and by doing the jobs yourself and figuring out what worked for you. There are some more serious omissions. From our own experience we think that most women will not find themselves doing new construction without doing some demolition. Even if you feel secure about how to build a wall from reading this book, you might find tearing out an existing wall a difficult prospect without any information on how to proceed. Another omission is the router, a really versatile tool. It is also important to know where you can buy the fasteners and tools she discusses, and how to deal with the lumber yards in selecting materials - which can be a hassle for both women and men.

With these few objections aside, we think that *Against the Grain* is a terrific book, and that Dale McCormick deserves respect both for accomplishing a four year union apprenticeship and becoming a skilled carpenter herself, and for making her knowledge available to other women in such a useful form. Women should buy this book for themselves and for their friends - and the Iowa City Women's Press offers a 40% discount to women ordering 5 or more copies.

-Sarah Carleton and Carol Neville

Sarah Carleton and Carol Neville work in the New Hamburger Carpentry Collective in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

People's Yellow Pages

When we want to know where to buy something we can turn to the yellow pages in the phone book. But when we want to contact other people who share our interests or commitments, we are often left exasperated--not knowing where to begin.

Well, a handful of people at the Metrocenter YMCA have tackled this problem, and now we will have the chance in the form of **Seattle People's Yellow Pages**--to reap the fruit of their effort.

They have published descriptions from a great number of grass roots organizations, educational groups, businesses and agencies. Sometimes these descriptions are brief--a paragraph or two and a phone number. Occasionally they've included a page-long introduction describing the purpose of a particular organization.

It can be described as a resource book, but I found myself working through SPYP from cover to cover, much as one might read a newspaper--for interest, entertainment, and to find out what's going on in Seattle. It may be that after acquainting yourself with this book you still might not know "where to begin", but now rather than having nothing much to choose from you'll have too much.

Seattle People's Yellow Pages can be bought for \$3.00 at most bookstores or at Metrocenter YMCA, 909 Fourth Avenue, Seattle 98104. They have cheaper rates for five or more copies.

Gail Fahey

THE PICTURE SHOW

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Seventh Seal

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Dance Free instigators. Rachel, Jim & Jeff taking 5.

Dance Free

Love to dance, but put off by the disco scene? Some Seattlites have recently organized an alternative. Billed as "a chance to cut loose and dance your own way", Dance Free aims to provide a friendly setting where people can move creatively.

It has several distinctive features. Instead of pre-packaged disco music stressing a heavy beat, Dance Free uses a diverse array of styles including classical, jazz, rock, and even environmental music (e.g. the sound of the ocean). A dance floor crowded with people elbow-to-elbow is replaced with a space big enough to let dancers move around freely. And the warm atmosphere makes Dance Free's want to relate to each other. Dancers shift easily from solo to paired to group dancing.

Dance Free is the brainchild of three dance students inspired by a similar event in Los Angeles called "Get High on Dance". Part of their purpose is to break away from the audience-performer separation and let everybody enjoy free-flowing, spontaneous movement. Dance Free organizer Jeff McMahon points out that despite the sexual overtones of discos, disco dancing itself is not very sensual. Though he is quick to add that "Discos aren't that bad—I go to them myself".

So far, Dance Free has been held twice, with 40-60 people participating. The trio of organizers provide a stereo and records and ask for \$2.00 donations to cover rent of a studio and publicity. Participants are encouraged to contribute refreshments.

Organizers hope to make Dance Free a monthly event. Their biggest headache is having to find a new dance space. They have used Still Point Space, a dance studio near Seattle Center, but fear the landlord intends to convert it into an office building. What they need is a large, but inexpensive studio with a wooden floor.

The next Dance Free is scheduled for Saturday Dec. 10th at 2607 - 2nd Ave. Even if your Momma won't dance and your Daddy don't rock and roll, you can still enjoy dancing. For more info or to help out, call Jeff and Tim at 323-4756, or Rachel at 632-2027.

—Doug Honig

Fiery New Reggae

With his second album, *Protest*, Bunny Wailer has returned to the reggae scene with sounds that should expand his audience beyond its current cult status. Wailer was known as Bunny Livingstone when he, Bob Marley and Peter Tosh formed the original Wailers in the early sixties. The Wailers struggled with marginal success until the early seventies, when their *Catch a Fire* album rocketed them to international prominence. Bunny's high vocal harmonies, described by one observer as "angelic and ethereal", were one of the cornerstones of the Wailers' sound.

Fame and success apparently did not sit well with Wailer. Early in 1974, both he and Tosh quit the Wailers, ostensibly because of an aversion to touring outside Jamaica. Rumors have circulated that it was actually a case of too much competition with the charismatic Marley, but both Bunny and Tosh continue to perform with the Wailers on the rare occasions when they play in Jamaica.

When reggae struck full force in America with the spring '76 tour by the Wailers, and the release of their *Rastaman Vibration* album, it seemed that Jamaica possessed a never-ending treasure chest of fine music. Records released last year by the Mighty Diamonds, Burning Spear and others signalled a bright future for the music in this country. But the initial period of curious publicity has passed, and much of the reggae sounds remain alien to American listeners.

Particularly frustrating has been the inability of reggae groups to penetrate the black music market. The Wailers have been the only group able to dent the soul charts. Their singles "Exodus" and "Waiting in Vain" both did well on the charts and received a good amount of radio air play. But these two songs were the only reggae tunes to make it onto *Billboard* magazine's soul charts in 1977.

Bunny Wailer's album has the potential to break this trend and achieve some commercial success, but only if it gets the air play and publicity that is needed to introduce a relatively unknown musician to a popular audience. *Protest* has a smooth and sophisticated sound, and that has earned the album some exposure on the more progressive-oriented FM stations around Seattle. It's one of the best reggae records in

recent months. At its best moments, *Protest* rivals Peter Tosh's *Equal Rights* and even surpasses parts of the Wailers' newest record, *Exodus*.

Wailer has used some of Jamaica's finest studio musicians, including bassist-supreme Robbie Shakespeare,



guitarist Earl "Chinna" Smith, ex-Wailers Bernard "Touter" Harvey and Earl "Wia" Lindo on keyboards, and the blistering horns of Bobby Ellis, Tommy McCook and Dirty Harry Hall. There's also the scathing guitar of Peter Tosh, who adds some flash and fire on "Moses Children" and other songs.

Musically this record is superb. "Moses Children" and "Quit Trying" are reggae/soul hybrids that feature some hot background vocals by the Solomonic Enchanters. A lot of the tunes on *Protest* reflect the soul influence that is becoming increasingly more important in reggae music. Bunny's version of the Wailers' classic "Get Up Stand Up" opens with voices chanting "We want the truth" that could be from any of a dozen pop/soul tunes.

While much of *Protest* is soul-derivative, the sound seems fairly new and unique for reggae. It's a good blend of funk, soul, rhythm and blues, and the more "traditional" reggae sound. The music kicks along; it's vital and

energetic and easy to dance to.

Bunny has a simply magnificent voice. It's reminiscent of Tosh, and the comparisons to both him and Marley are inevitable. But Bunny's voice is more expressive than Tosh's, and he seems capable of doing more with it. One of the great contributions of reggae has been its development of a new generation of top-notch rhythm and blues singers, and Bunny is definitely a part of this.

The lyrics on *Protest* reflect the album's name. Bunny wrote all the tunes except one, as well as producing and arranging the entire record. Lyrically, he touches the best of the Wailers' early political songs. Every song has a social or political theme—there are no love songs here. The subject matter runs through the usual Rastafarian view of the world and the universe. But what's usual for the Rastas is very unusual for popular music. This is, after all, the musical movement which produced such Jamaican hits as "Socialism is Love", and Bunny pulls no punches when he lays out his politics.

The hardest-hitting tune is "Follow Fashion Monkey", which Bunny aims at "Black Yankies", those Jamaicans who try to follow American fashions and social mores at the expense of Jamaican culture. "Drink the water from your own stream", he sings, "before you lose your roots."

There's even a little punk in Bunny. The album ends with "Johnny Too Bad", the Slickers tune that was featured in the movie, "The Harder They Come". Johnny is a rude boy, a Jamaican punk who "had a good inside/Tho he was a wild one." And in "Quit Trying" Bunny sounds like the young British punk rockers when he sings, "You better quit trying/And give the little youth a chance. . . quit trying to live my/Life for me."

Protest is a good record to check out if you enjoy the Wailers and have been wondering where to go next. It's good music you probably won't be hearing on the radio because it's too "unknown" and too political. Don't let that stop you—*Protest* is one of the better new records you can pick up on, and it's guaranteed to warm up the cold winter months.

—Bobby Marquee

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N.W. Energy Update

The fast-breaking struggle over northwest energy futures saw some interesting developments in recent weeks. A U.S. House subcommittee scheduled a public hearing in Seattle on the subject of regional energy plans, and U.W.'s WashPIRG released an electricity study that devastated some traditional cliches of northwest energy wisdom—particularly the forecasts and thinking that calls for the Satsop and Sedro Wooley nukes.

Energy Hearing for Seattle

A December 9th public hearing of the House of Representatives Water and Power Resources Subcommittee is being held in Seattle rather than in the nation's capitol, in a move that is regarded as an effort to encourage citizen input into northwest energy policy.

Of course, looks can be deceiving—no decisions will be made in Seattle. And Joan Hohl, a spokesperson for Washington Public Interest Research Group (WashPIRG), is somewhat suspicious as to why the hearing was scheduled so soon. "The city of Seattle," she points out, "had studies that weren't scheduled to be completed until February." WashPIRG people were caught by surprise: "We had only a few weeks to tell people about this."

Nevertheless, Hohl does not underestimate the importance of the hearings, urging everyone to attend. (The deadline to register to speak, Dec. 1, has already passed.)

The hearing will likely reflect the clear-cut division over N.W. energy directions that has put the utilities, aluminum companies and the nuclear power industry at odds with conservation and consumer organizations.

The needs and wants of the former group are considered by a bill in Congress that was drafted by the Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee (P.N.U.C.C.). The PNUCC bill, a brainchild of the BPA, was described previously in the *Northwest Passage* (May 30) as the "Plan to make the Northwest safe for nuclear power and the aluminum companies." This bill falls into the heavyweight category, with Scoop Jackson in the Senate and Lloyd Meeds in the House listed as its sponsors.

In the opposite corner with more modest backing is a bill introduced by Jim Weaver, Democratic Representative from southwest Oregon. The Weaver bill "has not received a great deal of attention by the media or the public" according to WashPIRG.

The bills take opposing positions on some key issues:

***Pricing, Preference:** PNUCC offers a complex plan, the upshot of which is to "pool" cheap hydro power together with expensive thermal power and offer electricity at a melded rate to all current customers, including the aluminum companies.

Under Weaver's bill, in contrast, low cost hydro power would be available first to residential consumers. Direct service industrial users (aluminum companies) would get what is left after other needs are met, i.e., they would get mostly higher cost thermal power.

Both bills eliminate the preference clause which allows public utilities first crack at hydroelectric power.

(An article in *Seattle's Weekly* (Nov. 16) by James Lalonde draws attention to BPA plans to establish an electricity hookup between the N.W. and Phoenix. This would allow N.W. power, at cheap melded rates under the PNUCC bill, to serve the S.W. An already existing hookup, between the N.W. and California, transfers 17 times as much power south from the N.W. as vice versa.)

***Thermal Power Plants:** The PNUCC bill gives the BPA a mandate to purchase power from thermal (coal and nuclear) plants. This essentially guarantees a market (the BPA) for energy produced by any new N.W. thermal plant and is therefore a subsidy paid by taxpayers benefitting those who invest in thermal plants.

The Weaver bill "does not make it any easier for individuals, groups, or utilities to raise funds for thermal plants," Says WashPIRG.

***Democracy:** PNUCC legislation would create a board consisting mainly of representatives of the utilities, public and private. Weaver's bill calls for a 5 member board, 3 elected by the public and two appointed by the President.

Early Date for Seattle Hearing... Energy Bills Compared... WashPIRG Sees No Need For Skagit, Satsop Nukes ...

***Conservation:** PNUCC would create a \$300 million fund for conservation loans and grants and also develops some conservation standards for utility customers.

The Weaver bill is much more rigorous, specifying that each utility must certify that structures and residences are insulated, weatherized and provided with conservation devices to improve thermal efficiency. Alternative renewable energy sources (solar, wind, geothermal) would be encouraged, and significantly, rates would be reorganized so that large users pay more than small users, a move that would provide considerable incentive for large users to conserve energy.

The Wash PIRG Report

Playing a role in the hearing will be a recent WashPIRG report that has taken some of the wind out of the BPA's sails (or water out of its turbines, as the case may be). The report, *Electricity, Forecasts and Alternatives for the Pacific Northwest*, took a critical look at BPA forecasting of future energy demand and found it significantly "high side biased," i.e. overstated.

Though the technical style of PIRG's report lends itself to understatement, it is clear that PIRG researchers were appalled by the inconsistency and wild assumptions of BPA forecasters. For instance, the BPA projects that by 1995, each residential user would be using two and one half times what she/he consumes currently, despite a large projected price increase in electricity. The BPA also assumed that a small category called "other industrial," currently consuming only 12% of industrial use, would skyrocket more than 1000% by 1995 and consume more than the aluminum companies currently use.

WashPIRG posited several reasons why the BPA might want to over forecast—one of them being that the utilities, which essentially did the forecasts for the BPA, profit from increased power plant construction. (Regulation allows them to charge rates proportional to their rate base, or capital investment.)

Taking a well researched and careful look at various other forecasts, PIRG projected that with a reasonable conservation policy the need for the Skagit, Satsop and Pebble Springs nuclear reactors need never arise.

A "reasonable conservation policy" is in order since, according to the report, "Conservation should be considered as a source of energy, a supplement to existing supplies by freeing wasted energy and using it with a purpose." And not only is conservation a source of energy, but a bargain at that: The report cites evidence that conservation efforts are six times more cost effective than new thermal generation. Therefore, "A kilowatt hour saved through conservation costs one-sixth as much as a kilowatt hour produced by new generation."

If congressmen, the BPA, and the utilities are concerned about finding the cheapest and least destructive way to meet the Northwest's energy needs, they will welcome the information that is brought forth in this report.

The *Northwest Passage* will be attending the Dec. 9th hearing to record their actual reaction.

—by Ed Newbold

Aluminum: You Hear About it Whether You Want to or Not

A tough looking Hollywood style "farmer" is on the tube telling us that irrigation pipes are made out of aluminum. And without irrigation the farmland he's standing on "would be as dry as the Mojave desert." It is a good thing to think about, he says... "around dinner-time," he adds ominously.

The subliminal message is clear: Transgress upon the aluminum companies and a plague of famine and pestilence will descend upon all the land of the Bonneville Power Administration.

With new energy legislation pending, the region's aluminum industry obviously feels it is in a precarious enough position to warrant extensive PR work.

The Precariousness derives from the fact that the industry, comprising 10 plants in 4 northwest states, consumes an incredible 25% of the power used in the region while employing a miniscule .5% of the work

WRAPPING FOOD IN ALUMINUM IS A GOOD IDEA. GROWING FOOD WITH ALUMINUM IS A GREAT IDEA.

Aluminum. From the desert to the desert.

Aluminum is the most abundant metal in the earth's crust. It is used in a wide variety of products, from the foil in your kitchen to the pipes in your home. It is also used in the production of aluminum foil, which is used to wrap food. This is a great idea because aluminum foil is a good conductor of heat and it is also a good insulator. This means that aluminum foil can keep food warm for a long time and it can also keep food cool for a long time. This is why aluminum foil is so popular for wrapping food.

Irrigation and agriculture in the 70's.

Over 85 million pounds of aluminum were used nationally last year for aluminum irrigation supplies. Large farmers irrigate. Small farmers...



Water is a precious resource in the Northwest. It is used for a wide variety of purposes, from drinking water to irrigation. Aluminum is used in the production of aluminum foil, which is used to wrap food. This is a great idea because aluminum foil is a good conductor of heat and it is also a good insulator. This means that aluminum foil can keep food warm for a long time and it can also keep food cool for a long time. This is why aluminum foil is so popular for wrapping food.

force. Since aluminum is the sole consumer necessitating the construction of thermal (coal and nuclear) plants in the area, a seemingly logical course, opposed by the industry, would be to have the aluminum companies pay for the extra cost of this thermal energy. A bill introduced in the House by Jim Weaver, analyzed in the accompanying article, does just that.

An interesting aspect of aluminum production is that it employs fewer workers than any other basic materials industry. Therefore, the more product made of aluminum, rather than steel, glass, wood, et al., the fewer jobs there will be. Beer and soft drink cans, for instance, could be made of recyclable glass rather than aluminum and a net gain of jobs would result.

It's a good thing to think about... arc and job hunting time.

E.N.

FILMS

(B) A film on "China's Communes" will be shown on Wednesday Dec. 7 at 7:30 pm in the Fairhaven College Auditorium (top floor of main building). A discussion of the current situation in China will follow. Sponsored by the Bellingham Chapter of the U.S. China Peoples Friendship Assn.

(S) Seattle Film Society presents two Douglas Sirk movies--"Written on the Wind" and "Tarnished Angels," Fri., Dec. 9 at 8 pm in Seattle U's Pigott Auditorium. \$1.50/students, \$2/others.

(S) The Human Rights Coalition celebrates Human Rights Day with a showing of films on Brazil and Chile, plus a slide show on U.S. aid to repressive regimes. Also cultural & craft presentations. On Fri., Dec. 9 at 8 pm at the 1st Baptist Church, Harvard & Seneca. \$2.00 donation.

ART

(B) "It's Warmer Up Here," an exhibit by Magnolia Gallery members. Dec. 17-19 from 9 am-9 pm at the gallery, located upstairs in Garden St. Methodist Church. Reception on Fri., Dec. 16 at 7 pm.

(S) Gala reopening of Women's Cultural Center with previews of shows by Joanne Morning and Kathleen Kenney, plus dramatic presentations by Elaine Wade, Pam Pulver, and Joyce Lawson. Fri., Dec. 9 at 7 pm at University YWCA, 4224 University Way NE.

(S) Miriam Schapiro, will give a talk entitled "A Feminist Artist Speaks." Thurs. Dec. 8 at 7 pm, at Ethnic Cultural Center Theater, 3940 Brooklyn Ave. NE.

(B) Preview of show of Kathryn Roe's pottery and ceramic murals and Rob Gisher's paintings. Fri., Dec. 9, 7-9 pm, at Whatcom Museum of History & Art, 121 Prospect Street.

(B) Museum Art Studio's annual Student Pottery Sale. Sat., Dec. 10-Sat., Dec. 17, 12-8 pm at 480 Bay View Dr.

POETRY

Skagit Voices, readings by Skagit Valley poets Mike Rust and Clifford Burke, Dec. 11 at 3 pm in the Arts & Crafts Gallery, 414 Commercial, Anacortes. \$1.00.

(S) Lawrence Ferlinghetti reads his poetry. Sun., Dec. 11 at 8 pm at and/or Gallery, 1525-10th Ave. \$3.00.

GIMEL BETH



Darol Streib

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Northwest Forestry Workers Association is an organization designed to link co-operatives & collectives engaged in forest-related work throughout the Pacific Northwest. It is dedicated to the concept of work self-management & to promoting forest management strategies that are socially & biologically sound.

Two participating members, Marmot construction Works (Seattle and Bellingham) & Olympia Reforestation

(Port Townsend) are going to sponsor a meeting of groups from British Columbia & Washington the weekend of January 20th to discuss regional issues & priorities & to form a Wash./B.C. chapter of NFWFA

We are anxious to make contact with potential participants throughout Was. and B.C. To obtain details and to suggest topics for discussion, please contact: Davis Williams, 610 33rd Ave., Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 325-6315

MUSIC

(S) Women's Coffee Coven presents Betty Rose and Cathy Winter on Fri., Dec. 16 at 7 pm (women only) and 9 pm (general) admission at Russian Hall, 704-19th E.

(S) Dance Free, free-flowing dance to all kinds of music. Sat., Dec. 10 at 8 pm at Stillpoint Space, 2607-2nd Ave. \$2.00 donation.

(B) Whatcom Museum of History and Arts presents; Wed., Dec. 7-- An evening of guitar and flute music. 8 pm Thurs., Dec. 8--Peter Kun Frary, classical guitar, 8:15 pm. Fri., Dec. 16--Baroque Music for flute and flute. 8 pm.

(B) Gordon Bok, Maine fisherman, songwriter, and traditional folk-singer, Jan. 5 at Concert Hall, WWU, 8 pm. \$2.

(S) Metrocenter benefit dance with Lance Romance on Sun, Dec. 11 at 8 pm at Rainbow Tavern, 722 NE 45th, \$3.00.

(S) Woody Simmons, songwriter/musician who has played with Chris Williamson and Margie Adams, performs her own music. Also performing are Eliza Roth & Pat Tyler from Seattle Mime Theater. Mon., Dec. 19 at 8 pm at Seattle Concert Theater, 1153 John St. \$3.00.

(B) Prisoners' Support Benefit Concert with music by Peace, Bread, & Land Band with Candy K. & the Cosmic Cowboys. Sat., Dec. 10 at 7:30 pm at Fairhaven College, 1st Floor of Main Building.

(S) Seattle Folklore Society's Clubhouse is moving temporarily to the back room of Fiddler's Roundhouse on the 2nd floor of the Soames Bldg. at the north end of Pike Place Market. Upcoming events include:

Dec. 9--Pat Gill, plus Brenda Pellegrini & Martha Coughlin.

Dec. 10--String band music by The Hurricane Ridge Runners.

Dec. 16--Music of Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, featuring an 8-voice women's Choir and a 7-piece band.

Dec. 17--Xmas music and songs with John & Sally Ashford.

All events start at 8 pm.

EVENTS

(S) "Creation of Eve [il]" A workshop on the history of sexuality. Advance registration required. \$5.00 Sat., Dec. 10 at 2-5 pm. Call 522-8588.

(S) Holiday Party and Dance. Potluck benefit for Lesbian Caucus. Will probably be held at Capital Hill Methodist Church at 8:00 pm on Dec. 17. More info and childcare call 324-3249.

(S) Discussion of "Sexuality & the Goddess Religion" by Rae Larson and Merlin Stone, author of "When God was a Woman." Women only please. Advance registration required. Call 522-8588. Mon., Dec. 19 from 7-10 pm at Sister, 100 NE 56th, Donation requested.

(S) Wine, Womyn, and Song. Open House and Party at It's About Time Womyn's Bookcenter from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Dec. 10 at 5241 University Way NE.

(S) Slide show & talk on Women's Wilderness Trips for backpacking and cross country skiing. By Keep Listening. Thurs., Dec. 8 at 8 pm at Innerspace Coffeehouse, 5241 University Way NE.

(B) "Christmas Fun," a community meal sponsored by Bellingham Food Bank and Whatcom Cty, Opportunity Council. Fri., Dec. 16 at 5:30 pm at the YWCA on 1026 N. Forest. 25 cents/person, 75c per family.

(S) "The Chemical Explosion: A New Epidemic in the Workplace", a talk by Tom Burkholder, International Representative for the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers, will be presented at 7:30 pm. Monday, December 12, at the Labor Temple, 2800 First Avenue, at a Coalition for Protective Legislation meeting.

(S) Human Rights Coalition Evening of Films, showing *Torture in Brazil*, *Chile: Eyewitness Account of the Coup*, and *Stop Aid to Repressive Regimes*. \$2, Fri., Dec. 9 at 8:00 p.m. First Baptist Church, Seneca and Harvard.

(S) El Centro de la Raza proposal for \$600,000. to complete renovations comes up before a City Council committee. Community support is needed. Thurs., Dec. 8 at 7:30 pm at Franklin High library, 3013 South Mt. Baker Blvd.

(S) There will be a brunch and meeting for all people interested in helping organize a non-profit, community-based coffee house on Capital Hill. Sun., Dec. 11 at 11 am at 2900 Fuhrman East. If interested, please call 323-9328.

Nutritious Food at Low Prices
All Volunteer Community Store
Open: 11-7 M-F; 10-6 Sat.
Supporting women's space
Phinney St.
Co-op ★
400 N. 43rd St Seattle

Capitol Hill Co-op

A membership owned and operated institution, largely devoted to supplying food, with emphasis on cost, purity, and nutrition

12th and Denny

Welcome to the
Golden Temple
Conscious Cookery
Vegetarian Cuisine
Try our famous honey ice cream
Tues.-Sun. 4:30-9:30
3505 N.E. 45th
523-2321

In the Market
1500 Pike Pl.
open 8:30-6 M-S
THE CORNER GREENGROCERY & NATURAL FOODS STORE
A worker owned & managed collective.
featuring:
Little Bread Co.
"taking the market to the people"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Follow-up booklet on the Strong Women's Conference is now available for 50 cents at Left Bank Books, Red and Black Books, and It's About Time books. (Seattle)

Gail Bigelow and Moss are facilitating an ongoing weekly women's problem solving group. It meets Wednesdays 5:30-8:30 in Seattle. Open to all women. Fee- \$20-40 /month. sliding scale. Anyone interested contact Moss at 632-0530 or Gail 329-8595

Fairhaven Massage and Therapy Center offers one hour of relaxing and therapeutic massage for \$12. call 734-6818 for information or appointment. Christ mas gift certificates available. Located at 1209 11th St. , B'ham

The Seattle Men's Resource Center is a gathering of changing men who are struggling with the issue of sexism. For info on Men's C R Groups, the Weekly Men's Open Rap Group, or other activities, you can call the metrocenter YMCA at 447-4551 and ask for the Seattle Men's Resource Center.

The Good Earth Building Invites You to an open house and benefit sale on Sunday Dec. 18 beginning at noon. There will be local Artisans demonstrating their crafts and selling their work, music and refreshments:

Teri Dixon: Please tell me how to reach you. R. Park 112 Merriam Walla,Walla, 99362

The Passage Collective in Seattle is fixing up its office and could use a hand from a few people with some carpentry skills. Want to help us? Call Bill 329-6975 or 323-0354.

Forming Ham radio/Nonviolent Activist Network. Exchange daily messages/discussions between like-minded groups/individuals. Contact: R.G. 2324 NW Columbia, East Wenatchee, WA 98801

The Feminist Karate Union has recently moved to 101 Nickerson St. Suite 250A, Seattle. This is in the Nickerson St. Business Park, 3 blocks west of the Fremont Bridge.

Have you gone down the Amazon or are you planning on going? I'd like to talk with you. Call Tracy evenings, 632-7492

happy birthday , joanie!!!! i love you!

Connexions

**PRISONERS' SUPPORT
BENEFIT CONCERT**

SAT., DEC. 10. 7:30pm
FAIRHAVEN COLLEGE
FIRST FLOOR MAIN BLDG.

music by
peace bread & land band
Sid Brown, John Carleton, Rennie Selkirk
Richard Sholtz & Cliff Perry Eddy, Esther, & Jamie
Candy K. and the Cosmic Cowboys
tickets: \$2.00
available at B'ham co-op, Rawls or at the door

Dan Wershow, Lawyer, announces he has moved his offices to 320 Alaska Building Second and Cherry Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 622-0340 where he is sharing space for the general practice of law with Paul L. Raymond, Fred Diamondstone, and Theodore Goodwin.

A reference library with information on energy saving and energy sources is open 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday at 2332 E. Madison St., Seattle

WORK

Jackrabbit Press, a worker owned and operated women's printshop is looking for two experienced printers. We do both commercial and political work. For more info, write to us at 454 Willamette, Eugene, Or. 97401

Country Rock Tavern Band needs drummer. 734-9080 evenings Peter.

PRISONER CORRESPONDENCE

Terry Melvin King no. 36919-118
Box 888
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Tony Davis no. 136-260
PO Box 511
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Philip Taylor no. 00039-177
Clemson Unit
Box 1000
Butner, NC, 27509

HOUSING

3 people living in old Bellingham house with wood heat & cooking would like another person willing to share in basic responsibilities. Women preferred. Call or come by : 808 25th, B'ham 733-7901

Starting Jan. 1:
2 Roommates wanted to share 3-bedroom house and garden on Cherry St. (northside). \$80. plus one-third of utilities including phone. Just remodeled, wood/electric heat, 1½ baths, carpeted bedrooms w/lofts, hardwood floors. Mature person, vegetarian, non-smoker preferred. NO dogs. I'm into natural foods, carpentry, gardening, music, and quiet living. Call Dan at 676-0552 after 5:30 pm or weekends. Keep trying.

Pony needs a home. NOT to have but to share. Good with children, doesn't bite or kick. I will pay for food. Fenced area not necessary. Flip Breskin-676-5126 or message-676-3728. B'ham.

FOR SALE

RAINTREE NURSERY: Old favorite and disease resistant apple tree varieties for organic growers of Western Washington. Catalogue, Christmas gift offer. 265 Butts Rd., Morton, WA. 98356

FOR SALE: Framus Guitar--\$75. King Cornet--\$50. BSR Minichanger--\$25. Call Jim, 734-2824:

RIDE WANTED

I need a ride immediately to the east coast-boston area, I have a dog and will share gas and driving, call me at 734-8271--sian

At 314 N. Commercial St. Bellingham

OPEN DAILY

LUNCH: Mon. Fri., 11a.m.-3p.m.

CELEBRATION COOKERY
natural foods restaurant

DINNER: 5-9p.m. Thur.- Mon.,