THE COASTAL COMMISSION KICKING AND SCREAMING IN LONG BEACH

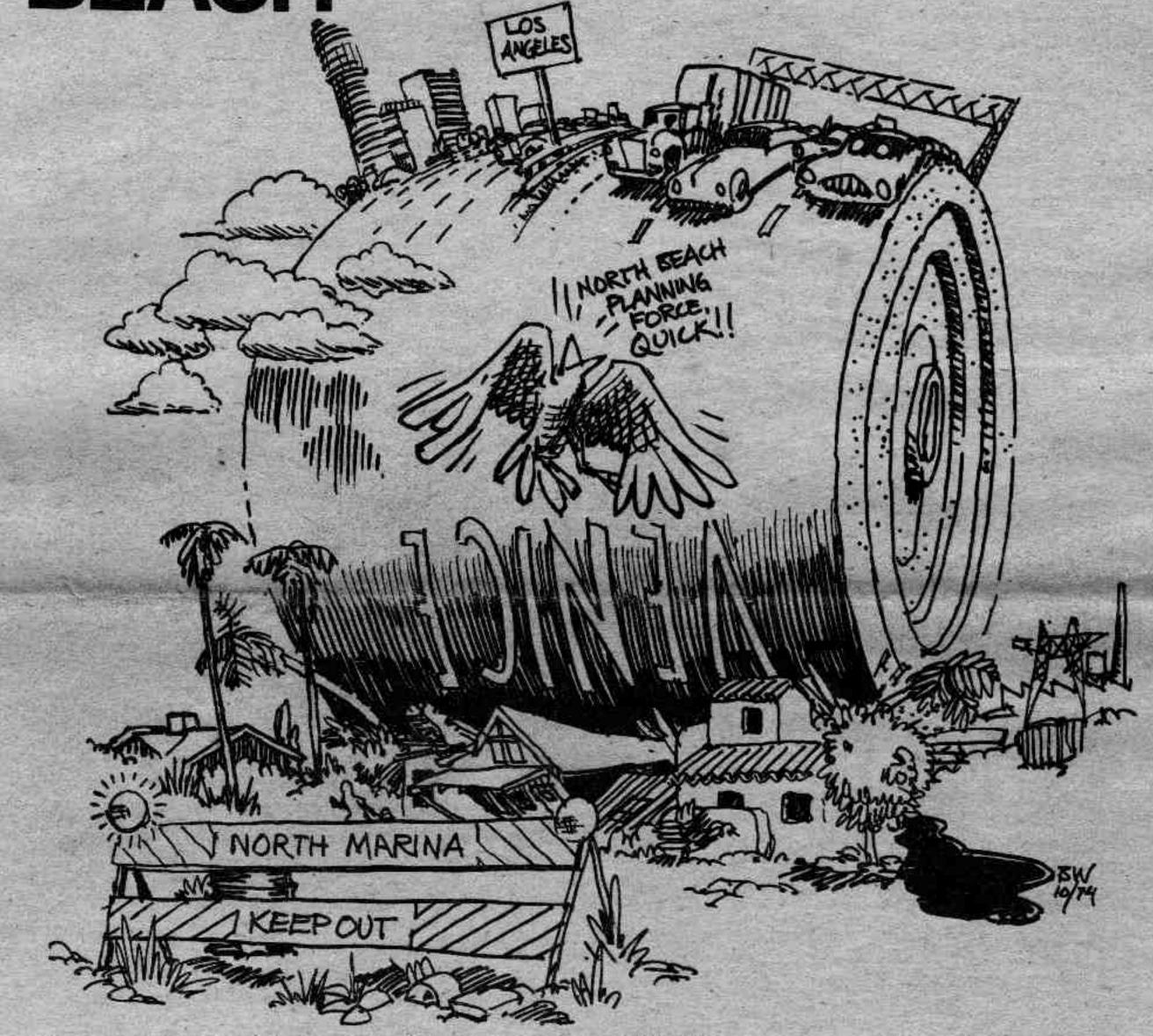
By the North Beach Planning Task Force

-For those of you who thought, or hoped, that the passage of Proposition 20 back in 1972 saved the coast of California (and Venice), we are sorry to have to tell you otherwise. The Coastal Commission created by the passage of the initiative has approved about three times as many building permits along the L. A. and Orange County coasts as it has denied. Consequently, property values have been rising faster than ever before and rents and taxes are following closely behing. Indeed, it is conceivable that pressure for building development has been higher since the Commission's permit procedures began than it would have been in the absence of the Commission; property owners, especially those with large, heavily taxed parcels of undeveloped coastal land, have panicked and applied for building permits, fearing that the existence of the Commission might forever ban them from getting a return of their investment if they waited too long. They may have been right.

For Venice, all this has meant that many of the little vacant lots have been filled up with duplexes, triplexes or larger multiple unit structures. Very few real biggies have * been allowed by the Commission, but they haven't been particularly far-sighted in reasoning that each little building wouldn't be too detrimental to the environment. So a lot of little ones have been approved creating what is called an "adverse cumulative effect;" higher population density, less open space, less parking space, more traffic, higher porperty values, higher property taxes on all buildings, higher rents in both old and new dwelling units, and so on. You get the picture. Such things provide other governmental bodies, such as the City of L. A., with on-paper excuses justifying the proposed widening of Venice Blvd. (ostensibly to bring inland traffic to the beach, but more likely to improve overall traffic circulation in the Venice-Marina area, which in reality would also require the "improvement" of Pacific Avenue, since where else is traffic dumping off of Venice giong to go except into the Venice Beach parking lot?....) Terrible you say, and you're right. But it's not all bad news we're bringing, just mostly; but that should be some kinda change.

What does all of this mean to Venice? Or to you? Well, the Commission is preparing a plan which, if approved by the legislature, could determine the future of Venice. What the Commission is doing right now could determine what Venice looks like and, most important, who lives here. . If the notion that Venice should be preserved and protected is made into State law then any City plan will have to reflect that notion. If that notion is abandoned, Venice will again be at the complete mercy of the developers and the City when the Commission fades away like an old soldier in 1976. Also important is the interesting question of whether rulings of theCoastal Commission will have any standing in law once the Commission goes bye-bye. This will be especially important if there is no successor agency or if a forceful plan is not adopted by the Commission and Legislature. It would then be possible for developers who have had permits for Marina-styled buildings denied by the Commission to then build those buildings. The vision of a Miami Beach of the West, long hald for Venice by some seers, would still seem to be a possibility.

A lot of other things are still possibilities as well; for example, State Highway 187. It ain't some road out in the desert folks; it's right here in Venice, including not only Venice Blvd. east into Culver City but also Pacific Ave. and Neil-



sot Way north to Colorado in Santa Monica. The City of Los Angeles has received Federal and State aid in their plan to widen Venice Blvd., and could also receive such aid to "improve" Pacific Avenue should they ever deem it it advisable. Though current plans for Pacific are hands-off due to excessive costs, they have contingency plans which would make the doubling of the road width considerably less expensive and controversial twenty years from now.

The Coastal Commission is also charged with the responsibility of preparing a master plan for the entire California coastline up to five miles inland.

The South Coast Commission, whose territory includes Venice, has recently produced some preliminary plan elements very favorable to the future of our community from the environmental and humanistic standpoints. They've described Venice as a uniquecoastal resource worthy of preservation and protection from the pressures of development. (Such language is more often heard in reference to Malibu and the Mendocino coast.) This highlights one of the major ironies to emerge from the entire Coastal Commission situation; one gets the impression that the actual Commission and its planning staff are two entirely different, contradicting, hostile public agencies. For while the permit procedure was meant to protect the coast while the plan is being formulated, the commissioners have often acted to negate some of the planning being done by their staff. And unfortunately, the Commission's planning process, no. matter how favorable to Venice or anywhere else, will not mean a thing if the Commission keeps approving destructive projects which will render the plan meaningless when it does get completed

and approved.

There are actually eight Coastal Commissions in the State of California; seven regional and one State. On both levels, the Commissioners are essentially political appointees (which is why L. A.; s gift to the future of the coastline has been the San Fernando Valley's sensitive City Councilman Louie Nowell, whose councilmanic district comes nowhere near the Coastal Zone). Each commission has two staffs, one reviewing permit applications, the other working on planning. The permit staff makes positive or negative recommendations on permits which the Commission often finds one excuse or another to ignore. All permits may be opposed in public hearings at the regional level, and, if they've been approved over such opposition, appealed to the State level; conversely, a permit denied may be appealed as well. Though the State Commission is somewhat more environmentally oriented, normal legal procedure dictates that a citizen must exhoust his options from the ground up; it is an unfortunate coincidence that the South Coast Commission is second only to San Diego in permit-granting lenience.

To quote City Engineer Donald C. Tillman from a memo he sent to Councilwoman Pat Russell regarding a Planning Task Force inquiry on Route 187, "As properties along Pacific Ave. are developed, additional street dedication will be obtained... It is possible that a considerable portion of the necessary street right-of-way could be obtained in this manner in the next 15 or 20 years...Retention of Pacific Ave. as a state route and a major highway is therefore strongly recommended."

please turn to page 2

FREE PRE-SCHOOL AT WESTMINSTER

by: Donna Sidell and Rozanne Miller

My name is Donna Sidell and I have six children. When the time came for my fourth child Randy to start Kindergarten, I discovered that some children found it really hard to feel comfortable in the large and strange surroundings of an elementary school, when they have had no experiences that would give them a clue about what it is going to be like.

On our first day, Randy would not stop crying or leave my side. He clung frantically to my arm. Finally, the teacher told me that I would have to leave and that I should take Randy with me because he was disturbing the class.

The second day the Principal walked around the school with Randy showing and telling him about everything. But that did not ease his mind. Finally the Principal brought him nome.

After two weeks of fighting and feeling desperate every day, I finally asked that Randy be changed to another classroom. After all of us worked with Randy, he finally wanted to become part of his class.

After an experience like this, I was determined that I could not risk a similar experience with my two younger children.

Men Betty Jo turned four, I started looking for a Pre-School to enter her into. We could not afford a private nursery school. I heard about Head Start, only to be told that they were sorry and that they had no openings. They said they would put her on a waiting list.

A few days later I received an unexpected telephone call from a woman who told me she was a state Pre-Kindergarden Teacher with Los Angeles Unified Schools. She said I was referred to her by my neighborhood Head Start, and was looking for children to enroll in her class.

I had been so disappointed and suddenly there was a new possibility. I was so excited I ran down to the Center with Betty Jo behind me. It was close enough to our home to walk.

Betty Jo was ready to be with other children and the environment here was comforting, warm, and filled with stimulating things to do. I was told that the program was a joint project funded by the state and federal government. There were to be fifteen to seventeen children in the class five days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

I was surprised and fascinated to discover that this program would offer not only a group experience for my child, but some exciting new learning experiences for me as well.

As part of the program, a Parent Educator asked me to come in 3 hours each week to discuss our children and what progress they were making in school, and what we could do to continue their learning at home.

We talked about ourselves and what we were doing with our children. We became good friends in this atmosphere, where Spanish and English flowed smoothly together.

Betty Jo loved being involved in the program and looked forward to going each day. Her favorite time was cooking. Every day the children prepared a snack which included milk.

As for myself, I loved it too. I looked forward to my days as a parent participator in the class, aiding the teacher and participating in our weekly parent get-togethers with the Parent Educator.

The following year of Kindergarten for Betty Jo was a great success. Her first day she took off in a full gallop for the toy corner without as much as a backward glance.

Now that I have become accustomed to Parent Education, I feel that it would be a fulfilling experience for other narents like me.

Westminster Children's Center is now enrolling children in this program. If you have a child who is 3 years nine months to 4 years nine months and would like to have this valuable experience for him or her please call Ms. Jewel Charlot at: 1010 Main St., Venice, Calif. -- 396-6846.

por: Donna Sidell y Rozanne Miller

Mi nombre es Donna Sidell, tengo seis ninos. Cuando llegó el dia en que mi cuarto hijo Randy empezó Kindergarten, me di cuenta que algunos ninos se sentian muy incomodos en un lugar tan grande y extrano como es una escuela elemental. Porque ellos no tene elemental. Porque ellos no tienen experiencia

que les indicaria como es el ambiente seria.

Nuestro primer dia, Randy no dejo de llorar
y no se separo de mi lado. El se apretaba de mi
brazo, al final la maestra me dijo que tenía que
irme y llevarme a Randy, pues estaba distrayendo
la clase.

El segundo dia la directora, camino alrededor de la escuela con Randy enseñandole y diciendole al acerca de cada cosa. Pero eso no hizo de que su mente se aliviara. Finalmente la directora lo trajo a casa. Despues de dos semanas

Despues de dos semanas de estar batallando y sintiendome desesperada, pedi que cambiarán a Randy de cuarto. Despues de todos nosotros le ayudamos, al final es se sintio que pertenecía a su clase.

Despues de una experiencia como esta, yo determine que yo no podía arriesgar una experiencia similar con mis otros dos menores ninos.

Cuando Betty Jo tuvo los cuatro, yo empezé a buscar por una nursery para que ella ingresara. Nosotros no teniamos recursos para una Nursery privada. Yo escuche acerca Head Start hize un viaje hasta nuestra directiva de la vecindad, solamente para que me digan ellos que la pondrian en la lista de espera.

Pocos dias despues yo recibi una inesperada llamada telefonica de una mujer, quien me dijo que era ella una profesora de una nursery del estado de Los Angeles Unified Schools. Ella dijo que le habian dado referencias de me en el Head Start, y que estaba buscando ninos para matricularlos en su clase.

Yo estaba desilucionada y de pronto había una nueva posibilidad. Yo estaba feliz, nerviosa, corri hasta el centro con Betty Jo detras de me. Estaba lo suficiente cerca a nuestra casa para caminar.

Betty Jo estaba lista para estar con otros niños y el lugar era confortable, acogedor, y lleno de cosas estimulares para hacer. A mi me habia dicho que el programa era una junta de proyecti fundado por el estado, y el Gobierno Federal. Alli deberían de haber de 15 a 17 ninos en la clase, cinco dias de la semana de 9:00 a.m. ---12:30 p.m.

Yo estaba sorprendida y facinada al descubrir que este programa ofrecia no solamente un grupo con experiencia para mi hijo pero también algunas excitante y nuevas experiencias para mi

Como parte del programa, el Padre educador, me pregunto que viniera 3 horas cada semana para discutir sobre nuestros ninos y que progrest para discutir sobre nuestros ninos y que progreso ellos estabanhaciendo en la escuela, y como nosotros podiamos hacer para continuar su aprendizaje en la casa.

Hablamos acerca de nosotros y que estabamos haciendo con nuestros niños. Nosotros nos hicimos amigos en esa atmosfera donde el Españoli y Ingles se hablaba muy bien.

Betty Jo estaba feliz en el programa, y yo estaba feliz de ir todos los dias. Su tiempo favorito era cocinando. Gada dia los ninos preparaban su almuerzo el cual incluia, leche.

Y para mi, me gustaba también. Como padre participante no veia la hora de ir a las clases, ayudando a las maestras y participando la reunion que teniamos semanal los padres.

El año siguiente para Betty Jo en el Kindergarten fue un seceso. El primer dia salio disparada hacia los juguetes sin ninguna preocupacion.

Ahora que ya estoy acostumbrada como Padre Educador, yo siento que esto es una gran experiencia para todos los Padres de familia.

Westminster Children's Center esta matriculando ninos en este programa. Si Ud. tiene un nino que ya cumplio los 3 anos y nueve meses a los 4 anos y nueve meses que quisiera aprovechar esta valiosa experiencia para el nino, por favor llame a Senora Jewel Charlot al siguiente numero: Westminster Children's Center -- 1010 Main St. -- Venice, Calif. -- 396-6846.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1:

Now it should be obvious that is State Route 187 as it applies to Pacific Ave. isn't deleted from the State law books, or if the Coastal Commission doesn't create and approve a plan which specifically prohibits such an animal, it is very possible that Venice will someday have a six or eight lane mosster running within a hundred yards of the beach. The moral of this part of the story is that you and I may only be here for a while but the City goes on and on and on. Civitas Longa, Vita Brevis.

Through both the permit and planning processes of the Coastal Commission this or any other community can have a say in determining the nature of its own future. We can make our views known to the South Coast in public hearings on each of the elements of the Coastal plan. Of the half-dozen elements heard so far, the North Veach Planning Task Force has responded in-person or in writing to about half of them. The staff has proven itself especially receptive to localized input.

The Venice Town Council has created a committee to relate to Coastal Commission activities, and hopefully the committee will be able to devote a considerable amount of energy to both keeping track of the permit situation and responding to plan elements; such energy must come from members of the cummunity, though, and that means everyone with concern for the future of Venice. The more voices, the better we'll be heard. The new committee will soon be setting regular meeting dates, and in the meantime, the North Beach Planning Task Force meets on Tuesdays, 7:30 P.M. at the Levin Center on Ocean Fromt Walk at Ozone. One thing the North Beach Task Force has learned in its year-and-a-half of work has been that every part of Venice should be participating in planning for its own future; in the long run, no one else is **going** to accurately represent your point of view except yourself, and if you don't bother to speak out, you can't count on your ideas being represented. This process is happening right now, and your energy is needed right now!

WHAT I LEARNED IN SCHOOL TODAY

by Shari Leintz, 8th Grade

Bells ringing, buzzers buzzing. A sure sign that school has started. The fight is once more in progress.

What fight? The one teachers try to win. The one students despise. The one which teaches us to hate anyone who doesn't fit the mold. Sooner or later, most of the time, the teachers win.

School is a part time prison which we all must attend for 13 years. Some of the shit we learn will even help... alot of it will really hurt us. We are told we are stupid because we don't

We are told we are stupid because we don't understand one trivial point that the teacher didn't go into. After you've been told you're incapable of learning anything, you sometimes start to believe it. "They" say you can't - so you stop trying, saying "What's the use?"

Teachers turn us against each other by making us constantly fight against each other. You gotta win because if you don't you're "stupid". So you start hating everyone you have to beat.

We also learn to hate ourselves. We hate ourselves because we can't meet the teachers impossibly high standards. We start to believe that we really are worthless. It's hard to love yourself when everyone is saying you're not even worth your own love. Teachers shame us when we fail the most unimportant project, saying, "Well class, Clare got an F- on her test because she didn't care enough to work on it." The fact that Clare stayed up until 3:00 A.M. doesn't matter. That doesn't help us to like ourselves any.

In school we learn to kiss up to people. To get through you have to. Very few teachers really grade by the quality of the work. More often, they grade by how much they like you or by how they agree with the opinions you have stressed.

Another thing we learn is to push and shove. We have to almost kill each other to get to classes on time, to eat you gotta push to even stay in line.

Yeah, we learn alot in school. We learn to hate, we learn that we are stupid, we learn to push and shove, and we learn to kiss up to people who don't deserve it. We may even learn to read and write.

DIDJA EVER MISS

GETTING YOUR OWN COPY OF THE BEACHHEAD?

DID IT EVER HAPPEN THAT BY THE TIME YOU GOT

TO WHEREVER IT IS THAT YOU GO TO GET THE

BEACHHEAD THEY WERE ALL TAKEN? DO YOU

WANT TO AVOID REPEATING SUCH A FRUSTRATING,

INFURIATING EXPERIENCE?



LETTERS TO THE BEACHHEAD

Open letter to the people of Venice.

Recently I was invited to participate in this year's Annual Canal Festival as an artist. I had already been assigned a space to show my works and was looking forward to being once again in the Canal Festivals. A couple of weeks ago I called to ask that another space be reserved for a potter f friend of mine. I was asked if he lived in Venice and since he didn't the answer was no. I was told that he couldn't participate by showing or selling in the Festival because it was restricted only to Venice craftspersons and artists. I had moved from Venice myself recently (a couple of months ago) after over five years of residence there and reminded the person of this fact. I was told that it was still okay for me to participate in the festival but my friend could not. I asked that my name be removed from my reserved space. I feel that I cannot give any energy to any function that has such a rule. I have shown my works at the previous Canal Festivals for the past five years and have never before heard of such an exclusive and parochial rule as this one. In the other festivals all artists and craftspersons have been welcomed.

The Canal Festival organizers should take a look at other very Venice functions of the past as a guide. Venice Free Theatre never ask some where they lived when they lived when they wished to join the group. One didn't have to be from Venice to participate and many weren't. Talent and willingness to contribute were the criterion

to belonging to Venice Free Theatre.

People of Venice, please be careful of such rules of exclusion. I, myself, don't feel that they perpetuate the true feeling of what Venice is and has always been about. Don't use some markings of boundaries of a political map be your guide as to who is a Venetian, for if you do, you will do yourselves a grand disservice.

I hope that I have opened some hearts concerning this matter with this letter; it saddens me greatly that there was even the necessity to

have written it.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Hatcher Studio City, Ca Dear people,

Significant changes are needed in veterans' benefits laws and in the Veterans Administration, in regard to services for Vietnam-era veterans. I am a veteran who wants to see these changes made, and I would like to locate other veterans who can contribute good ideas or useful energy in these directions.

For example, certain changes in the laws could free thousands of veterans to pursue alternative learning experiences of all kinds, not necessarily related to working towards a degree. This could include such things as carrying out a self-designed learning project, pursuing an apprenticeship in crafts, or starting an experimental living-learning community. These are only examples of the wide number of possibilities not yet explored, and currently denied to veterans.

Other areas are equally important. I'm particularly interested in setting up a nationwide skills-ideas-friendship exchange network among veterans. Such a network could lead to many good experiences, as well as to ways to get changes

accomplished.

If you are interested in these things, and are a veteran, I'd like to hear from you!

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence Morgan P.O. Box 865 Lawrence, Kansas 66044

WHERE OCEAN FRON WALK MEETS BREEZE, ONE CANNOT SLEEP NIGHTS WITH EASE. THE BONGOS CONTINUOUS DRONE MAY FORCE ME TO VACATE MY HOME. IF ONLY THESE URCHINS COULD PLAY, MAYBE I'D WANT THEM TO STAY. BUT SINCE THEY DRUM ONE ENDLESS BEAT, I SURE WISH THEY'D FIND A DIFFERENT STREET.

Anonymous.

VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

Area 1: Peninsula: west of Pacific, south of Venice B1. Meets every 4th Wed. (Oct. 23rd) Call 392-2113 or 392-1594

Area II: North Beach: west of Main, Venice Bl. to Santa Monica border. Meets every first Mon. (Oct. 7) 7:30PM to 10:30 at Levin Center, 201 Ocean Front Walk Call 396-0267 or 396-3616

Area III: Canals: south of Venice Bl.east of Pacific, west of W. Washington Bl. Meets every first and third Tues. (Oct. 1 & Oct. 15) 7 p.m. to 9 at Anchorage call - call VC1-9596

Area IV: Oakwood: north of California, west of Lincoln to W. Washington Bl. Meets every third Wed. (Oct. 16) 7 p.m. to 9 at Broadway school bungalow. call 396-2801

Area V - East Venice: south of California, west of Lincoln to W. Washington Bl. Meets every 4th Wed. (Oct. 23rd) 7:30 to 10 at Couer D'Alene school. call 821-1430 or 821-1489

Area VI - Central: north of Venice B1, east of Main, west of W. Washington Bl. Meets last Thurs (Oct. 31st) 7:30 p.m. at Short Walk Community Center, 1102 W. Washington B1. call 821-1774

Venice Town Council (all areas) meets every first Wed. (Oct. 2nd & Nov.6th) 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. October meeting at Israel Levin Center, 201 Ocean Front Walk, November meeting at Venice City Hall, 681 N. Venice Blvd.

HARPY DROPPINGS

Speculators say the darndest things: elderly who lived there for years on their fixed incomes were under the threat of tacit eviction because the new owners of the building were raising rents from \$85 to \$110, a Venice Town Council task force on rent control tried to negotiate with the new owners of the building, the Joey Baker Realty company. Joey Baker's son, Norman, Yes Class, Realtors reproduce the way other people do, at first agreed to the compromise of a rent raise of ten dollars a month. However, after sleeping redwood house. From what I gather many people ing on it, ol' Norman called Morrie Rosen, Social worker for the Israel Levin Senior Adult Center and landmark. It commands a breathtaking view of the reneged on the agreement. The Reason?

old people, but I have to make a profit."

After hints of community pressure, The Son of Joey Baker (Yes, the Joey Baker President of the Venice Chamber of Commerce, again agreed to compromise, after saying "These old people will die off anyway." Mr. Baker Senior, you taught Junior very well. Watch out.

And a Harpy Dropping on J. Alan Radford for

this one: .

Young, hip humane J. Alan Radford was looking down from his Washington Square High Rise (Say, Ayn Rand fans, this scene remind you of Anything?) on the people down below reduced to ant size, and looking at his expensive chain store exclusive boutiques and looked at what he hoped would soon be his ocean and said "Look! There's water down there! Poor people and water just don't mix:"

Unless they're sponge divers or galley slaves,

right, Mr. R?

his Gucci shoes.

At one of the coastal commission hearings, (for a really concise definition of what the C.C. is, read the article "Kicking and Screaming in Long Beach. It's on the Front Page.) supposedly set up to prevent further depridation of the California coast by speculators, and city planners who consider Howard Johnson Motels "the Highest and best use" of land and care not a continental for what the present residents, i.e, seagulls, pelicans and people want or need. The North Beach Planning Task force, a group of people who want to present a plan worked out for and by the people of Venice (for hall. who they are and what they do I again refer you to "Kicking and Screaming in Long Beach) were in Long Beach to do battle against some ghastly building or other.

Other coastal towns also go to the Coastal Com-

of San Diego with many of the same problems Venice has, the main one being that it's "underdeveloped" i.e. people can walk around without being run over, are busy trying to keep the wolfish speculators at

bay. A Real Estate developer bought a peice of land to develop a Trousdale estate type tract. This in the Ocean Beach area consider it an historical ocean, and has mushrooms growing under the eaves. This Son of a father said, "I really care about In order to realize a profit on the land, the developer was going to destroy the house. Progress must be served.

Well, some long haired hippie outside agitator type freak got a petition with about 2,000 names on it to stop the destruction of this house and to prevent enviro-rape. The signers of the petition, simple souls, disagreed with the idea that the "highest and best us of the land" meant building golden ghettos for the rich at the expense of destroying the land.

from Ocean Beach and it seems at least for now, this speculator lost out on his Quarter Million Dollar breathing his air, watching his traffic conjestion, Investment. (That's Monopoly. Sometimes you do not get to build a hotel on Park Place! Let the dice

roll, baby!) Well Mr. "Fill in the Canals" Dufay was also at the Coastal Commission. Mr. Dufay was against the Tot-Lot built by the canal people because of his fear of a "Militant's meeting place." He labors I hope when he goes on the beach he gets sand in under the famous "feelthy heepie" syndrome. If his taxes are higher it's the Welfare moms and their illegitimate children's fault - certainly not perish the thought money going to subvert foreign legitimate governments, or to subsidize air lines or dictatorships.

Anyway, Mr. Dufay whose presence has enlivened many a community meeting heard the Coastal Commission's decision to deny the developer to develop the property, jumped up and shouted at the developer, "You can use five gallons of gasoline to destroy that building!" He then turned to the commissioners and yelled "Hippie Lovers!" and stormed out of the

That might be a great final solution for you, Mr. Dufay but here again only speculators can afford a At the Kamper Apts. on the Ocean Front Walk, when mission to keep their places from being Miami-ized. five gallon can of gasoline these days. And I'm so And it seems that Ocean Beach, a small town southglad the F.B.I. didn't arrest him for conspiring to conspire to incite, although some of the ecco freaks might be a bit peeved if leaded fuel were used.

The Harpy took a few cautious steps outside of Venice and recommends the denim exhibit at Barnsdall Park. The exhibit, a presentation of some of the winners of a contest sponsored by Levi Strauss, is a tribute to fashion and ornament, the frivolous land included a bluff on which stands an old rambl- unnecessary, and therefore absolutely essential to the Harpy's well being. Denim jackets were embroidered, appliqued, macramed, sequined, stenciled until they resembled the Matador's "suit of lights", a Mandarin Emperors' ceremonial robes, and other wonder us and beautiful fantasies. (Ends Oct.13)

The Harpy also saw some cinema and hopes that people will see "Chinatown" directed with a feel for the Dashiel Hammet type atmosphere of the thirties in Los Angeles, by Roman Polanski, starring Jack Nicholson and Faye Dunaway - both supberb. It involves a land grab scheme wherein certain of the water commissioners were in on a deal to divert water from the public use during a drought, to privately owned orange groves. If the Harpy didn't live in Venice, she wouldnt've The Coastal Commission agreed with the petitions believed it. But this incident really happened. Carol Fondiller

> The Venice Side Show issued its first edition in September. Edited by Venice resident Thomas Warkentin, the first issue contains eye-catching graphics and skillful layout of a variety of materials intended to entertain and amuse. Some of the articles, poems and comix are by Venice authors. Sells for 50¢ to adults only. Business Office: P.O.Box 594, Venice, Ca. 90291 Telephone: 399-6520

"I asked a man in prison once how he happened to be there, and he said he had stolen a pair of shoes. I told him if he had stolen a railroad he would be a United States Senator."

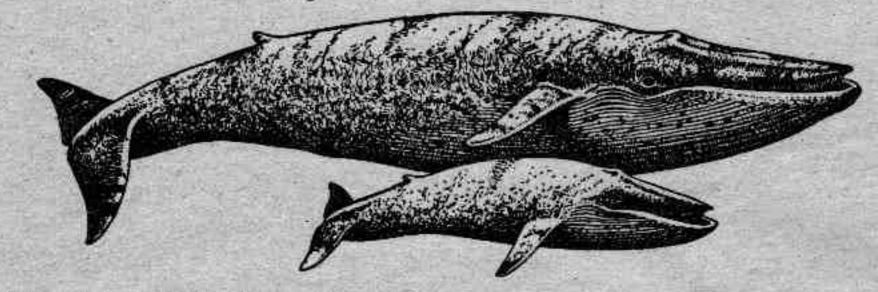
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Slaughter of Whales Continues: Club Joins Boycott of Japanese Goods



(reprinted from the Southern Sierran)

By CRAIG VAN NOTE

The Sierra Club has joined the boycott of Japanese products in protest of the slaughter of whales and as a means of forcing Japanese industry to halt whaling. The club joins 17 other national environmental groups in the boycott, including National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, Friends of the Earth, Environmental Defense Fund, Defenders of Wildlife, The Wilderness So-

ciety, and The Fund for Animals.

Explaining the decision, the Sierra Club stated: "Disregarding the recommendations of the world scientific community, Japan and Russia have adamantly refused to join with the other whaling nations in a ten-year moratorium on the killing of whales. Other efforts of persuasion have failed to move Japan and Russia into the mainstream of modern scientific management of these living resources.

"The time is past when a living marine resource belonging to the world community should be exploited by those nations or industries that desire to do so. Five species of whales are already commercially extinct or protected and three more

are being rapidly depleted." All 145,000 Sierra Club members are urged to boycott all Japanese goods and to inform their friends of the boycott. Only by hitting Japanese big business, which owns and controls the whaling companies, can pressure be brought to bear. The 18 environmental groups, with a total membership of more than 4.3 million, can have an enormous impact on Japanese imports. Already some companies, including Datsun cars, are reporting

the boycott is hurting their sales. The Sierra Club is not actively boycotting Russian goods because it does not believe the Soviet government is susceptible to economic pressures. Alternative methods of persuasion are being

pursued. At the recent annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission in London, the Japanese and Soviets again blocked all attempts at calling a moratorium on whaling. They again ignored unanimous United Nations appeals for a moratorium. And they again ruthlessly divided up more than 30,000 whales between them as next season's "quotas."

Opposition to the arrogance of the whalers is growing among the other IWC nations. By a vote of 12 to 2 against the Japanese and Russians, the IWC adopted a selective moratorium that would go into effect in 1976. It would ban the killing of whale species that are near extinction. This would definitely cover the great fin whales, which are rapidly nearing commercial-and biologicalextinction.

But under a curious IWC loophole, the whalers can choose not to abide by the selective morato-

rium simply by filing an objection. Last year the Japanese and Soviets objected to similar IWC rulings that would have phased out fin whaling and cut the quotas on minke and sperm whales. There is no indication that the whalers will not again defy international opinion.

Japanese government policy is controlled by the whalers. In fact, the Japanese commissioner to the International Whaling Commission, Mr. Iwao Fujita, is also president of the Japanese Whaling Association.

American concern over the imminent extinction of the remaining whales has generated two tough bills in Congress that would impose official U.S. economic sanctions on the whaling countries. The bills would invoke and strengthen the Fishermen's Protective Act, allowing the U.S. government to embargo all fisheries imports from Japan and Russia as a first step, then extend the embargo to any or all of their products. Write to your own congressman and urge him to co-sponsor H.R. 15039, introduced by Representative John Dingell.

The U.S. government has placed all eight species of great whales on the Endangered Species List. Commercial whaling was banned in 1971 and the import of any whale products is prohibited.

The more than 30,000 whales killed by the Japanese and Soviet whalers in the past season ended up as pet food, fertilizer, cosmetics, tranmission oil, and delicacies on the Japanese table.

The Japanese claim they need whale meat for food. Yet whale meat represents less than 1 percent of their protein diet. Japan is a wealthy nation that can easily afford alternative food sources. Indeed, to make up for the whale meat they would need only to hold back a fraction of the fish products exported from Japan.

The Soviets, who often decry the evils of capitalist exploitation, are guilty of the worst form of commercial greed. They feed much of their whale kills to minks and sables, which they then sell to the West for cold cash.

Sierra Club members can support the boycott by telling merchants why you are not buying Japanese goods and by urging merchants to stock products manufactured elsewhere. Write a letter to the Japanese manufacturers, telling them why you are boycotting their products, and how you are promoting the boycott.

Write to the Japanese Ambassador to the United States and let him know how you feel about the slaughter of the whales - Mr. Takeshi Yasukawa, Japanese Embassy, 2520 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20008. Let Japanese government and business know that their irresponsibility is outrageous and unacceptable.



LOVESONG GREEN

All men want me to walk in their gardens, eat their fruit, and see the sky framed by their leaves, whatever growth they husband. This hole is for you, they say, mix manure in it, water, sawdust, old leaves, and earth, prepare to stake me, prune be back sharpen the knife for grafting,

Don't plant me.

Who wants my claws? Who will wander with me outside in the dark with green eyes open, slipping in and out of sight, caressing toes? who will dance with all women?

WITH US

So you think you understand the women's movement because of all the struggling women you have fucked.

When you share the care of all our children, wipe spills, because you have to,,

when your work is judged by your smile, and your income hangs on love,

when you do not use your job, your strength, the offer to heal hurts left by other men to get sex,

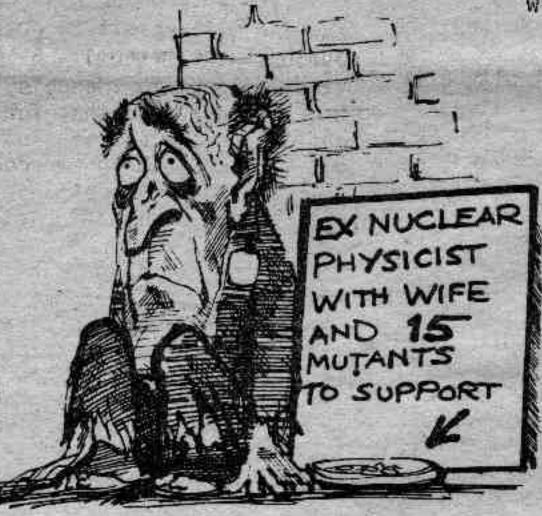
when you don't use a special voice for girls or tell us how to wear our hair or how we feel,

when you acknowledge us our strength take pleasure in our worlds and brag about our prizes,

when you can say, to anyone, I'm afraid, I'm jealous, I love you let us consider our feelings. mine, and yours,

when you move to match our rhythm,

then you have the right to laugh-with us.



'Abnormal' **Events At** Nuclear Plants

The Atomic Energy Commission reports that a total of 861 "abnormal" events occurred at the United States' 42 nuclear power plants last year.

According to the A.E.C., there was at least one "abnormal" occurence at every one of the 42 plants.

The A.E.C. states that more than half of these occurrences were "insignificant", but that 371 of them had some potential of being hazardous.

The Commission states that 12 of the most significant accidents involved the release of radioactive materials into the environment -- in most cases, the material being a radioactive gas known as iodine 131, -- (ZNS)

tapes. The reverberations would be world wide if the lid on this can of worms were uncovered, exposing one mans distorted vision of the American dream. Others had a dream almost two hundred years ago, when a colony declared its independence and a republic was founded on freedom, liberty, equality and the right to determine your own destiny. All peoples should have these unalienable rights yet, ironically, the commonwealth of Puerto Rico is a classic colony of the United States, one third of its population is displaced, forced by 30% unemployment to migrate to the mainland where they are met with brutal racist oppression. North American corporations benefitting from the low wage scale and tax exemptions, control 85% of industry and extract huge profits. The wealth of this once fertile land is not distributed on the basis of "to each according to his work," Yangui imperialism drains its resources, and contaminates its ecology. For the Puerto Rican people this economic colonialism based on the needs of North American industry means that they produce what

We must all join in the struggle to form international solidarity for all exploited peoples; the resources of the sea and of the earth are not owned by a few but are the property of all people. The millions of Americans who rejected U.S. domination in Viet Nam must join in rejecting U.S. domination in Puerto Rico. If you would like to help contact the Puerto Rican Solidarity Day Committee, 45 Westminster, Venice. Tele: 392-0133.

they can't consume and are the fourth largest mar-

ket for U.S. produced goods in the world.

PUERTO RICAN SOLIDARITY DAY -OCT. 27



The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published once a month by the Beachhead Collective as a community information service. It is distributed free, but if you wish to be placed on the mailing list for a year, please make a contribution of \$5.00 or more. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make decisions collectively on material published and is independent of all political and community organizations. The printing is financed by the ad donations. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, artwork, short fiction, or other contributions of interest to the Venice community (send them to P.O. Box 504, Free Venice, California 90291). If return of the material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany it. No payment is made for material used. The Beachhead collective subscribes to Liberation News Service (LNS) and is a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate IAPS). For information on deadlines, call TANK-YUK, 396-9325

Last December the United Nations passed a resolution recognizing "the unalienable right of the People of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence." When Spain ceded autonomous political status to Puerto Rico in 1897, U.S. troops invaded within a year. Twenty years later Puertoriquenos were forced to become U.S. citizens in order to be drafted into the World War I army. The U.S. government denys the existence of the massive independence movement and the American controlled communications media maintains a conspiracy of silence about it while promoting the myth that Puerto Rico is "the showcase of Democracy." American plans for turning Puerto Rico into a superport petroleum complex and massive strip mining for copper in the central mountain range continue in spite of the U.N. resolution. Thus the ecologically hazardous refining process remains under the control of the oil companies so that we can have cheap gasoline without polluting the North American continent. Our affluence is possible because we use our technology to exploit other countries' natural resources and peoples.

While we battle here in Venice for nudity on the beach we must raise our own consciousness and awareness to protest American interference in other lands. We must not forget who ordered mass murder in Viet Nam just because Americans are no longer being drafted to fight there. Richard Nixon is the single most responsible person for the downfall and murder of Salvador Allende. Who knows what other high officials have committed high crimes and misdemeanors. We may never know now that Nixon has his pardon and controls access to the

LAND REFORM IN AMERICA



by Milton Takei

Land reform. To many people, land reform is something that happens in places like China and Latin America, where land is taken away from large landowners and made available to the people. And here in Venice, we can see the role of large absentee speculators, who are attempting to destroy our community through redevelopment. Less well known is the situation in rural United States, where large corporations have increasingly taken over the land and engaged in large-scale farming.

Corporate farmers (agribusiness) can perhaps be described as practicing a kind of .

feudalism within modern-day capitalism. Since 1950, the number of farms in the United States has dropped from 5.4 million to 2.9 million. During the past half-century, more than 40 million people have migrated from the countryside to the cities. In rural California counties, the top twenty landowners generally own 25 to 50 percent to the land.

In 1967, Tenneco, a Houston-based conglomerate with oil, chemical and manufacturing subsidiaries acquired the Kern County Land Company, owning 1.8 million acres in California and Arizona. Tenneco also ownsHeggblade - Marguleas, the nation's largest distributor of fresh produce, the Packaging Corporation of America, and the J.I. Case Company, which makes heavy equipment, including farm machinery. One of Tenneco's slogans: From Seedling to Supermarket.

The corporate take-over of agriculture is merely an extension of the large land acquisitions which took place during the American conquest of the continent. Even the Homestead Act, seemingly intended to encourage small family' farming, was used to help create absentee ownership of large amounts of land.

What are some of the effects of these large landholdings? Aside from the small farmers remaining, agriculture today consists of huge farms growing acre upon acre of the same crop (monoculture). The land is assaulted with herbicides, pesticides and chemical fertilizer. Laboratory-developed hybrid grains are used to increase crop production, but are bred to require increased chemical fertilizer, and lose much of the resistance to pests possessed by their naturally-occurring counterparts.

Many pesticides are generalized poisons which are similar to the nerve gasses developed during World War II. They interfere with biological processes at the point where impulses

are transmitted from one nerve cell to another (the synapse). The result is danger to both farmworkers and consumers. The insects, however develop resistance to the pesticides and come ba back as strong as ever, so deadlier and deadlier poisons must be used to combat them.

In Hawaii, pineapple land has been so soaked with herbicides that they will no longer grow some vegetables. Herbicides are also a possible danger to humans. The herbicide 2,4,5-T, part of Agent Orange used in Vietnam, has caused a high rate of birth defects in laboratory mice. There were many reports of bir birth defects among humans in Vietnam following the application of Agent Orange.

In June, the Environmental Protection Agency agreed, at least for the time being, to allow the use of 2,4,5-T on food crops, rangeland and rights-of-way. Dow Chemical, the major producer of 2,4,5-T had not challenged an official ban on its use by homes and around bodies

of water.

Chemical fertilizer, when used for a long time, disrupts the ecology within the soil. It kills worms, bacteria, fungus and mold, most of which are helpful to plant life. Thus, ever increasing doses of chemical fertilizer must be applied to keep up crop yields. Eventually, all the natural sourcesof nutrients in the soil are destroyed. Agribusiness can pour on the fertilizer only until a certain level with resulting increase in yield, after that, production declines, even if only slightly.

Recently, shortages of chemical fertilizer have helped reduce crop yields around the world. Chemical fertilizer is based on petroleum and natural gas, so shortages and higher prices in these materials (real or contrived) have helped raise the price of fertilizer. India is having trouble buying all the fertilizer it needs.

Agribusiness methods can no longer feed the world. (And as long as the world supplies America with natural resources, and luxury crops like suger, coffee, cocoa, and bananas it seems that agribusiness ought to feed the world). Norman Borlaug, a developer of high-yield wheat, has forecast that from 10 to 50 million people could starve to death in India alone in the next year or so. (N.Y. Times, July 26, 1974, p31)

Does agribusiness produce more food? The answer is, "No," according to a February, 1967 U.S. Department of Agriculture report, "Economies of Size in Farming" (Agricultural Economic report No. 107) This study contends that moderate-sized, modern, mechanized farms run by one or two people produced just as much as food as agribusiness farms, in most of the farming situations examined.

Only single-family, moderate sized farms are flexable enough to employ organic farming methods such as crop rotation, manure, nitrogen-fixing legumes, fish oil, and mixing of crops.

There is no reason to expect that organic farming will result in greater crop yields that agribusiness methods. A carefully done long-term study done at the Haughley Research Farms in Britain indicated that for wheat, maize, barley, and oats, chemical farming produced greater yields, but that no pattern emerged for peas, beans and kale. Cows in the organic section of the experiment produced significantly more milk on 10-15% less feed.

After about 15 years, the organic section began to run down, because milk, eggs, animal carcusses and other food were removed from the land with equivilants not being returned. The study recommends a mix of organic and chemical methods. It apparently does not consider the possibility of the soil being replenished by organic waste generated by humans, as is done in China. (see Natural History, Nov, 1972, p16)

The problem is that we have no choice except to start breaking up agribusiness and using at least some organic methods. Fertilizer shortages are inhibiting present chemical farming methods, which require increasing amounts of chemical fertilizer. Chemical fertilizer is based on nonrenewable resources, oil and natural gas.

There is every reason to believe that new high-yield grains can be developed that are not dependent on chemical fertilizer. A recent breakthrough in Biology may someday make it possible to develop plants which can themselves capture nitrogen, a key ingredient of fertilizer, directly from out of the air.

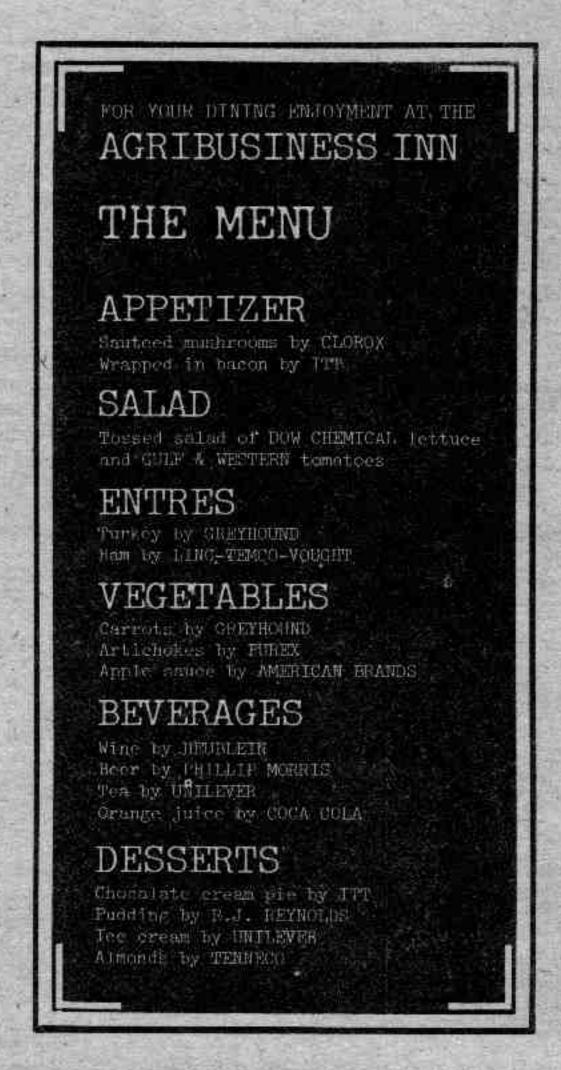
Some remedies to agribusiness: 1) Exclude large conglomerates from farming, as proposed in a Family Farm Act that has been introduced in Congress 2) Compell the U.S. Department of Agriculture to extend research and financial assistance to small farmers, instead of agribusiness 3) Make surplus government land available to poor people, or have the government buy land, and sell it cheaply to potential small farmers or cooperatives. 4) Make crop subsidies help small farmers, instead of agribusiness. Unfortunetly, most solutions such as these are impossible as long as the government is controlled by the very corporations we are trying to break up.

On a small scale, several L.A. area food buying clubs have secured a warehouse which will enable them to buy vegetables and staples directly from organic farmers, thereby avoiding agribusiness as much as possible. (For information, call 478-1922)

If you would like to learn more about land reform in this country, write the National Coalition for Land Reform, 345 Franklin St,' San Francisco, CA 94102.

TOWN COUNCIL FOOD COMMITTEE

The Venice Town Council has formed a food committee to investigate community programs to combat food shortages and rising prices. Some possible ideas: community gardens, expanded food buying clubs, and soup kitchens. If you are interested, call Sandy at 825-2501.



Enter Smiling

GENTLENESS IN CHILD BIRTH

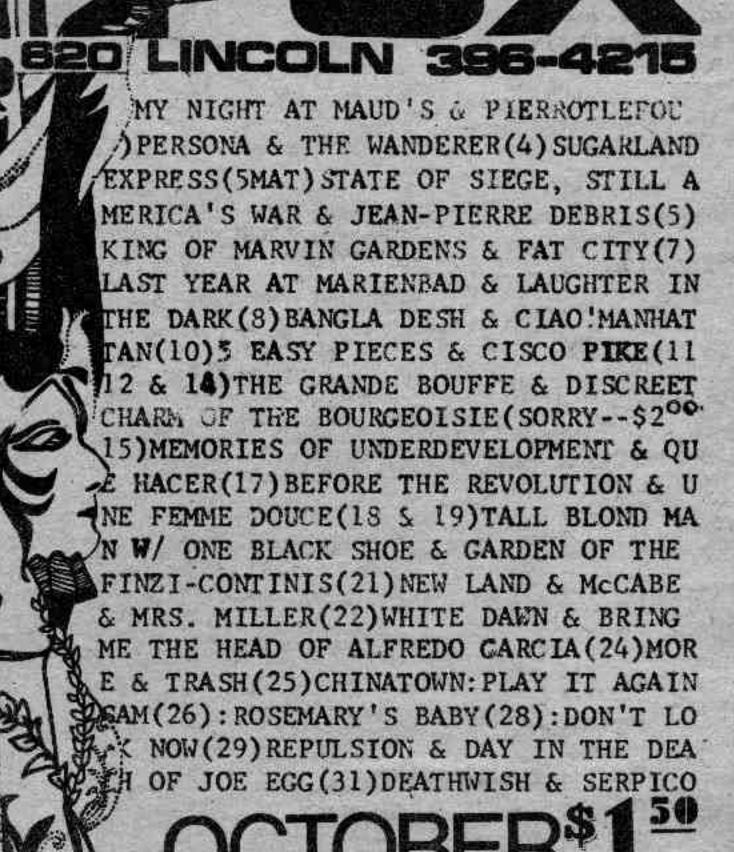
(ZNS) - A new method of child birth is currently sweeping France and will probably become popular in the U.S. within the next year. The method was developed by a French doctor (Frederick LeBoyer), and is based on a neat concept in child delivery-gentleness.

LeBoyer argues that the traditional method of giving birth today produces absolute panic in a newborn baby; taking a newborn baby from the womb, exposing it to the bright lights of the delivery room, cutting its umbilical cord and then spanking it until it cries is terrifying.

This new method proceeds as follows: as the birth is about to occur the doctor (or whoever) turns down the lights. The baby is then removed from the womb slowly and carefully, and is placed on the mother's stomach where it feels her breathi breathing. The baby is then stroked gently by a nurse (or whoever), the cord still attatched, for about ten minutes. The cord is then cut and the child is placed in a lukewarm bath where it is then given to the mother who begins breast-feeding her child.

Says LeBoyer of the traditional spanking method: "I had participated in the births of 7000 babies before I realized that the first cry that everyone is so pleased to hear is actually a frightful scream of terror."





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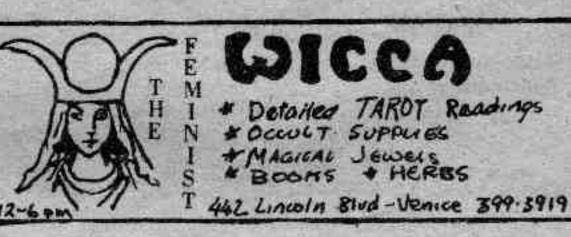
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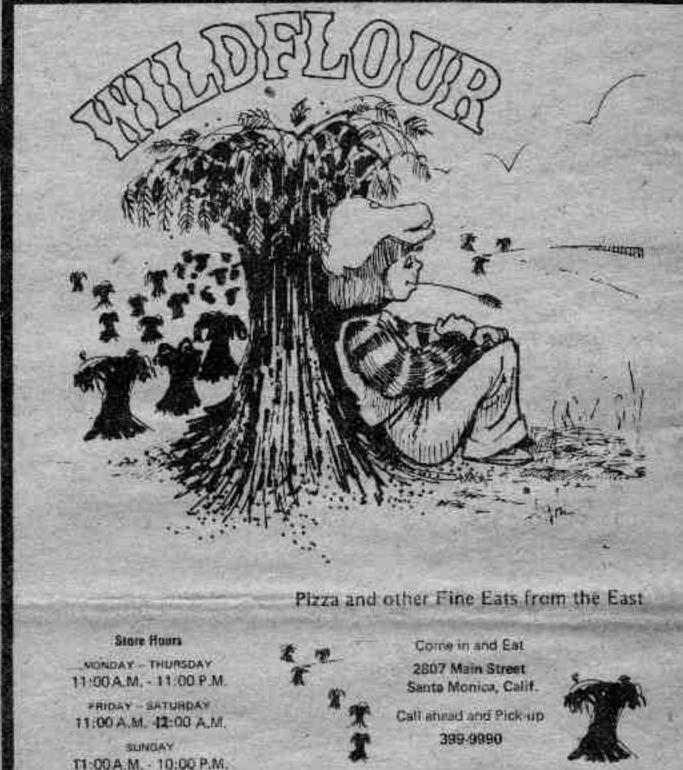
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Westside Lesbian Feminists meet every Friday night (meetings and rap group at 7:30 -- coffee house at 9:00) at Ocean Park Church, 235 Hill St, corner of 2nd and Hill

GAY LIBERATION **Gay Community Services Center** 1614 Wilshire Bl, 482-3062

COMMUNITY BOOKSTORE Midnight Special Bookstore 1335% W. Washington BI Tu- Th 12-9, F-Sun 12-6 Closed Mon, 392-7412

NATIVE AMERICANS 391-6067

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ASIANS Involve Together Asians, 477-0357

BLACKS NAPP, 528 Westminster, 399-7737

WOMEN'S SWITCHBOARD 388-3491

FOOD CONSPIRACY The Free Venice Food Conspiracy meets every Tuesday at the Church in Ocean Park, 2nd and Hill, 8 pm. For information, call 396-7040

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

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

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A new poetry Workshop for highschool age students or call 392-2574. will begin Saturday, October 12th. The Workshop, which is made possible by a grant from the Expan- New Address: Venice Peoples' Rainbow Pages sion Arts Program of the National Endowment for the Arts, will be led by Beyond Baroque Fdtn. vice president and associate editor, James Krusoe. Registration will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12th. Applicants should phone for information and directions any afternoon at 396-6551. Although there is no charge for the class, the size will be limited.

Alison Mills reads from her published novel Francisco; Ronald Koertge reads his poetry. Friday, Oct. 18th at 8:30 p.m. -free admission BEYOND BAROQUE is located at 1639 W. Washington Blvd., Venice, Ca. 90291

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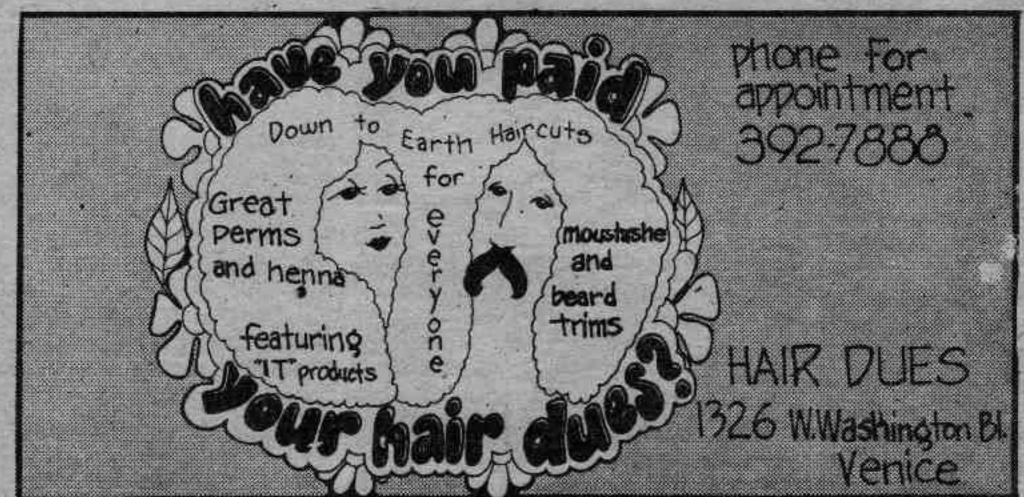
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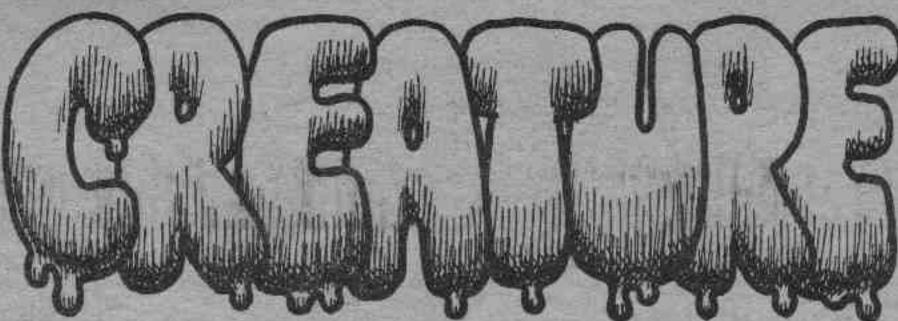
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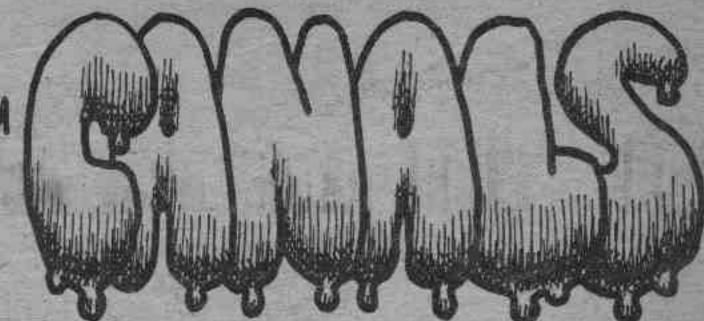
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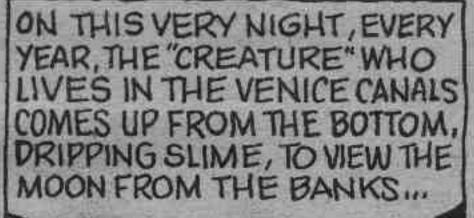


























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