

FREE VENICE

BEACHHEAD

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P.O. BOX 504, FREE VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291

PHONES: TANK-YUK, 396-9325, 392-8969



BULLDOZER RUN OVER BY PEOPLE

by Ron Guenther

In a major victory for the Venice community, the South Coast Regional Commission denied the Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering a permit to widen Venice Blvd. for more traffic flow from Lincoln Blvd. to Pacific Ave. This decision will profoundly affect the course of events in Venice for years to come.

The Plan would have required the destruction of 27 dwelling units, and the "relocation" of the people living in them. It would have added thousands of additional automobiles to already overloaded Pacific Avenue, Ocean Avenue, Dell Avenue, and other narrow Venice streets already full to capacity. It would have allocated huge amounts of Venice's still pure breathing air to running car engines, and would have replaced this precious and vanishing resource with poisonous gases and noise. It would have created enormous pressures to rip out Pacific Avenue homes and small businesses in order to widen this street also from the Marina to Santa Monica. It would have created the same kind of pressures to destroy Ocean Avenue lawns and trees, and to widen this street too, so as to provide better Marina access from Venice Blvd. It would have required future widening of Electric Avenue and West Washington Blvd. to handle the Santa Monica bound traffic, and eventually paving the beach to give the flood of cars a place to park. The Venice community would have been ghettoized into blocks surrounded by flowing rivers of steel, poisonous fumes, and noise. The Bureau of Engineering plan would have brought in enough traffic to have literally "paved the way" for high density development all over Venice, especially on the Ocean front, where the profits are greatest. The day that this hydra-headed Bureau of Engineering monster died was one of the Venice community's finest days.

This street widening had the full and strong support of our Councilwoman, Pat Russell, in spite of unanimous Venice Town Council opposition to the plan.

Where do we go from here? One of the principle reasons that the plan was defeated was the active participation and intervention of your Venice Town

Council. Members of this elected body argued vigorously, and persuasively, before the coastal Commission for mass transit on Venice Blvd. as a better long term solution to Venice transportation problems. They argued that granting the permit for street widening would relieve the pressures on City Government for Venice Blvd. mass transit, and would shove long term solutions into the future, leaving the Venice community with an unsolved and greatly increased traffic problem. They argued that no overall transportation master plan had been adopted, and that the piecemeal street widening approach was not the solution. The Venice Town Council resolution unanimously opposing Venice Blvd. street widening was read into the official hearing record.

The anti-social, anti-environmental position of Pat Russell in this matter was deplorably typical. Among the usual collection of Chamber of Commerce, real estate, developer, speculator, "do something for Venice", get rid of the freaks types, appeared Curtis Rossiter, Pat Russell's deputy, to argue for the street widening. Supported by a Bureau of Engineering official, and a Los Angeles City "relocation" expert, Curtis completely ignored all environmental considerations in maintaining that the problem was merely relocating 54 people out of the path of machine progress.

You could have done better for us, Pat. After killing the Tule Elk refuge, supporting the Venice Canal Street development obscenity, and promoting a plan which would place poor Canals Area folk in City owned institutions overlooking their former homes, it is becoming perfectly clear to many of us that you are the problem. It is becoming perfectly clear that we are going to have to recall you if we are going to have a chance at a decent social and physical environment to live here in Venice, without having to expend our very life's energies to achieve it. You have too many wealthy friends here in Venice that you are beholden to. You have become a social and environmental menace.

People of Venice, Organize! Unite!! Attend you Venice Town Council. Make your voice heard. This is your community.

CANAL STREET NEWS

by Ron Guenther

In a characteristic display of official arrogance towards the Venice community, the City of Los Angeles on December 28, 1973 awarded the contract for the Canal Street development project.

The project would destroy the Canal Street neighborhood completely, creating a high speed traffic funnel, complete with mercury vapor freeway-style lighting, for Santa Monica bound traffic. The neighborhood peace and quiet, and clean air would be replaced with poisonous fumes, noise, and traffic congestion. All plans for a community park centered around the old palm tree would be forever lost, buried under 60 feet of solid street and sidewalk concrete. The palm tree would be destroyed for a right turn lane. Flower gardens and lawns would be lost. Public safety in the area for residents and their children, bicyclists, and people walking, would be reduced to near the vanishing point.

The Canal Street situation is a clear example of land speculators, real estate developers, and City Government working together closely to enrich each other, at the expense of the community. About 80% of the lots on Canal Street are owned by absentee landlords. These people, like so many others speculating in the valuable coastal zone, have little or no concern for community needs or for preserving the coastal environment, but are interested only in the large spec-

ulative profits made possible by high density development. Mr. Mark Hurst, the biggest Canal Street property owner, lives in Ontario, 55 miles away. After buying his Venice property, he initiated the Canal Street project, which was misrepresented to residents as a simple street paving project, retaining the cul-de-sac, and a beautiful possibility of a community park. Through the connivance and active participation of the City of Los Angeles, the project was ballooned into the present Santa Monica traffic funnel, high rise obscenity. While speculator Mr. Hurst and his ilk have rosy wet dreams over the profits to be gained by raping the Canal Street neighborhood, the Venice community mourns the loss of yet one more quiet and beautiful place, with so much potential for community enrichment, to the gods of money and speculative profit.

Our Councilwoman, Pat Russell, in spite of near unanimous Venice Town Council opposition, stands strongly behind Canal Street development, for "proper traffic circulation," she says. You're not fooling anybody, Pat.

At this writing (Jan. 9), members of the Venice Town Council, and other interested residents, are preparing to attack the constitutionality of the basic municipal laws which breed projects like Canal Street.

WINDOWS WIPED OUT

By Bob Wells

Violent acts against property which a few years ago characterized the Venice community's resistance against development, seem to be returning. In recent weeks and months several thousand dollars worth of windows have been broken in the canal-Washington Square area and threats have been made against new developments. Speculators have not reported this violence to the police and seem to be trying to discount its implications.

Around midnight on Sunday, December 23, residents in the neighborhood around Shanahan's Market (Dell Ave and Washington St) reported hearing a number of shots and "A scream like a witch." They called the police, and witnesses say at least ten police cars responded. For more than a quarter of an hour several dozen heavily armed officers combed the streets and backyards looking for "a man with a shotgun." When the search was unsuccessful the police pulled out. This reporter called the Venice police station about one o'clock that morning, and the officer on the desk said that "three young men with long hair, hippie types," had been shooting at the windows of J. Alan Radford's new Washington Square shopping plaza. No arrests had been made. The next day it could be seen that one of the plate glass windows was broken on the eighth floor.

Just before this paper went to press, I talked with employees in the Wells Fargo Bank offices which occupy the eighth and ninth floors. Both they and the security guard who had been on duty that night verified that the windows had been shot out the Sunday before Christmas.

On the same night nine plate glass windows had been broken at the Hungry Tiger restaurant, which is still under construction on the mall level of the plaza, about one story above the street. Construction supervisor Mike Tuohy said that most of the windows had been broken with chunks of concrete although one looked like a bullet might have gone through it. A week earlier he said, five other windows had been broken. He said the window panels cost \$250 each, and that the expense to the Hungry Tiger amounted to \$3,000 in broken glass.

During the same period toward the close of the year an expensive redwood duplex at Linnie and Grand Canals came under attack. Rocks were thrown through apartment windows and "WARNING NO. 1" was spray-painted on the side of the house. A couple of weeks later more windows were broken and "KILL RICH PIGS WARNING NO. 2" was sprayed on the house along with a bullseye.

Both the redwood duplex and Alan

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KIDS LIBERATION? Not if Junior Scholastic has anything to say about it. This cartoon and quiz depicting the Laotian guerrillas as Red Chinese puppets burning their own villages and killing their own people appeared during the '60's in the pages of that magazine, which is distributed nation-wide to schoolchildren.



Put the letter of the correct answer in the blank. Each counts 2, total, 10.

- 1. You can tell the man in the cartoon is a Southeast Asian by:
 - a. his rifle; b. his clothes; c. his crouch
- 2. You can tell he's a Communist by:
 - a. the hammer and sickle on his hat; b. the name "LAOS" on the land; c. the burning buildings around him.
- 3. Red China is shown here as:
 - a. wanting to hold back the Southeast Asian Communist; b. shaking warning fingers at villages in Laos; c. as a puppeteer controlling the Communist.
- 4. Communist rebels in Southeast Asia:
 - a. burn and kill; b. live peacefully; c. ask the U.N. for help
- 5. A good title for this cartoon would be:
 - a. Red China pulls the strings; b. Fighting for Democracy; c. Withdrawing the Rebels

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WINDOWS . . .

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Radford's Washington Square Plaza have been symbols of the destruction of the Venice community by speculative developers. The duplex on Linnie, which has four floor-through units renting at \$400 each, was constructed quickly several years ago just in time to beat the deadline on a building freeze that was imposed in the canals prior to the old Canal Redevelopment Plan. The owners, a man and his wife, both lawyers, said they had originally planned to live in the building but they couldn't afford it. The duplex stands out conspicuously in an otherwise poor and working-class neighborhood, and is seen as a symbol of the sort of luxury development which threatens to destroy the existing community.

At the same time the redwood duplex was going up the Hernandex Realty Co. laid a foundation for a ticky-tack in 72 hours at the corner of Howland and Grand Canals, in an effort to beat the same deadline. One night community people flattened 200 reinforcement rods that extended from the foundation, and the project was stymied. Years later, the foundation is still there.

Alan Radford's Washington Square Plaza has previously been the scene of violent community resistance. The site at Washington Street and Grand Canal presently occupied by Radford's development was for many years a residential trailer park. In 1971 Radford forcibly cleared the residents out to make way for his plaza, and in the process one of his bulldozers was firebombed. This was the same period when arson against construction sites in the North Beach area reached a point where insurance companies threatened to lift all coverage in Venice.

Residents in the redwood duplex feel that the violence is directed at the building and not at them. One man who has had several windows broken said he would be willing to talk to a community group if it would do any good.

Denny Glenn, a public relations spokesman for Alan Radford, said he felt the broken windows at Washington Square were nothing more than normal vandalism at a construction site. He said that he thought it was being done by outsiders—he knew the young people in the area, he said, such as those at the Brown Bagger Restaurant, and they were not the types who would do that. He felt the community would be on Alan Radford's side because the shopping mall design included a plaza, called Abbott Kinney Park, which will be available to local musicians, artists and strollers.

He disagreed that any bullets had been fired—he discounted the security guard's reports of shots—and said that the eighth floor Wells Fargo window had been broken by a stone. People reported in the neighborhood with guns, he said, were probably people with fishing poles.

Lt. Bernard Parks, commander of the L.A.P.D.'s Venice team, said he had received no complaints or reports of vandalism either from Washington Square Plaza or from the Linnie Canal duplex. His records show no reports of a response to a shooting complaint on the Sunday night before Christmas.

FEDERAL HELP FOR A FREE VENICE

A bill recently introduced in the Senate by Mark Hatfield may, ultimately, provide the means of at least partially restoring self-government to Venice. The bill is entitled "The Neighborhood Government Act of 1973". Its objective is the surrendering of some of the political power held by large city and county governments to their constituent neighborhoods. It is envisaged that neighborhoods would voluntarily assume certain well-defined functions such as police, limited health services, primary and secondary education, local zoning, etc., whereas other functions would remain with current levels of governments. The latter functions would include higher education, area-wide planning, county hospitals, and so forth. There are three major provisions of the bill. The first provides for financing of a neighborhood corporation which would be the seat of neighborhood government. The second provides for democratic establishment and operation of the neighborhood corporation. The third provides for certification of neighborhood corporations and implementation of the law by the Secretary of the Treasury.

If the bill were to become law and operate in a manner most conducive to a Free Venice, the following scenario would be possible:

(1) The Venice Town Council passes a resolution to establish a neighborhood corporation.

(2) A committee is established by the VTC to fix neighborhood boundaries, to formulate a structure for the neighborhood corporation, and to specify the particular functions it proposes to provide.

(3) The committee files the necessary papers with Department of the Treasury and State and local government, as required.

(4) An election is held within the neighborhood boundaries to determine

whether or not the neighborhood corporation should be established as proposed. Seventy percent of the voting age citizens residing in the neighborhood would be required for passage.

(5) Upon passage, the neighborhood corporation would work out a smooth transfer of powers associated with the functions to be assumed.

The major part of the bill deals with financing the neighborhood corporation. Funds would come from two sources. The first source would consist of contributions from local citizens and businesses, and from non-residents. The second source would be the Federal Government.

Contributions would be enhanced as a source of funds, under the bill, by allowing a portion of the contribution to be used as a tax credit against taxes owed to the Federal government. A resident of the neighborhood with a taxable income under \$10,000 could deduct 80 percent of any contribution made to the neighborhood corporation, directly from his tax bill. For example, a person with a taxable income of \$8,000 and a tax owed of \$800 could make a \$250 contribution to his local neighborhood corporation and deduct \$200 from his tax bill. Taxable income in excess of \$25,000 permits only 10 percent of the contributions made to local neighborhood corporations to be deducted. In-between incomes provide for in-between tax credits. Non-residents may take tax credits for contributions but at only half the rate provided for residents.

The neighborhood corporation may also apply to the Federal government for a rebate on State and local taxes paid from the neighborhood. If the per capita income of individuals residing in the neighborhood is \$10,000 or less, 80 per-

cent of State and local taxes may be reimbursed; if per capita income is more than \$25,000, 10 per cent of State and local taxes paid out by the neighborhood will be reimbursed to the neighborhood corporation by the Federal government. Again, in-between per capita income provide for in-between rates of reimbursement.

The bill's other provisions; democratic control, and supervision by the Department of the Treasury, should assure a reasonably wide base of popular support, particularly when coupled with its main objective of decentralizing political power.

The bill as currently written has a number of weaknesses and is, deliberately one assumes, vague on many points. These deficiencies could be corrected in committee hearings and, hopefully, will be. The prospects for its passage, however, are remote at best, not because of its weaknesses but because of its inherent strength. It is axiomatic that those in power are reluctant to yield any of their power to anybody for any reason.

Some encouragement may be found in the face of this axiom by the fact that suffrage in this country has been extended from middle-aged, white male property owners at its foundation to virtually everyone over 18 years of age at present. This extension of freedom was achieved by a combination of out-group pressure enlightened self-interest on the part of the ingroups, and constitutional procedures. One might hope, therefore, that neighborhood government will be eventually realized in the same way.

Additional information and a copy of the bill may be obtained by calling 396-2801.

WHO WE ARE

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IMPEACHMENT BLUES

By John Maybury

Pounding the pavement in a middle-A American shopping center (El Cerrito, Calif.) with an IMPEACH NIXON petition sponsored by the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California. I call out: "Sign the petition to impeach Nixon." The public replies:

"They ought to throw you out of the country," grunts an enormous person waddling by.

"I'm too tired," whines a lady in curlers.

"Not until after Christmas," offers a prosperous-looking pedestrian.

"Promise?" I shout. No answer.

To the good citizens who claim they haven't decided yet, I say: "What are you waiting for Nixon to do next?"

A couple of heavies in Oakland Raider warm-up jackets swagger past, flexing and frowning.

A little old man whose toupee is slipping down his forehead asks if I am Jewish. I'm not. He apparently mistakes my yellow-red-blue knit cap for a yarmulke. "You look Jewish," he says, eyeing me suspiciously and backing away. Then from a distance he heckles, "This whole Watergate thing is a Jewish trick."

Two gay men stroll up arm-in-arm, sign the petition and listen to the old man's harangue. Finally, one of them minces over in the old man's direction and shrills at him: "Oh, shut up, you're just a Nazi."

A black woman is trying to sign, but her little boy tugs her sleeve wanting to know who Nixon is. "That's the one on TV you call old Blue Face," she says.

Back of my clipboard is taped an unflattering David Levine-style caricature of Nixon. It is actually the work of Berkeley artist Bill Skelton, printed on green cardboard with the bold black words IMPEACH NIXON. I use this as a prop to attract signers for our petition.

When I flash this Nixon portrait at a passing stray dog, it hesitates a moment, eyes riveted on the Presidential likeness. The dog's body goes rigid, its lips curl back and in a pure dog-gut reaction it snarls and barks.

Such animal outspokenness may seem unusual to those not in-the-know, but to one who spends many hours on the streets of town testing public opinion, the dog's instinctive recoil comes as no surprise.

A number of human shoppers react with equally instinctive, involuntary be-

havior: silly, nervous, uncomfortable laughter; strange gestures; whether reacting to my presence of the Nixon scowl every passerby is visible perturbed in some way.

The saddest comeback is from an old black woman. She waves her skinny arm in disgust and says in a voice tight with anger: "Listen, don't bring that man's name up. I worked against him both times and the people voted for him anyway."

I hear a milder version of this from a black man: "No, that's white folks' business. They put his in, they can take him out."

Full of strategic wisdom, a white man stops to suggest petitioning at Oakland's Eastmont Mall: "Get all those black Democrats to sign."

"You ought to be ashamed of yourself," someone scolds me. The woman who is signing the petition at this moment turns around and repeats the sentiment to the hastily retreating critic.

Many are afraid to sign for fear of government reprisals. I joke with them about paranoia, but the memory of Watergate dirty tricks is still too fresh in my mind to be reassuring. Constitutional rights are NOT taken for granted in middle-America.

"Can I sign twice?" is a pretty popular request. I love these folks, who run up, only too eager to sign, a few uncomplimentary words for Nixon gushing out of their mouths. They make my job worthwhile; they are oases in a political desert. I tell them that their votes in the last so-called "election" were stolen (if they voted Democrat) or wasted (if Republican), so to go ahead and sign twice to make up for it.

My all-time favorite scene: a serious little girl is signing the petition when a man in a red golf cap and alpaca sweater approaches, sees her and storms at me for allowing a minor to sign. I explain that our petition is not restricted to registered voters. The girl stops writing, looks up at the man and declares sweetly, "I watched Watergate on TV every day." Then she stuck out her tongue at him.

REPORTER SUES GURU

WANTS MILLION FOR HEAD

After making the Esquire "Worst Year Yet" special issue as some of the best worst news of the year, Pat Halley, reporter for Detroit's Fifth Estate, has filed a one million dollar law suit against the Divine Light Mission.

Halley first made the limelight last August, when he

threw a beautiful cream pie into the Guru Maharaj Ji's divine kisser. Maharaj is the spiritual leader, jewel smuggler, and top banana in the Divine Light Mission.

Halley's second appearance came when two gurunoid thugs beat him over the head with hammers. A piece of his skull had to be replaced with a piece of plastic. All the same he says he's recovering all right. Richard Fletcher and Jutesar Misra, a high banana in the Mission, are charged with the attack.

FALLEN ARCHES

From Liberation News Service

What fast-food chain uses enough energy annually to supply the cities of Pittsburgh, Boston, Washington and San Francisco with electric power for a whole year? If you thought of the ubiquitous golden arches of McDonald's you're right.

According to the University of Illinois computer scientist Bruce Hannon, the packaging of McDonald's hamburger,

french fries and other products, consumes three billion kilowatt hours worth of electricity per year, or the energy equivalent of 12.7 million tons of coal.

For each customer, the energy equivalent of 2.1 pounds of coal is expended, on the average.

In addition, McDonald's uses 174 million pounds of paper yearly, which is roughly the sustained yield of 315 square miles of forest. Each McDonald's patron discards 2.4 ounces of packaging, including paper cups, bags, plastic lid covers, burger boxes, wax paper, straws and napkins.

McDonald's is the fourth largest food server in the nation, trailing only the Army, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and the Department of Agriculture. "[McDonald's is] probably no worse than Burger Chef, Big Boy, Dairy Queen and all the others," says Hannon. "They are a symbol of the nationwide waste of material and energy resources."

Don't you think the McDonald Corporation isn't doing anything about this waste, however. In an attempt to help school children develop "environmental awareness," McDonald's is distributing its own "Ecology Action Pack" especially designed for fourth through sixth grades.

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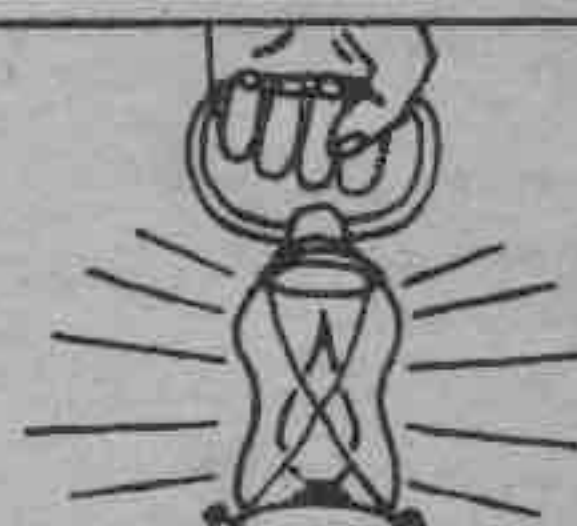
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POLITIDISCS



by Richard Foos

A RECORD REVIEW COLUMN WITH AN EMPHASIS ON RECORDS THAT HAVE AN ENLIGHTENING SOCIAL OR POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Around this time of year most record reviewers devote their columns to the best, most significant, etc. albums of the previous year. Logically, it follows that this column should be devoted to a review of the most politically significant albums of 1973. However, not wanting to have a blank column, I have decided to devote this month's article to a general discussion of the current state of rock music.

In both my and most rock devotee's opinion, 1973 was an all-time low ebb for pop music in every way. Never has a year produced so many worthless albums, even by artists who previously have been rock's guiding light. Groups and individuals such as Dylan, the Stones, the Beatles (individually), Tull, Zeppelin, Neil Young, all released albums in 1973 that were directionless, uninspired, and at best repetitive of material they had previously released.

However, as boring as most '73 music was, a trend developed towards the end of the year that promised to sink rock music to even lower depths. While most '73 albums were at least stagnant, in late winter major groups started coming out with albums consisting solely of oldies. In the ever-changing world of pop music, the thought that major pop groups would have to totally imitate tired songs of the past is simply intolerable. These songs, although important to their times, have little or no meaning in today's fast-changing society. The least these groups could do, if they insist on doing 50's and 60's songs, is to update the lyrics so they have some kind of relevancy to today's world. Therefore, hopefully as an impetus to these rock groups, I have rewritten a few 50's and 60's oldie but goodies in order to bring their lyrical content up to date.

"Theme Song of the Plumbers"
(originally written as the "Theme Song of the Monkees" by the Monkees)

Here we come into your homes
through wiretaps on your telephones

(CHORUS)
Hey-Hey we're the Plumbers
We're comin' to your town
Just be anti-Nixon
And we're sure to be aroun'

Anytime or anywhere
Just pick up your receiver and we'll be there

(CHORUS)
Hey-Hey we're the Plumbers
We just want to bug and rob
So, please have mercy on us
We're only ddi'n' our job

We're just tryin' to be loyal
to the good ol' USA
and it's our duty to listen
If you've got something to say

But when you said you had no previous
knowledge,
We knew that things weren't right.

Oh, the truth is back and you're gonna be
in trouble
Hey la de la—the truth is back.
Your whole administration's gonna be in
rubble
Hey la de la—the truth is back.

You said tyings that really were untrue
Hey la de la—the truth is back
We got your aides and VP, now we're
comin' after you
Hey la de la—the truth is back.

(BRIDGE)
Hey, we know that you've been cheatin'
on your taxes and oil depletion
What made you think we'd believe all your
lies (wahoo-wahoo)
Your President now, but you're in for a
surprise
Wait and see.

Well you said that we were the Silent Ma-
jority
Hey la de la—the truth is back
Well we're gonna throw you out along with
your whole party
Hey la de la—the truth is back.

You told us there would be no inflation
Hey la de la—the truth is back
Now you're gonna take a permanent va-
cation
Hey la de la—the truth is back.

Hey, the truth is back
Oh, you're gonna get sacked
Yeah, the truth is back
San Clemente'll be a shack
Oh the truth is back now
Yeah, the truth is back now (etc).

"Standard Oil"
(originally sung as "Stagger-Lee" by
Lloyd Price).

Standard Oil, cried Nixon, I hate to
tell you this
But there's trouble in the country
Inflation's running amiss.

Standard Oil, cried Nixon, I know that
you're a friend
But why do your profits have to be
1000 per cent?

Standard Oil, cried Nixon, if I want
to stay aroun'
We're gonna have to cut your profits
down

But Dick, cried Standard, what about
the thousand G's
That we gave to your finance
committee.

Oh Dick, cried Standard, please don't
fix our price
We all got to support three homes and very
Spoiled wives.

Yes Dick, cried Standard, that price better
not be fixed

PEOPLE'S LAW



It is an unfortunate fact of life, that far too many of us will have encounters with the law. And more depressing still, is the fact that in many of those encounters we will be victimized by the law; we will be defendants in criminal cases. And while we are facing up to facts we might as well acknowledge that the people who run the criminal justice system are experienced. When they file charges against someone, they have a pretty good chance of obtaining a conviction. The overall conviction rate of persons charged by the district attorney is between 80 and 90 per cent. Though a 90% conviction rate is rather awesome, the rate drops to a less spectacular 50% (approximately) for those defendants who go all the way through a jury trial. As with all statistics, these figures are susceptible to more than one interpretation. The first and most optimistic interpretation is that the chances of gaining an acquittal from a criminal charge are vastly increased by going through a trial. A defendant would have to be a fool, it seems, to turn down the opportunity of a jury trial in favor of some deal or plea bargain. There is some truth to that theory; one should be very wary of "deals" offered by the prosecutor, for he knows that the chances of conviction are far less in a jury trial. But the situation of a criminal defendant is not so uncomplicated that a general rule can always be followed.

The second interpretation of the figures above is at least as valid as the first—many cases are so bad that bargaining for a reduced charge or lighter sentence is really the best alternative open to the defendant. In other words, you may be guilty (though you may not agree that the thing you're charged with is a crime), and you're going to get convicted whether you go to trial or not. Though many defendants are pressured into pleading guilty by their own unenthusiastic lawyers, many others who plead guilty as part of a deal with the prosecutor have made a sad but wise decision.

If you ever are faced with a case against you that is so bad that you may want to deal with the prosecutor, there are a few things you ought to have in mind. First of all, the person you will be "bargaining" with is the prosecutor, not the judge. Judges usually feel constrained to refrain from participating in any bargaining sessions, and the prosecutor can't make any promises that are binding on the judge. Since the judge is the only person making all the decisions about probation and sentencing, you should immediately distrust any promises about sentencing made by the prosecutor. Check out such promises before you rely on them.

The prosecutor does have it within his power to consent to a guilty plea to reduced charges, but you should keep in mind that the district attorney's office often overstates the charges to begin with. For example, you might be picked up with a lid and the district attorney may charge you with possession with intent to sell. So when he offers to reduce the charge to mere possession, he's not offering much. He could couldn't make the higher charge stick anyhow.

The prosecutor also may offer to recommend to the judge that all but one charge be dropped if you'll plead guilty to that one. This may be an illusory benefit, for most often, persons convicted of two crimes at once are sentenced concurrently, that is both sentences run at the same time. It is of some benefit to have as few charges as possible on your record, especially when the prison authorities review your record.

You should know, also, when considering a prosecutor's offer, that probation is given fairly often in cases of non-violent crimes. Though the prosecutor can't make any promises about what the judge will do, he can make a recommendation to the judge that probation be given.

It is extremely important when you find that you must plead guilty as part of a bargain, to make sure that all the terms of the bargain are stated in court. When the judge asks you if any promises have made to induce you to plead guilty, tell him. Tell him even if he doesn't ask you about it. Make sure that all parts of the "bargain", even implied promises by the district attorney, are stated openly before you enter a plea. Afterwards, it's too late.

In case you happen to be saddled with a public defender who is more interested in getting out to an early lunch than he is in winning your case, you should know that excessive delay in your trial can sometimes be a basis for dismissal of the case. Every delay in the proceedings must be approved by the defendant, but most defendants assent to any delay so long as their attorney assents. If you are not afraid that a demand for a quick trial will catch your lawyer unprepared, make that demand. It is your right. Not very many cases are dismissed because of excessive delay, but even if your own case is not helped, you will be doing your part to pressure the legal system by exercising that right. If all defendants insisted upon a jury trial and refused to waive their right to a speedy trial, the legal system would be terribly overburdened. The courts would likely respond to the pressure by dismissing a lot more cases. Wouldn't that be a shame??

We'll create a shortage and raise the demand.

Sounds great, said Nixon, the rich'll be able to hoard
And I'll put you guys on my National Energy Board.

Oh rape—Standard Oil
Rape—Standard Oil
Rape—Standard Oil
Rape—Standard Oil

If your party wants a chance
in Nineteen Seventy-Six.

Standard Oil, cried Nixon, I'll see
what I can do
By fooling the public with phases
one and two.

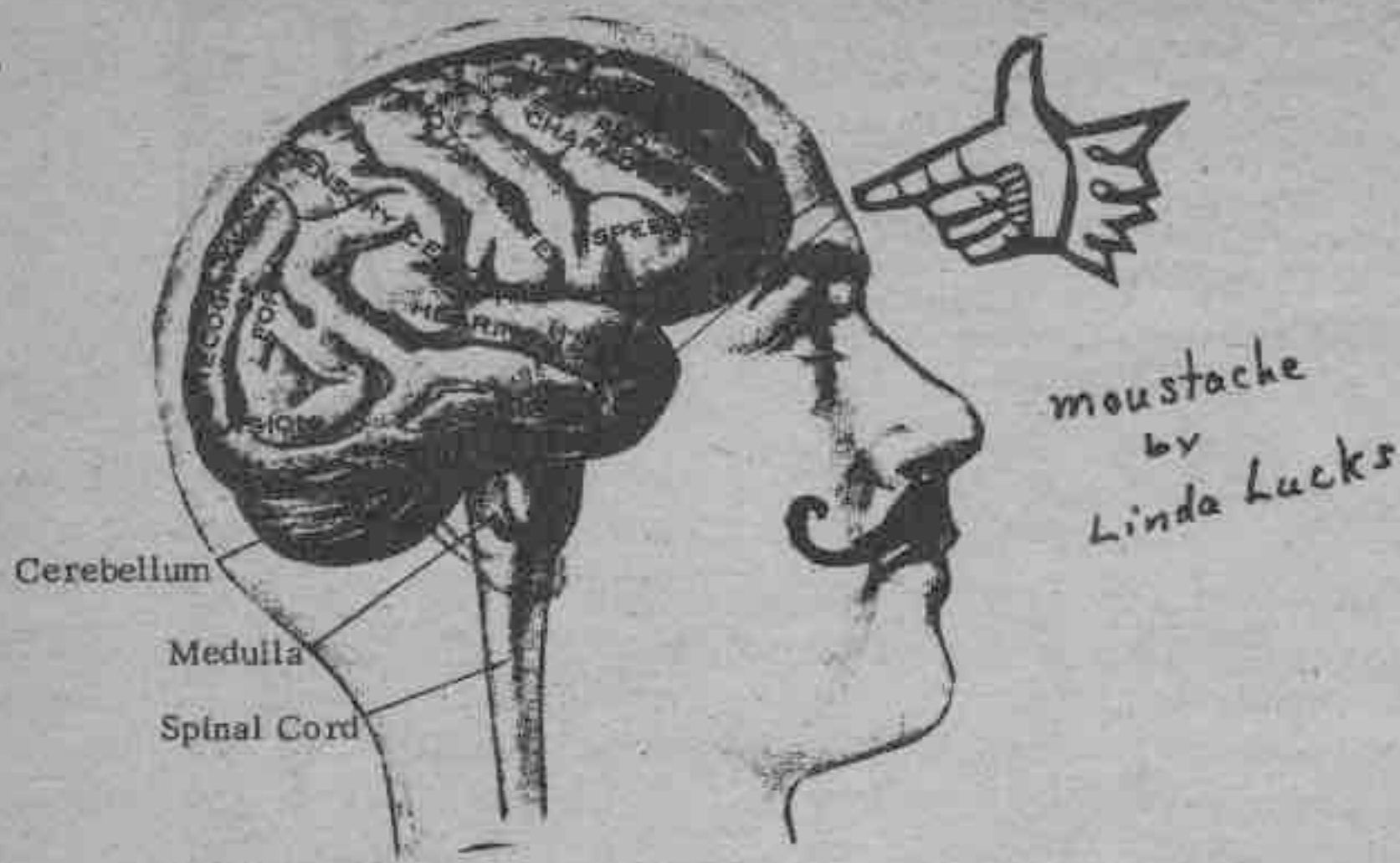
Oh Dick, cried Standard, I think
we got a plan

Opening Monologue:
It went away and you hung aroun'
and hothered us every night

"The Truth Is Back"
(originally written as "My Boyfriend's
Back" by the Angels)

DR. ZANE'S LOBOTOMY COLUMN

"BAD TASTE IS TIMELESS"



A Monthly Column of Advice on All Subjects the Doctor Knows Absolutely Nothing About

by Jim Zane

Dr. Zane has a new sponsor this month: new-improved-better-than-ever-anti-per-spirant Ban deodorant.

"Hi folks, I'm the Guru Maharaj Ji. Better known in these parts as the Perfect Master, or in your common everyday American vernacular, God.

"Even though I'm a 15 year old, it's a pretty tough job being God. It's one thing being your common everyday diety, but it's quite another being God. It's so tough, I've already got liyer and ulcer problems.

"Sometimes you think how hard a laborer works. Working in the fields, digging ditches, changing tires, and all that stuff, a person sweats a lot and can begin to have an unbecoming odor to their bodies and their clothes.

"Well, if you think that's bad, think about me. Think about all the difficult decisions I have to make each day as God: whether to end the Arab oil boycott, who should win the Super Bowl, if Dick and Liz should stay together, if I should tell Rennie Davis to keep his tongue in his mouth when he kisses my toes....tough decisions like that! And when you have so many life-and-death decisions to make daily as I do, you work up an awful sweat and B.O. becomes a major problem.

"That old saying is true—Cleanliness is next to Godliness. And if I don't smell nice, then who else will? So that's why I, Guru Maharaj Ji, the Perfect Master, God, use Ban deodorant in the morning, in the evening and before I go to bed at night. It's a deodorant fit for God. And I should know. I use it."

Dear Dr. Zane:
What would happen if Jesus came back tomorrow?
Neil List

Dear Neil List:
As Jesus is a Jew, he'd be condemned by the gentiles as a Christ-killer and be killed again.

Dear Dr. Zane:
Where do you get your material?
Bob Hope

Dear Bob:
From the Home Silk Shop.

Dear Dr. Zane:
In what way are you contributing to the alleviation of the energy crisis? How are

you saving energy?
William Simon

Dear Simple Simon:
Dr. Zane is helping alleviate the phoney energy crisis in two ways. Dr. Zane is cutting down on his consumption of gasoline (it gives him heartburn—and besides, he has enough gas as it is). Secondly, Dr. Zane has decided to stop running, exercising and walking because those activities take away all his energy.

Dear Dr. Zane:
Have there ever been any scientific studies conducted on constipation or on what constipated people feel about being constipated?

Alexander Portnoy

Dear Alex:
There was one famous study done on constipation. In a survey conducted by the 2 full professors in Dali Llama's University of Mt. Everest, Steve Henigson and Jeff Siegel, it was discovered that 99% of constipated people don't give a shit and the other one per cent don't have any opinion as they are over their heads with their problems.

Dear Dr. Zane:
I'd like to find out more information about the Center for the Reduction of Violence. I've heard that the people who run the Center want to perform lobotomies on violence-prone people and criminals because they feel that that would reduce the chance of violence and crime in our society. So far I've heard that they plan to experiment mainly on convict volunteers. I can somewhat understand their reasoning. But what I'd like to know is: If they want to cut up the brains of violence-prone people, then why aren't they cutting up the brains of such people as Nixon, Brezhnev, Mao, Thieu, and most of the leaders of North Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Syria, Egypt and Israel?
Sy Kosurgery

Dear Mr. Kosurgery:
As a doctor of lobotomy, I can answer your question very easily. The reason that the Violence Center is not bothering to cut up the brains of these people is quite simple: these people don't have any brains to cut up.

Dear Dr. Zane:
Why don't I like your jokes?
Jim Zane

Dear Jim:
You don't like my jokes because you have no sense of humor whatsoever.

Dr. Zane received another letter from Jeff Siegel and Steve Henigson this month. The doctor is in shock again because of the massive response.

Dear Dr. Zane:
We have done some more research for you and your readers as you requested. As your readers may remember, we are full (of it) professors in the faculty of the Center of Highest Learning in the World: Dali Llama's University of Mt. Everest.

In regard to the study you requested, we have found that the government's focus on drug addiction is misplaced. There is a more pernicious form of addiction from which everybody worldwide suffers:

FOOD ADDICTION!! Your own mother turned you on!

The Institute has found that food addiction is avoidable. We have raised laboratory animals who have lived their entire lives without being exposed to this pernicious material. Our research department is working on the problem of the short life of these laboratory animals; we have been able to extend their lifespans to as much as three days, and a breakthrough of momentous proportions is momentarily expected.

Steve Henigson
Jeff Siegel

Dear Dr. Zane:
Ah heard that you all wuz attracted to me not becuz Ah am the hero of the Watergate Investigayshun but becuz of mah nervous eyebrows that dance up and down ev'rah time Ah cross-examine a witness. Well, ah'm more than flattered as ah'm just a simple country lawyer who knows more about this here American Constitushun than anybody else in the country. I know that some people find that surprising becuz ah've voted against almost all civil rights bills while ah've been in the Senate. But let me remind you, that's not inconsistent. Cuz it says here in the beginnin' of the Constitushun that the Nigra is only three-fifths as good as us white folks, and they therefuh ain't equal to us. So all those civil rights bills violated the Constitushun and that's why ah voted against them. Ah remain as always, a simple country lawyer,
Sam Ervin

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FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Fri 1: O Lucky Man*If. Sat 2: Last of Sheila*Thief Who Came to Dinner. Mon 4: Slither*Waterhole Number 3* Two Mules for Sister Sarah. Tue 5: Doll's House*Klute. Thu 7: Casablanca*Big Sleep. Fri 8: Wizard of Oz*Fabulous Baron von Munchausen. Sat 9: Let the Good Times Roll*Head. Mon 11: Take the Money & Run* The Optimists*The Producers. Tue 12: Dillinger*Oklahoma Crude. Thu 14: Clowns*Belle De Jour. Fri 15: I Could Never Have Sex With Any Man Who Has So Little Regard For My Husband*Harrad Experiment. Sat 16: Tribute to TV (Part I). Mon 18: Trash*Beyond Valley of Dolls*Fortune & Men's Eyes. Tue 19: Young Winston*Charge of Light Brigade. Thu 21: Room Service* Animal Crackers*Mystery of Leaping Fish. Fri 22: El Topo*Greaser's Palace. Sat 23: Tribute to TV History (Part II). Mon 25: El Topo*Greaser's Palace. Tue 26: Casino Royale*Steelyard Blues*Loved One. Thu 28: Kid Blue*Last American Hero.

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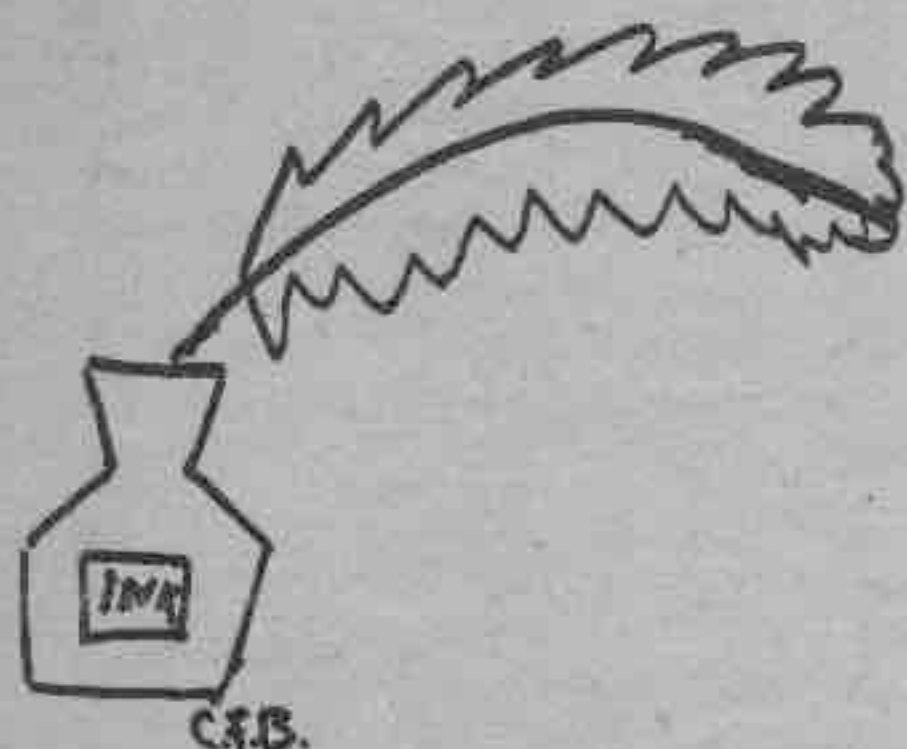
LETTERS Letter letters!

LETTER TO THE BEACHHEAD LETTER TO THE BEACHHEAD LETTER TO THE BEACHHEAD LETTER LETTER

LETTERS!!! LITTERS

LETTERS

December 29, 1973



Dear Beachhead,

On Christmas Eve I was wanting some coleslaw. After visiting many markets, all of whom had none, I arrived at a market in Venice. Joyfully I saw quite a few cartons of cole slaw in the fridge. Turning the carton to look at the date, my joy turned to horror, the carton was dated October 6th. I opened it to smell. My god, was it October 6, 1973 or October 6 1873? I mentioned to the owner that the cole slaw was outdated and spoiled. She blamed it on the delivery man who had not been in. I straight away said that the cartons should not even be on display. "Oh," she said, "people can bring them back if not satisfied." It went through my mind, "yes, if they are alive to do so." You see, I had also noticed meats and other things that were outdated.

Years ago this happened in Watts. Markets were selling the people there outdated foods. We in Venice certainly do not want this happening here, at least I don't.

I got on the phone and called the sanitation department (829-2911, Ext. 282). A girl took my complaint and said an inspector would go out to the market. I felt better knowing I had mentioned it to someone in authority (I really didn't think they would do anything). Gosh, was I mistaken. Today an inspector called me and thanked me for complaining. He said he had a list a mile long of things he found incorrect. He told me to spread the word around. That's why I'm writing to you because I know that concerned people read your paper and will also spread the word.

WE IN VENICE DO NOT INTEND TO BE USED. WE WANT FRESH FOOD PRODUCTS NOT CRAP.

Maybe in this year of 1974 we can get down to it by checking dates on foods and insisting that outdated foods are taken from the shelves. If not, then all we need do is call 829-2911, Ext. 282, and they will see that these markets do it. With enough complaints we can get these markets out of business.

Yours for Venice,
Elizabeth Jolley

The Venice canine situation has been belabored for quite some time but the situation seems to be deteriorating.

Pets are fine and dogs usually make good pets. They are often friendly companions and occasionally serve to warn against or ward off marauders. There is also something called consideration which applies to both pets and people.

"FREE VENICE" is a good, colorful slogan whether it means to free Venice from outside oppression, or, to have a free community in which to live in an uninhibited life style. There are reasonable codes relative to auto speeds, one-way streets, parking etcetera. Services such trash collection, sewers, water, electricity, gas and semi-protection are provided (subject to fees and taxes). There are also codes about pets -- mostly applicable to dogs -- loose dogs.

"FREEDOM" is impaired by:

- 1) Spilled trash.
- 2) Plentiful piles of excrement (not healthy).
- 3) Harassment of pedestrians, cyclists, and cars.
- 4) Barking and occasional biting.

It is not unreasonable to ask containment of animals -- or people -- one is not supposed to urinate on the street or buildings. People are also expected to refrain from spreading trash and chasing bicycles. Many dogs do not understand or respect these restrictions.

Dog owners have many valid although narrow arguments.

Dogs need exercise - take them to the beach and run them on a leash.

Dogs are hungry (hell, so am I) - feed them.

Barking is natural -OK- but a few sturdy instructions should prevent undue bothering of others.

Many dog owners keep their pets in fenced areas or on a leash.

Since Venice is not a rural district this is proper, considerate behavior. It is not fair to most dogs to keep them housed, but it is also unfair to let them run loose.

Animal Shelter and pound officials have problems in the Venice area; tires slashed or deflated, cages opened, general trouble. This may be cute or funny but it is still criminal and could prevent assistance when really needed. People who cannot or will not control their pets in this area should be considerate of the "Freedom" of others and not have pets. I know my wife is afraid, with cause, to ride her bicycle as of this month.

Sincerely,

Don Pettit

To the Beachhead:

After the South Coast Regional Coastal Commission rejected, for the second time, the City's proposal to widen Venice Blvd., Councilwoman Russell's Field Deputy Curtis Rossiter made the following comment to the West Side Times: "The Town Council is representative of community members. They're interested in their own interest. They don't want all those people coming to the beach."

The suggestion that the people of Venice and our elected Town Council are against "people coming to the beach" is untrue, and we deeply resent such a statement being made. The working men and women of Venice are well aware that, unlike many other beaches in this area, access to our beach is not limited just to those wealthy enough to live on it. Venice Beach is a working people's beach, and we welcome the poor and working people of all races who come here to use it.

But it is not necessary for our homes and the clean coastal air resource to be destroyed in order for people to use this beach.

No serious consideration has been given to rapid transit access to the beach in lieu of widening streets for more cars. This in itself shows that the City is not sincere in its talk about "more people coming to the beach." We feel Councilwoman Russell's office is pushing for increased traffic flow through Venice primarily to benefit high-density luxury developers in the Marina.

County Supervisor Hayes has now asked the Coastal Commission to hear the matter again-- for a third time. For us to have confidence in the fair working of our government we feel that after twice convincing the Commission not to widen Venice Blvd., we should not now be finding our homes in jeopardy a third time.

Steve Clare
Elizabeth Elder
Ron Guenther
John Heller
Merolyn Ravetz
Bob Wells

Representatives,
Canal Area Town
Council.

**BEACHHEAD PHOTOGRAPHER:
GAIL WILLIAMSON (PHONE: TANK-YUK)**



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GAMES

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SUNDAY 5 PM 'TIL 5 AM



Dear Beachhead,

No one but a masochist (or a sadist) will deny that sometime we have to, as individuals, get off by ourselves and find some inner tranquility.

What Diane Lee in her response to Bob Wells' article is proposing however is a little grander in concept.

Her argument is based on the central point that salvation of any kind, political, religious, mental or any other kind is purely a personal individual matter. If one can change oneself to a "better" individual then the whole world will be better off. Further, if everyone does that then we will have a totally better world. The means can be drugs, dope, Jesus, the Guru or anything else which works.

I don't subscribe to that notion.

The analogy I can best draw for that kind of concept is that if we are on a sinking ship in the middle of the ocean, then salvation is not a individual matter. One just can't do his or her own thing. I don't wish to stimulate argument over whether this society is a sinking ship or not. I personally believe the system to be sinking and of course Ms. Lee seems to agree with me that, salvation is needed.

Historically Ms. Lee's choice has saved no one, collectively or individually for that matter, unless we accept Ms' Lee's definition of salvation. I find that definition lacking in certain important real concrete facts. To mention a few: The elimination of famine, ignorance, inadequate housing, inadequate and outrageously expensive medical care, and physical and psychological exploitation and oppression.

Certain countries, China for example, have eliminated all or most of the above in a very short period of their socialist history. Prior to 1949 China was racked by invasion from foreign nations, internal wars and widespread opium addiction (introduced into China by so-called Christian countries.)

A look at India for example, a country in which Ms. Lee's concept of individual salvation is widespread, will show that the social problems we have just talked about are most acute and worsening. People dying of starvation by the thousand every day. Living and dying in the gutters while some people live in opulent wealth. Of course I'm not implying that religion or religious beliefs or that Ms. Lee's notion of personal salvation is the sole cause of these afflictions. These beliefs and notions just never really confront these problems, and in effect by preaching personal escape from worldly problems they buttress the systems responsible for them. There is much more I could say.

Jim Cookson

SEE DICK RUN!

"The nation's two top Secret Service officials testified yesterday it is unlikely a mob storming the White House could reach President Nixon and that ample security defenses would make it unnecessary for him to escape through an available tunnel." (Washington Post, 4/25/73)

THE GAME IS FOR SHOOTERS

"Increased guerilla activity in North-east Rhodesia has inspired a Salisbury golf club to add two new rules. The first rule 'Allows a stroke to be played again if interrupted by gunfire or sudden explosion.' The second requires all golfers to carefully examine each green for landmines before putting." (WIN, 6/7/73)

LAW CENTER OPENS

On Epiphany Sunday, amidst singing, hymns and poetry, Jim Conn was inaugurated as minister to the Church in Ocean Park, located at Hill and Second. The ceremony and celebration which followed marked the coming of a new style of ministry to the area: The Church will now be opened for and responsive to a wide variety of community projects and services.

One of the first projects located there is the Community Assistance Center which provides low cost legal services and free welfare counseling. It's run by a young attorney, James Carroll, who was into corporate law, decided it was a dead end place if you needed opportunity for personal growth, dropped out and came to this area to start the Center. Hope Blacker, from the Westside Woman's Center and several women from Momma work with the Center as paralegal workers so the Center expresses special concern for the legal problems of women.

They will be handling primarily low cost divorce, landlord-tenant problems and welfare rights but hope to do a wide variety of cases of importance to the people of this community, from Debt

Collection and Busts to Civil Rape Cases getting people out of mental institutions and non-profit Incorporation. Their fees are based on ability to pay and they sometimes will let you exchange volunteer work for legal advice. These are important services, since Legal Aid cannot handle either divorce or busts and cannot take clients above a certain income level, which includes a lot of folks who could not afford standard attorney's fees. It is always a victory when a community can enlist professionals to do free or low cost work in an alternative structure!

Their phone number is 392-9011 and they have an Answering Service.

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LIBRARY NOTES

The Venice Library offers many programs, ideas and useful information to everyone in our community. Thinking about changing jobs? You can get job descriptions and requirements from the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF OCCUPATIONS, OCCUPATION OUTLOOK, WORK FORCE, and the Help Wanted ads in the local newspapers.

Some of the usual (and unusual) subscriptions you can find at the library include The Santa Monica Evening Outlook, The Los Angeles Sentinel, The Los Angeles Times, The Wall Street Journal, La Opinion, Rolling Stone, Vertex (Science Fiction), Big Bike, Model Airplane News, Consumer Reports, Sesame Street Magazine, Westways, and U.S. State Department Background Notes on foreign countries.

If you want to borrow a jigsaw puzzle or recycle a game no longer in use, the library can help you. You can check in on the Modern Dance and Citizenship classes or check out some records; see children and parents enjoying free films every Saturday morning or request the clubroom for a community meeting. The Venice Library has these and other goodies to share with the people of Venice—--that means you!



COMMUNITY SERVICES

WELFARE
1. 11390 W. Olympic Bl, 478-5511
2. Welfare Rights, 731-5095
3. NAPP, 399-7737

FOOD STAMPS ONLY
10961 W. Pico Bl, 479-4421

ABORTION REFERRAL
936-7466

PET PRIDE (FOR CATS)
459-1703

FREE VENICE
226 San Juan, 396-6876

PEACE & FREEDOM PARTY
221-2404

VENICE DRUG COALITION
392-4151

LEGAL AID
1. NAPP, 528 Westminster, 399-7737
2. 1607 Pacific Ave (upstairs)
392-4177, call for appointment
3. The Law Center, 392-9011

LITERARY WORKSHOPS
Beyond Baroque, 396-6551

VENICE PEOPLE'S RAINBOW PAGES
17 Ozone dail DYM-N-ERG

SENIOR CITIZENS
1. Israel Levin Senior Adult Center
201 Ocean Front Wk, 399-9584
2. Ocean Park Community Center
399-1248

HEALTH RIGHTS
399-7737 (Vera Davis)
392-4177 (Al Emkin)

DRUG HELP
1. Venice Drug Clinic
392-4114
2. Drug Hotline, 394-3577
3. Drug Emergency (24-hr),
392-5744

CRISIS REFERRAL SERVICE
Hotline for food, clothes, counseling, etc. 399-1248
M-F 10 am—5 pm

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A large cart with a roof near 33 Brooke. "Give what you can, take what you need." Also for appliances, food, and anything reusable

YOUTH CLINIC
905 Venice Bl, VD, pregnancy tests, infections, abortion counseling, birth control: 4 pm—4:45 pm; for other medical help, call first, 821-3484

JOB INFO CENTER
316 Lincoln Bl—392-4811

VENICE LIBRARY
610 California Ave, 821-1769
M-F 1—9 pm, Sat 9:30 am—1 pm

FAMILY PLANNING CENTER
1501 Pacific Ave (at Market)
EX2-4147

BENJAMIN RUSH CENTER
Help for your head—392-4905

UCLA DENTAL CLINIC
392-4125

IMPEACHMENT CAMPAIGN CTR
732-2445

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR/ WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION
Meets Mondays at 7:30 pm, 226 San Juan Ave, 396-6876, 399-8649

CARPENTRY COLLECTIVE
Venice Builders & Carpentry Collective, Karen (397-7142), Steve (821-0216), Eleanor & Bob (392-8136)

ALCOHOLISM SERVICE CENTER
Clare Foundation, 844 Pico Bl, SM
8 pm—10 pm, 7 days/wk, 392-6498

VENICE COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER
826 Hampton Dr, 392-7722

RECYCLING
Westside Environmental Center
Behind the Co-op Market
2021 Barington Ave, West LA
478-3429 open 7 days/wk, 24 hrs

VENICE HEALTH COUNCIL
1306 W. Washington Bl
392-5752

CHILD COUNSELING CENTER
392-7995

COMMUNITY FAMILY HEALTH CENTER
320 Lincoln Bl, 392-4125
Mon—Fri: 6 pm—10 pm

BOYCOTT

Gallo

Gallo
Palano
Thunderbird
Carla Ross
Eden Roc
Boone's Farm
Suzanna
Tynalia
Ripple
Andre
Red Mountain

*Also, any wine which says "Modesto, California" on the label is Gallo. Gallo does not appear on all labels. Gallo is the only wine normally with half-liter bottles in Modesto.

Guild

Winegrowers Guild
Tres Grand
Duke's Imperial
Roma Reserve
Cribari Reserve
Jannet Arc
La Boheme
Ceremony
Versailles
Crest Blanca
Saratoga
J. Perot
Guillo Blue Ribbon
Roma
St. Mark
Olden France
Pamela V.I.
Twin Bar St. George
Gault
Tuscia
Montecarlo
Fonapa Colibri
L'Amont
Aila
C.V.L.
Virginia Dare
Toda
La Mesa
Ocean Spray Cranberry Rose
Vin Clogg IParrot & Co. I
Citation

Franzia

Table
Desert
Sparkling
Vermouth
Louis the Fifth
Private Label
* Also, any wine which says "made and bottled in Rippon, California" All Franzia products have #BW3954 on the label

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Leyon
Petri
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Mission Bell
Jacques Bonnet
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Davitto
Margo
Greystone
Cailla
Pieria
Vai Bros.
Betsy Rose
Italian Swiss Colony
Gambola
Beauvieu

Almaden

Almaden
Le Domaine

Paul Masson

Paul Masson

Christian Brothers

Christian Brothers
Mont La Salle

Novilite of Los Gatos

Novilite

Vie Del

no labels, wholesale, bulk only

Perelli-Minetti

see page 11 for wholesale, bulk only



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JACK DUGANNE ART SHOW

Artist Jack Duganne will be showing large silkscreen canvases and photo serigraphs from February 1 through February 15, at the Beyond Baroque Gallery, 1639 W. Washington Bl, 396-6551. The gallery will be open daily Monday through Friday from noon to 5 pm.

POETRY READING

Pierce College Poets Workshop members will be reading their own works on a poetry reading to be held at Friday February 8, 8:30 pm, at the Beyond Baroque Center, 1639 W. Washington Bl, 396-6551. Reading will be Florence Jeanne Goodman, director of the workshop, Mark Aldrich, Sandra Cannaday, Gale Creedon, Ruth Feder, Steve Frost, Nancy Hunt, Manon Johnson, and Terry Phillips.

CLASSIFIED

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AREA TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Peninsula—4th Monday of the month
Anchorage St. School, 7:30 pm
North Beach—1st Monday of the month,
Israel Levin Center, 8 pm
Canals—3rd Tuesday of the month, Anchorage St. School, 7:30 pm
Oakwood—3rd Wednesday of the month,
Broadway Elementary School, 7: pm
East Venice—4th Wednesday of the month, Coeur D'Alene School, 8 pm.
Central Venice—3rd Thursday of the month, Westminster School Library, 7:30 pm.

For more information, call Sharon Kaplan at 485-3357.

Ode to my Socks

by Pablo Neruda

Maru Mori brought me
a pair of
socks
which she knitted herself
with her sheepherder's hands,
two socks as soft
as rabbits.
I slipped my feet
into them
as though into
two
cases
knitted
with threads of
twilight
and goatskin.
Violent socks,
my feet were
two fish made
of wool,
two long sharks
sea-blue, shot
through
by one golden thread,
two immense blackbirds,
two cannons:
my feet
were honored
in this way
by

these
heavenly
socks.
They were
so handsome
that for the first time
my feet seemed to me
unacceptable
like two decrepit
firemen, firemen
unworthy
of that woven
fire,
of those glowing
socks.

Nevertheless
I resisted
the sharp temptation
to save them somewhere
as schoolchildren
keep
fireflies,
as learned scholars
collect
sacred texts,
I resisted
the mad impulse
to put them
into a golden

cage
and each day give them
birdseed
and pieces of pink melon.
Like explorers
in the jungle who hand
over the very rare
deer's body
to the spit
and eat it
with remorse,
I stretched out
my feet
and pulled on
the magnificent
socks
and then my shoes.

The moral
of my ode is this:
beauty is twice
beauty
and what is good is doubly
good
when it is a matter
of two socks
made of wool
in winter.