

Fred Miller's St. Helen's Photo • Inflation

35c

# Northwest Passage

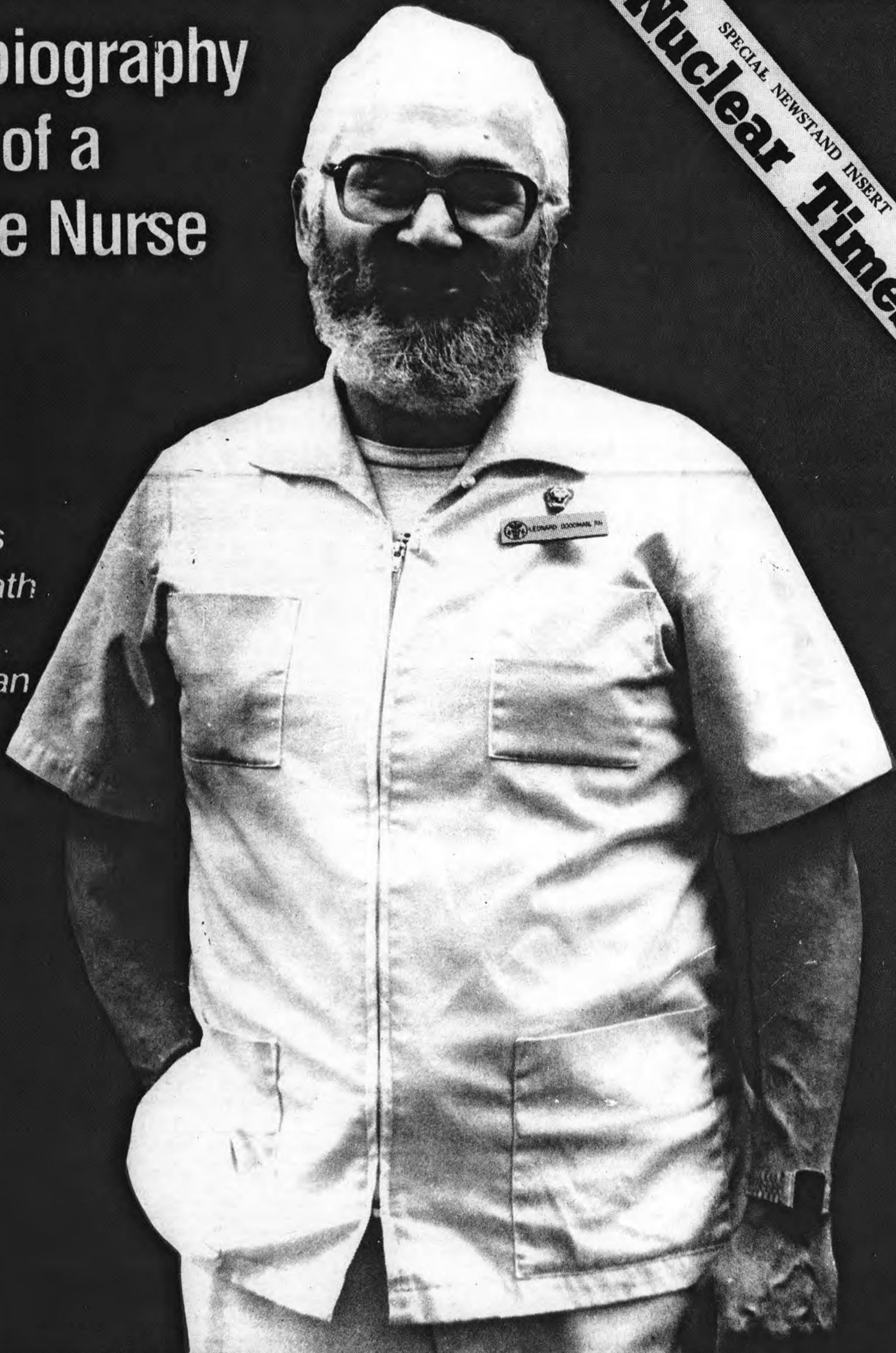
The Northwest's Worker Controlled Newspaper, Vol. 20, No. 8, April 22 to May 12, 1980

Autobiography  
of a  
Male Nurse

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SPECIAL NEWSTAND INSERT  
**Nuclear Times**

*New  
Hands  
Beneath  
The  
Bedpan*



Yshoo:



Wendy Sanders 1979

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LETTERS

Union-Busting

Dear Northwest Passage,

The letter in the March issue about Weyerhaeuser and unions sounds like a graduate of a union-busting seminar. One wonders if the letter writer had help writing it from a Weyerhaeuser "labor relations" lawyer. One of our ex-agents from the Service Employees went to work for Weyerhaeuser in Longview as one of those lawyers. He did believe unions should be big business, and staff should live "high on the hog" as the writer describes us. He, and a couple before him underestimated the indignation of the "little" members. These "big union bosses" don't last long.

One also wonders if the letter writer ever attended any union meetings, ever spoke up in any, ever volunteered any help for change.

Sincerely, Charlotte Osborn

Smoking Out Roaches

Dear Sarah Stearns,

A wonderful column, and a very appropriate name. But do you think we should abandon precautionary cancer tests. Seriously? Also, I have a problem, I'm sure others face, which you might have some good advice for. Cockroaches. They're in my apartment building and they drive me nuts. The landlord has contracted with an exterminator who sprays periodically, but the effects are merely cosmetic. A couple days and dead cockroaches later, the main herd is back in residency. However, I don't let them spray in my apartment. The fumes are terrible (they tell us not to worry, but they also ask that we put all our food stuffs away before they spray.) Anyway it doesn't do any good.

So my question is, do you know of any organic cures or preventives for cockroaches? I really can't stand the buggers, but I'll take them over pesticides any day.

- a comrade on the urban warfront, Cecil Downes

Dear Comrade Downes,

I definitely don't think we should abandon all medical exams to detect cancer. But I think we also need to examine the cancer organizations, like ACA. Also, Patrick at Seattle's PCC Mercantile recommends diatomaceous earth, applied to the baseboards, as a substitute for pesticides in housing. Critters don't like diatoms, he says. - S.S.



"I Climbed St. Helens For This?!"

These are the first published photos from Fred Miller's historic and celebrated ascent of the active Mt. St. Helens volcano, circa April 3.

A close inspection of these historic exclusive photos will reveal that they did not turn out too well. Miller himself concedes the point: "They look like a gravel pit on a foggy day," he shrugs.

Miller, for those who haven't been keeping up with the news, is the man who took an unannounced trip up the steamy mountain about the time everyone was thinking it was going to pull out all the stops once and for all. Not wanting to hurt Fred, however, the mountain held off, and has become calmer ever since.

Although Miller made no apparent attempt to publicize his trip, he was discovered anyway--hitchhiking out of Cougar all covered with ash. After the discovery, it was interview after inter-

view for Fred--on the morning we talked to him, he'd already been on the phone to a Miami paper. Incidentally, one of the things that was only peripherally apparent from the media accounts concerns Miller's politics. We'd like to emphasize, in case anyone wants to make some kind of a celebrity out of Fred, that he is in fact a bona fide accredited Trident Trasher and Nuke Knocker.

But we're getting off the subject. The final installment in the drama occurred last week, when the historical documentary evidence--in the form of the telling instamatic photos we have printed here--came back from the drug store. These will no doubt be filed in history's annals as testimony to what may have been the most questionable human response to volcanic activity in recorded memory.

Since Miller's trip and since the mountain has quieted down a bit, there

Trident Prisoners California Bound

Federal inmates of the King County Jail--the Tank--got a little surprise on the morning of April 15. While average citizens scrambled to mail their income taxes to pay for Trident, twenty Trident resisters and an undetermined number of their associates accused of Federal crimes were being shipped to California.

Friends of the resisters at the Live Without Trident office in Seattle got their first inkling of the move at 6:45 a.m. when Ben Hines, a prisoner, attempted to reach them with a long-distance phone call which was unfortunately not completed. About 8 a.m. a relative of one of the resisters, while attempting to see her at the

Tank, observed a line of women prisoners handcuffed and lined up.

Jim Douglass, a long-time Trident activist currently incarcerated, was shipped to LA County Jail on April 12. Somewhere en route he was able to see the court order for the transfer of Federal prisoners from King County Jail and memorize the names and destinations of the Trident resisters. They are bound variously for Lompoc, San Diego, Pleasanton and Boron, which is on the edge of the Mojave Desert.

The transfer was not motivated by governmental compassion for the crowded residents of King County Jail as much as by the expiration of the Fed's contract with that noble institution. The abruptness and secrecy of the move and the increased difficulty in communications for the local prisoners are not mitigated by the benefits of more space. If the government was concerned by the welfare of its prisoners, it should have let them go.

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has been another climb of St. Helens, this time by 3 Seattle men carrying sophisticated camera gear and beer. This group was unabashedly capitalistic in its attitude toward the mountain: "This trip is a little adventure, a little business," was the way one put it. They even went so far as to film themselves guzzling Olympia and Rainier on the summit in hopes of selling a commercial.

In response, the Passage would like to go on record as hoping that the beer companies involved won't fall for this gambit. We'd rather see a herd of Rainiers holding up downtown traffic or a swinging, non-heterosexual Olympia washroom scene than some macho jerks promoting the male mystique at Saint Helen's expense.

The Seattle Times provided a footnote on the latter climb, in the form of an editorial on Wednesday, April 16th, right above the one that called the anti-corporate Big Business day a "non-event". "Those three men," whined the editorial, "are not heroes in our book....Whether they make or lose money on their ill-advised venture, the clandestine climbers have set an example that might get imitators in serious trouble."

Well, they must have made *some* money. A picture they sold to the Seattle Times was on Page One that day.

By Ed Newbold



Photos  
By Fred Miller

## J.P. Stevens Rings Up Bell

Departed U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell finds himself with a new client now that he's back in private practice. According to *Labor Notes*, J.P. Stevens—the notorious anti-union textile company—has hired Bell's law firm of King and Spalding to defend it against a union law suit alleging illegal surveillance and conspiracy to violate civil rights.

## Birmingham Sunday

Of the scores of racist attacks during the height of the Civil Rights movement in the South, few were more heinous than the 1963 KKK bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., which left four black children dead.

Today—almost 17 years after the fact—revelations have surfaced linking the Birmingham Klansmen with J. Edgar Hoover's FBI. The expose is contained in a Justice Department report completed seven months ago but which the agency has refused to release. The *New York Times* disclosed some of the material after obtaining the 302-page report.

Hoover, who was given the names of the Klansmen who bombed the children, "blocked prosecution in the case, which involved the largest number of deaths in a single incident in the Civil Rights Movement in the South," the *Times* notes.

According to the Justice Department report it appears that two FBI operatives, Gary Thomas Rowe and John Wesley Hall played a key role in the bombing which killed the four children. Rowe, who was paid \$22,000 by the FBI between 1960 and 1965, was one of three top Klansmen who has "veto power over all violence planned by the Klan's Eastview 14 Klavern in 1963," according to the Justice Department report. It is clear that Rowe never used this "veto power," and the report states that besides the Church bombing there is strong evidence that Rowe personal-

## NEWS

ly killed two people during the Klan attacks.

Rowe's sidekick, Hall, not only planted the bomb which killed the children but also bombed a black lawyer's home. FBI chief Hoover received detailed reports about Hall's violent activities. The Justice Department report says that FBI "field agents told the task force that violence against blacks was essential."

## Men Rape

If you are a man reading this and are offended by the above title, you should consider:

There is a qualitative difference in being a woman in America and being a man. Women are raped, assaulted, beaten, and killed on the streets far more often than men. If current trends continue, one in every three women will be raped sometime in their lives. Women live in fear of rape 24 hours a day. They fear every strange (and many familiar) men they pass on the street—especially when it is dark, poorly lit, and there are few people around. Women are constantly aware of rape. Men are not. We need to become aware of what women feel walking down the street or when alone in their residences and then act out of that knowledge.

There are patterns of male behavior that men have learned, internalized and act out unconsciously. These patterns are visible to women. Let women know you're NOT A RAPIST.

--When approaching a woman on the streets, keep your hands visible.

--Walk so women have a clear path.

--Be aware that every man is a potential rapist/killer to every woman. No fast, sudden moves or jerky body movements.

--Wear buttons "Against Rape" or "Stop Rape" for other men to see your view.

--Confront potential rape scenes.

When you see a man verbally hassling a woman on the street, stand by to see if she needs help. If a man is hitting or holding a woman against her will, act immediately. If you feel confident enough, offer direct aid by speaking out, yelling, or physical intervention. At least call the police.

--Be conscious when walking in groups of men approaching a woman. Remember how afraid she probably feels and give her space on the street.

--Confront men's rape jokes and rapist remarks.

--Stand up to other men about what rape really is and how they are supporting rapist ideas by their behavior. Be prepared to lose the support you get from men.

--Over 50% of rapes occur in private residences. Stop and question men obviously canvassing houses in neighborhoods in which there is a high density of women. If you have doubts call the police.

We men must remember it is our fellow men who rape. The question we must ask ourselves is "Are we willing to take responsibility for being men in this society?"

--Thanks to the Men's Program Unit, Champaign Post Amerikan

## Sports Pay-Off

The Bonus Question to the Sports Quiz in the last NWP was: "A woman's place is on top" was the slogan for what athletic endeavor of 1979?

The answer: The all-women's climb of Annapurna in the Himalayas. A free subscription to the NWP has been donated to a prisoner on behalf of the winner—Cleo Casanova of Seattle.

## Urban Wars

By Sarah Stearns

## "You HAD A Good Home; Why Didn't You Stay In It?"

I have lately stopped reading housing crisis articles in the papers because I've become so sensitized to the issue that my own anger becomes intolerable and I want to go out and shoot down all capitalist owners. Actually, that might be a fairly rational idea, but I'm not ready to follow it through yet. So I am currently sticking my head in the sand, not in the newspaper.

However, my friend, Jean, who must deal with the situation because she's a single mother looking for a place to live, shoved a clipping in my face the other day and forced me to read it. The clipping contained several letters written to the Seattle Times in response to an article by reporter Warren King about the new law in Seattle making it illegal to show rental bias against children.

"Read these letters and tell me what you think," she ordered.

I started skimming them. "They sound like the same old whine about property owners having their Divine Rights threatened by the government," I said. "What's new about that?"

"You didn't really read them," she said, grabbing the clipping back. "Listen to this. A guy named Al Maza says, 'Neither the city nor parents have a right to force me to tolerate noise, loose toys, finger smudged and toy-damaged walls. We can't raise our rents to cover those things.'"

"The hell they can't!" Jean snorted. "They can and do raise their rents for ANY reason, as much as they want. And this: 'What about my right to live where there are no children if I so choose?' And this: 'There is no doubt children are entitled to have a place to live. But what entitles anyone to force an apartment owner to rent to persons with children?' You think that sounds reasonable? Just substitute 'blacks' or 'Jews' for 'persons with children,' is it still reasonable?" She stopped for breath.

"Well, of course," I jumped in, "this whole thing IS a sort of racist thing. These owners are portraying children as a separate race who have such undesirable qualities that no one would choose to live with them ..."



graphic by connie cook

"OK, at least you see that," Jean interrupted. "But this guy Maza goes on, 'Incidentally, besides being a property owner, I am also a parent. However, I have never expected anyone to be forced to rent to me, simply because I chose to become a parent and they had a vacancy.' And some other owner named Conrad Schloredt writes, 'I have tried to rent my property on a first-come, first-served honorable fashion. I have reserved the right (heretofore) as to whether subject property was suitable for children to be a fact of my own determination.'"

"So?" I said. "Just more of the same elitist property-owner bullshit."

"No, it isn't," Jean said disgustedly. "Look, this Maza guy says 'CHOSE to become a parent.' Now what segment of the population is most apt to be needing to rent places to live in, when they have children, rather than buying their own houses? People with one income, of course. And what group is most likely to have one income? Single parents. And which sex is most likely to be custodial single parents? Women. And which sex is thought of as 'CHOOSING', for whatever reason, good or bad, to become parents? Women.

"So what he's really saying," she summed up, "is 'Look, you women, don't blame me because you have those kids you can't house, you CHOSE to be in your situation.' Well, how do you define choice? I have two teenage children which means I had them back in the '60's when there was still a strong societal expectation that you should have kids, or you weren't doing your duty as a female. Birth control was very chancy and it was also almost entirely the woman's problem. And this Mr. Maza telling me it was my 'choice' was probably a part of that society which was then telling me it WASN'T my choice, it was mandatory. And he as a member of the prevailing power group—men—made that choice for me.

Continued on page 12

# What You Always Wanted to Know About Inflation\*,

By Louis Howe

Irwin Zuckerman worked for many years as a chief executive for a pulp and paper firm, returning to Yale University a few years ago to get his doctorate in Economics. While at Yale he discovered the work of Karl Marx who, he says, was the only economist he studied who understood how decisions are made in the firm. The following interview is meant as much to inform people about economic issues as it is to state a position about them; it isn't a definitive account of Irwin Zuckerman's views on inflation.

**NWP:** There is a lot of confusion about inflation. Could you just say exactly what it is?  
**IZ:** Sure. Inflation is, by definition, *persistently rising prices*. That is all it is. Notice that in order to get down to a zero rate of inflation, prices don't have to come down. They just have to stop going up.

**NWP:** Another thing people seem confused about is the president's anti-inflation policy. Can you make some sense out of it?

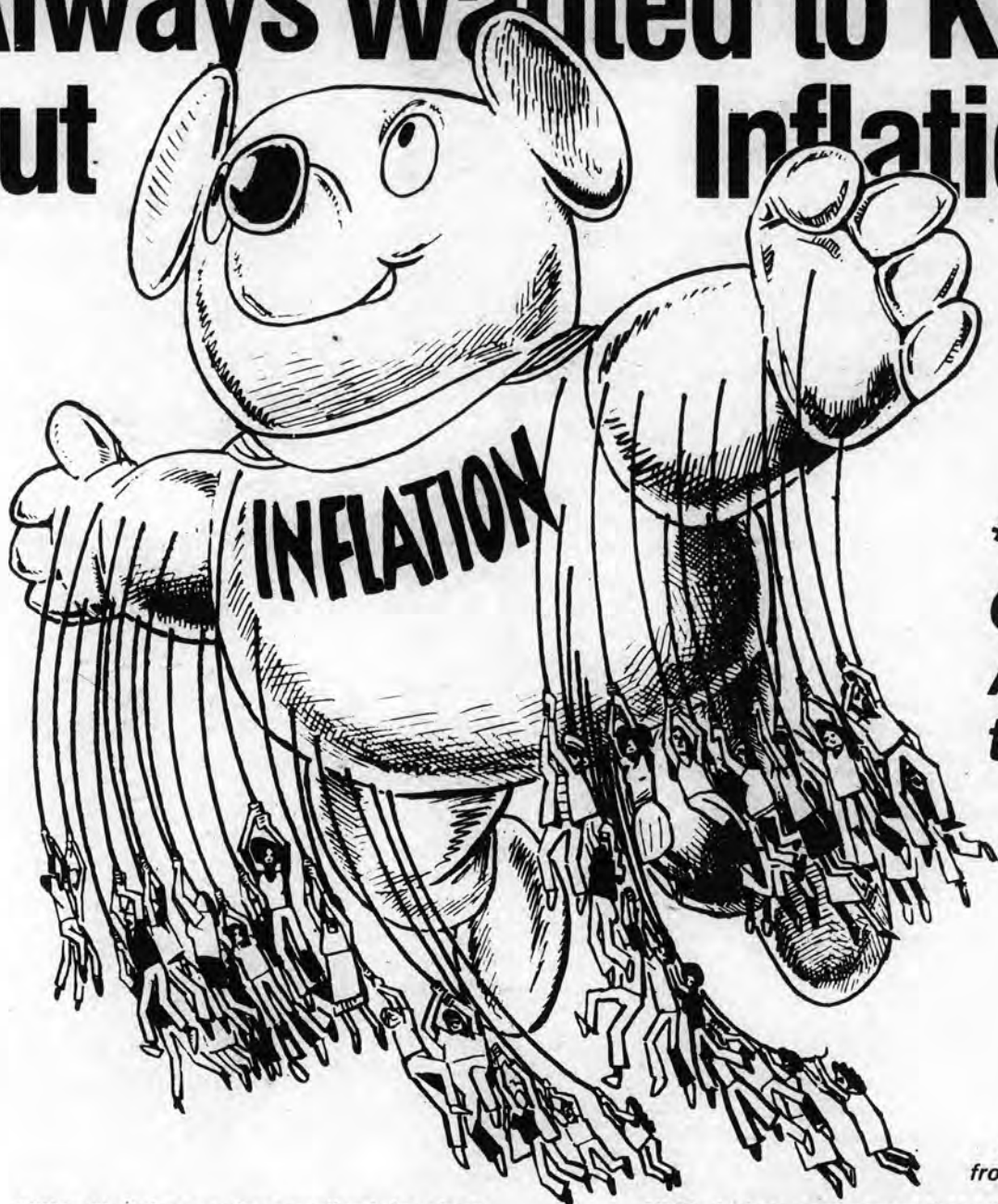
**IZ:** To understand what the president's policy makers are doing you need to understand the theory they use to explain inflation. They think of it like an auction, okay? At this auction there is more money than there are things to buy. So the buyers are having to bid each other up, and the prices keep going up. Policy makers see the current inflation as though too much money were chasing too few goods, or, as they would say, too much aggregate demand. They say there is too much spending going on in the economy.

So then they ask, "how do you stop spending?" Well, there are two types of spending in the economy: government spending and private spending. You stop private spending by restricting borrowing. That is done by the Federal Reserve Board manipulating the market for government bonds. They give investors a high enough rate of return on bonds that they buy bonds rather than lending it out. So the banks put their money into bonds instead of loaning it. That's what is meant by saying the prime rate is going up. The Federal Reserve takes that money and freezes it, so that money comes out of the economy. Okay, that's how you stop private spending.

How about government spending? They stop that through the political process. Carter is now trying to get congress to cut \$12 billion out of the budget. The Republicans are saying, "Peanuts! \$50 billion, \$60 billion and return 40% of it in a tax cut."

**NWP:** Do you think this policy can stop inflation?

**IZ:** Oh, yes, it can stop inflation. You can always stop a disease by killing the patient. There is some point where, if you cut spending enough, you can stop inflation. The question is, how much is enough? That's what nobody knows. In the great depression we got 25% unemployment, factories operating at around 50% of capacity, profits just about wiped out, and it still took three years before prices fell. It took from 1929 to 1932. But it is true that whatever the cause of inflation, if you cut spending enough, you'll stop it.



**\*But Couldn't Afford to Ask**

Nick Thorkelson from Dollars & Sense

**NWP:** How does cutting spending bring about a recession?

**IZ:** It throws people out of work. When you cut spending, you cut buying. Whatever it was that people were buying before you made the cut -- houses, automobiles, factories, machinery -- the people engaged in making those things will be out of their jobs when people stop buying. If they can't get credit, developers stop building houses; if financing is tight, firms stop ordering new equipment. That means a lot of carpenters, steel workers and fabricators are thrown out of work. The same thing happens in the retail market.

**NWP:** Is cutting spending a good idea, then?

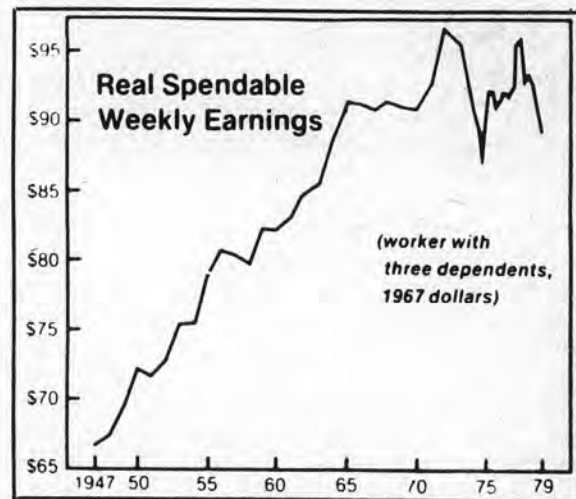
**IZ:** Not now it isn't. If unemployment were down around 2% and if factories were operating at, say, 96 or 97% of capacity, then you could say that inflation was caused by too much spending.

**"You can always stop a disease by killing the patient."**

But we have 6 and 7% unemployment, going up to 8 or 9%. Industrial production isn't rising. Factories are operating at about 80 to 81% of capacity, and we've still got a 13% inflation. That just doesn't sound like too much spending. Here we've got all these unemployed people and factories working way under capacity. It seems obvious that the country already has too little spending. *What's the point of cutting spending? That's only going to make people miserable.*

**NWP:** It does seem strange that prices could keep rising with 6% unemployment. How does that happen?

**IZ:** Historically, the only thing that ever prevented inflation was that periodically there were deep recessions, depressions. First there's a boom, and firms raise their prices, and then along comes a slump. The most fundamental cause for the slump is that during the boom there is too much accumulation of inventories, building, plant, and equipment. You get over-capacity. You have the capacity to produce more than



the economy can take from you.

How does that happen? During a boom, if one firm is building and the other is not, the first will get growth and the other will not, so that the first one cuts into the market share of the second. There is a struggle going on for market shares. Since it's a boom, the firm is earning all these profits. What else are they going to do with the money? They've either got to give it to the stockholders, or build. So they tend to build, each one hoping that the market will sustain itself and also hoping that its competitors won't build, or maybe hoping they'll be able to ship abroad. You wind up with all this excess capacity, and so at some point all the people employed building that capacity are thrown out of work.

It is worth mentioning here that Marx believed that the underlying cause of recessions was that accumulation -- plant, equipment, and inventories -- grows faster than wages. Wages is what soaks up the product of all that capacity. Theoretically if you kept wages balanced with accumulation you could have steady, even growth with no booms and no busts. But in a capitalist economy, whenever there is a boom, profits surge ahead, go into accumulation, and, as it goes into accumulation, there is a natural ending.



NWP: But we haven't had a big depression in a long time.

IZ: Right. What happened was that western capitalist economies picked up the idea that you could prevent recessions by having the government spend money. If the workers can't spend, well, let the government spend. Government is an unrestrained spender because it has, in effect, an unlimited income. Or they can manipulate the bond market to make borrowing easier. So since World War II, whenever a recession is threatening, the government steps in and stimulates spending, or aggregate demand.

NWP: What happens when you stimulate demand to keep off recessions?

IZ: The result is that business people become used to the government being committed to keeping off recessions. Actually, at first it was business people, now it is everybody who thinks, 'Just buy something, the price will go up.' Even if you can't sell the product, you can't buy a house as cheap, you can't drill an oil well as cheap, you can't build a plant as cheap in 1980 as you could in 1970. As soon as you get the money, put it into something physical.

So first you have the government's commitment not to let a recession happen, and then you have people's expectations of the government's commitment, and you are already into the second level of it. A special kind of spending comes out of the anticipation of more inflation, so that 16% inflation is the result of 8% inflation. Our present inflation is heavily of this category. You know, in the old days people with mortgages sometimes lost their houses. In 1933 my father lost his. People used to tell you, 'Don't take on a big Mortgage, watch that interest rate.' Nowadays all that caution is gone.



These figures (see graph) show a number of periods of rapidly rising prices, especially during war years. But for much of U.S. history, prices fell as often as they rose. At the end of the 19th Century, wholesale prices were about the same as in 1790; on the eve of the First World War, consumer prices were no higher than a century earlier. Many of the periods of decreasing prices included spells of economic collapse, business failures, and deep depressions which threw millions of people out of work. NOTE: The prices on this chart are indexed to reflect relative purchasing power.

NWP: So the new cause of inflation is inflation itself. . . okay, but what causes the first inflation?

IZ: The basic inflation is the hardest to explain. There is a strong bias for high-productivity industries to raise costs in all the other industries. This happens mostly because, first of all, different industries have different rates of productivity, but also because individual firms and unions make their own labor contracts. There is a free market for labor.

If productivity in one firm is going up by 10% a year, then that firm, rather than take a strike when orders are coming in and business is good, will grant up to a 10% yearly wage increase, and that firm's costs don't go up. Meanwhile, what is happening in the industries where productivity doesn't rise, say sanitation and fire fighting? Those workers don't care that the people at Boeing are in a high-productivity industry, they want the same wages that Boeing gets. Why not? They live in the same neighborhood. And they are going to strike for it, and they'll get it.

When that happens the low-productivity industries experience a 10% increase in costs. That increase has either got to cut into profits, or the industry has to raise its prices. Now, it won't cut into profits, because then those firms

Continued on Page 12

## Snaildarter All Wet

### The Snail Darter's Revenge...

By Ed Neubold



## Weyerhaeuser Hits Snag In Oklahoma

If you've listened to too many Woody Guthrie songs, you undoubtedly think the Oklahoma Hills are a place where the oak and blackjack trees kiss the mighty prairie breeze.

However, the song that contains these lines is not only long off the charts, but now even its factual basis is getting out of date.

It so happens that the Oklahoma Hills—or at least a 900,000-acre, Rhode Island-sized chunk of them—were bought by the Weyerhaeuser Corporation in the late '60s. And since that purchase, the Tacoma based multinational has wasted little time in clearcutting the old mixed ("oak and blackjack") forest and replacing it with new pine-only tree farms.

The practice was attacked in a salvo that went surprisingly unreported here in the Northwest. The National Wildlife Federation called the company on the carpet, charging that, "The Weyerhaeuser method of clearcutting extensive areas of the existing mixed pine and hardwood forest followed by replanting with pure pine was resulting in the loss

of hardwood habitat vital for wild turkey, raccoon, squirrel, and other wildlife."

The Federation also charged that the company's logging practices were silting up the creeks and wreaking havoc on the area's small-mouth bass populations. And they argued that the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker may disappear entirely from the hills, since it's chosen nesting sites—infected mature pine trees—are generally targeted for quick destruction.

The Federation, which owns a nominal amount of Weyerhaeuser stock, has carried its crusade into Weyerhaeuser's home court by filing two shareholder's proposals (which will have been voted on when this issue goes to press). One proposal asks that Weyerhaeuser clean up its environmental act in Oklahoma, by: Allowing oak buffer zones along creeks; limiting the size of clearcuts; retaining some snags, or dead trees, for cavity-nesting birds and mammals; and reducing erosion from logging roads.

The second proposal asks Weyerhaeuser to set up a formal wildlife policy that would involve the participation of fish and game departments, local conservationists, sportspeople and recreation groups.

Weyerhaeuser is less than overwrought about the challenge. Public relations officer Tom Ambrose

characterized the whole issue as little more than a misunderstanding: "The proposals are based on the assumption that there aren't any such guidelines, but there are." Even if passed, Ambrose contended that the proposals would change actual policy very little. "We don't see it as a threatening thing," he assured me.

Threatening or not, however, Weyerhaeuser's "Annual Meeting Notice" advises shareholders in no uncertain terms to nix the proposals. "While your Board of Directors shares the proponent's interest in the integration of forest and wildlife management on our lands in southeastern Oklahoma," reads the notice, "the Board recommends a vote 'AGAINST' Proposal A." The company's statement goes on to cite a variety of already-existing company policies and guidelines on wildlife, and then proceeds to congratulate itself for being in the "forefront" in this area and for maintaining a "high level of environmental performance."

As environmental argumentation, the company's answers leave room for doubt. But shareholders who, like you or me, have probably not been to the Oklahoma Hills recently will be making the decision on the basis of who they would like to believe, and they have a powerful incentive to want to believe the straight profit-maximization line.

My friend the Snail Darter thinks that the owners will vote down the proposals and that the various critters who depend on the hardwood trees will have to pack up and move out. After all, I am reminded, Woody Guthrie was right about one thing: "If you ain't got the dough re mi..."

**LATE BREAK:** Snail Darters are only mortal—as the Tellico Dam-building TVA seems so anxious to prove—so it should come as not too much of a shock that the Snail Darter's prediction has proven to be in error. Apparently Weyerhaeuser, in an abrupt change of policy, has offered a compromise agreement on the proposals to the Federation. Guardedly optimistic, the Federation has accepted the proposal and will be monitoring its implementation.



Raccoon and pileated woodpeckers: two species that won't take well to tree farms, according to the National Wildlife Federation.



# MAY DAY

By **Michael Wold**



Can you imagine millions of people marching in the streets—in France, in Great Britain, in Italy, in Sweden—all on the same day, and all for the same reason—to celebrate the collective strength of working people fighting against capitalism? It happens every May 1st.

You probably *can* imagine day-long parades of military weapons and troops in Moscow, purportedly for the same reason. That's because the TV shows it every year to American viewers, to remind them which side *they're* supposed to be on. That's May Day, too.

In the United States, the most visible preparation for a "celebration" has been the vociferous efforts of the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) to convince workers and students to "seize history into our hands" by striking on May Day.

But what's usually not remembered is that May Day began as an *American* holiday, at a time when workers in the U.S. were part of an international movement for reducing the standard working day to eight hours. The eight-hour day, by cutting into the profits of the capitalists, was seen as the first step in the liberation of the working class. This movement in the 1880s followed a decade which had been characterized by severe economic depression, massive strikes in the railroad industry which sparked numerous other strikes all over the country, and pitched battles between police and troops against strikers. At a time when individual unions seemed doomed to be crushed by the power of employers and the state, a *national* movement to limit working hours was the only way working people could become powerful enough to win. They had no illusions about the possibility of voting

achieve the eight-hour day, by a general strike if necessary. Despite the fact that the largest labor organization of the time, the Knights of Labor, refused to endorse the idea and was totally against striking on May Day, the idea spread like wildfire, and labor unions grew spectacularly. A considerable number of eight-hour strikes broke out ahead of time. By the second week of May, 190,000 workers had participated in the strike, and hundreds of thousands more had joined in demonstrations. Nearly 200,000 workers won shorter hours.

It was in Chicago and Milwaukee that the greatest conflicts took place. In Milwaukee crowds of strikers trying to shut down the few plants still operating were met with militia; six were killed. In Chicago police fired on a crowd that was attacking strikebreakers, killing four; streetfighting broke out. A bomb thrown at a rally the next day at Haymarket Square was used to build a mass hysteria against the strikers. Over a hundred anarchist and socialist strike leaders were arrested, and the seven anarchists who had spoken at the rally were tried for murder and, without any evidence connecting them with the bombing, sentenced to death; four were eventually hanged. The Haymarket hysteria was the beginning of a massive wave of repression by employers and the government to break unions and blacklist strikers, but the events also served to radicalize thousands of workers and laid the base for the growth of the Socialist Party twenty years later.

May Day was adopted as International Workers' Day in the U.S. and in Europe in memory of the

*The eight-hour working day was seen as the first step in the liberation of the working class.*

their program in; they knew the government was controlled by big business. Their best weapon, instead, was their collective ability to bring the economy to a halt through a general strike.

In 1884 a dying organization, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions, in a fit of rhetorical excess, set May 1, 1886, as the date for labor to

great wave of strikes and the Haymarket martyrs, as well as to symbolize the struggle for the eight-hour day. Year after year, it was celebrated by large rallies, marches, and picnics. The eight-hour day wasn't won by most industrial workers until the 1930s. May 1st was generally celebrated by working people in the U.S. until the repressive McCarthy period made anything associated with "communism" suspect.

It's in the context of this history that I can understand and sympathize with the Revolutionary Communist Party's current attempts to convince workers to strike on May Day. The call to "seize history into our hands" doesn't seem so grandiose on a day when workers did just that. Undoubtedly a time will come when we will do it again. But the tactics used by the RCP—people shouting through megaphones and blocking plant gates as workers leave their factories—seem to be sparking a backlash. Fights have broken out at Todd Shipyards between RCP members and workers

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there; some workers at Bethlehem Steel have taken to wearing management-provided "Support America—Work on May 1st" decals on their helmets. RCP members see these incidents as positive indications that they are making an impact and getting workers to engage in the ideological struggle necessary to bring together a "class-conscious force." But organizers in industries where contracts are coming up for votes have complained that the campaign has only provided an opportunity for right-wingers in the plants to organize, not only against a strike on May 1st, but against any strikes.

The eight-hour movement of the 1880s grew out of organization around immediate issues—unionization, decent working conditions, higher pay, shorter hours—not as the result of the propaganda of a handful of revolutionaries (though socialists and anarchists, as part of the movement, played an important part). Today, these issues are for the most part *not* settled. Most of the American labor force is still not unionized. The eight-hour day, where it has not been lost through overtime, has become through inflation an eight-hour day for two family members instead of one. Unemployment rises along with corporate profits. Women's



LEFT: 1871 PARADE by masons, carpenters and joiners was led by horsemen past New York's Cooper Union in a futile demand for the eight hour day. FAR RIGHT, above: Strikers in early June 1941, demanding 75 cents an hour wage are arrested by soldiers. BELOW: Picketeters retreat as army regulars march up with bayonets. The strike captain was stabbed for moving too slowly. Headlines read, "President Breaks Red Strike."



*Today, most of the American labor force is still not unionized.*

rights, gay rights, black liberation, the environment are new issues that any broad movement against capitalism will have to take up. If there's ever another day in U.S. history like May 1, 1886, it will be a result of a movement organized around issues like these.

Michael Wold is a member of Rising Tide/NAM.

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# Body and Soul



In the 1970s a small but growing number of men embarked on careers in nursing. Lenny Goodman, then 43, joined their ranks in 1976, enrolling in a 2-year nurse-training program at Seattle's Shoreline Community College. In this interview he discusses why he decided to become a nurse and how he approaches medical care.

**NWP:** You became a nurse in midlife. What had you done before?

**Lenny:** I'm sort of an anomaly in my generation. During the height of the McCarthy period, during the worst of the witch hunt of the 1950s, I joined a socialist organization. I was 18 or so at the time.

During my time in it I got educated about how to view our society and the world. But the group was strictly task-oriented—getting the job done and being ideologically correct were what mattered. If you felt stress, it was viewed as your own *personal* problem and not to be talked about with the group. It could be very personally isolating, and I felt I had to leave to take care of my own emotional and physical health.

The 20 years I spent in it took up my young adulthood. I never had a real perspective on what the heck I was going to do for a trade. I did have a tremendous love of music, which led me into high fidelity equipment, which in turn led me to become an electronics technician. I worked at a university hospital as sort of a handmaiden to medical researchers. After a while it got to be alienating, a real ivory tower situation, working on experimental animals used for somebody's often dubious studies.

**NWP:** Why did you decide to become a nurse?

**Lenny:** Around that time my wife and I had come to a parting of the ways. She was a really strong feminist. Even though I agreed with feminism ideologically, I felt like no matter how good a guy I tried to be, I was trapped in my sex. And my own needs had been submerged in the marriage. I felt okay about the split, but I found myself living alone and not feeling good about myself.

Then I got into a radical therapy community; I joined a problem-solving group. It included feminists who gave me support for the kind of person I was, who gave me feedback that I wasn't a persecuting male. Most males are brought up to feel we're responsible for what happens to women, to feel we should



Photo by Chris Nogaki

rescue women—do things they can do for themselves. Through the group therapeutic situation I realized that I don't have to respond that way. That there was part of my personality that involved not rescuing, but nurturing.

Working in a medical setting, I found myself interested in physiology and anatomy, how people function. In the group were two nurses who I guess you could say were my first female role models. I was so impressed with the things they were doing that I found my-

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**You could say two nurses were my first female role models...I found myself saying I'd like to be like them.**

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self saying I'd like to be like them. Both were psychiatric nurses, and I felt that's the direction I wanted to go—to help people work through some of their problems like I was doing.

One time I took my daughter to an emergency room for a muscle pull. I was fascinated watching this guy explain how her muscles lay, how she had pulled one, what she should do to treat it. When he stood up and I saw his name tag, "RN-Nurse Practitioner," a tremendous wave of envy swept over me. That's when it really clicked.

**NWP:** How did people respond to you in nursing school?

**Lenny:** I got a lot of support from women students, even the ones who looked like campus pom-pom girls. Though some later told me they had wondered, "Who's this guy with the white beard?" People thought it was odd more because of my age. When I called my father to tell him I was going to be a nurse, he said, "Isn't 43 kind of old to start?" I responded, "How often do you get to start your life over?" It's becoming more and more acceptable for men to become nurses, though we're still in the vast minority. Out of a class of 80, 5 of us were men.

**NWP:** How have patients reacted?

**Lenny:** People see what they want to. When I come into a room wearing a white uniform, patients often say, "Hello, doctor." People don't expect a male my age to be a nurse. Older people especially are so used to seeing nurses as women wearing a starched white uniform and cap.

**NWP:** Does this interfere with treating patients?

**Lenny:** I have to be sensitive with women who are shy about having a man do very personal things. For example, women don't feel as comfortable having males wash their genital area. People should know that men don't feel as comfortable having female nurses do the same, yet they're expected to grab a guy's penis with a wash cloth full of soapy water and just scrub away.

Sometimes if I detect reticence, I'll ask a patient if she'd prefer a female nurse. I don't want to violate people's sensibilities—they're in enough crisis being sick and in the hospital. But I want people to accept that I am capable of doing things well.

**NWP:** What have your job experiences been like?

**Lenny:** My first job was at the locked psychiatric ward at Harborview (King County's public hospital). I had held this sense of my own power to help people really make changes. I felt I could go into the craziest situation, work with the most psychotic people, and help them come out of it. This experience really brought it down to me.

The ward serves as a place to put indigent people when they make a mess, when they make the city look unsightly by maybe walking in front of a bus or jumping off a bridge. The basic treatment was putting people on drugs. We also often had to lock people in,

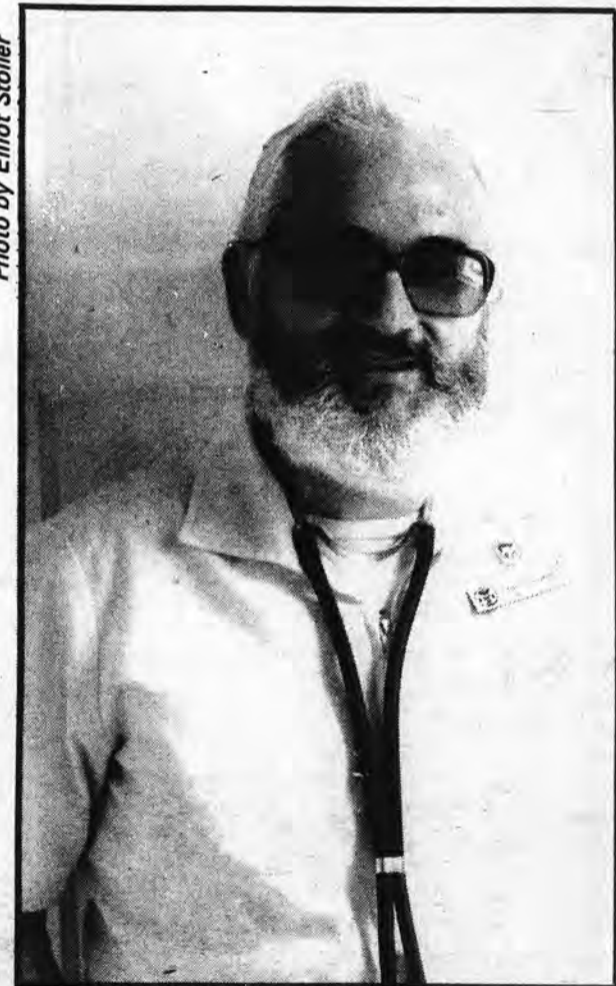
even use leather restraints, when they were yelling, banging their bed, getting violent. While I do believe there are situations when people need to be controlled, I felt a lot of what we were doing was showing people that they need to understand who's boss. People are bottled up there, and I felt sensitive that I had the bottle opener—the key. Though there are a lot of really good people working there, they end up playing jailer.

I quit after 7 months. It had finally reached the point where I felt I wasn't being a nurse any more,

that I was, in fact, a screw. So I got a job doing general nursing at Group Health (a large, Seattle-based coop) Hospital. There I could relate to people holistically, that is, deal with their emotional as well as physical problems.

The new setting allowed me to practice a lot of things I enjoy, like giving people massages. It's normally not okay to touch others in our society, but in a hospital it's perfectly all right. If people are having trouble relaxing for sleep, are in pain, I give them the best massage I know how. Afterwards, I've had people say they don't need their sleeping pills or painkillers. They just roll over like happy porpoises. I really get off on that.

Photo by Elliot Stoller



Lenny Goodman

**NWP:** Isn't a lot of your work pretty routine?

**Lenny:** Sure. I come in and get reports on patients from nurses on the previous shift. Then I take vital signs—pulse, temperature—and generally assess how they're doing. I give medications, do charting and other paperwork, fill water pitchers, deal with the pharmacy. I do all sorts of personal things—clean up if they are incontinent, turn them if they're comatose—the works.





# Autobiography of a Male Nurse

By Doug Honig

Hospitals are regimented places. We try to fit patients into *our* molds, our schedules. Partly, it's so we can get all the work done during our scheduled time. Even so, nurses do a whole lot of unpaid overtime just to take care of the basics.

It's also very important to me to spend time on patients' emotional needs. They need help dealing with pain. We have to talk to them, give them a chance to vent their feelings. The whole purpose of someone coming in is to get better. That's hard to do when

**Lenny:** I mean traditional Western medicine. It's an outgrowth of Western industrial culture, which views the body as a machine which can be fixed by the intervention of trained specialists. The circulatory system, for example, is viewed as a plumbing system, with the heart the pump and the blood vessels pipes carrying precious fluid. But the U.S. rapprochement with China made it respectable for us to consider Asian medicine seriously--things like acupuncture. In those cultures, which were not heavily industrialized, they see the hu-

take care of themselves. So I talk to patients a lot about diet and nutrition. I might tell an obese cardiac patient how to get into an exercise program and suggest he meditate to relieve stress.

Most doctors don't teach that. Some doctors welcome nurses doing health teaching, but others get very upset--they think we're interfering. But I feel it's one of the best ways for me to be subversive. Helping someone learn to be autonomous does away with the need for an expert. Everybody should be the expert on their own body.

**NWP:** Don't you see a need for doctors to set bones and the like?

**Lenny:** Let's say there's a need for people who know how to set broken bones. And people who get in car accidents need to have their wounds closed so they don't bleed to death. But there's a whole lot of things doctors have done in the past that nurses can be trained to do--like give a whole physical exam. I'd like to see the kind of doctor who's not an elitist, who's not a totally different class from the people he's treating. The fact that the doctor makes so damn much more money perpetuates the idea that this person knows what he's doing a hell of a lot better than the person who owns the body.

**NWP:** What kind of working relations do you have with doctors?

**Lenny:** I'm well aware that my being male makes a big difference. I can talk to doctors much more directly than my female colleagues can. I don't get my ass chewed out for calling them late at night the way the women do. It's unthinkable for some doctors to look at me, with my white hair and beard, and be terribly critical.

I must add, I even feel a little strange getting interviewed because I'm male. Obviously, most nurses are women, but they get little recognition for their competence.

**NWP:** Do you feel limited working in a hospital?

**Lenny:** Definitely. Most people who have ailments don't even go to a hospital. Hospitals usually function on a disease model, which sees people as a cess-

*Continued on Page 10.*



you're worrying about your illness; your emotional state has a tremendous effect on what's happening physically. Your muscles tighten, your blood slows, you breathe too fast or too slow.

My attitude is that it's okay for someone to give up their independence for a while and let others do things for them. But sometimes I feel individuals are getting too depressed by dwelling too much on their illness. So I use humor and try to put them in a different frame of mind. I'll come in and say, "I hope you appreciate the view" if I see them looking out of the window. Or I'll tell them about some funny experience I had. If they pick up on it, we've got something going; if I'm rebuffed, I'll leave them alone.

Of course, the approach depends on the particular patient. With people who've alienated the whole staff, I'll sometimes ask directly why they're driving everybody nuts. I figure they're looking for something and may appreciate my honesty. With macho men, it's maybe better to be serious so they can let their defenses down and tell you how they really feel.

**NWP:** How does working in a cooperative affect your job?

**Lenny:** Their basic interest is to keep costs way down, since patients pay only a regular monthly fee. In a private hospital, if it costs more to do something, the patient or his/her insurance simply pays more. At Group Health, they tend to treat people conservatively and let them heal themselves.

Of course, the place still has its limitations. Though it's known as a "health maintenance" organization, it practices basically traditional medicine. I've seen that often somebody stays in the hospital a week and goes home feeling better--without anyone knowing why they got better. You see, there are certain ritualistic things you do in this society: you go into a hospital; somebody called a doctor examines you, somebody called a nurse starts an IV and gives you some medicine. That may be what you need to heal yourself, because people have been conditioned to believe that. But I think it's possible for bodies to heal themselves without all this.

**NWP:** You refer critically to "traditional medicine." What do you mean?

man organism more as an integrated emotional, mental, and physical being.

The human organism tends to protect itself--the body has its own defenses. Specialists don't cure a cold--you take fluids, rest, and you get better. My basic belief is that medical intervention--poking, probing, cutting--is not as significant in healing people as their learning to

**Medical intervention -- poking, probing, cutting -- is not as significant as people learning to take care of themselves.**



Photo by Chris Nogaki

pool, a medium for all sorts of infections. The hospital is viewed as a huge garage where you bring your body in to let the experts diagnose what's wrong. I even saw a doctor write on a patient's chart, "In for a tune-up." As a result people feel like they're totally devoid of any responsibility for their bodies.

I would rather work out in the community, where I could have more autonomy to do the things I want, like health teaching. I want to work on a wellness model, which sees people as essentially well and ad-

**NWP: Why more schooling?**

**Lenny:** I really didn't want to go back, but to work in the community I needed a B.A. Though after getting into school, I found my interest in alcoholism and have been taking special courses.

Nursing "leaders" are pushing for nurses to upgrade the profession by getting B.A.'s and even advanced degrees. It's good, in that it comes from the women's movement's drive to improve the status of women. But it's also very elitist. Nursing leadership is trying to

ning hospitals. Now doctors have the real power. Especially at private hospitals, where doctors bring in the business by admitting patients. Yet, nurses spend more time with patients than anybody, we know more about their needs; whereas the doctor may only visit patients once a day. Currently, Seattle hospitals have nurses' committees to discuss staffing and nursing procedures, but they have no binding powers.

**NWP: How do you integrate your political awareness**

*I'd like to see the kind of doctors who are not a totally different class from the people they're treating.*

**with your work?**

**Lenny:** On a personal level, you help people take control of their own organism, to be autonomous human beings. For instance, assisting people to deal with their own emotions so that they are not self-destructive. To me, the most revolutionary thing someone can do is help people understand what they are capable of.

As a health worker, I see that as my job, but not the end of my involvement. It's easy to get burned out doing this kind of work. There's a feeling that you can make a difference with that individual patient and it's going to change the world--and then you find it doesn't happen. For example, you can help a woman understand she has a right to an abortion. But if you want to change things, you've got to get involved with the pro-choice movement. I know that I'll have to participate in a bigger political movement.

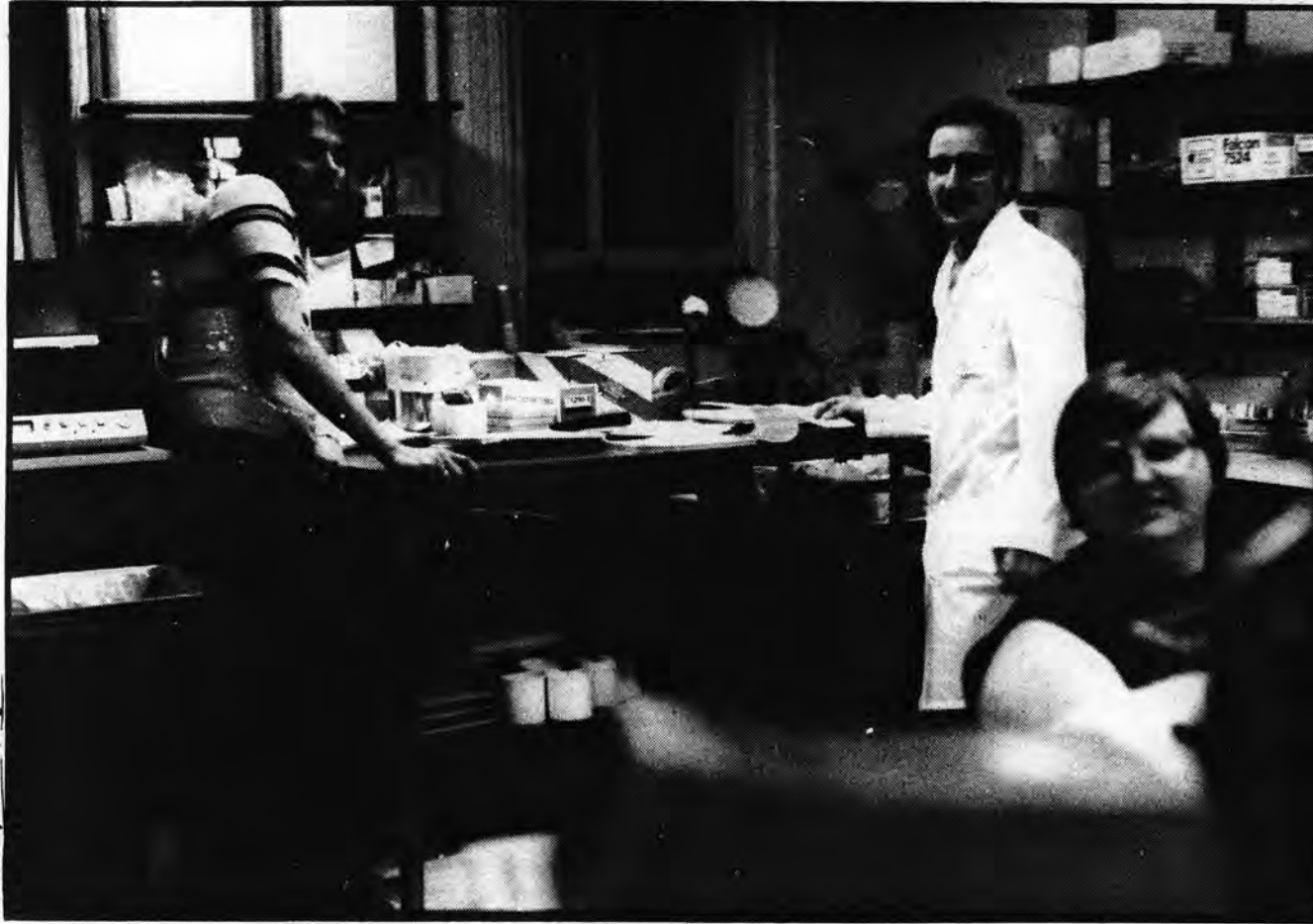


Photo by Chris Nogaki

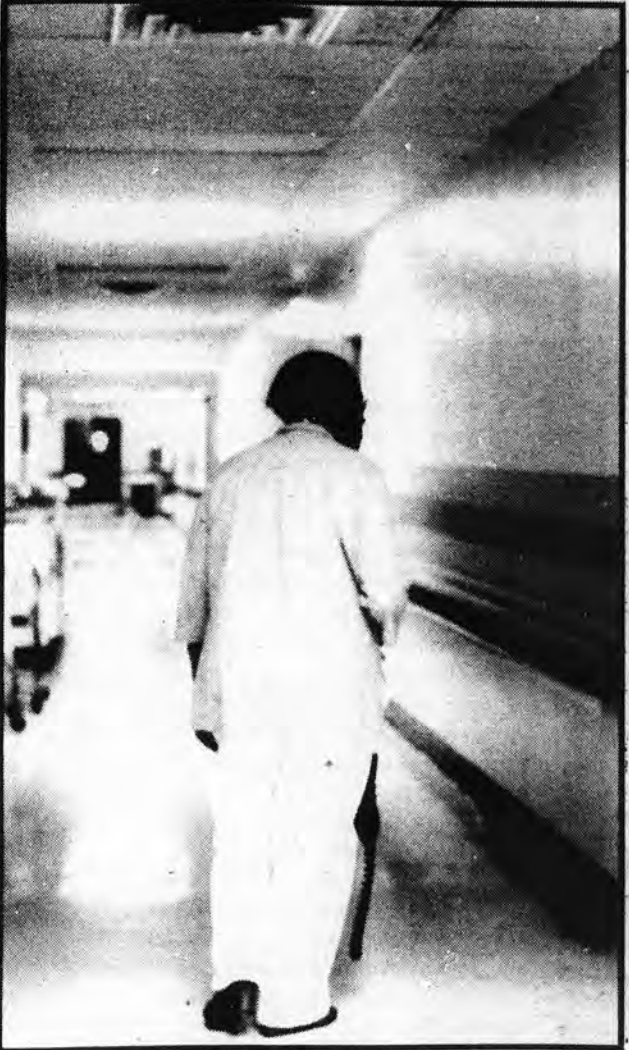
justing their lifestyle to maintain their wellness. I would assist people to take responsibility for eating right, exercising, learning how to relax, how to remove stress.

At the hospital, I've seen a lot of alcoholics. It's a disease that involves the whole person--their physical and emotional make-up, their environment, their

make nurses more like doctors rather than, say, unionizing and affiliating with organized labor. So, I find myself in a dilemma. I went into nursing because it's a nurturing position, and now I find women nurses moving in the opposite direction--to emulate the attitudes men have taken.

I think nurses haven't made up their minds whether

Photo by Chris Nogaki



*The hospital is viewed as a huge garage...I even saw a doctor write on a patient's chart "in for a tune-up."*

job situation. It's the epitome of how people destroy themselves in our society. I've been impressed by the abilities to cope with life shown by recovering alcoholics; it's remarkable for people to overcome the odds in a society where all the pressures are in the opposite direction. I've decided I'd like to be out in the community working with alcoholics--helping them build support systems, helping them learn to take control of themselves. In fact, I've begun to go back to nursing school.

they're professionals or members of the work force. But what happens is that nurses are treated like workers. There are all sorts of efforts to boil things down into production line steps and to increase nurses' work loads which is like a speedup on an assembly line. When you have to cover the whole side of a floor with one aide, you barely get to know the patients; you're just a pill pusher and an IV administrator. It takes the heart out of why people become nurses.

I do think nurses should have much more say in run-

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# NETWORK a social change NETWORK

By Louis Howe

## Whose Network?

The Social Change Network or, The Network, for short, is a regular page, jointly sponsored by the Northwest Passage and the McKenzie River Gathering. This page will contain news, announcements, and commentary about grassroots social change groups in the Northwest. We hope The Network will promote communication and deepening of ties among these groups, as well as make these groups more accessible to interested people. Send us information about what you're doing: Northwest Passage, 1017 E. Pike, Seattle, WA 98122.

## Portland Women's Health Center

They are often real busy down at Portland Women's Health Center, they see anywhere from fifty to seventy-five women a week, but don't worry that you can't get in. They'd love to see another twenty-five women a week. They really seem to like doing health care at the center, and they are completely committed to women's health care.

The Women's Health Center has been providing low cost alternative health care for women since 1971. "We use participatory as opposed to one-on-one methods," says one staff member. "We call it a woman's choice clinic, offering well-woman gynecological screening. We give a woman access to all information we have about her body so that she can choose whatever form of treatment she prefers. Then we support her in that choice."

The well-woman concept means that the center is not so much in the business of treating diseases as it is in offering services that help women stay well. The center offers such things as annual exams, pap smears, pregnancy screens, treatment for vaginal infections, and, since July, abortions. Women are charged on a sliding scale according to monthly income and number of dependents. The cost of a pregnancy screen runs anywhere from \$2 to \$9, and, even at the top price, that is a lot cheaper than what women in mainstream clinics pay. All fees go to sustain the clinic and pay workers' salaries. There is no profit.

The staff includes two doctors, a nurse practitioner, a receptionist and four full time workers. They are in Portland at 4160 S. E. Division, (503) 239-8004.

## Boggs and McFadden Head Public Meeting

We the People, a Seattle group, writes in, "We are a small group of people planning a public meeting. . . . Some meeting! It is about changing things, starting with our own lives and running right on through international relations. Speakers will be Grace Lee Boggs and James McFadden. Boggs' book, *Revolution and Evolution in the Twentieth Century*, has been inspiring a movement called the National Organization for an American Revolution. She's got some new and interesting ideas. McFadden has a list of involvements with the Black movement that spans thirty years and could fill a book.

This is emphatically *not* a nostalgia session. The full name of the meeting is called "We the People . . . can change the way it is." It begins changing with the afternoon session, when it breaks into four discussion groups, giving people a chance to talk and share ideas, rather than just being lectured to. Topics for the discussion groups include examining the relationships between children and adults, citizens and politics, people and their neighborhoods, Americans with the world, and how people might start changing those relationships. From the sound of it, the best way to prepare for the workshops will be to take a look at Boggs' *Revolution and Evolution in the Twentieth Century*, but if you haven't read it, don't worry—it sounds as though there are going to be several crash-course pamphlets floating around at the meeting.

Besides the speakers and discussion groups there will be two cultural arts programs, and a children's program by *Kidstuff*, the Seattle Men's Childcare Collective. Childcare will also be provided for children too young to participate in the *Kidstuff* program. Lunch will be available at low cost, or feel free to bring your own. The planning group is placing a high priority on having Black and other ethnic minority people participate, feeling that nothing will ever really change in this country without the help of minority people.

The Public Meeting is coming up Saturday, May 17, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., C.A.M.P. Firehouse, 18th and Columbia, Seattle. For information contact Jeanne Hunt at (206)325-0592.

## Mining on the Colville Reservation

For the people of the Colville Tribes in Washington State, Mount Tolman is a sacred place, the site of ancestral burial grounds, artifacts, and spiritual places. For the executives of the AMAX Corporation on the east coast, Mount Tolman is a pile of copper and molybdenum, the future site of their open pit mine. That is where the Preservation of Mount Tolman Alliance comes in. Formed in 1979 by a group of tribal members of the Colville Confederated Tribes, the group is protesting mining exploration on the reservation, including the proposed mine at Mount Tolman.

"We are totally opposed to all mining exploration on the reservation," states the Alliance in their journal, *Generations*, "and we demand that all mining activities be halted immediately and permanently."

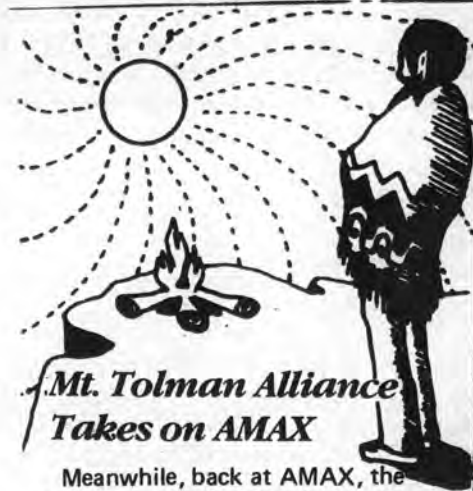
The group points out that an open pit mine will be an environmental disaster, dropping the water tables, releasing sulfur oxides into the air, and leaving huge tailings ponds to pollute the Columbia basin for the next 100,000 years. Unfortunately, not everyone on the reservation feels the same way. The Tribal Business Council sees the mining development as a way to get large per capita payments for Tribal members, high paying jobs, business opportunities, and better programs. The Business Council feels that the rewards of mining will outweigh the "risks and disturbances," and they are proceeding in negotiations with AMAX, Inc.

The main action of the Preservation of Mount Tolman Alliance centers around an opinion poll and a referendum which took place on the reservation back in 1977. In the referendum the tribal membership authorized mining exploration. They also authorized mining, and that is the problem. The Preservation of Mount Tolman Alliance is claiming that it was unclear to the membership that mining was also on the ballot. Most people thought they were simply authorizing exploration. There also may have been some irregularities in voting regulations. Alice Stuart of the Alliance has filed with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of Interior to have the referendum declared invalid, and to order a new referendum so that people can vote on the two issues, exploration and mining, separately.

While they are waiting to hear from the Department of Interior the Alliance has begun an education campaign, researching mining and writing about their findings in a new journal they've begun called *Generations of the Colville People*. Response so far among the tribal members has been lukewarm, but with elections to the Tribal Council coming up in June, and if the Alliance can put together an anti-mining slate of candidates, mining should become a major issue on the reservation.

## Nicaraguan Folk Group on Tour

Nobody is really sure how the Committee for Solidarity with the Nicaraguan People managed to bring them to the Northwest, but just be grateful that they managed. We're referring to the upcoming appearance in Seattle of Nicaragua's top folk group, Los de Palacaquina (pronounced, 'pal-a-ca-weena'). People who know their music say to expect a fine mixture of poetry with harmony, exciting marimba and percussion rhythms, and some deep melodic images. These are cultural workers in a revolution that seems to be working and it is a pretty good bet that they know something worth hearing.



Mt. Tolman Alliance Takes on AMAX

Meanwhile, back at AMAX, the company is moving ahead with plans to start mining at Mount Tolman. The current exploration permit runs out this August. After that the Secretary of Interior has authority to issue a mining lease. AMAX doesn't seem to be worried about securing the lease. They have brought up a large barge to haul ore across Lake Roosevelt from the mine to the mill at Preston, about fifty miles. There will soon be a larger ferry across the river at Inchelium, and Bonneville Power is going ahead with installation of a major power line into the Mount Tolman site.

At peak the mine will produce 90,000 tons of .13% ore per day and use about 10,000 gallons of water an hour. The ore will be crushed into a dust and roasted on the Mount Tolman site. The dust is susceptible to wind, which carries it into the atmosphere, causing molybdenum fallout. The roasted ore leaches easily into water, and, since it is to be shipped to the mill by barge across Lake Roosevelt, there is always the risk of poisoning the whole Columbia River basin with molybdenum. The effects of molybdenum on fish and irrigated crops needs more study, but the Environmental Protection Agency is very concerned about the generally toxic effects of the metal.

There is also a problem with radiation. Along with molybdenum and copper, the mine will be removing a fair amount of uranium and radium which will be tossed with the wastes into tailings ponds. The ponds seep upwards from 100 gallons per hour back into the earth, meaning radioactive wastes will be seeping into local water tables and into the Columbia River for at least 100,000 years. Not a pleasant thought, and the story goes on. A large uranium vein has been found on the reservation and several companies are eyeing that site. At least four multinational corporations besides AMAX are trying to greatly expand mining in eastern Washington and Oregon.

Anyone interested in learning more about mining on the Colville Reservation can send \$1.00 to the Preservation of Mount Tolman Alliance. Ask for a copy of *Generations of the Colville People*. For more information on the Alliance and on mining in general you might try WASHPIRG, Greg Wingard, at (206)543-0434. For financial info on AMAX and mining try Pacific Northwest Research Center in Eugene, (503) 686-5125. The easiest way to help out right now is to sign the petition in the back of *Generations*, xerox it and pass it around to your friends.

## Funding Social Change

The McKenzie River Gathering (MRG) is a public foundation which funds Northwest groups working to challenge the social and economic inequalities around us. Although MRG's primary purpose is to distribute money for social change, we help in any way we can to promote a more democratic non-violent, and ecologically-sound society. We try to link up groups working on similar issues so knowledge can be shared and perspectives broadened. We also help groups write proposals, find additional funding sources, and evaluate the effectiveness of programs.

The MRG is not an endowed foundation. This means we must continually raise new money from individuals and groups interested in social change.

The MRG recently hired a full-time staff person to open an office in Seattle, to coordinate activities in Seattle, and Washington State. Watch for information about where the office will be in the next issue of *The Northwest Passage*. If you're interested in any aspect of what MRG is doing—or know someone who might be—drop us a line:

### EUGENE OFFICE

454 Willamette  
Eugene, OR 97401  
(503) 485-2790  
Peter Jensen, staff

### PORTLAND OFFICE

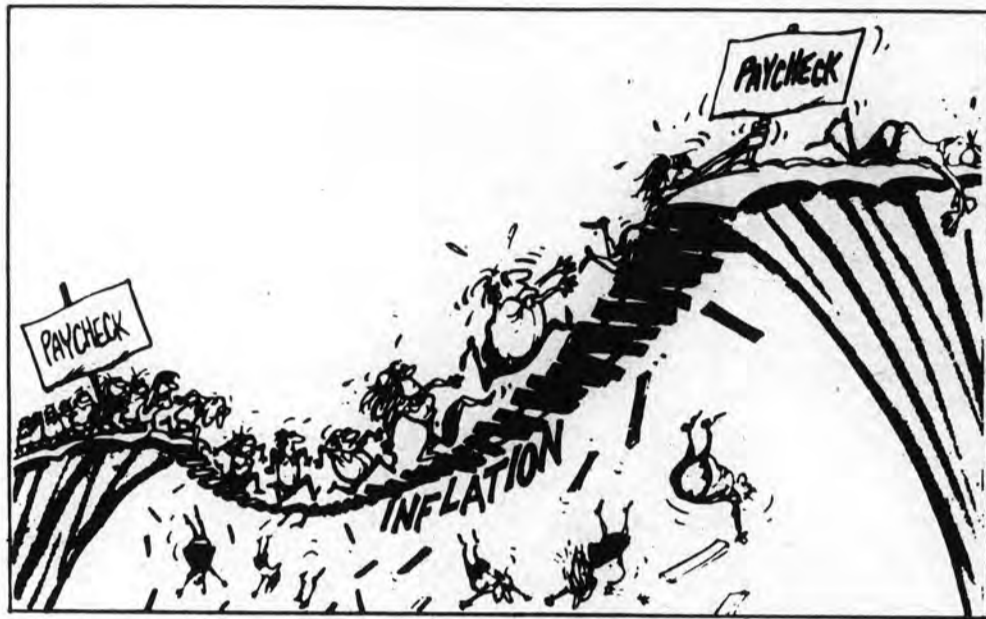
19 NE Morris  
Portland, OR 97212  
(503) 249-7229  
Bonnie Tinker, staff

### SEATTLE OFFICE

(Temporary)  
c/o 318 - 6th Ave. S. #123  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 624-3925  
Ron Chew, staff



INFLATION Continued



from Dollars & Sense

would close up shop and move into industries where the profits were better. So, on the observation that they remain in business, prices must have gone up. Assume that the economy was divided into industries, one half of which experience no growth in productivity. In that situation, a 10% across the board wage increase raises costs an average of 5% and prices will also go up.

It used to be that this underlying bias in the economy would be checked early on by the periodic recessions, but since the government politically can't afford to let a recession happen, this tendency has worked its way through. Nothing can knock it off, as long as we are talking about an unplanned economy, except a recession, and that's what we are going to have now. The policy makers will engineer a recession.

**NWP:** How does OPEC oil prices figure into inflation?

**IZ:** The whole price level for the U.S. standard of living was based on \$2/barrel oil. Oil is now \$30/barrel. Energy runs anywhere from 2% to 15 or 20% of costs, depending on the industry. A 60% increase in energy costs in an industry where energy is 20% of costs, like aluminum, means a 12% increase in the price of aluminum. Every can of beer, the package goes up by that much. So countries outside the U.S. now have a bigger command over our labor. When wages were \$2/hour and oil was \$2/barrel, it took one hour to buy a barrel of oil. Now wages are \$10/hour and oil is \$30/barrel. It takes three hours to buy a barrel of oil. In our economy, firms respond to higher costs by raising prices,

and workers respond to higher prices by demanding higher wages. As long as you are talking just about this country, they can all play catch. With this oil thing, they're all trying to play catch up, but there is just no way they ever can. OPEC oil prices would be inflationary even in a depressed economy. We might raise the price of our exports to OPEC, but then they'd just raise their prices by that much again since what they're after is a real increase, not a nominal one.

**NWP:** So how would you sum up your view of inflation?

**IZ:** As long as capitalist economies can no longer afford a depression politically, they are going to be coping with inflation. Which means that the economy will have a tendency to run out of control. So every now and then, they will have to engineer a recession and throw people out of work, just to keep it under control.

The main thing to notice is that a capitalist economy is unworkable at full employment. At full employment inflationary expectations run wild. Everyone expects prices to go up so they buy now. Borrowing is easy, they can afford to pay a higher price for things. At the same time discipline in the plants falls apart. Absenteeism rises, quit-rates rise, the number of strikes rise, turnover rises tremendously, so that you have to train new workers every day. Some firms turn over as high as 40% during a boom. All those things raise costs, again making prices go up. The boom is just bad news for prices, and, after a point, it is bad news for productivity.

So as long as capitalist economies can no longer afford a depression politically, as long as they are committed to full employment, they are going to always be coping with inflation. And every now and then, just to bring the economy back under control, they will engineer a recession, which means throwing people out of work. I guess it is true to say that anything that is going good in a capitalist economy *will* raise prices, and when people are miserable, prices *might* fall.

*The Northwest Passage is considering printing a forum or ongoing series of articles on inflation, and would like to receive submissions. Please keep articles between 2 and 4 double spaced typewritten pages, and mail to 1017 East Pike, Seattle, WA 98122.*

URBAN WARS Continued

"Now look at Schloredt's statement that he wants to determine whether his property is 'suitable for children.' He's not the only one who feels that way. In the last few weeks I've had three male landlords tell me that a 2-bedroom place is not 'suitable' for me and my two kids. It's the same old thing: the man decides what's right and what the woman will be 'allowed' to do. One guy even asked whether I'd have men friends over, because he was concerned about my children being around 'that kind of thing,' as he put it."

"Sometimes women landlords are pretty nosy, too," I reminded her. "Oh, I've had lots of crummy female landlords in my life," she agreed, "and I'm not saying that all male landlords are sexist tyrants. But there's something about a man owning the property that a woman lives in that's a setup for sexism. And since it appears that a large percentage of people looking desperately for rental housing now are sin-

gle mothers, and most property owners are male, this whole children issue might be just a ruse.

"Maybe I'm really being punished, as a woman, for not being a good girl and staying under the 'protection'--that is, the roof--of some man who's properly responsible for me and my kids. Like my ex-husband actually said when I told him I needed more child support money, 'You had a good home, why didn't you stay in it?'"

She sighed tiredly. "Do you think I'm completely paranoid? Does what I've said sound crazy to you?"

Yes, I think she's paranoid.

No, what she said doesn't sound crazy at all.

*Urban Wars is a semi-regular column in the Passage. Readers are invited to send in their groans, bitches, and suggestions to Sarah Steams. Phone messages can be left at the Passage office, 323-0354, or write c/o 1017 East Pike, Seattle, 98122.*

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WANTED



The Passage needs a car bad!

A gift or cheap purchase of a van, truck, roomy car, or station wagon urgently needed. Reward for information leading to the apprehension of said vehicle! Thanks!!

Call 323-0354

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Three Mile Island is one year old! Send \$5 (includes postage) for Nuclear Power: The Unviable Option. 384 pages, from Recon, Box 14602, Phila., PA 19134

WOMEN RUN FOR OFFICE, NOT COFFEE! Button. \$1. Order from: PFP, PO Box 42644, SF, CA 94101

PORTLAND

Classes Begin. "Continuing education for activists" is the motto for Portland's new Red Rose School. The school is sponsored by the Portland chapter of New American Movement (NAM), a democratic, socialist-feminist organization. The first class series will offer courses on the crisis in personal relations, Northwest labor history, radical economics, law for activists, and introduction to Marxism.

Classes will be held at the American Friends Hall, 4312 SE Stark, on weekday evenings starting April 28. Cost is \$10 per class, \$5 low income, \$5 for each additional class. Childcare will be available. Sessions will last 4 to 6 weeks.

Call 236-8208 for more information.

Portland Calendar item gatherer needed at the Passage. Call Shannon at 323-0345 (Seattle) or Helen at 288-4405 (Ore.)

SEATTLE

Patty Fitzpatrick... please contact the Passage, we need your address

The Northwest Passage needs distributors in Seattle, particularly for the downtown and University areas. We pay gas and lunch, with anything above that negotiable. Get involved; bring the Passage to your neighborhood. Call Shannon at 323-0354.

Staffperson needed to develop membership and organize activities/workshops for 4-state association of alternative food businesses. Office in Seattle. Parttime salary & hours negotiable; benefits. For info contact NW Provender Alliance, 1505 10th Ave, Seattle 98122, 206/32-1983 and send resume.



Photo: Dorothea Lange. Kern County, California, 1937

Discrimination in housing against families with children is illegal. Whether you are a parent, stepparent, foster parent, or guardian, if you have been denied housing because a child lives with you, we may be able to help. Office of Women's Rights, 625-4374.

TYPISTS!! We still need more helpful souls willing to donate 2 to 3 hours every three weeks to help the Passage (and current Passage typists) survive. Call Shannon at 323-0354.

Information leading to the return of 'Whimcycle', my '61 Hercules 3-speed, will be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Northwest Passage at 323-0354.

The Northwest Passage needs volunteer layout and darkroom people. We will train you in exchange for a 4-month commitment to the NWP. Help produce the NWP, meet new people and learn a new skill. Call Shannon at 323-0354.

I will babysit in my home. 783-4690.

People's gathering & vigil-Walla Walla. Walla Walla prisoners are still being brutally beaten. Inhumane and illegal daily conditions have yet to be improved. Prisoners have filed suits, held hostages, demonstrations, hunger strikes, destroyed their cells, and even slashed their bodies. Guard harassment has been stepped up in preparation for the prisoners' class action suit in May. Come stand with us in support of prisoners' rights. Caravan leaves El Centro at 6:30 am April 27, Sunday. For info: 323-5758

JOBS

WESTERN WASHINGTON

Want to earn an easy \$20 every three weeks? The Passage would like to rent a compact station wagon or larger car from a private person on Monday, once every three weeks. Call Shannon at 323-0354.

Cascadian Farm, member of Tilt Producers Cooperative, seeks help with spring and summer planting and cultivating. We are growing raspberries, strawberries, potatoes and grains. We offer living space, board, a beautiful view in the upper Skagit Valley, and experience farming organically in exchange for your hard work. Weekend or short term help also welcome. Please write Cascadian farm, Star Route, Rockport WA 98283

Flower Farm wants energetic, hard-working person to help create new aquarian business on large acreage on Snohomish River. Love of plants a must. Reward: share of proceeds at harvest plus room of your own. We subscribe to Finhorn practices and principles. Call Tony at 1-794-6073 for interview.

Fairhaven Cooperative Flour Mill Position Open: We need one woman who is interested in learning how to mill flour, and eventually participate in the management and decision making of our business. She should be able to lift many 50 lb. bags without too much strain, be open to working in a group decision-making situation, and have a desire to make a two to three year commitment to us.

The position starts at \$350 per month. During the first six months, the pay will increase to \$650 per month. The base week varies from 30 to 40 hours. For information or an application, contact us at 1115 Railroad Ave., Bellingham, Washington 98225, 206-734-9947. Please submit your application to us on or before May 7. The interviewing will take place the week of the 12th. Work will start the 19th of May.

The Northwest Passage needs an Olympia person to key us into calendar events. Are you in the know? Call us at 323-0354, collect, and say it's about the calendar.

The Passage is looking for a new Office Manager. The job is low-paying, but very educational and flexible: 1/2-time, \$330/month take-home. Experience with collective process is a must; some experience or exposure to newspapers would help, but is not required. Work begins sometime in May. Call Shannon at 323-0354.

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Dear "Mr. Ed" and all the folks at the Comet,  
We of the Light Brigade would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent support of our cause. In our next newsletter, there will be some mention of your support and an encouragement to our members to return the same. As with any small activist group, we always need money but we always seem to have enough for a beer. I hope that those beers will be purchased at the Comet.  
Many Thanks!  
The Light Brigade  
Marcia Hunt

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# CALENDAR

## PORTLAND

F-Sun, Apr 25-7 Pacific NW Labor History Association '80 Conference; with banquet & address (4/26) by Victor Reuther; register 4/25, noon, at Portland State University, Rm 338, Smith Center; \$12 (\$5 students, seniors, unemployed)

F May 2, 7:30pm "Justice Amerikan Style" the Dessie Woods case, slideshow presentation YWCA, 10th & SW Main; .50-\$1 donation

Sat May 3 1 pm State-wide anti-draft rally at Capitol Building in Salem, Oregon. Commemorates students shot at Kent State and Jackson 10 years ago. Sponsored by Oregon Coalition Against the Draft.

1st & 3rd Mondays, 9pm "Women's Voice" on KBOO Radio, 90.7fm

Tuesdays, 9-10pm "Bread & Roses" on 90.7fm

Tuesdays, 7pm A Woman's Place Bookstore collective meetings, all welcome, 24th & Ankeny

Wednesdays, 7:30pm Young Womyn's group (under 21 or so) meeting; call 231-0289 or 234-3031

last Sundays, NOW forums on topics of interest to women; Centenary Wilbur Church, 215 SE 9th at Ash; for details, call 235-2549

2nd & 4th Sundays & Mondays Hair Cut-in benefit for A Woman's Place Bookstore by appointment only, 239-4677; Studio East, 617 SE Morrison

every other W, 6:30pm The Woman's Place Resource Center Collective open meetings 1915 NE Everett; 234-7044

Fridays, 10pm "Womansoul" on 90.7fm

2nd & 4th Saturdays, 8pm Lesbian Socials at Resource Center, 1915 NE Everett; 234-7044

## TACOMA

Th May 1, 12:30 & 7pm "Song of the Canary" 4th in Labor film festival series on worker safety & health: Death on the Job; Tacoma Community College Little Theatre; \$2

## OLYMPIA

Th Apr 24, 7-9pm Thurston County NOW chapter meeting at Friendship Hall (YWCA), 220 E. Union Ave; 352-0593

tumwater

F Apr 25, 7pm YWCA Women's Shelter Program's "Art Auction Benefit" at Vance Tye Motor Inn, Makah Room; free admission; for further information, call 352-0593

Sun May 4, 8pm Ferron, Canadian singer/writer performs at Gnu Deli, 111 W. Thurston \$3 benefit for Matrix, monthly feminist magazine

## BELLINGHAM

April 24, 7pm General organization for Community Action meeting. Bridgehouse Fairhaven College Campus. 734-5121.

April 25, 26, 27, Good Earth Exposition, Bellingham Sports Arena. \$2.

April 30 Rape Awareness Day. Sponsored by Men's Resource Center, Western Washington University. 676-3460

Friday May 2 Geof Morgan Concert. "Songs for Changing Men's Roles," Mama Sundays, Viking Union Bldg, WWU. Sponsors: Bellingham Men's Center 676-3120.

May 3 Logo Contest Deadline. For Bellingham Farmers Market Assn. & Whatcom Bulk Produce Exchange. \$100 prize. For more information, 734-5121.

Call Blackwell Women's Health Center for information on self-health care workshops in May. 734-8592.

Women's classes at YWCA, starting soon, call 734-4820.

Pre-Natal water exercise, Mondays 11 am Thurs 1 pm

Aerobic Dance Fitness, am, noon, and pm classes available

Water Exercises to Music, 10 am, Noon, or 5:30 pm daily

Creative Stress Management, focus on understanding stress, identify over stress and reducing stress by learning to induce relaxation thru such methods as breathing exercises, self-hypnosis and visualization. Weds, 7-10 pm.

Organic gardening workshop every Sat 9 am-noon at Outback Farm, Fairhaven College, free.

## SEATTLE

### WED. APRIL 23

W Apr 23, 9:30pm Pentagon Review: current news on bombs & budgets; KRAB, 107.7fm



**MAY DAY**--In Europe in 1889, the second Socialist International proclaimed May 1st a holiday in memory of May Day, 1886. On that day 340,000 American workers participated in a General Strike for the 8 hour day. Two days later the infamous Haymarket Massacre took place in Chicago.

W Apr 23, 5:45pm Seattle Working Women call for Raises, Not Roses on National Secretaries Day at downtown YWCA, 5th & Seneca; all women office workers invited (free); for more info, please call 624-2985

### THUR. APRIL 24

Th Apr 24 Seattle Art Museum opens "Masters of Japanese Realism" at Volunteer Park; call 4474729 for information

Th Apr 24, 2pm True Mark: Black Student Forum, "Is There a Black Community in Seattle?" discussion on 107.7fm radio

Th Apr 24, 7pm The Society of Separationists, chapter of American Atheists, meet; speaker on "Separation Issues in Public Schools & Civil Law"; 915 E. Pine, Rm 426; 771-7633

Th Apr 24, 8:30pm "The In Crowd" features United Families & Friends of Prisoners; KRAB radio, 107.7fm

Th-Sun Apr 24-7 An Evening of One-Acts by Israel Horowitz at Ethnic Cultural Center Theatre; Th-Sat, 8pm, Sun, 7pm; 543-4327

### FRI. APRIL 25

F Apr 25, 7:30pm Los de Palacaguina, Nicaragua's top folk group in benefit concert at Mercer Jr. Hi, 1600 S. Columbian Wy; \$5 (\$2.50 under 12); for details, call 329-9442

F-Sat Apr 25-6, 8:30pm dancer-choreographer Leslie Friedman at Washington Hall Performance Gallery; \$4 (\$3 students, seniors, children); 153 14th Ave (at Fir); 325-9949

### SAT. APRIL 26

Sat Apr 26 March for a Non-Nuclear World in Washington DC; contact number (206) 682-5145 (LWOT)

Sat Apr 26, 9am-6pm Men's Sexuality workshop for gay & bisexual men at Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway; \$3 fee; call 3298737 for interview

Sat Apr 26, 9am-6pm "Piratical Culinaire" exhibit of elaborate & decorative foods at Northgate Mall; free

Sat Apr 26, 1-5pm Action Day for ERA with keynote speaker, Rosanne Royer; UW-HUB, Rm 200 ABC

Sat Apr 26, 4pm Dr. Janipolsky, founder of the Center for Attitudinal Healing speaks at Lincoln Hi. auditorium, Woodlawn N. & N. 44th ST; \$10 tickets; call 362-9194 for info

Sat Apr 26, 6pm conversations with lesbian astrologers on listener-supported radio, 107.7fm

Sat Apr 26, 7pm Feminist Writers Guild spring reading at Soup & Salad Restaurant (downstairs at Pike Public Market)

Sat Apr 26, 8pm all-Brahms program with the Musica Viva Chamber Players, at Seattle Concert Theatre (corner Fairview N & John) \$3.50 (students & seniors \$2.50)

Sat-Sun Apr 26-7 Ikebana International exhibit of flower arranging at Seattle Art Museum, Volunteer Park; admission also for regular museum, \$1 (50 cents seniors, children free if accompanies adult); 10-5, 4/26 & noon -5, 4/27

Saturdays, Apr 26-May 17, 7:30pm Labor Film Festival with speakers: 4/26 "Blue Collar Capitalism", "Company Town"; 5/3 "Song of the Canary"; 5/10 "Springfield Gun"; "Women Must Weep", "Anatomy of a Lie"; 5/17 "Union Sister: The Karen Silkwood Case"; \$2. Labor Temple, 2800 1st Ave.

### SUN. APRIL 27

Sun Apr 27 Seattle Audobon Society Bird-a-Thon for more information, call or write Seattle Audobon, 619 Joshua Green Bldg 98101 WA; 622-6695

Sun Apr 27, 11am conference to build the anti-imperialist movement, sponsored by the Marxist-Leninist Party & Student World Affairs Organization; UW HUB, Rm 309A

Sun Apr 27, 7pm "Into the Mouths of Babies," a film by INFANT; NEW presents an evening on Infant Nutrition & Nestles in the 3rd World; potluck 6pm; Good Shepherd Center, Sunnyside AveN & N 50th; 525-1196

Sun Apr 27 Bike-a-Thon benefit for the American Diabetes Association; call 624-5240

Sun Apr 27, 7pm We: Women Everywhere weekly program of the Lesbian Feminist Radio Project, KRAB radio, 107.7fm

Sun Apr 27, 8pm "Blow for Blow" film sponsored by Bread and Roses School at Center, 814 NE 40th; \$2

### MON. APRIL 28

Mon Apr 28, 2pm Hibakusha, Japanese citizens speak as survivors of the atomic bomb; KRAB, 107.7fm

M Apr 28, 10:30pm & 11pm Something About the Women features interview with S. Seattle Women's Network; followed by "Sing Out, a Woman's Story"; 107.7fm

4/28-9, 5/1 & 5, 8pm Zakhor: four lectures on Jewish History & Jewish Memory at University of Washington, Kane Hall, 220; free

### TUES. APRIL 29

Tu Apr 29, 7pm "Affirmative Action in Seattle & the fate of the Fair Employment Practices Ordinance" public forum at downtown YWCA, 5th & Seneca; information or childcare, call 723-2482 or 723-8923

Tu Apr 29, 8pm Korla Pandit in concert at Seattle Concert Theatre, 1153 John St; \$5 tickets, call 324-0111 for more info

Tu Apr 29, 9:30pm Kate Millet speech (given 11/18/79) about women in Iran; 107.7fm

Tuesdays, Apr 29 - May 20, 7-9pm Nuclear Weapons Study Sessions sponsored by Nuclear Times & Live Without Trident; 4/29, How Nuclear Weapons Work & Who Makes Them; 5/6, Strategic Nuclear Weapons & Warfare; 5/13, Tactical Nuclear Weapons; 5/20, The Arms Race, Proliferation & Disarmament; 723 Belmont Pl. E.

### WED. APRIL 30

W Apr 30 8 & 9:30pm Radio: An Endangered Species? FCC's 4 proposals for deregulation examined in KRAB; "Paranoid's Notebook" after (9:30pm) with an hour of blues

W Apr 30, 9pm "When Hell Freezes Over, I'll Skate" Salute to Black Song & Poetry; KCTS ch. 9 TV (rebroadcast 5/4, 2 pm)

Wednesdays, Apr 30-May 21, 8:30-9:30pm "She's Not the Same Woman" workshop for men at Metrocenter YMCA, 909 4th Ave; \$40 pre-register by calling 447-4872

### THUR. MAY 1 INT'L WORKERS DAY

May 1-10 American Indian Student Association program on Intertribal Cultural Exchange events on UW campus open to the public: 5/1, 7pm, Vine Delonia Jr Speaks at HUB auditorium; 5/2, 11:30-2pm Bone Game symposium at Red Square; 5/9-10, Pow-Wow at Hec. Edmondson Pavilion; 5/10, Tahoma Games at Hec. Edmondson & Intermural field

### FRI. MAY 2

F May 2, 7:30pm "Fat is a Sexist Issue" discussion at 3808 S. Edmunds, S. Seattle Women's Network; 625-2785

F May 2, 7:30pm Signature Turn-In Square Dance for Don't Waste Washington Committee Seattle Center, Orcus Room; everyone welcome

F May 2, 8pm evening of entertainment & enjoyment, benefit for the Association of Ex-Prisoners & Politically Oppressed in Madrid, Spain; \$3 donation, sponsored by the Veterans of the Lincoln Brigade; El Centro, 2524 16th S; phone 632-7402

F-Sat May 2-3 Flexible Working Hours: Pattern for the 80's? conference at University of Washington; persons interested, contact, Candace Carlson, 625-4651

Friday May 2 8 pm 43 Years After, Program By Veterans of the Lincoln Brigade and friends:  
poetry of the struggle against fascism  
Spanish War in perspective  
folk songs of Spain & elsewhere  
Spanish dances  
Refreshments & music  
Requestion: \$3.  
El Centro de la Raza, 2524 16th S.

### SAT. MAY 3

Sat May 3, 10am-4pm Earth Day/ Sun Day Solar Home tour; \$2.50 pre-reg. call 623-1483

### SUN. MAY 4

Sun, May 4, 10am - 7 Good Old-Fashioned Labor Day Picnic at Seward Park, picnic areas 2 & 3; bring kids, food (potluck), musical instruments & games (anybody have a volleyball net?); absolutely No speeches & No Coors beer; sponsored by Left Bank Books, Bread & Roses, Rising Tide/NAM, Red & Black Books, Morningtown, Fremont Women's Clinic & many others

Sun May 4, 9pm Jr. Cadillac Rocks for the Earth at Rainbow Tavern, benefit Greenpeace

### THUR. MAY 8

Th May 8, 7:30pm "Sex Role & Sexual Socialization of Adolescent Women" free lecture/discussion at UW HUB 200 ABC

Th May 8, noon-2pm Rape Concern Day presentation by Seattle Rape Relief & Feminist Karate Union; Seattle Central Community College, Rm BE 110

# CALENDAR

Th May 8, 7-9pm "Violence Against Women" in Pornography & Media slideshow at Seattle Central Community College, Rm BE 4118

## FRI. MAY 9

F May 9, 7:30pm Women's Voices sing at Rainier Vista Community Center, S. Empire & S. Columbian Wy; children welcome kenmore

F-Sun May 9-11 Puget Sound Conversion Project "Washington State Economic Conversion Conference" at St. Thomas Seminary for more info, call PSCP, 525-1213

## SAT. MAY 10

Sat May 10, 9am-4pm "She's Not the Same Woman" (workshop for men) at S. Seattle Community College, RS 79; \$9.60 fee for one college credit; bring brown bag lunch

Sat May 10, 10am "Composting in the City" panel discussion on urban composting techniques; \$2.50; Good Shepherd Center, 4649 Sunnyside N (Wallingford); 524-8429

Sat May 10, 8pm Alive! jazz quintet in concert at Seattle Concert Theatre; advance tix suggested, \$5; childcare provided, call 632-5735 for more info

Sat-Sun May 10-11, 9am-5pm Regional Conference on Men & Masculinity, open to the general public; N. Seattle Community College \$10 (\$8 student or low income); contact YMCA Metrocenter for further details, 447-4872

## SUN. MAY 11

Sun May 11, 11am-5pm Bicycle Fair at Gasworks Park - how, when, where & why to bicycle. for further info on this & much more, call 522-BIKE

Sun May 11, 7pm Reilly & Maloney sing at UW Kane Hall 130; \$5 (\$3.50 UW students) 543-7663 for information

Sun May 11 7:30pm Geof Morgan concert, "Songs for Changing Men's Roles." Charlie Murphy, special guest. HUB auditorium, 7:30 pm, \$4. Childcare. 447-4872.

## MON. MAY 12

M May 12, 8pm Mary Daley lecture "Gyn/Ecology: Spooking, Sparking & Spinning" at UW Kane Hall 130; \$1.50 (children under 12, free); wheelchair accessible

## TUES. MAY 13

Tu May 13, 6:30pm Women in-the-Trades potluck at S. Seattle Community College, RS 79; for info, call 764-5393

## WED. MAY 14

W May 14, 7:30pm Cascade Bicycle Club meeting at Bush School; for information, call 522-BIKE

## SUN. MAY 17

Sun May 17, 10am Grace Gospel Chapel, Women's Advance (as opposed to a men's retreat), 1412 NW 67th, Bus No. 15. Free. On stress management, spirituality vs. religion. Lesbians encouraged, straight women welcome.



## OF INTEREST

thru Sun, 5/25 "Dusa, Fish, Stas & Vi" at the Empty Space; \$5-7; call 325-4444

thru April The Women's Theatre in residency at Seattle Theatre Arts, offering classes in Playwriting & working with new Scripts for Actors & Directors; information or registration call 789-5605 or 282-0056

thru W May 21 Cathy Schoenberg at Crew studio/gallery, 2305 5th Ave

thru Sun May 11 Edward S. Curtis: Original Photographs & Photogravures of the N. American Indians showing at the Silver Image Gallery, 92 S. Washington St.

Wednesdays, noon lecture/discussion series at Seattle Central Community College, BE 4144 4/30 "Love it Like a Fool" Malvina Reynolds film; 5/7 "Racism & the Women's Movement"; 5/14 "Evaluating Relationships" & 5/21 "Black Women in History"

Mondays, 7pm Fat as a Feminist Issue workshops (3 consecutive) at Seattle Central Community College; register by 4/29; 587-3852 Wednesdays, May 7-June 25, 6-8pm Flying & Grounding: Massage & Dance for Women 8 week course; for info, call 323-2215 or 325-4489

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, Legal Services counselor available for senior adults at Langston Hughes Center, 17th & Yesler; 329-0115 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, Senior adult foot care, blood pressure tests, dental screening, etc. at Langston Hughes, 104 17th Ave.S

2nd & 4th Fridays, 7-9pm lesbians of color caucus educational forums at 1824 12th Ave every other Sun, 11:30am Gray "Panthers Answers" on KRAB radio, 107.7fm 5/4 Peace, 5/18 Senior citizens Legal Services Project; for information, call 632-4759

last Sundays, 3pm Intertribal Berdache Society, a circle of lesbian & gay Indians, potluck at 1331 3rd Ave, Rm 720; 623-3663

## MEETINGS

Tuesdays, 7pm Support Group for Gay Men between 18&24 meets at Gay Community Center, 105 14th E, Suite B; anyone interested in joining, call 322-2000 Tuesdays (ask for Al)

Wednesdays, 8pm Transgender's Support Group meets at Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway; call 325-1945 for details

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7:30pm United Feminist Front meets at Innerspace, 5241 University WyNE; call 725-5009 or 723-8923

Wednesdays, 4:30-6pm Chemical Dependency Group, for alcohol & drug info; 1812 E. Madison 1st floor; primary focus on sexual minorities & women; call 323-8992 for information

Wednesdays, 7:30pm Leonard Peltier Support Committee meets at El Centro, 2524 17th Ave So.; phone 543-6611 or 323-4159

Wednesdays, 7pm Lesbian Mother's Defense Fund meets; new members welcome; details by calling 325-2643

Wednesdays, 7:30pm volunteers making community resources available to ex-offenders & support groups for & with inmates & ex-cons meet at Interaction/Transition, 935 16th Ave 329-0966 for information

Thursdays, 7:30pm Seattle Committee to Oppose Bank Loans to South Africa meets; call Gerald Lenoir, 623-0500 for location

Sundays, 7:30pm Gay Men's Rap Group meets at Seattle Counseling Service; call 329-8737 for details

Mondays, 7:30-9:30pm Womyn's Support Group meets at Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway; for info, call 329-8737

Mondays, 7:30pm Battered Women Support Group meets at YWCA, 5th & Seneca, Rm 101

1st Tuesdays, 7:30pm NOW (National Organization for Women) program meeting (informational-educational) at 5019 Keystone Pl.N; further information by calling 784-7639

every other W, next meeting 4/23, 7:30pm Seattle Men Against Rape meets at Bread & Roses School, 915 E. Pine, Rm. 426; call 325-1945 for more information

every other W, next meeting 4/23, 7:30pm Crabshell Alliance meets at 1506 10th; call 325-1983 for details

every other Th, next meeting 5/1, 5:30pm Don't Waste Washington Committee meets at 107 S. Main; bring sack dinner

3rd Thursdays, 8pm Washington ERA Coalition meets at downtown YWCA; new member orientation at 7:30; 244-8917

1st Fridays, 7pm sexual minorities of color discuss issues & needs at Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway (corner Pike)

last Fridays, 7-9pm Women in Trades meets at University YWCA, 4224 University WyNE; call Mechanica, 632-4747 for information

3rd Sundays, 2pm Gray Panthers general membership meeting at Good Shepherd Center, 4649 Sunnyside N; info, call 632-4759

2nd Sundays, Children & Lesbian Support Group meets; all women, whether biological mothers or not, who want to be involved with children welcome; 329-9789 or 323-3441

Sundays, 1pm Active Sports for Girls (9-14) call Pauline at 322-2704 for more info

last Sundays, all Dyke-identified Dykes invited to potluck brunch; contact numbers for further details, 632-7206 or 522-2627

Mondays, 5-6pm ongoing "therapy" group for lesbians; \$10/session, interview, free; call Sharon for appointment, 283-9766

Fridays, 7:30pm Gay Men of Color Support Group meets at Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway

2nd & 4th Fridays, 6:30pm Lesbians of Color Caucus forums at 1824 12th Ave; for information, call 632-3663

2nd Mondays, 7:30pm Families & Friends of Gays & Lesbians meets at University Christian Church, 4759 15th NE; call 325-8224 or 784-3382

Tuesdays, April-22, 7-9:30pm How to Cope with Anger class for men from Metrocenter YMCA; \$40, preregister by calling 447-4872

Tuesdays, 7pm Seattle Womyn's Building planning at Innerspace (basement), 5241 University WyNE; open to all womyn; 635-4234

Thursdays, 7:30pm Lesbian Resource Center board meetings, open to all women; 632-9631

Thursdays, 7:30pm Older Lesbians Group meets; call LRC, 632-9631 for details

Saturdays, 11am-3pm Don't Waste Washington Committee needs volunteers for fundraising, endorsements, co-ordinators; 107 S. Main

Mondays, 10-noon Support Group for Abused Women at YWCA, 5th & Seneca, Rm. 101; call 523-2187 to make any childcare arrangements

Thursdays, 5:30-7pm ongoing/open-ended professional women's support group with feminist therapist; 3439 1/2 23rd W; \$10/session call 283-9766 to reserve space (size limited)

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:30-10pm Open Rap Group for all bisexuals, at 1505 Broadway E for information, call 325-5314

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# NITRITES: The Truth is in the Bologna

By Shannon West and Michael Bedolan

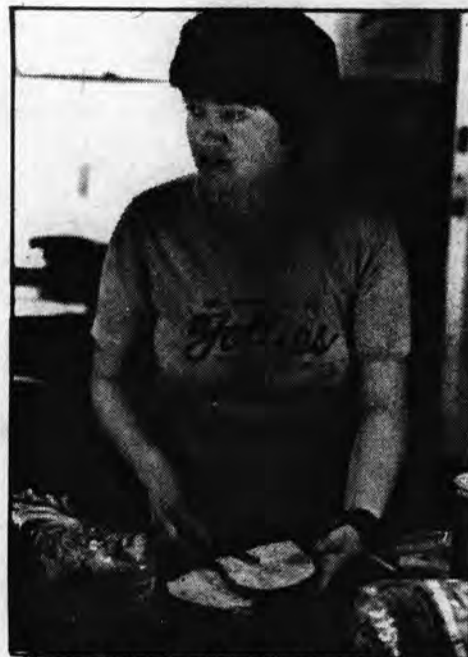
photos by Chris Nogaki



Raiding the fridge



A short prayer before beginning



Does mustard react with nitrites?



The Safe Stuff

Nitrites are very toxic chemicals. One ounce can kill about 27 people. Nevertheless, nitrites are routinely added to the American food supply by manufacturers of bacon, frankfurters, bologna, salami and similar products.

Is this because we are a nation of suicidal maniacs? Probably not. More likely, it's because we are a nation of corporations, many of which have a knack for emphasizing practical considerations.

For instance, lunch meat that is nearly 1/3 fat looks white and unappetizing, and doesn't taste all that good either. But, add a little dash of nitrites, let it react with the blood and presto; you have bright red meat that tastes better too.

Unfortunately, people eat this meat. When they do, they consume a combination of nitrite chemically combined with the meat and actual nitrite which has not reacted. Once in the stomach these nitrites react with natural components of proteins to form nitrosamines. Over 3/4 of all known nitrosamines have been shown to cause cancer in more than 20 species of animals. They are assumed to cause cancer in people.

It's no secret that nitrites aren't good for us. The United States Department of Agriculture knows, and has set a limit of 200 parts per million of added nitrites in meat; about 1 lethal dose per 20 pounds of meat.

They dare not ban its use altogether. Perhaps even more important than improving color and taste, ni-

trites inhibit growth of bacteria, discouraging botulism or rot from setting in and thereby increasing the meats' shelf life. Such chemical treatment enables a few large factories to manufacture and distribute meat products regionally and nationally, without spoilage. In other words, nitrites make possible the present structure of the meat industry. Not surprisingly, the American Meat Institute and the National Pork Producers Council are among the most adamant supporters of nitrite additives.

The potential spoilage and food poisoning that nitrites prevent are a built-in side effect of a centralized production and distribution system. There is no question the same meat products can be made safely without nitrites. Bacteria can be controlled by adding more salt, drying, freezing, or changing the levels of acidity. But perhaps more important, the products must be prepared and handled properly, and consumed within a relatively short time of manufacture. Direct marketing to consumers by small local producers makes the difference.

In fact, meat industry influence within the United States Department of Agriculture leaves that agency less than encouraging to producers of non-nitrite meats. One example is the USDA labeling regulation requiring that non-nitrite bacon be labeled Smoked Pork Bellies rather than Bacon. Another is the USDA instructions which urge consumers of non-additive lunch meats to "go home directly to refrigerate the products"

and if a brown bag lunch is to be risked the next day, then "freeze the meat sandwich the evening before".

There is no question meat products can be made just as safely without nitrites. Bacteria can be controlled by adding more salt, drying, freezing, or changing the level of acidity. In particular, botulism becomes unlikely in meat which is not vacuumed packed.

It is true the products must be prepared and handled properly and consumed within a relatively short time of manufacture. But this doesn't mean buyers must go on a bologna binge the day the groceries come home. What is precluded is the centralized production and nation-wide distribution system that keeps processed meat stored away for weeks or months. By short-circuiting this system and buying instead from local producers, consumers may, so to speak, have their meat and eat it too.

*In Western Washington meat raised and cured without additives is available from the Meat Shop, operating out of Puyallup. Seattle outlets for the Meat Shop include Puget Consumer's Co-op, Natural Foods Garden stores, and Nature's Pantry. For other locations call (206) 848-7777.*

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