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FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968

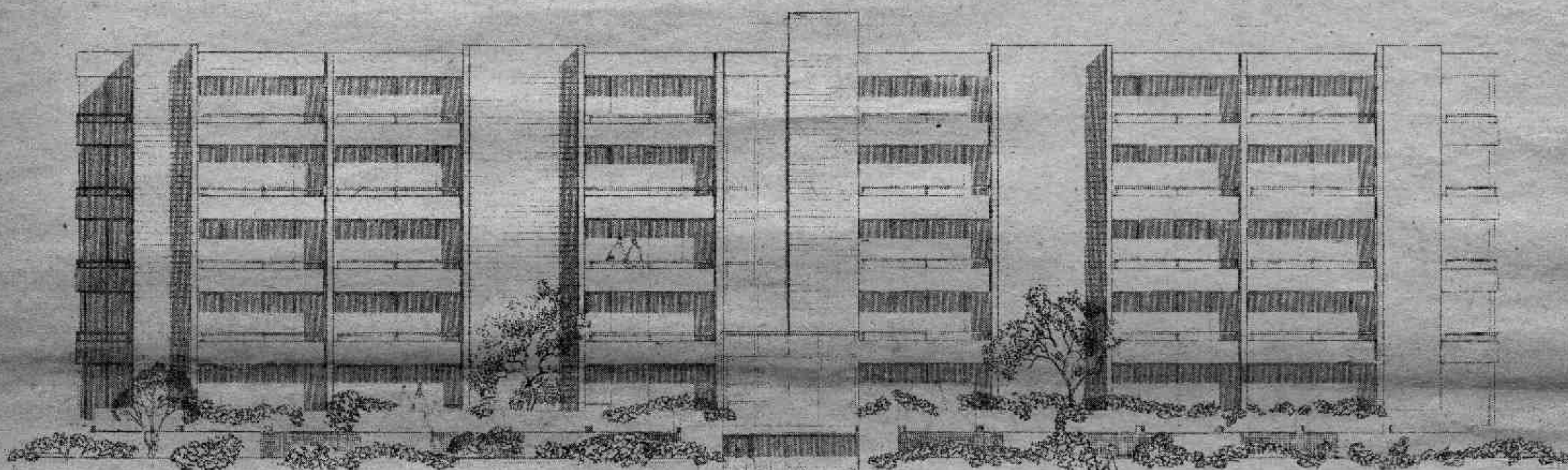
BEACHHEAD

FREE

OCTOBER, 1979 ISSUE #118 P.O. BOX 504 VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291 823-5092

SENIOR HOUSING TO RISE IN VENICE

Activists, Developer Join Forces



BY ARNOLD SPRINGER

(THE FOLLOWING IS AN INTERVIEW WITH JIM ANTHONY, DEVELOPER OF A 50 UNIT SENIOR CITIZEN LOW RENT HOUSING PROJECT. WORK ON THE PROJECT SHOULD BEGIN IN EARLY NOVEMBER. IT WILL BE BUILT AT #1 VENICE BLVD., AT OCEAN FRONT WALK. VENICE SENIORS INTERESTED IN THE PROJECT SHOULD ADDRESS ALL INQUIRIES TO: # ONE VENICE BLVD. INC., 25 GALLEON ST., VENICE, 90291. WHEN REQUESTING AN INFORMATION SHEET AND APPLICATION FORMS BE SURE TO ENCLOSE A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE. APPLICATIONS WILL BE SENT OUT BEGINNING 30-60 DAYS FROM THE START OF CONSTRUCTION.)

- Q. Would you describe the building project for Beachhead readers.
- A. Well, its a senior citizen building, all one bedroom apartments, approximately 550 square feet. Ten of the units are especially designed for the handicapped. The building is 5 stories high over parking, about 54 feet measured from the sidewalk. There will be 40 parking spaces. The project is located at #1 Venice Blvd., between North and South Venice Blvds, right across from the County parking lot.
- Q. How is the building financed.
- A. By HUD (Housing and Urban Development Department). There are two programs under HUD which we are using, Section 8, which subsidizes the rent, and the project is financed thru Gennie May, which allows us to have lower interests rates.
- Q. How long will the building remain a subsidized senior citizen building.
- A. Legally, HUD only requires a 5 year contract. But we have pledged to HUD that we will renew our contract with them 4 times, for a total of 20 years, which is the maximum amount of time that HUD will contract for a building. One of the conditions placed on us by the Coastal Commission was that we had to renew 4 times, although HUD would have allowed us to withdraw from the subsidized housing program after five years.
- Q. Who is eligible for renting in this building and how do they apply?
- A. Once construction starts we will have application forms available. People will have to get these forms from us, complete them, and submit them to HUD. HUD will certify the eligibility of all applicants. You will have to be 62 or over and there is a maximum income requirement of about 8 or 9 thousand dollars.
- Q. Are there going to be any special considerations given to Venice residents?
- A. Once an individual is declared eligible by HUD, the owner has the final responsibility of selecting tenants from the eligibility list. Of course there can be no racial discrimination in the selection process and HUD will certainly be looking at the racial mix of our tenants, to see that it approximates the racial mix here in Venice. I'm sure that there are 50 people here in Venice who would qualify as tenants, and I certainly would be well disposed to renting to them.
- Q. What will the apartments rent for?
- A. The maximum that anyone will pay will be 1/4 of their monthly income. If their income is \$400 a month, they would pay \$100.
- Q. If a person made around \$8,000 per year, he/she would have to pay 1/4 of that per year?
- A. No. The maximum rent anyone would pay would be \$150 per month. People who are handicapped or disabled might be able to make more than \$8,000 per year, and also, if a couple wants to rent a unit, their income could also be higher.
- Q. There are ten units set aside for handicapped people?
- A. Yes. They are especially designed, the doors are a special width, the cabinets are lower, the bathrooms are especially designed to meet HUD requirements.

CITY PULLS PLUG ON PEOPLE

On the evening of September 19, in the Los Angeles City Council Chambers, the Citywide Citizens Unit of Participation (CUP) held a public meeting to discuss the City's sixth year application for Community Development Block Grant funds. This organization, comprised theoretically of 10 City Council appointees from each of the 15 Councilmanic districts of Los Angeles, is supposed to be the vehicle by which 2.8 million Los Angeles residents are to participate in preparing the City's annual application for these federal funds and in monitoring the programs funded with this money. What happened that night is an illuminating paradigm of citizen participation in Los Angeles. Not coincidentally, it was also a mind bender in the City's finest NEWSPEAK tradition.

A brief look at the players -- For the City: out of 150 CUP appointees, 34 attended. The 6th district maintained its unblemished record of nonparticipation. None of Russell's appointees showed up. Neither did Russell, or any of her staff for that matter. Ruby Baylor, Mayor Tom's appointee and Director of the CUP was in charge. An assortment of bureaucrats from the Dept. of Parks and Recreation, the Community Development Dept. and the CRA helped fill up the big seats in the front.

For the People: Los Angeles residents from all over the City filled the City Council Chambers; People from Pico-Union where CDBG funds are being used to buy up land and bulldoze a low income neighborhoods to make way for a Pep Boys national headquarters; people from Canoga Park, tired of being shut

Continued on Page 4

Continued on page 14

Letters



Sept. 24

Sept. 7, 1979

Dear BeachHead,

Thanks to all the members of the Beachhead for the story that was published about me Goldie Glitters and thank you Wendy for writing the story.

Its surprising but even the Mexican-Americans in my neighborhood all keep asking me when this is going to happen and how glad they are that it is me.

This morn at breakfast, Ruby said its going to happen here at Lafayetts and she is trying to find a place to order a crown.

Well if this does happen, I will honor it with all my heart, and if it doesn't, well the thought and energy behind it is so strong it brings tears to my eyes.

I've been asked how I would feel one way or the other. I'm very proud that out of all of Venice I've been chosen and hope I can live up to everyone's expectations.

Thanks again to Ruby,
Wendy & Venice

Love,

Goldie Glitters

NOTA: Gracias por escribimos Goldie. Nos agradece oír que tengamos lectores de hablar español. — La Colectiva (Trans.: Thanks for writing us Goldie. We're glad to hear we have Spanish-speaking readers.)

Dear Beachhead Readers,

From feedback I've been hearing -- and hearing about -- this past month, seems I caused some confusion with the article "Will Goldie Glitter As Queen of Venice?" (September, Beachhead).

Let me make it clear that this idea is Ruby's, and she wanted to get it out into the community via the BEACHHEAD, so she asked me to write it up. Which I did, just as it happened. I submitted the piece as a community resident writing about something that interested me, and it was voted on just like all other material. That I am also a Collective member is coincidental. I did not mean to give the impression that the BEACHHEAD was endorsing Goldie or organizing the event.

I personally would like to see such a ceremony, and would write it up and submit the coverage to the BEACHHEAD. I know Ruby would love to award the crown, and I know many who've said they would gladly attend.

Interested people who have some time/energy to put into planning & actualizing such an event (getting a permit, arranging for a mike, etc.) should talk to Ruby at the Lafayette Café (closed Wednesdays & Ruby is off on Thursdays) at OFW & Westminster Ave.

Thanks to you all who've told me you liked the piece...

Wendy Reeves

Dear Beachhead,

I'd first like to say that I think your newspaper is excellent and the only source of true account left in this town. I say this because I recently wrote a letter to the Ocean Front Weekly and was angered slightly, but more interested to see that they edited it somewhat.

I wrote criticizing their glittering article about the Skate Patrol because they seemed to make the Skate Patrol appear to be the beacon of law and order in Venice, when I had thought otherwise. But I also dedicated a whole paragraph to ac... them of being owned and operated by the Skate Rentals and Realtors in the area.

They printed my letter in their letters page but they had eliminated the word "cretins" as it referred to them and my entire paragraph that accused them of being controlled by the local entrepreneurs.

I knew that they wouldn't print any further response of mine to their strange actions, so I decided to let the information out through your paper.

Thank you for existing.....
"Captain Marvel" McMurphy
Clubhouse Ave.
Venice

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Editor:

Venice Free Beachhead

Sir:

Who is the Venice Town Council, oh I know their names were published in an article by one of the members, but just who are they? They are not an elected group - they do not represent the Venice Community as they allege - I have lived in Venice 57 yrs - and it has only been in last 2 yrs that Venice Town Council has come to my attention. If they were really trying to help the tenants in 9 Market St., they would have come to us in the first place and asked how we felt about "Charmer's Tea House," which I might add has the full support of all of us. The Venice Town Council, has despite the denials of Moe Stavnezer, been having a "Vendetta" with Mr. Christmas - it seems Mr. Moe Stavnezer protests too much. Also ask him why his group was in front of the "Tea House" - screaming and yelling about "poor senile citizens" living in the building not knowing that we were being exploited. This is certainly not the truth; we are all of sound mind - we are Senior Citizens - but in no way are we Senile we have possession of all our faculties. We have never had an opportunity to tell our side of the story until Aug 25th when a reporter from Evening Outlook came to interview us, however, the article referred to by Mr. Stavnezer, of Aug 25th, was not our opinion or views - with exception of the "Vendetta," and that statement was not made by one of Mr. Christmas' employees it was made by me, and it is true, whether Mr. Stavnezer admits it or not.

All this talk of law and order coming from a member of a rabble rousing group - malcontents and people who are thinking of no one except themselves, is unbelievable. What the Coastal Commission or the members of different City Hall personnel, or politicians, that are involved in granting permit for "tea house," has to gain by listening to Venice Town Council is beyond my comprehension - who does Moe Stavnezer think he is - telling the Coastal Commission - Pat Russell et al, the conditions under which the permit should be granted. The Venice Town Council does not represent me, they have never represented me and what occurs at 9 Market St - is between the tenants and Mr. Christmas, and is of no business of the Venice Town Council -

The last paragraph from Beachhead staff - the rumor and that is all that it is, that the tenants stated they had sent letters to this publication that were never published - is an out and out lie - but what can you expect from members of Venice Town Council, who are also members of your staff?

Miss B. Corcoran

➔ The Beachhead Collective welcomes other opinions from the tenants of the building or any other residents on this issue.

Dear Ms Friedberg:

"Which Way To The Renaissance?" was the second time you've rung the bells in my journalistic head, and so I had to write you and say so. I think you are the class of the field in a newspaper like The Beachhead, which I read because I live here. Your writing is lucid, informed, sonata-like (as good writing in our civilization is supposed to be), and most important of all, sane: you are truly receptive to objective reality, no matter where the cookie crumbs accumulate. It is rare in The Beachhead, for example, to see someone confess that Venice is no longer the fort worth fighting for; indeed, as the underlined sentences from your piece suggest, leftist community organizers are militantly agitating all of us around mythic pasts, not around current lives as they really traverse the days and nights of this place. It takes someone as soul-tuned as yourself, journalistically speaking, to intuit that truth; though probably confronted with it in the rude manner in which I put it, you'll balk--maybe not! at the implications. And let's face it: we're stragglers in the city; where did all the authentic bohemia go, and why are we so stuck with the myth instead of the action? I admire you a lot for even having the nerve to raise the question, and I wish you'd do it again, as rudely and toughly as you can: who are we to

FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

BEACHHEAD COLLECTIVE: Lynne Bronstein, Emily Winters, Chuck Bloomquist, Brenda Harney, Olga Palo, Gerry Goldstein, Wendy Reeves, Joan Friedberg, Arnold Springer; Special thanks: Vicki Norton, calligrapher.

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly 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 ad donations. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, art work, short fiction, or other contributions of interest to the Venice community. Please sign your name or a pseudonym. Anonymous material will not be printed but your name will be withheld on request. If return of material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany it. No payment is made for material used. The Beachhead subscribes to Liberation News Service (LNS) and is a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate.



The Collective Thanks...

Venice resident Charles Williamson for preparing & submitting our last three centerspreads honoring the International Year of the Child.

Venice Town Council



City of Venice

Wednesday - October 15, 1979
7:30 PM - Old Venice City Hall
681 Venice Boulevard

1. Announcements and time for emergency issues arising during the month.
2. PRESENTATIONS:
 - (1) Rent Control in Danger
The Santa Monica Elections
 - (2) Margaret Thatcher
Prop 13 hits England
3. Other: Nicaragua Sister City, Childbirth Center hearing, Coastal Committee report, Block Grant update, & anything else you think the community should discuss.

EVERYONE FROM THE COMMUNITY IS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Coordinating Committee: 4th Wednesday of every month - Venice City Hall - 7:30.

play sackcloth-and-ashes over the "death" of a creative community that is in fact--or is it?--living somewhere else? Or maybe bohemian communities are no longer the American creative artists way of doing his thing? I've taunted myself with these questions for years now, ever since I moved to Venice and discovered just a few months after I came here that it was not a literary community (or rather, that there was not a literary community here). Three months in the poetry workshop taught me that--oh some people here experience the place as having a writers' "collective" through which their ideological preconceptions are reinforced. I don't know whether to pity them or be jealous of them. They are mostly leftists, women, frequently lesbians, militant, Third World oriented, and full of hate-vibrations (Marxists have such a heavy-load of revenge missions to accomplish, poor dears, one wonders when they live!); and of all that I can't summon much jealousy. But that they get to experience "community", ah, about that I can get envious! I spent a year during the 1950's--when I was what I assume is about your age--at the Iowa

➔ (letters continue on page 11.)



Flores Para Nicaragua

A GIFT OF POETRY AND SHARING FROM THE PEOPLE OF L.A.

SAT. OCTOBER 27 1:30 - Midnight

In the spirit of the new Nicaragua, a gathering of writers, musicians, singers-- a Los Angeles cultural network-- in community with the Sandanistas, the new people's government.

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UNTIL THE HARVEST....FOOD FOR NICARAGUA

SAT. OCTOBER 6 3:00 - 6:00 pm

An afternoon of comradeship among supporters of the Nicaraguan people. We're inaugurating a series of three special days of food and medicine collection throughout this time of greatest need. The struggle as well as the deliberate and vengeful attacks by Somoza on production resulted in the destruction of all crops. New crops will not be harvested until early 1980, and it's up to us to support our sisters and brothers. Please come and bring a bag of canned goods or medicines and enjoy the music, the friendship and the spirit of this special day. Warehouse 2121 W. Pico
Sponsored by NICASO, The Nicaraguan Solidarity Organization, Box 30606, L.A., 90030 Co-sponsored by L.A.G.L.A.S., The Los Angeles Group for Latin American Solidarity.

vop coop: FOOD for THOUGHT

by Moe Stavnezer

I've been a member of the Venice/Ocean Park Food Coop for about a year. Not an active member but one who wanted the store to open and paid a membership fee to contribute to that opening. Well now its opened after searching and fixing and lots of hard work and I'd like to suggest that you pay the coop a visit.

Its a small store at the corner of Brooks and Lincoln (on the west side of Lincoln) and for me, used to supermarket everything, was a very different shopping experience. The workers are folks I know or easy to get to know and who are really interested in making the coop a true community store. For a small place there is plenty of everything you need for your diet and its cheaper than what you're used to paying. For those who aren't members and may want to try the place out, you can do with a small surcharge added on to your purchases.

VOP asks that all members work 2 hours a month in the store and I thought that it was going to be a real drag to do that. Actually it was fun. I learned a little about how a store is run and was able to contribute some suggestions that people really listened to.

Shop at VOP.. Its our store and will only succeed if we support it..

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COMMUNITY³ CATCHES CITY

COASTAL COMMISSION VALIDATES VENICE TOWN COUNCIL COMPLAINTS AGAINST CITY OF LOS ANGELES

At the September 18th meeting of the State Coastal Commission

After investigating an elaborate complaint by the Venice Town Council which charged that the City of Los Angeles was badly mishandling the Coastal Permit process which it undertook last year, the State Coastal Commission has concluded that the complaint was in fact an understatement.

A full hearing was held on the complaint at the Airport Marina Hotel on Sept. 18. Representatives of the Coastal Committee of the Venice Town Council and the City Planning Department were on hand to hear a Commission staff report substantiate the validity of virtually all of the issues raised by the VTC. State Commissioners appeared shocked and infuriated as the Staff ticked off the long list of City blunders and obfuscations. The straw that broke the camels back came when the staff explained that the City had not been applying Regional and State Commission Guidelines for the Venice area because City Coastal planners had lost their copies of those Guidelines. The Commission ordered its Chairman and Executive Director to arrange a meeting with Mayor Bradley so that he would learn first hand what a mess the Planning Department was making of the Coastal Permit Process. The clear inference was that the Mayor was unaware of the political situation in the Planning Department, a situation which to a great extent has been brought about by the machinations of one person, Councilman Art Snyder. The Commission did not mention Snyder but speaker after speaker from Venice, San Pedro, Playa del Rey and Pacific Palisades rose to blast Snyders role on the Regional Commission and to praise the Town Council of Venice for preparing its complaint, the charges in which they rose to substantiate.

City representatives Gary Morris and Frank Eberhart who arrived smiling before the meeting departed in a more somber mood.

The Coastal Committee has now taken on the Department of Building and Safety. That Department is responsible for pursuing violators of the City's Coastal Permit Ordinance but does not appear interested in that responsibility. It may take a court case to embarrass the City this time and preparations are already underway in that direction..

Christmas in the News

CHARMER'S TEA HOUSE PERMIT TO GET FIRST PUBLIC HEARING OCT. 16.

BY ARNOLD SPRINGER

The much discussed and hotly debated Charmer's Tea House project of Doug Christmas and his partner Jane Erickson will be the subject of a public hearing on Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 10 a.m. The meeting will take place in the Second Floor Hearing Room, West L.A. City Hall, 1645 Corinth Ave. The public is invited to participate and to attend. The applicants have applied for a variance and for a Coastal Permit which would allow them to re-open their tea-house restaurant. The establishment, open briefly for several days awhile back, was ordered closed by the California Coastal Commission because Christmas and Erickson had neglected to obtain a valid Coastal Permit or even valid City of L.A. permits. The owners initially resisted the Commission's order but relented when summoned into Superior Court.

Many seniors in the building at #9 Market St. are supporting Mr. Christmas because they are convinced that the success of his restaurant will insure that their rents will stay low. Others believe that the seniors are being used as a pawn in this affair, that the low rents are not being guaranteed for a sufficient amount of time, and that an equitable linkage has to be established between the permit for the restaurant and the low income units.

RUMOURED LEASE OF OCEAN FRONT LOT

Rumour has reached The Beachhead that Mr. Christmas has recently secured a lease on about 200 feet of Ocean Front property between Sunset Ave. and the Casa di Roma. The agreement with the present owner Marie Zitkin of Santa Monica is said to have been concluded at the end of August. The lease is for a period of 50 years. Those who claim to know also say that Christmas has condominiums in mind for the property..

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4 SENIOR PROJECT (continued from page 1)

- Q. Could you tell us something about the projects history. I understand its long, convoluted, and an altogether unique development.
- A. Dr. Tong and Dr. Leibowitz purchased the property in 1969. I became involved in 1973. They sold me and several others an interest in the property.
- Q. After you purchased half interest in the property did you come forward with a project.
- A. Yes. We proposed to build a 40 unit hotel. At that time you could only build commercial buildings in the C-1 zone, so we couldn't build apartments. We might have built small shops, but that didn't seem economically viable. So we decided on a hotel. Of all the C-1 zoning on the Ocean Front, this was the only lot with sufficient access (Venice Blvd.) for such a high density use. People in the community were afraid that the entire Ocean Front would sprout with hotels but in fact there was not sufficient access in the North Beach for such projects, and so the fear was not really justified. We received approval from the City, but the Coastal Commission rejected it. I think that if we were applying for the hotel project now, we would get Coastal Commission approval, but then, in 1973, they were approving condo minims, because they wanted to encourage small scale development and home ownership. Later they looked with more favor on public oriented projects, and the hotel would have provided space directly on the ocean at considerable less rent than similar hotels in the Marina. I think a hotel would have been the second best type of project we could have built there.
- Q. Did anyone from the community oppose the hotel project?
- A. Yes. To some extent the Venice Town Council, but the main opponents were the North Beach Planning Task Force.
- Q. Why did they sell an interest in the property?
- A. I believe they wanted to put up an apartment building on the site but the finances were not right, they didn't have enough capital to do it themselves, so they sold half interest.
- Q. What happened next.
- A. Well, the North Beach Task Force suggested that a Senior citizen, low income housing structure would be more acceptable.
- Q. So you asked the Task Force what they would support?
- A. Not exactly. I knew Moe Stavnezer and I knew from attending the Town Council that such a project would be more acceptable. But it was impossible to build a low income senior citizen building using private financing. We would have lost too much money. We would have been better off doing nothing, letting the land sit there. The only way to do it was with the help of some government agency. So, I believe in 1975, we approached the City Housing Authority because we thought they had some funds available. We made an application, but they didn't have funds. Then we applied to HUD. They liked the project and gave us preliminary approval. But we ran into a Catch 22. We couldn't get the City to approve the project because it meant building residential in a commercial zone which, at that time, was not allowed in the City's building code. The Coastal Commission had indicated that it was sympathetic to the project, but we couldn't submit to them because we first needed tentative approval from the City, which wouldn't give it. So we waited 6 months. We knew that the City was in the process of changing its building code to permit residential construction in commercial zones. In the interim we lost our HUD approval. HUD recommended that we turn the units back so they could be used somewhere else. They needed working drawings, but we couldn't invest our funds in a project which we weren't sure would be acceptable to the City. The approval process was just taking too long. Then the City changed its regulations and that was the beginning of the breaking of the log jam. We got City approval and got a Coastal Permit in December 1976. Now we had a Coastal Permit and City ok but no HUD money. The next time we could apply to HUD was in June of 1977. We re-submitted and received preliminary approval in September. We started on our working drawings. We needed a Coastal Permit extension and got it to April of 1979. We still had some problems with the City because we needed a parking variance, to allow us 40 spaces. The Coastal Commission had already approved this, but now we had to get approval from the City Zoning Administrator. The process took another 4 months and there was some opposition but our variance was sustained. Since that time we have been preparing drawings and working with HUD.

Continued on page 14

HOW IT GOT HERE

by Moe Stavnezer

Wade Cornell's sculpture didn't get here by accident or without some interest and effort from Venetians. The story is both interesting and somewhat ironical.

Early this year after an awful public hearing at the Planning Commission, a group of us gathered at my house mainly to lament what had just happened. It was at that gathering that we talked about secession and the articles that appeared in the Beachhead came out of that meeting. We did, however, discuss one more item.

I had gotten a call from Lori Shapiro asking if we in Venice might want this sculpture that had been donated to the County which the County didn't want. I said that I'd ask around but that, surely some people would want to see the thing. I had no idea who she was or what the sculpture looked like. She mentioned something about a video tape made when the sculpture was placed in the County Courtyard of Flags.

I mentioned all of this to the folks assembled and Linda Lucks remembered seeing the video tape and wanted to be involved in getting the sculpture moved to Venice. We discussed possible sites, one of which was Windward Circle. Jeff Gillenkirk also wanted to be involved so the 3 of us became an ad hoc committee. We, join by Eric Ahberg of SPARC, drove downtown to see and photograph the sculpture. We all liked what we saw.

Slides were eventually shown at a Venice Town Council meeting and resulted in the Council supporting having the piece of art placed in the community. It took some time for the necessary permits to come thru and Pat Russell did help by supporting the artist and the Council. It was not until the day the sculpture and the creator got here that I learned that he saw the piece as symbolic of Venice independence. As the accompanying note from Wade Cornell makes clear, the distance between him and the Town Council was strictly physical.

Nice story, really nice sculpture. Thanks Wade.

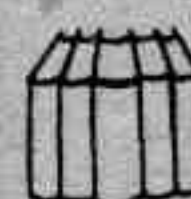
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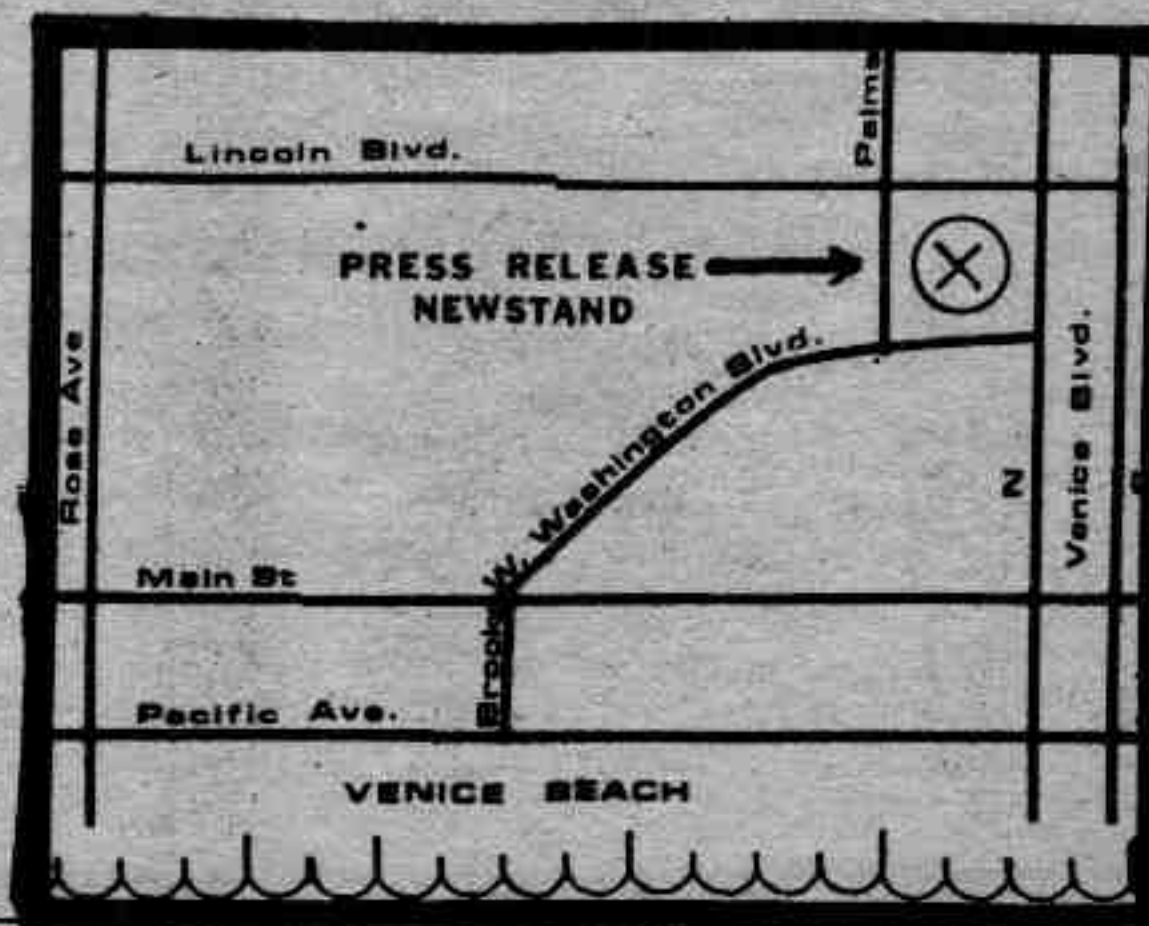


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VENICE GETS A PIECE (OF ART)

by Carol Fondiller

"Wade, we waited for your 6 AM erection and you didn't even come."

-- note by Lance Diskan

The be truthful, I got to the traffic circle at 6:35 AM, just as the smog was rising in the East. I met Olga Palo and Sue Baker who'd been waiting since 6.

We waited on the watch for a "dump truck carrying a 15-foot turquoise statue."

Someone should be there to be a welcoming committee for Wade Hampton Cornell and his statue. I missed the Town Council meeting when slides of the statue were shown, and I'd never seen a statue put in place before.

Waiting around for a statue isn't the most entertaining way to spend the early morning, even if the police did circle around and around. We examined the sub-base. Someone had inscribed V-13 in the cement. We watched the police watch us. Luckily we were waiting at the very hub of the hub of the universe, as Vogue Magazine would have us believe, and in Venice there are a lot of things happening on a 6 AM Friday. We watched the City employees water the lawn. We watched them cultivate the Myrtle Wilson Memorial Tree. An hour later we watched more City employees mow the lawn.

At 6:45, after arguing who told us about being at the traffic circle at a ridiculous hour, it was decided by consensus to call Lance Diskan. He came at 7:15 and wrote, "Wade, we waited for your 6 AM etc. etc. etc." and left it on the sub-base. Oh, and I forgot to tell you, Olga and I posed on the sub-base, just in case THE STATUE might not come, and we would print those pictures in the Beach-head. Wouldn't that have been fun!

Lance, Olga, Sue and I went for coffee. Am I boring you? I hope so. I want you to have the full flavor of that day.



We went back to the traffic circle, finally we left. I called the person who was doing P. R. work for Wade Cornell. I quoted from Lance. The Service told the P. R. person that they would get turned into the F. C. C. and P. U. C. if they ever got any off-colour references to sex. I responded that an erection does not necessarily mean sex.

I rode back. I had sweat stains down to my knees.

A man from the National Geographic was there. He was photographing "all the spectacular events in Venice." Like the unique McPeak walk across Windward. I couldn't see anything spectacular about that. I walk on Windward all the time. Right down there on the ground with the roller skaters, more times than McPeak has crossed above the hazards of mingling with groundlings. And I too live to tell the tale.

A man on a bike accompanied by an Australian Sheepdog came by. He'd seen the statue downtown.

Jeff Gillenkirk, one of the people who was instrumental in getting the statue, who shortly after making arrangements for it went to live in San Francisco, came by suggesting that since Cornell had snuck the 3-ton statue downtown, he might be turned off by facing the throng of at least 13 people who were waiting. Channel 2 put in a call over C. B. to be on the lookout for a 15-foot blue statue. The media,

bored and grumpy, left to cover more meaningful and punctual news.

Wade Cornell, his helpers, and the statue arrived, asking if the media was there. "The statue of limitations done run out," I snickered.

I would have preferred a realistic rendition of the artist to his statue any time. Sun-bronzed blonde, a big wide smile, and a personality blend of charm and earnestness.

As a connoisseur of boredom, I rate the installation of a statue an 8 1/2 on a scale of 10.



The shooting of movies and T. V. shows rate a 9. There, now you have a point of reference.

The installation required a lot of sliding and pushing, stopping and measuring of millimeters.

It must have been about 3 PM because kids started showing up. They looked at the blue and green statue as it lounged on the dump truck. "What is it?" "When is he gonna finish it?"

Someone was tooting on a flute. I was handed a joint. I bogarted it.

The statue had a wingspread of 10 feet. My head throbbed. My sweatstains had dirtstains. "It's the first day of Fall. That's a pretty good omen for installation of a statue," said a passerby. I had to go to the bathroom, but the statue was nearly upright; I did a few Kiegel exercises. I'd been at the traffic circle since 6:35 -- I wasn't going to miss the final outcome.

Tenderly, gingerly, the statue was settled in place. The flue players, 4 big-eyed children with blue crescent plastic flutes and John Curtis on his big bamboo, hit the tremelo. The crowd had swelled to 25. Spontaneous applause broke out. A skater throwing a frisbee nearly obscured photographer Sue Baker's shot. He was told to move. Baker got her shot. Venice got its statue.

A few people said they thought it was great. Someone suggested that Christo's sheet be put over it. "It reminds me of something that used to be at P. O. P.," said one resident. "Yeah, there was a dolphin that looked like that -- it's the same color."

"We could make miniatures and sell them on the Ocean Front Walk."

Do I like it? I don't know. But it is a part of Venice. After all, underneath the statue, out of sight, that V-13 is etched permanently on the sub-base. And I like that.

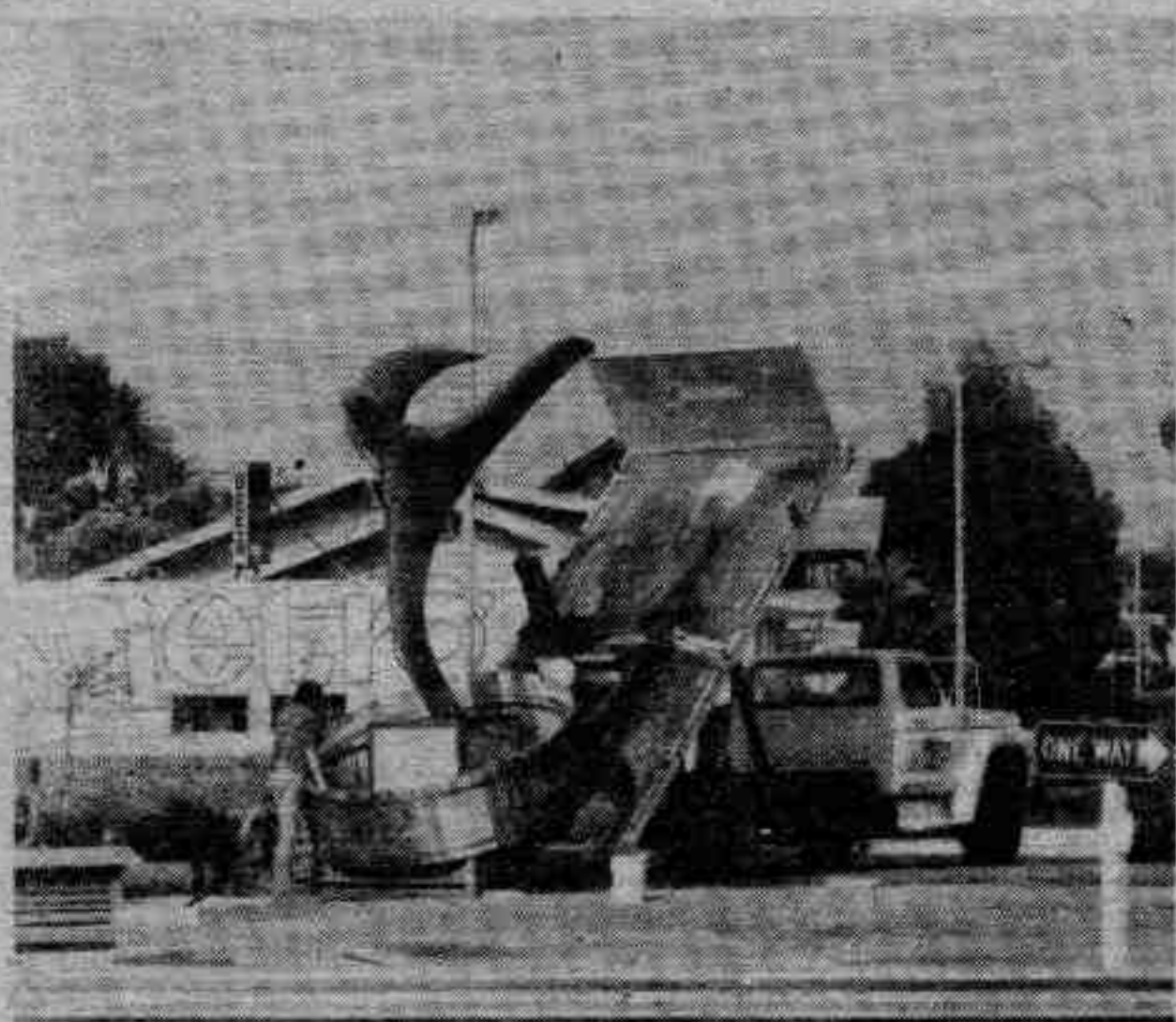


Photo by Gerry Goldstein

"To The Spirit of Freedom in all People"

Dear People of Venice:

It's with great joy and much thanks to many of you that this sculpture is being placed. I especially appreciate your support considering the barrage of outside influences which have invaded your community and threaten its existence. Although not a member of Venice your struggles are shared by myself, and it is my sincerest hope that this sculpture can become a focal point or touch stone to your cause.

This piece although not titled has a dedication which in your circumstance couldn't be more fitting: "To the spirit of Freedom in all people". That spirit lives in Venice and is its main attraction to those who seek a place to be. Unfortunately it is also the selling point for the hucksters who would push you all into the Pacific. Your dilemma then is one of trying not to loose ground (which will take tremendous organization) and in the process not become that which you fight. Accept this piece then and let it be your symbol of that spirit. As its creator I can envision no higher goal and no better place than Venice. My love and hopes are with you,

Wade Hampton Cornell

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RENTING and RANTING in SANTA MONICA

by Moe Staynezer

At every level of life, Santa Monica is a hot bed of political activity. Since the April election when Rent Control passed and Ruth Yannatta Goldway & Bill Jennings were elected to City Council, things have been jumping. Right now the people who sponsored the Rent Control initiative are preparing to defend that law against a landlord sponsored initiative which would severely weaken it. They are also preparing for another City Council race in which Cheryl Rhoden is running to take the seat vacated when Donna Swink, a conservative bank executive, resigned.

Tenants in Santa Monica are also just beginning to feel the muscle that the new law allows. Rent Board meetings that were once totally dominated by hissing, jeering landlords, are now attended by growing numbers of tenants seeking to enforce the law and see that their rights are upheld. Tenants are organizing in buildings to force owners to adhere to the rent rollback provisions of the law and to make presentations to the Board concerning all aspects of the Rent Control law. To those who have worked on this law for years it is tremendously gratifying to see tenants really understand that, for the first time, they have rights and can enforce those rights.

But it would be a mistake to interpret these events as meaning that landlords are all obeying the law or have stopped harassing tenants. In large numbers they are not. To date only about 60% of the rental units have been registered with the Rent Board making enforcement of the law more difficult for the Board and for tenants in the unregistered buildings. Landlords have also discovered a seemingly endless supply of relatives and are attempting to evict tenants to move these relatives into apartments. Illegal rent increases are common as are cases where landlords simply ignore the rent rollback in the law. Landlords are still using intimidation tactics and, because the law is not self enforcing, it is up to tenants to fight for their rights. A growing number are doing so.

At the organizational level, the Santa Monica Fair Housing Alliance (SM/FHA) and Campaign for Economic Democracy (CED) are

growing in numbers and strength. These 2 groups, along with the Democratic Club, continue to offer assistance to tenants and will be the main organizers in the Nov. 6th election campaigns (collectively they are known as Santa Monicans for Renters Rights).

While all of this has been happening, S.M. politics have provided more entertainment than the proverbial 3-ring circus. But its been very serious entertainment. The landlord/real estate interests have managed to put Prop. Q on the Nov 6 ballot. This initiative which ties rent increases to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) automatically, decontrols single family houses and allows rent increases on units which are voluntarily vacated or where a legal eviction occurs, would very seriously undermine the S.M. law. These are the very factors that render the L.A. law so ineffective.

The anti-rent control forces tried to have the initiative consolidated with the upcoming state election on Nov. 6th. This would have meant its appearance on the same ballot as the Gann initiative (the so called spirit of 13 which purports to put a lid on government spending) and the anti-bussing initiative. Both these are expected to draw a strong conservative vote and that would help the pro-Prop Q forces. However the City Council (which had granted an extension to the pro-Prop Q forces to allow for more signatures) allowed the deadline for consolidation to pass. Bill Jennings and Ruth Yannatta Goldway then opposed a move to allow the consolidation despite the law, and they won. They pointed out that consolidation could legally take place next June when the presidential primary will draw even a bigger turnout and that such a consolidation would only cost the City \$10,000. Now, because there is no consolidation, the election will cost S.M. taxpayers over \$50,000!

Bill & Ruth only voted for the funds for the special election when conservative Councilperson Perry Scott decided in favor of an election for the vacated City Council seat rather than through the appointment process.

The appointment process seemed sure to favor a conservative, pro-business addition to the City Council. The elect-

ion allows the progressive forces the chance to elect their third member to the council this year. The candidate is Cheryl Rhoden, long time community activist, president of SM/FHA and primary spokesperson for the rent control coalition.

The opposition is doing everything possible to confuse voters, hoping they will vote for Prop. Q. One of the groups supporting Prop. Q calls itself the Santa Monica Fair Rent Alliance (sounds a bit like Fair Housing Alliance doncha think?) Their first mailing was a tabloid called the Santa Monica Reporter...SM/FHA has put out the Fair Housing Reporter in the past two elections. They claim to want only fairness and to heal the wounds created by Prop. A but Prop Q would destroy the major gains made by tenants after two years of struggle. They have already collected over \$80,000 (over \$300 per contribution) and will probably spend another 1/4 million on this campaign. Once again we need your bodies and money to defeat Prop. Q, defend rent control and elect Cheryl Rhoden. To volunteer call 392-8305. Send contributions to SMRR, 740 Raymond Ave. S.M. 90405.

CALIF. COASTAL ALLIANCE A FINGER IN THE DIKE

by Moe Staynezer

Well we survived. The legislative session is over for this year and the worst of the 50 bills introduced to gut the Coastal Act were defeated or continued until next year.

The most positive thing to come out of this trying time was the emergence of the California Coastal Alliance. From its beginning, some 6 months ago, the Coastal Alliance sought grass-roots opposition to anti-coastal legislation. That opposition was strong and eager and really only needed some direction. So it's been people all along the coast, visiting legislators, writing letters and going to Sacramento who can take credit for reversing what appeared to be a disaster.

The Coastal Alliance will continue the work it began and needs your help. There will certainly be more attempts to gut the Act in 1980 and we need to begin to organize against them now. We are also planning on participating in the "Year of the Coast" in 1980 (see last month's Beachhead). We are in the process of formalizing the statewide organization of the Alliance and while that's happening I and Darlene Mitcheltree have been chosen Interim Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.

The Coastal Alliance needs funds to continue this fight. We need to pay off the substantial debt we assumed in the last 6 months and to prepare for the future. We have established 3 different types of membership and hope that you'll take advantage of one of them:

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art review:

making it safe

by Lynne Bronstein

I've got a complaint about the recent exhibit by women artists on Main Street in Ocean Park. "Making It Safe" it was called and that was what it was. Safe, too safe.

When I realized that shop windows along a four-block stretch of Main Street--the "strip" area causing such hassles now because of its swinging bar lifestyle--were showing art, I said "Wow, I've got to take a slow walk along the street and look at that." I took this walk with my visual artist friend Jan Cook who was visiting me for the day. We walked south on Main, turned, and walked north on the other side. We looked at each window exhibit.

Our expectations were defeated.

I'd thought the exhibit, like other aspects of the "Making It Safe" project, would deal with the theme of women and violence. I'd read quotes from the organizers: "Artists are distressed and angry at the stereotype of women as victims of violence..." (the exhibit is) to show that women are creative independent individuals. Yet while there were no overt images of violently abused women in the show there were few overt statements about the injustice of violence against women or about feminist issues in general. Jan and I sought meaning in the displays of small paintings, stuffed dummies, photographs, montages, collages, mixed media set-ups. The overall effect was disappointingly dull and boring.

Now wait--feminist art, women's art--deals with the experience of being a woman, right? Or it's anything a woman wants to do, right? I don't know. I just don't know. Maybe Jan and I were wrong in not appreciating works of art that featured a female mannequin lying in a frilly bed, obviously dead from some unspeakable disease, a female mannequin at an ironing board, a series of statements by women on their feelings about the color pink. Ironing? Pink? Women as creative independent individuals? Was this a glorification of housework and traditional female values or a protest against it? Another display featured statements from women artists on motherhood. Female experience of course.

Jan and I felt angry at these works not because housework, motherhood, and the color pink are not useful or valid as a part of our lives but because we've seen too many art shows, read too many books of poetry and fiction, seen too many plays and films, in which "female experience" is the same old feminine mystique it used to be spruced up by a supposed new consciousness. We were angry because the purported purpose of the show--to raise the consciousness

of the public through art, show women as active beings, and educate people about the need for a non-violent society in which both sexes can function--did not seem to be coming through in the tone of almost all of these pieces. The closest mark was hot by Laura Silagi's "After The Neutron Bomb" which featured photos of family members X-ed out and items of furniture left intact--as a neutron bomb would leave them. (Jan insisted the furnishings were part of the regular shop window display, not part of the actual piece.) I saw nothing that specifically showed women taking a stand against street crime except for some anonymous comments on fear and suggestions for making it safe that were on display in the Ocean Park library--which isn't exactly up front on the street. I saw no portraits of women practicing martial arts for self-defense, no depictions of women as law officers, fire-fighters, even fantasy phenomena like Wonder Woman. No examples of women's strength, of women in unfamiliar roles, very little of women's awareness of a world outside the kitchen.

Maybe it was because Jan and I, as artist and writer respectively, are mavericks--artists who do as we feel rather than belonging to groups that might pressure us into a group vision. We don't see ourselves as women first, artists second. We are artists who happen to be women. We have feminist beliefs and when we put them into our creations we seek a wider vision of women's possibilities. I have never seen much in the rehashes of experiences we now know are too common and in themselves nothing to get excited about. But as a woman, as a feminist, it is difficult for me to admit that much so-called feminist art is lacking in interest. We are deprived of positive images of women who have achieved something in the world. We want to be jubilant about Judy Chicago getting a whole museum to work with for her "Dinner Party" but it takes guts to admit (as the Los Angeles Times art critic did) that "The Dinner Party" is a failed work of art--an assemblage of historic women, freedom fighters, achievers, reduced to symbolic depictions of female genitalia on dinner plates. This work in itself might be considered degrading to women had it been painted and assembled by a man.

Maybe it's also a community problem. Main Street merchants supporting art sounds great but merchants are nevertheless merchants who have to sell their wares. Might not overt political statements about the potential power of women hurt sales? This is the new Main Street of Farrah-haired swingers, halter-topped skaters, tissue-thin designer clothes in Faye Dunaway's art gallery going for the equivalent of my monthly rent, restaurants where hamburgers and ice cream sundaes have names as if they were works of art. This is where the Oar House has Hairy Chest and Wet T-Shirt contests, where a long-time female resident walking down the street to do some shopping can be mistaken for a hooker by the men who drive around looking for the hookers who actually sit on curbs at nine in the morning. On the hills above Main Street and below in the Venice flatlands lives a matriarchy without power, single mothers raising their children on food stamps, women evicted from their apartments, women learning how to break a man's knees and yell "Fire!" to escape from rapists. Main Street runs past this powerless-but-seeking-power-matriarchy, displaying its new I-don't-care attitude and wares for women who want to look like the movies. Might not a few "Dinner Party" excerpts, ruminations on pinkness, odes to motherhood, work better with the drink and run crowd than a feminist "Guernica" (which surely exists in someone's head if not on canvas)?

I believe there's a time and place in which the loud, the brassy, the strident, the crazy, the urgent, are needed. I think this is a perfectly good time in history for it. I'm not an arts organizer or a local merchant. I didn't have a voice in the planning of the art exhibit though I did participate as a poet in the "Making It Safe" poetry reading in which the themes of violence and power were dealt with an emotion ran high. I only wish the art in the street had been as exciting. It looks like a group of human beings who happen to be female went out to speak softly and carry small paintbrushes. I hope to see them get bigger brushes and a voice to be heard round the world.

polar bear

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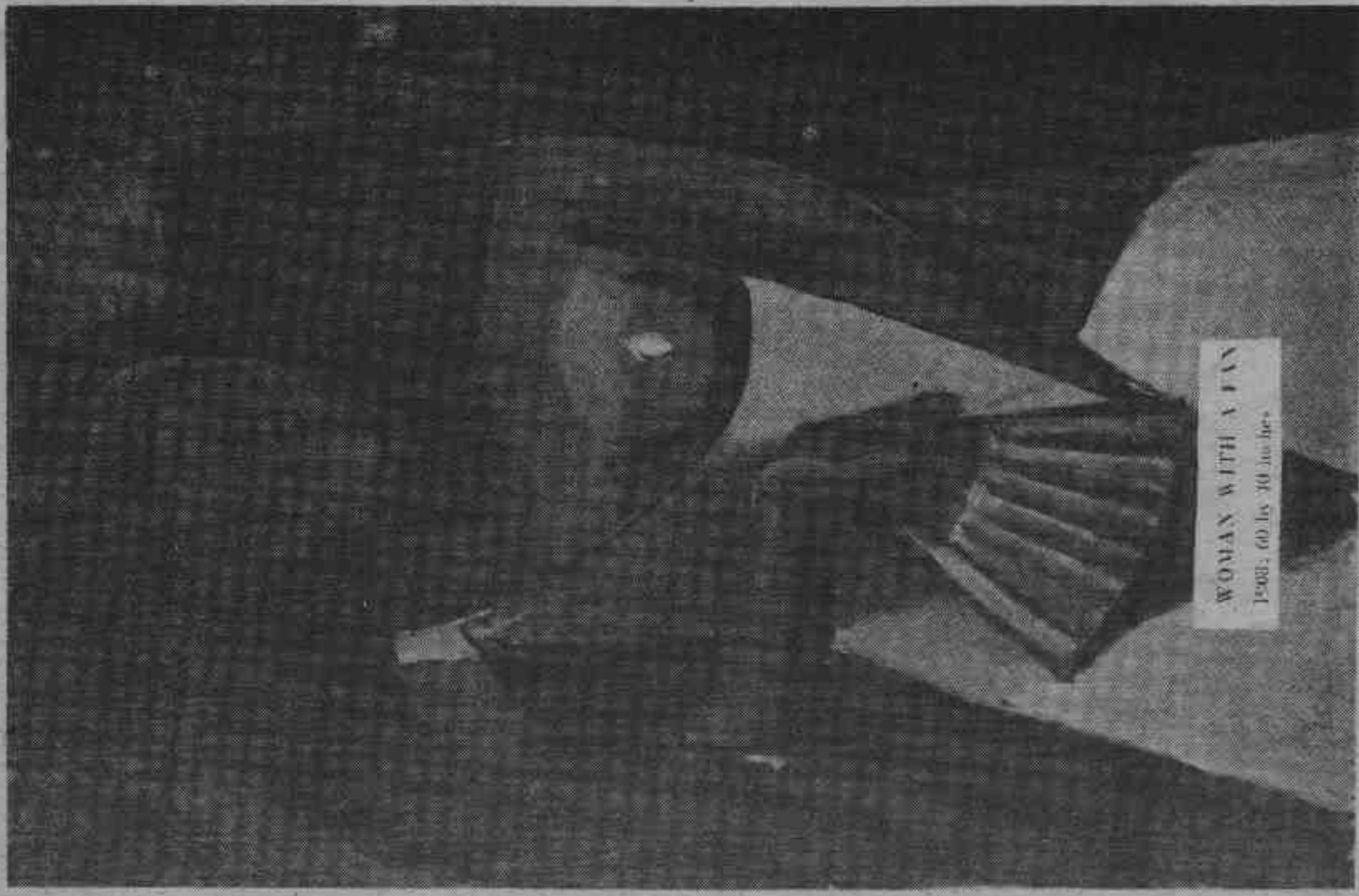
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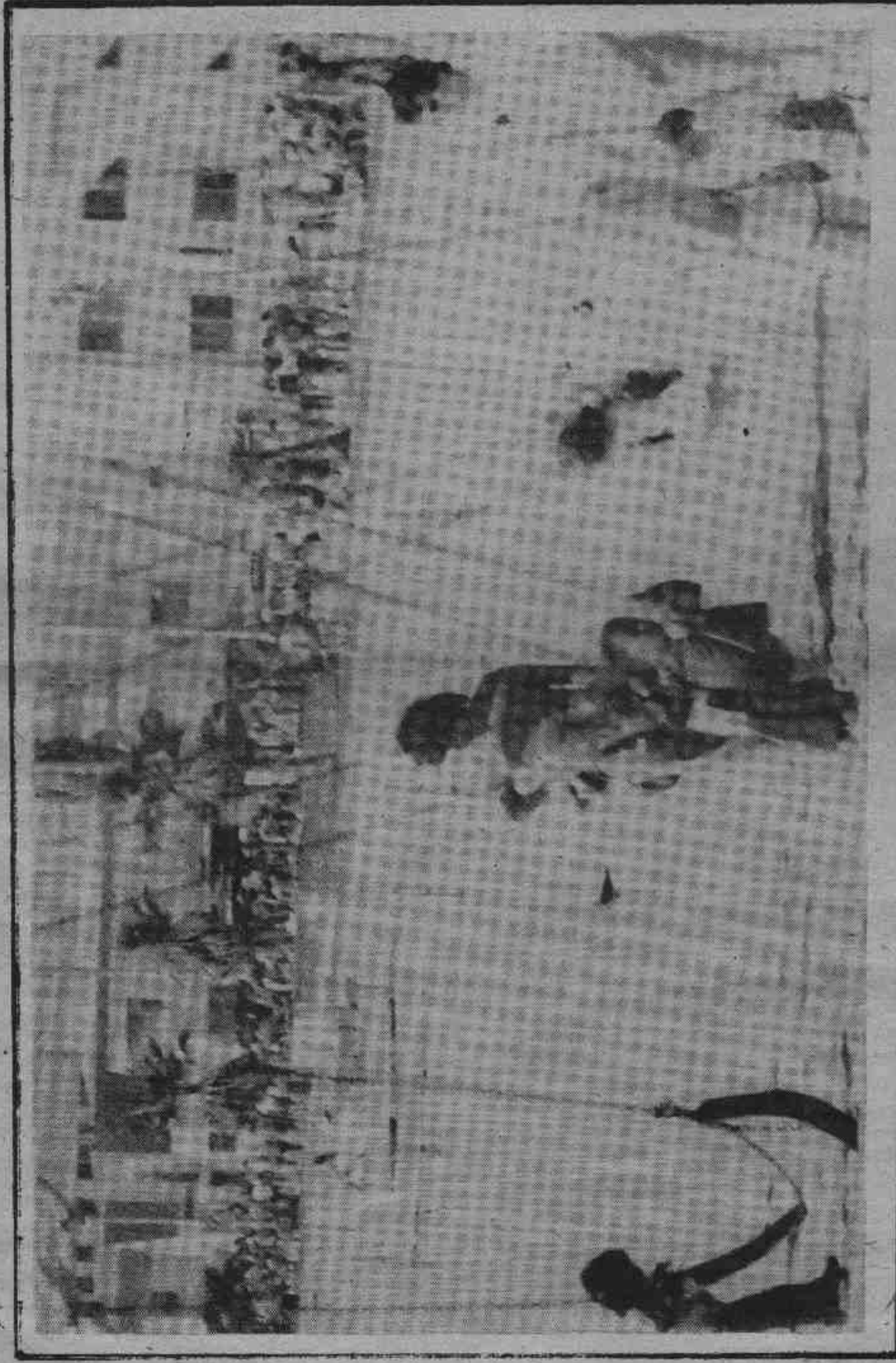
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MANICURES and PEDICURES
by Connie
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WOMAN WITH A FAN
1930; 60 by 30 inches

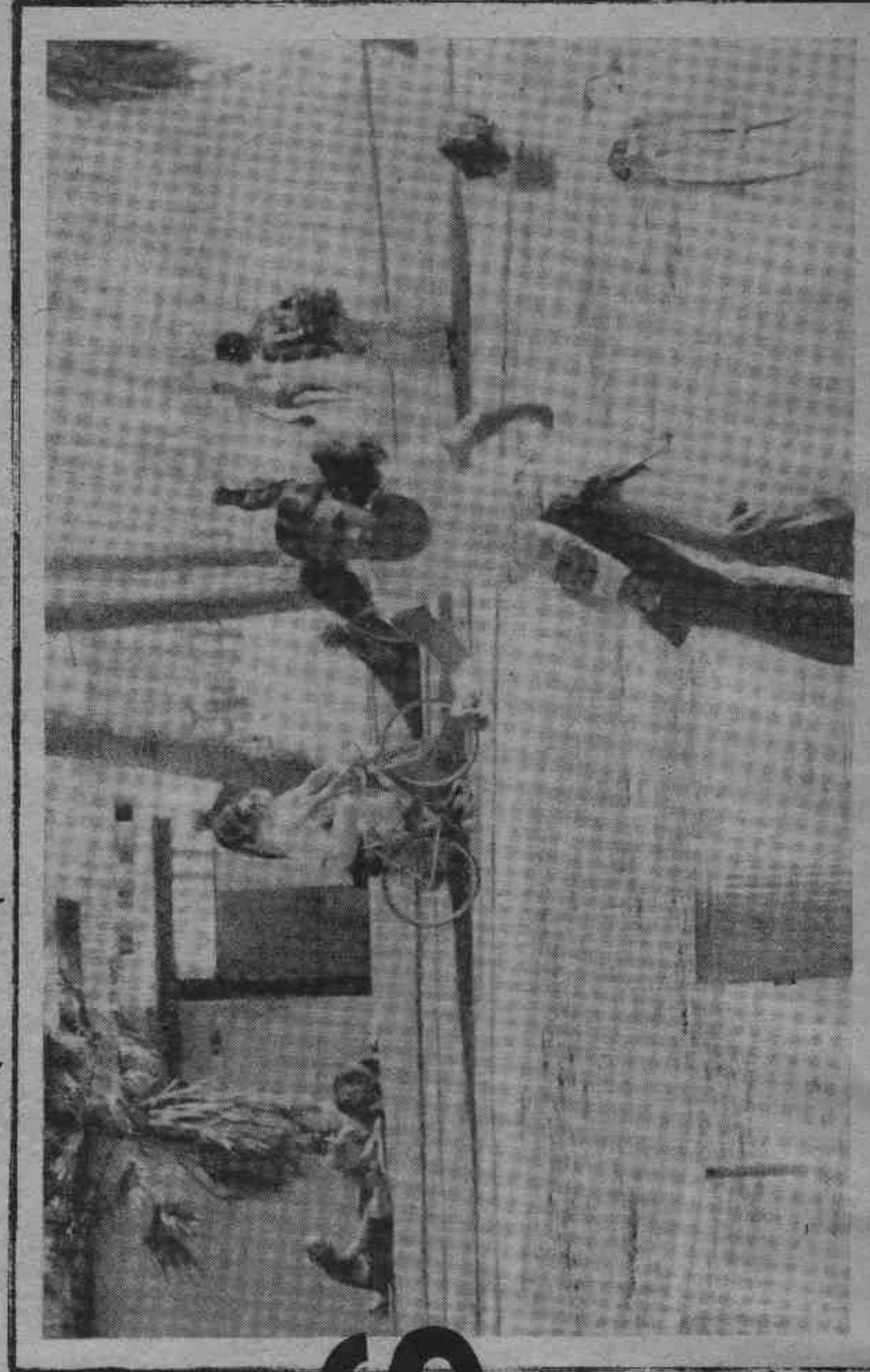
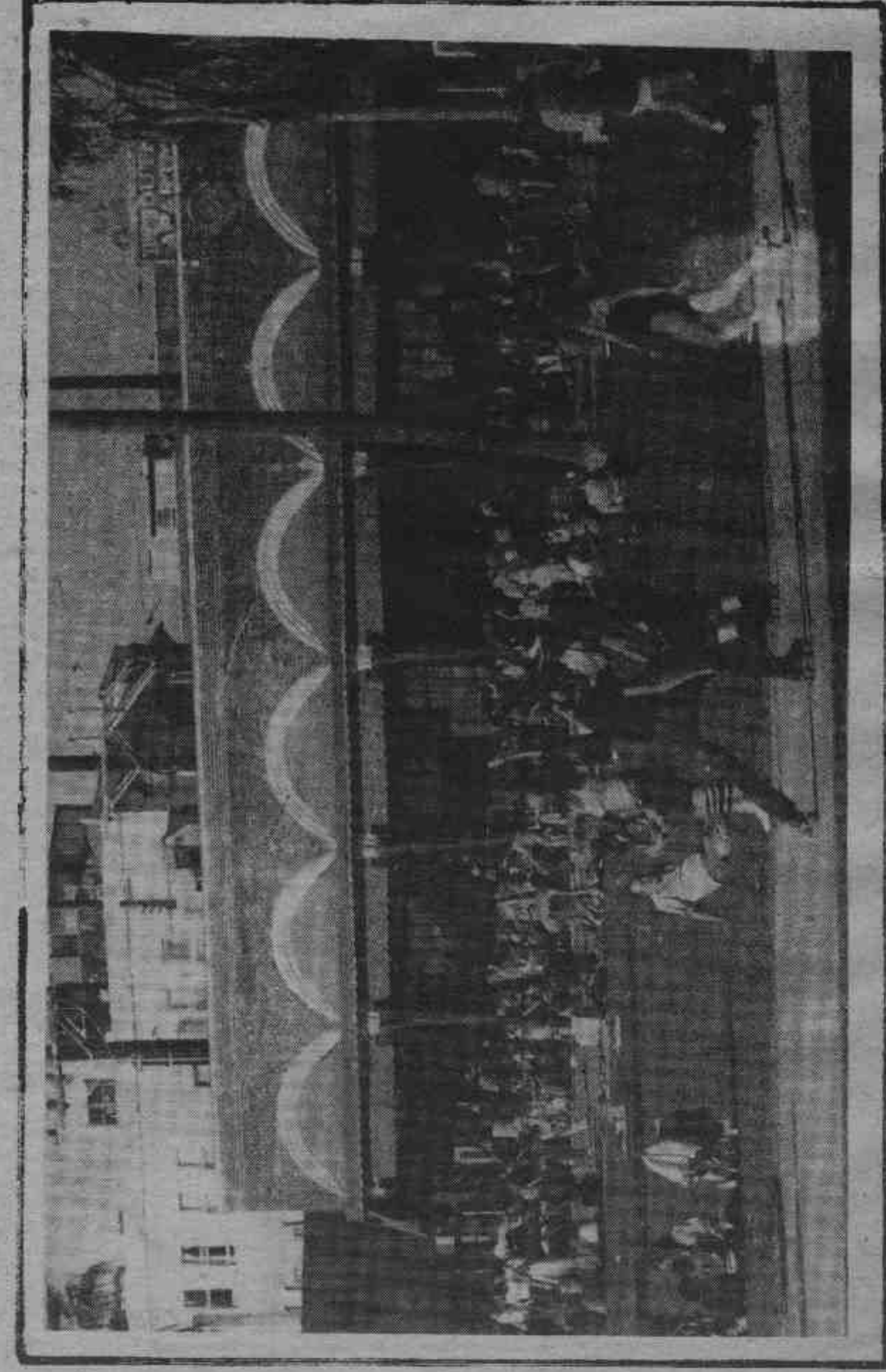
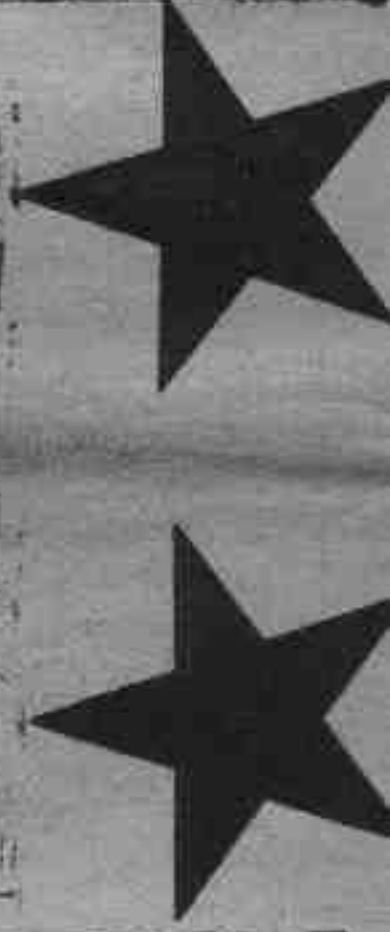


THE WOMAN OF MAJORCA
1965; 27 1/5 by 20 4/5 inches, gouache

LAS MUJERES ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ LOS NINOS

SON
GUERDO



THE FIRST BOOK OF MOSES
GENESIS

CHAPTER I
In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

And the earth was without form, and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering upon the face of the waters.

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw that the light was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

And God called the light Day, and the darkness Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven, to divide the day from the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and for years:

And let the lights be in the firmament of the heaven, to give light upon the earth: and God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night:

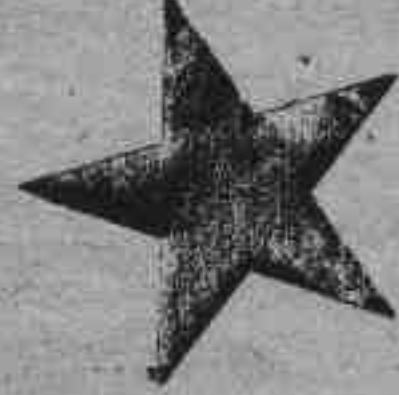
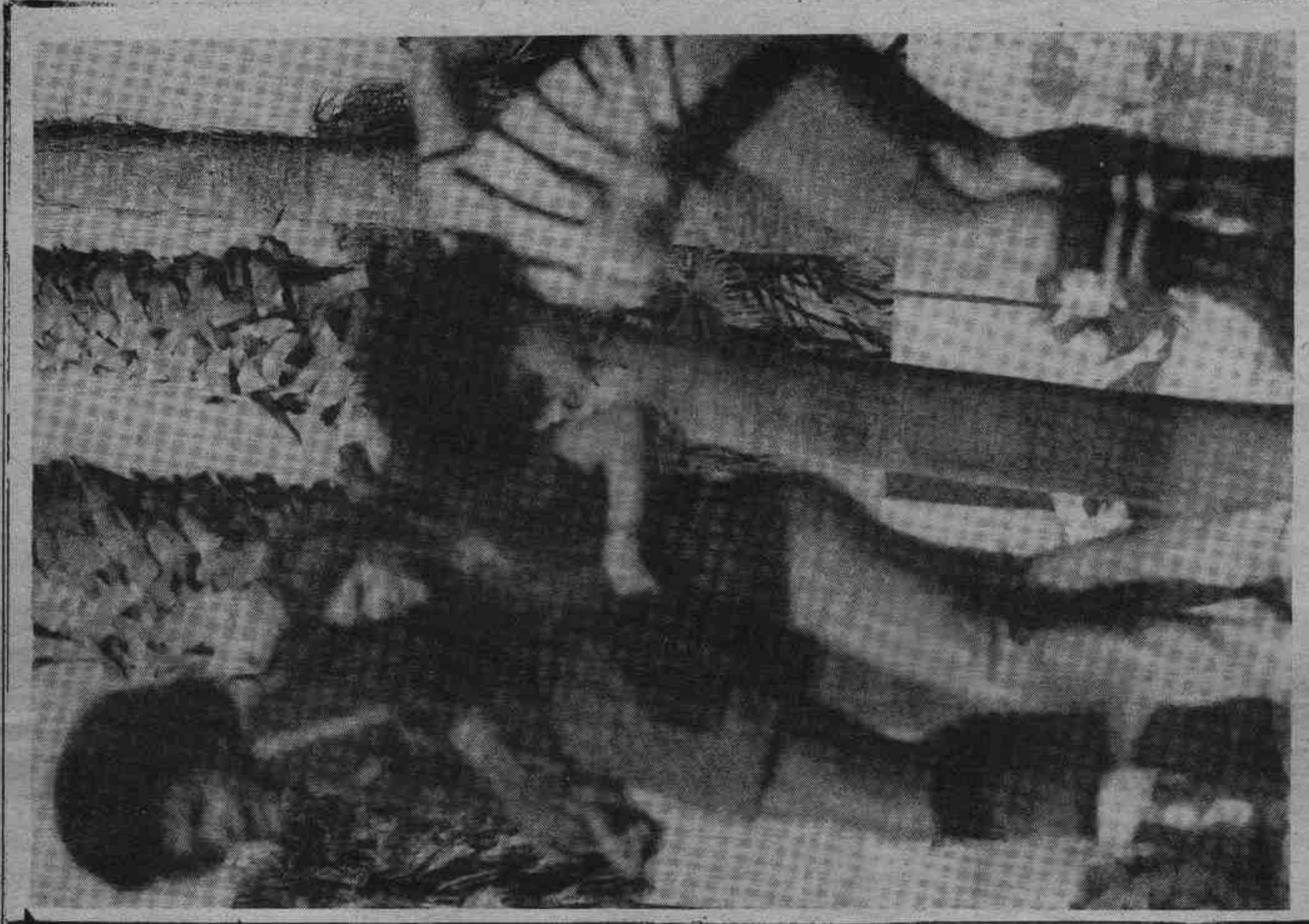
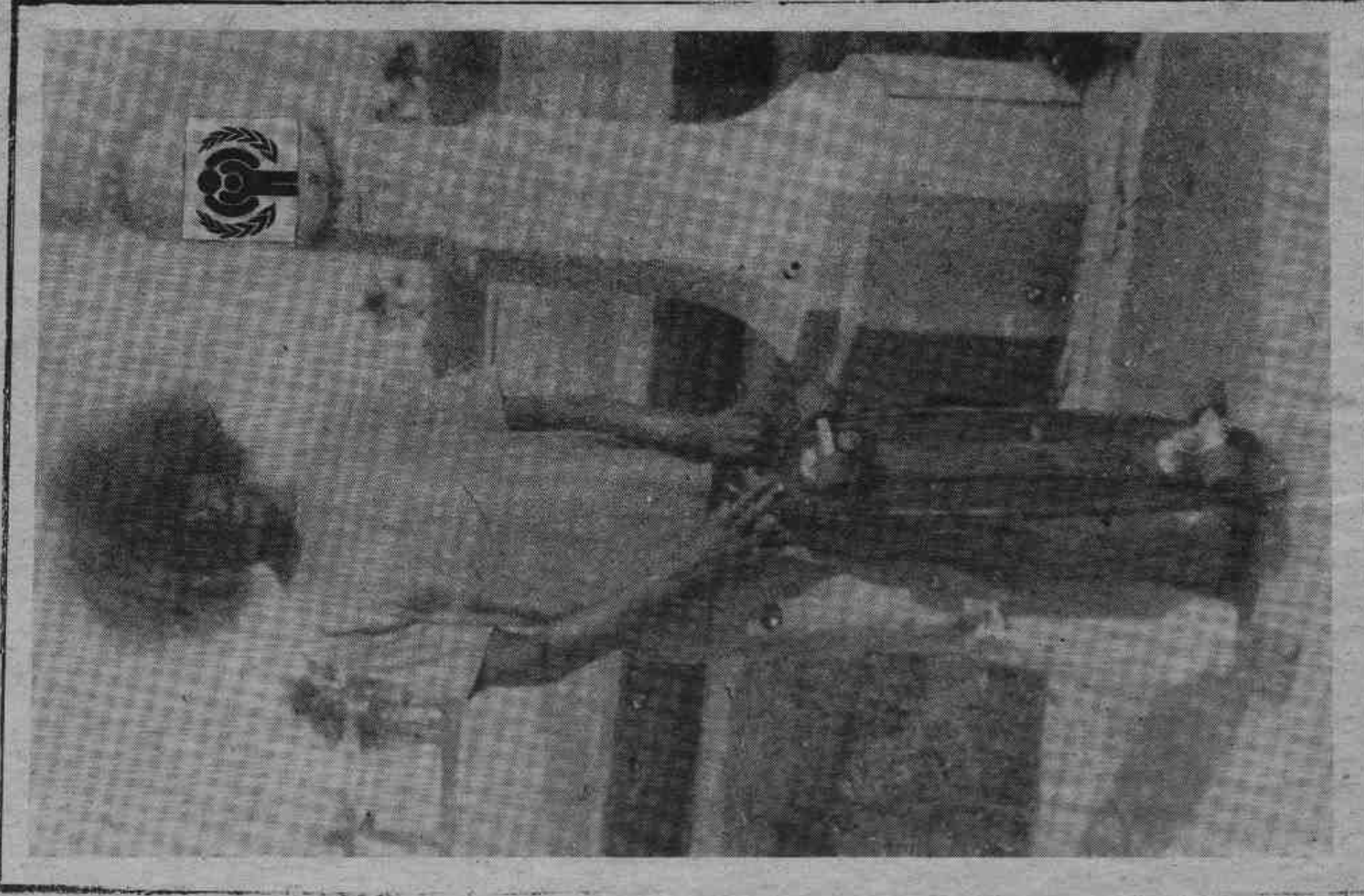
And God set them in the firmament of the heaven, to give light upon the earth: and God made the stars.

And it was so, that the day and the night were, and the lights shined in the firmament of the heaven, to give light upon the earth: and God made the stars.

And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the firmament of the heaven: and the stars were in the firmament of the heaven, to give light upon the earth: and God made the stars.

And it was so, that the day and the night were, and the lights shined in the firmament of the heaven, to give light upon the earth: and God made the stars.

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LAS
ESCRITURAS
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ANOS
DOS MM MIL LARES



It is your privilege to be as free as the birds, the trees, and the flowers. "They toil not, neither do they spin", but are always obedient to the divine instinct and everyday is a Sabbath. All days are holy days to them. They live in the holy Omnipresence and do the will always of Him who sent them. It is our duty to do likewise.

© 1979 Charles Arthur Williamson



Success in life depends upon persistent effort, upon the improvement of moments more than upon any other one thing. A great amount of time is consumed in talking nothing, doing nothing, and indecision as to what one should do. If one would be successful in the future, let him make the most of the present.

Three ways of wasting time, one of which is contemptible, are gossiping mischief, making lingering calls, and mere motion when at work, thinking of nothing or planning for some amusement,—travel of limb more than mind. Rushing around smartly is no proof of accomplishing much.

All successful individuals have become such by hard work; by improving moments before they pass into hours, and hours that other people may occupy in the pursuit of pleasure. They spend no time in sheer idleness, in talking when they have nothing to say.

APROVECHAR EL TIEMPO

HOW OTHERS SEE US

(Note: The piece which follows, entitled "Roll Baby Roll", appeared in the September 1979 issue of West Germany's largest mass circulation magazine, "Stern". In reading the article we were struck by how different a view of Venice was presented in it, compared with Vogue's treatment of Venice a few months back. It is, we feel grotesque, that American writers living in the area could produce such distorted and misleading reports as appeared in Vogue. It is ironic that foreign reporters, writing for a foreign audience, would be able to better capture the flavor of Venice. Let's hear it for this article in your column Tom).

Venice is not the 'piece de resistance' of the Southern California coast. Three kilometers south lies Marina del Rey with its nouveau riche yacht harbor. Three kilometers north lies Santa Monica, beautiful white bungalows, each with a single palm and at least two cars sitting out front. But Venice-----

In the early morning hours this beach belongs to the lumpen elements - bums, winos, homeless ones sleeping off their hangovers - and a few joggers. The houses with sea views on the Ocean Front Walk look as if they had fallen out of Gods hand in a moment of indecision. Hopeless----- and yet this shabbiness has a certain bite. It is not depressing, rather grotesque or obstinate, or touching. A parking attendant watches over his lot from a discarded easy chair. Why not? On the Walk someone has integrated an old sofa into the row of city owned benches. It has a sense of symmetry. There it stands, or sits, and it serves the people. Anywhere else it would have been removed long ago.

Around 10 am a properly dressed gentleman with eight wheels under his feet ventures out onto the asphalt. He carries a transistor radio as one would a briefcase. A beginner. A youthful grandmother with a blond bun, rucksack, polyester pants, she overtakes him, quietly triumphant. Three hours later, when the 'scene' is in full swing, these two normal people, if in fact they dared to appear on the Walk, would seem like they were the only two eccentrics.

The citizens of Venice have always had a different reputation from all the rest of the communities along the Southern California coast. The uniqueness of this part of Los Angeles can be traced back to Abbot Kinney and his canals. In the 50's came the Beatniks. For them this village which was impoverished, over the hill, socially mixed, fostered a latent revolutionary community consciousness because for those who lived there, it seemed that there was no possibility for them to participate in the American dream. Just the right place from which from which to scorn society. These things must be understood when, on a hot Saturday, you pull on a pair of polyester roller skates and join the 7,000 people rolling along the Walk. Without that understanding you will be just like them.

Here, one gets the feeling that this roller skating business is not just faddism. In New York or San Francisco they have them on their feet in Venice - on their feet and in their heads. That's because Venice is a world view, a condition

Arnold Schwarzenegger, the world famous weight lifter who works out at Venices' open air muscle beach says: "This is the only place that I don't feel out of place, because everyone here is out of place." Absolutely true!

It's unbelievable to see just who is running around here without restraint. Alternative lifestyles. A girl carrying a message on her shirt: "I'm on a search for myself. Has anyone seen me? Where?" The palm reader Mat Elston transports himself into the transcendental. His first sentence "\$6 cash." 2nd sentence. "Have you lived before?"

No Fellini, no Andre Heller could conjure up such an insane cast as Venice has to offer. A street theater spawned by the heady atmosphere of the socio-political sub-culture of this community.

Unfortunately the point has almost been reached where the whole thing is becoming marketable, mod. For the moment however the mixture still works. One can still not quite fathom what future is descending perched on these masses of rollerskaters. Jugglers, singers, jazzers, clowns and gurus, promenading youth with Gatsby hairdos, Rasputins, totally bearded, stranded ones and failures, late hippies searching for the lost 60's. No punk rockers. A rickshaw? A rickshaw. Wild tattoos. Two paraplegic teenagers cruising the promenade in their wheel chairs, having a great day.

In between - flea markets. Hot dogs, chile dogs, frozen bananas - great things to mess up your stomach. All sorts of rather large dogs. Even a hunting dog wearing make up. Disco flitter is out. In are wool socks, knee and head

protectors, ski poles, transistors. A hip swinging skater with earphones on her head. She thinks irresistible. An anti-drug center with stereo speakers in the window. An anti-nuclear energy booth of the Jane Fonda group collecting signatures. Here and there lesbian affection. Beautiful naughty boys on the homo beach.

The retired folk here are not happy about the skates. They dare not walk on the promenade. Neither are the 17 policemen who patrol the beach in their rather silly summer outfits consisting of tennis shoes, white socks, bermuda shorts, night stick, 38 Smith and Weston, LAPD tee shirt and baseball cap.

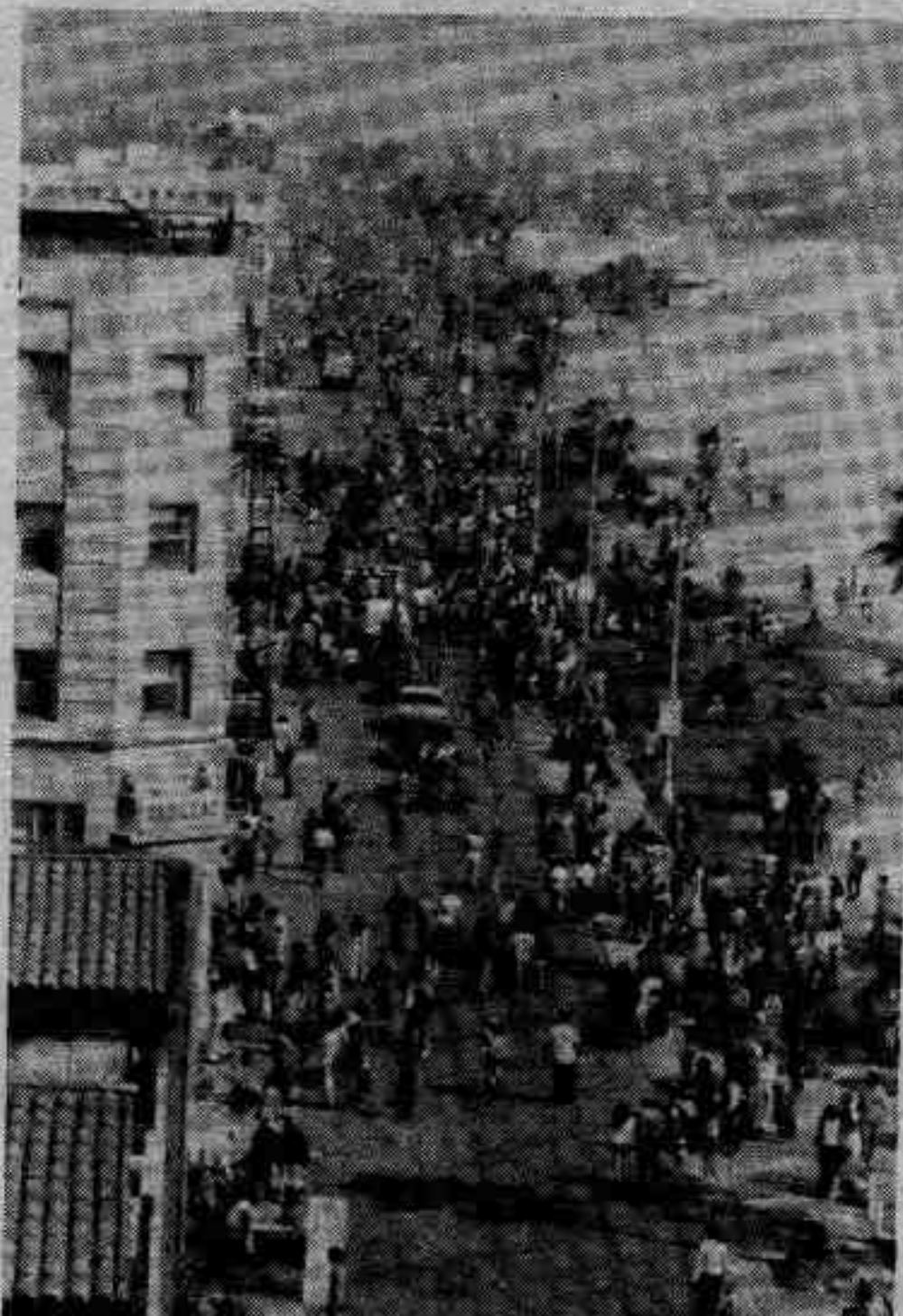


photo: Lance Diskan

Pat Russell, representative of the area, intervened at the end of June. She always does so when the beach becomes too colorful or too naked. The roller skaters were barred from one-third of the Walk. As usual, militant factions began to attack each other. The police abandoned their roller skates (sic) for ten speed bikes, the better to pursue violators. Torn between duty an understanding for the manifold expression of a lust for life, they handed out \$10-\$20 tickets to roller skaters, bickers, nudists, hashers, and people caught up in prohibited public use of alcohol violation.

For the police the pulsing masses fall into 2 sections. One - the health freaks. Two - those who just as feverishly campaign to ruin their health. "Do you see that guy in the reflecting glasses?" pointing to a black man who mistakes the policeman's gesture and waves back at him. "He's one of the biggest heroin dealers. I can't count the times I've arrested him."

At night it can happen that gangs of Mexican and Black youth shoot at each other.

10 o'clock Sunday in the parking lot with the broken down easy chair. A well groomed lady in pants suit steps out of her Chevy and asks her husband "You want me to walk here?" With my light-weight sandals?" "Take them off then", says her husband. She responds..."I guess you're right."

They have arrived. They're coming down from the hills, the good citizens of Los Angeles, as if they were coming to see freaks in a zoo. Hollywood stars too arrive and take up quarters in Venice. It's not surprising for anyone who knows Beverly Hills. "One" eats clams in "a very simple little restaurant, Roberts", owned by an alert black actor from New York with a preference for pink. There all the beautiful people sit around at small tables; Paul Getty Jr, Bianca Jagger, the Beach Boys, James Baldwin and Jane Fonda with her Tom Hayden.

The main st of Venice is unrecognizable after a face lifting by the galleries and boutiques. All the new wood is painted to look old. Oh, its all very tasteful, not to be criticized. OR-DER-LY. Filled with little signs; no bare feet, no roller skates - please wear shirts.

For speculators of all sorts Venice is the hottest spot in Los Angeles. Apartments which in 1972 rented for \$80 per month no go for up to \$800, like on the upper East Side of Manhattan.

Near the beach a condo colony is developed at the insane price of \$½ million each. The old residents of Venice do not understand the world around them anymore. Continued, often bogus sale and resale of homes jack up prices artificially. If the property sharks had their way they would move in with bulldozers to wipe out this junky Venice and transform the beach into a Rio or Miami, a skyline which throws long shadows. But this is not so easy in America. Venice

proves that concerned citizens can stop the free enterprise system if they can muster enough political pressure.

Since the early 60's a group of determined minorities joined together in the Free Venice Movement and the self appointed Town Council have smashed a half-dozen projects. Slum improvement, coastal freeway, yacht harbor, transfer of canals into private hands, all devices by which the City of Los Angeles tried to impose large taxes onto one of its poorest communities.

We Declare War on the United States

Whoever wants to invest capital in Venice has to reckon with Susan Ulibarri, a young ecologist of the Coastal Commission. Her job is to see to it that progress does not change the character of this low income community too much. A thorny affair, she says. In 1981 the City will take over Coastal Commission authority. The ecologists fear that all the sharks are waiting for that moment.

Sunday, late afternoon. At Figtree's pleasant devotees of health foodism stand in line for hibiscus tea and listen to JohannPachelbel's Canon. Outside an old man, a mix between Einstein and Rip Van Winkle, holds his arm outstretched. Bang, Bang, he shoots at a speeding roller skater and threatens. He is the Mayor of Venice. His audience strays away to Swami, the guru of the street performers, whose obscurities only insiders only fully appreciate. Swami who is 60 or 70, occasionally insults his listeners in universities Otherwise only under the open sky. "I'm a Communist", he shouts to the crowd. "I dar you to give me your money so I can become a Capitalist, so I don't have to see you here anymore. Fuck you." Swami feels that Venice is dying. Others feel that too. The police are becoming polite. That's not a good sign, says photographer R. Bradley.

Eventually they will succeed, the sheik bourgy, the mod, in their disco recreational outfits, who in droves swarm to Venice looking for - the real thing, the ambience; and they will manage to destroy what they are looking for. They will succeed, the dynamic architects and brokers and bankers and others like them who fly in in their air-conditional jets and who have transformed the quiet main street into a slick boulevard, a hygienic Gucci-Fiorucci-Rodeo Drive.

The horrible ideologists of natural woods will destroy with their good taste, the last bastion of Ameridan plastic and neo-kultur. Venice will then become a nostalgia piece for future generations.

This Venice, this over-exposed collage of gas stations, ragged palms, rotating neon signs, McDonalds and ketchup. Oh - this totally horrible misapplication of style. It's like taking all of this a toping it off with a red marachine cherry. Sweet, sticky, and poisonness.

In Venice, one will than still say, in Venice in 1979, pop art, long since elevated to an art form by the speculating 'machers' like Warhol and Lichtenstein, well, it was still alive in Venice.

If the City of Los Angeles had its way, all the bums and winos and originals who don't contribute to profit would be banned. One would very properly and correctly isolate the pulsating masses, group by group. The old for themselves, the rollerskates, the bicyclers, the homosexuals already have their little separte place. And in general the trend of our day worldwide seems to point to the elimination of extremes. Can anything be done about it. Rick Davidson, architect and community activist in Venice since 1962 sees only only possibility. We have to declare war on the United States, declare ourselves the 51st state, and place our entire community under historical protection status. ●

Written by Eva Windmüller
Translated by Jytte Springer

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Writers' Workshop, and while I didn't win any Gold Stars, I did find out what it meant to hang out with writers...in those days, in that place, you didn't have to submit to Party standards (ala USSR/Venice) in order to qualify as a writer/artist, etc. Still, as a member of The Beachhead "collective", perhaps your own feelings on this matter are different, and I'm stepping on toes I mean to celebrate instead...well, its not exactly your toes I want to celebrate, but that's a good example, I guess, of a metaphor (synech/oche, really) getting out of hand.

Sincerely,
Eddie Richer

Dear Venice Beachhead:

I tremendously enjoyed your Sept 1979 issue and particularly Joan Friedberg's article which I can really relate to because I recently moved here from Cambridge, Mass.

I love California and have wanted to move here since I was 14 (16 years ago). None of the warnings I got back east about California phased me in the least from my goal, but I think I now understand some of the disenchantment Joan was getting at.

For example I was told and disregarded the familiar cliches: "Venice and San Francisco are all queers"; "California is a police state"; "Without a lot of money you will starve there"; etc., etc.

With rent control, it took me literally 2½ months or daily shutdowns to find a place on Horizon Ave for a "bargain" at \$265. It was told "you're nothing here without a Mastercharge." "Money means shit. Mastercharge is what counts." It's true that I could not rent a car even when I offered to pay a cash security deposit.

From the time I arrived I wound up spending money constantly to survive. To get a Mastercharge one must have been working for a year at a current job. I was told that California is a very conservative state. Back east on the Martin Agronsky Evening Edition TV program I heard the late Vice President Nelson Rockefeller talk about the 'new' democrats with conservative republican policies. Rockefeller gave Jerry Brown as an example and of course I knew about Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan.

Politically it sounded as though Ayn Rand and George Wallace would be very comfortable here. Big government was a "buzz word" of these conservatives and California, with conservative republican Howard Jarvis, has always led the way with social service cutbacks and layoffs.

I heard Ralph Nader lambast Jerry Brown's new buzz words: "Government really can't do very much and should be diminished." For example National Health Insurance.

But what was really hard to adjust to and what I consider extremely dangerous and would like to change instead of loving it or leaving it is the common little everyday Mickey Mouse Catch-22 rules and regulations.

I got a moving violation traffic ticket for riding my bicycle in the Santa Monica Mall at night when most of the stores were closed. During the half hour the 'taxpayers' paid for the officer to detain me, he made it clear that if I did not pay this ticket a warrant for my arrest would be issued. This doesn't happen back east.

Person after person I have talked to shared my profound annoyance at the penalties for j-walking; the 90 day wait for picture Id's and drivers licenses. The absurd kindergarden priority given to one's place in line everywhere - at the bank, the registry, the post office. To ask a yes or no question you must go to the end of the line.

The danger occurs like when I heard in the new that a truck driver's explanation for plowing into a car at the El Segundo was that "he had the right of way" though he saw the car in advance. Catch - 22. Rules and regulations too often are more important than human beings. Cut social services creates resentment against these elite rich taxpayers.

Phil Nurenberg

Beachhead Staff -

While our local yokels are arguing about Roller Skates along the beach front walk and young people are practicing to Disco on skates, our President is laying the ground rules to lead us into another War. He promised Mr. Begin that we would back Israel up, if they were attacked in order to get him to sign that Peace Pact.

How dare President Carter commit us to another country's War! And jepordize the U.S. to a serious oil shortage. Because the Arabs will retaliate by cutting us off from oil supplies if we put troops over there in Israel.

Our entire Nation was torn apart over our involvement in Korea and Viet Nam - The cry went up in the streets and by the news media and on every campus, that it was not our War, and we must get out of it.

But today the silence regarding our helping Israel is deadening -- If we oppose Pres. Carter's commitments, we are anti-Semitic! That's a no no in Washington D.C. At the present time plans are afoot to re-new The Draft next June, and it has been announced that Fort Irwin, 35 miles north of Barstow Calif., will be turned into a military training base "For desert Warfare"! This should tell you what our government officials are planning to do. There were hundreds of thousands of our troops who died in that Hell Hole called Korea and then in Viet Nam while fighting another man's War. Even tho we here in the U.S. were never attacked.

The same thing is being set up all over again and we are just sitting passively by, and letting it happen!

Why is Hanoi Jane and her Tom Hayden spending their efforts to oppose Nuclear Energy and pushing Environmental protections - instead of trying to stop the Draft and our headlong course into another man's War?

Could it be that they are trying to cover up the real danger facing us today?

The pact between Egypt and Israel is bitterly resented by most of the petroleum producing States in the Middle East - and it will be resisted. "The New York Times" has admitted that the Islamic Block has developed a "Dooms Day" Bomb and could be ready to deploy by the end of this year (Aug 6th issue of The New York Times).

So you young people of "Draft Age" had better start practicing long-distance skating and head for Canada or Mexico if you don't want to fight another man's War. Because this one will be a Nuclear War - not a ground War.

G. R. Wells
Venice, Calif.

Dear folks :

For all those who are wondering what happened to the old Venice spirit, it's alive and well and hiding out in Oakwood.

Anne Alexander
Venice

AN OPEN LETTER TO PAT RUSSELL

Dear Pat and Staff,

I was so very pleased to read of the recent city council decision to finally extend (or re-extend, it seems) the ocean front walk down Venice Beach to the Marina Channel.

Before construction plans are "finalized", please note the following petitions which were circulated, during April, in a few days time, by two of us. Us includes me; since my return from N.Y.C. many people have asked me to draw up a few petitions for the coastal commission concerns and subsequently, this one to voice community needs/wishes for the recreational pathways to be fully extended down our beach.

The inclusion of a tunnel under the channel waters is not a personal choice, however it was presented to me as the better of SEEM-INGLY available solutions to extending the paths over or under the channel.

For the most part, we tried, at least, to confine persons signing the petitions to residents of Los Angeles County.

It seems all to logical, with all the monies spent on studies and coastal surveys, to design the needed paths- walk, bike and skate- together in an aesthetic and functional fashion. I hope it will be so.

yours, in wishing the best for Venice,
maryjane

Beating a Path to The Peninsula

The following proposal was circulated in 3 days, during April of this year. There were 14 sheets with about 22 signatures per sheet. Copies of the petitions and a cover letter were sent to Pat Russell, Mel Levine, Yvonne Burke, Coastal Commission.

The cover letter is printed after the petition. If you wish to support the construction of the pathways you might write your council person on the L. A. City Council, or your county supervisor.

PROPOSAL

We, the undersigned, having seen and enjoyed the Venice Beach Ocean Front Walk recreational facilities, wish the boardwalk, skatepath and bicycle path fully extended down Venice Beach to the Marina Del Rey Channel.

Onward, south, we propose a tunnel, under the channel waters for the continuation of all the pathways down the beach areas into Redondo Beach. ●

THE VENICE TOWN COUNCIL POSITION...

On July 18th, the Venice Town Council proposed an interim solution to ban skating from 6:30am to 8:00pm Saturdays and Sundays. They opposed construction of an additional skate path through Venice. They supported a surface for skating on the extension of Ocean Front Walk down the peninsula. During the bicycle path construction - foreseeing the future - they proposed no bicycle riding on weekends. ●



Sun Day To Shine Oct 14

WHEELS, WIND, OCEAN & SUN
ENERGY FOR EVERYONE

Sunday, October 14th, is Solar Energy Day at Venice Beach. There will be a skate-in rally in support of 'alternative' energy designs and programs in Venice and California, at 11:30 a.m. on the skate strip in front of the Sidewalk Cafe.

Architectural designs and models dealing with solar, wind and water energy- plus information from local, state and national energy offices- will be on display at the Windward grass area at 10:00a.m. Glen Small's 'green machine' will be featured.

An outstanding skate dance exhibition will be held at the Wheel Estate's black top area (at Windward) at 1:00p.m. David Hickman, Mark Gardner, Kim Coury, Beth Graham will perform. Hopefully, Russell Clark can take time from his choreography of 'XANADU' to treat us with his dancing.

Terrific music will begin at 1:45 p.m., all donated by 4 wonderful musicians: Mo Rogers, David Gross, Roger & Jolene.

Hopefully people will be able to see small ecological changes they can realistically make in their dwellings and businesses, as we go speeding ahead into the 1980's. The SUN DAY should be a day of focusing technology WITH nature, not against nature.

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12 Nobody Knows You When You're Down & Out

I am going to head this letter "Drop outs of Society." What prompted me to write this letter is what I seen yesterday on the beach. I only know her name as Susie, and looking at her, reminds me of the ones that have passed by me as I sit on the bench. Some have gone for good, god bless them, for they are a victim of our society. Susie was so beat up that she could not see out of her eye. She has been on the beach for some years now. Just like Bingo. What did she have? , nothing to look forward but another day of looking for a friend to help her just as the rest of them are looking. Jeanne was another one that lived on the beach. We all knew her, she didn't drink or take dope, she was sick from neglect. Just like Bingo, she walked the beach, talked to you, and asked for nothing only a change at life. They gave you a smile and a hello and you asked them, how are you? Oh, I am fine, how are you? We all gave Jeanne food and drink. Only security she had was the friends she made on the beach. And her few clothes on her back, and what she carried in her arms. Jeanne is gone, she laid down to sleep between two buildings and never woke up. She has found her haven of rest.

Sally also is gone, I can name a few more that are still around. Begging and panhandling. They come to Venice because it is warm, and friendly, they know some one out their is going to help them. We turn our own into the streets to struggle till they die a needless death. When Reagan opened the mental institute and shoved a lot of them out, why didn't he see to it that they had some money, clothes, and a place to go?

That statement is in reference to what our government is doing for the boat people, the refugees. I am not putting those people down, Lord knows we are all human, whether we are white, black, pink, etc., Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, etc., but I think the charity starts at home. Take care of our own people.

No wonder they drink, take dope and steal. What else is there to do? When they have nothing to begin with, where can they go but to the streets. They yell about Venice being bad. Venice is not bad, it is a beautiful city, trying to survive on what's been left to them. Some of my best friends are living on the beach, due to the greedy land lords. Making apts. into rokket skating shops, condominiums raising the rent so high they can not pay it. Where do you go? Or where do they expect these people to go, but to the street s. That is where your crime starts. They have to eat, and sleep, no one can find a job. They are very choosy who they hire. There is a lot of discrimination in our sodiety today. All due to one trying to get ahead of the other.

I seen a man, an elderly man, eating out of a grabage can one nite, as I was eating my dinner. I could hardly eat the rest of my meal. I took him two sandwiches and some doughnuts.

If we'd give more, we'd have a better society. Look what they do for the boat people- find them homes, jobs, and give them money to get started on a better life. Sure people drink to calm their nerves.

I know why Susie got beat up, it wasn't very nice. So they say you get what you ask for - no way. You can't call your soul your own, not in this society of ours today. I know the circumstances behind Jeanne's strife, she lost a lot in her life, and you could see it in her face. She told me her trouble when she was rational. But tell me how can you be rational, when you have had no food, or a warm place to sleep. I know what it is to be nervous and worried. My life hasn't always been a bed of roses, even now I live on a

low budget, but I try to do my best to get by on it. And if I can help someone else that has a little less than I do, I give if I can. I give to World Vision to feed the hungry, but we need a world vision of our own. There is too much greed. Greed breeds crime, hunger, and leaves us with a warped society.

Such as the Jeannes and the Bingos. All they needed was a little help to bring them up to be able to live a decent life. All of these people that come to gawk on Venice beach on the weekends, and even some of the higher-ups that live here, are detrimental to the environment of Venice beach. Looking to buy property so they can make money off the poor. I know some people don't have money left to eat after they pay their rent. It is very sad, our country has gone to the dogs. There are a lot of stray dogs on the beach, and everywhere they are abandoning their pets because they can't take them with them.

My daughter went to the desert, and she told me people are dropping their pets in the desert. So that goes to show you, that our animals don't have a chance either.

Let me end this by saying, to give is to receive. I don't even care to vote sometimes because it isn't bettering our lives, it only helps our higher-ups. Gasoline is over \$1.00 here, in Washington it's 60¢. It's a good thing they say walking is good for you, because that's what people are doing, walking. Everything causes a problem, no gas brings more cyclists and skaters, so it causes accidents, deaths.

So I hope things will change for the next society for the better. I hope we will have no more oppression, make it go around so we can all share in the wealth of our great nation. The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want. Thank you.

--Name withheld by request.

P.S. In answer to M. Hyden's letter. Poor little working boy, who don't you give a little. Like a kind word to the poor and oppressed of Venice. You like to live in Venice. Venice is a lovely little town, it's some of the people like you who look down your nose at the ones that are down, and don't have nothing. Forget that old saying, charity begins at home, that went out with the last tide. Don't be putting our little city down. You came here to work and play. Live and let live. Help, don't hinder. Be kind to your fellow man. Enjoy our little city. I've been here many years, and Venice is not at all as you proclaim it to be.

They say when you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen. You are one of the lucky ones, you have a job. Some of our street people had jobs and family. There's a story behind every cover. Some people just don't have the knack to make it. There's a reason for everything. So Mr. Hyden, don't put our city down and its people. Just walk on by. With a cheery smile and hello it will make your day. @

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Ode To Dirty Sally

(on the grievances of M.Hyden)

Dirty Sally died last week
The man complaining of the reek
Of "puke and shit in Venice"
Will be glad to know
That Dirty Sally's not around
The panhandler on whom he frowned
Although he will be sad to know
That Dirty Sallys come and go--
And come and go

They always have and always will
From Ocean Front to Hooker Hill
They will forevermore
And fools like Hyden
Will forever ask "Whatever for?"

Preoccupied with immorality
Obscuring his own immortality
---A pompous fool forevermore
Imploring "Why?"
Incognizant of
Life's elusive chance--
A tendril in the wind--
A shadow dance--
And someday even pompous fools
Must also die

And Dirty Sally will be there
"Gotta quarter, change to spare?"
Haunting him throughout eternity
-----one wee

vagary
of immortality

Envoi: Dirty Sallys come and go
And come and go
And so do pompous fools also
Do pompous fools also

---Ruth Clark



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THE LOONEY TUNER'S TIP OF THE MONTH---

A dirty air filter can cost you dearly, both in wasted fuel and in engine damage. On most cars it takes only a few minutes to remove the wing nut and/or clips to inspect and/or replace a filter element. Hold the filter up to a strong light; if you cannot see light thru it, replace it. Sometimes loose dirt can be removed by banging the element on the ground. 823-2722

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ALLIANCE FOR SURVIVAL NEWS

The Venice-Santa Monica Chapter of the Alliance for Survival does local leafleting, educational projects, planning meetings, and joins with the forty other chapters in the So. Cal. region in work towards the four goals of the Alliance: NO NUCLEAR POWER, NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS, END THE ARMS RACE, FUND HUMAN NEEDS.

Events coming in October:

OCTOBER 10: "PERILS OF THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE" will be the topic of our community educational forum for October. Tim Callahan, a member of our chapter who has been studying and speaking on various aspects of the nuclear issues, will give a comprehensive review of the perils, from the beginning in mining through processing, transportation, use, and waste. This educational forum will be a good way to get yourself a framework for putting together the aspects of nuclear problems. Location: Marine Park Building, 1406 E. Marine Ave., Santa Monica, at 7:30 PM Wednesday, October 10. Also a chance for questions and discussion, and to hear about other Alliance activities.

OCTOBER 22: DEMONSTRATION AT ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER--MILITARY ELECTRONICS EXPOSITION "ARMS BAZAAR": The Alliance and the Orange County Folks for a Future invite you to a candlelight walk and rally to oppose the arms race and this sophisticated computerized part of it. Our chapter is organizing car pooling; meet at Marine Park, 1406 E. Marine, S.M. at 5:30-5:45 to pool together. Those wishing to go on their own meet at 7:30 in Anaheim at Stoddard Park, 9th St. south of Katella (use Katella exit from I-5). We expect to return to Marine Park before 11 PM. Last year over 1,000 participated in an impressive walk and rally--let's build the event. Tuesday October 23 will have a children's peace event outside the Anaheim Convention Center, please call the Alliance regional office, 738-1041 for information.

Our other chapter activities continue: business and planning meetings on Wednesdays 7:30 at Marine Park, with orientation for newly interested people beginning at 7:00; information table and leafletting at the beach on weekends (call Lee at 392-3172 about this), "educational packages" committee arranging speaking engagements for organizations and house meetings (call Anne 473-9732 or Sue 399-8527 if you know of any opportunities). You are invited to all of our activities, join us and help make a future. For more info.: 392-3172, 473-9732, 399-7377, regional Alliance office 738-1041. ●

BOYCOTT PEP BOYS

by Steve Claire

A boycott of Pep Boys Auto Supplies stores was launched on Saturday, September 22, after Pep Boys refused to meet with Pico Union residents to discuss its plans to bulldoze a low income, mostly Latino, neighborhood in order to expand one of its retail outlets and erect a national headquarters. Picket lines were set up in front of the Pep Boys store on Washington Blvd. and scores of people were turned away Saturday morning. Plans to expand the boycott and initiate picketing at other Pep Boys stores in the Los Angeles area are underway.

The project, funded in part with one and a half million dollars of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, calls for the destruction of 26 low and moderate income housing units and the eviction of 11 small businesses. The City is exercising its power of eminent domain to acquire the property and so far has "relocated" 16 of 39 affected families according to Ruckins McKinley of the Community Redevelopment Agency. The complaint of Silvia Viagran and her husband Raul, owners of a 7 unit apartment complex and residents of one of the units slated for demolition, is typical. CRA offered them \$75,000 a year ago for the property but they refused. "There is no way we could replace these apartments for that amount of money" Mrs. Viagran said. "Our position is that we don't want to move; my kids are broken hearted, they've lived here all their lives."

The City has attempted to justify the project and the expenditure of CDBG funds provided by the federal government to meet housing and community development needs of low and moderate income people by claiming that the project will create jobs. The question of course is how many jobs? and for whom? Certainly not for the people who now live in the neighborhood where unemployment is approaching 40%. They will not be building the Pep Boys headquarters and they will not find jobs there when it is completed.

In addition to the question of the legality of using CDBG funds, there is also the question of whether the City is properly exercising its power of eminent domain. This power is limited to the taking of property for public use. In this case, the City is using its power and our money to help Pep Boys make even bigger profits at the expense

R.T.D. Hikes Again

ANOTHER (UN)FARE INCREASE!

By GERRY GOLDSTEIN

Southern California Rapid Transit District (RTD) will hold a public meeting October 20 to receive comment on possible fare "changes" (their word; read that "INCREASES"). The meeting will be held Saturday, October 20, at 10 a.m. at the RTD administration building, 425 South Main Street, downtown Los Angeles. Venice Blvd. line #75 goes there. If they're not out on strike again by then.

Description of fare "changes": (again, their word)

1. Among the alternative increases to base fare to be considered are:
-From 45¢ to 50¢ for local services with "comparable" increases for freeway service! (Santa Monica Municipal (Big Blue) Bus Co. fares are still only 25¢ or a 20¢ token! This alternative may also require some service cutbacks, according to the RTD press release.
-From 45¢ to 55¢ for local services, with comparable increases for freeway service. This alternative MAY enable expansion of service, according to the RTD handout.
-20¢ CASH SURCHARGE for ALL SERVICES DURING RUSH HOURS. (This alternative MAY enable expansion of service.)

(NOTE: A RUSH HOUR SURCHARGE AMOUNTS TO A SPECIAL TAX ON WORKING PEOPLE WHO MUST RIDE DURING THOSE HOURS. At 20¢ per trip, 40¢ per day, \$2.00 per 5-day week, that's \$104 per year surtax on employees who ride the bus. Another reason RTD gives passengers to buy and use their own cars and further congest the freeways, parking, and contribute to fuel shortages and air pollution.)

2. Other "Changes" to be considered include possible INCREASES in FARES for SENIORS HANDICAPPED and STUDENT patrons, as well as pass prices and express service distance steps. (I don't know what "express service distance steps" are, either; RTD doesn't explain.

At the hearing, the board of directors of SCRTD will "afford an opportunity for interested persons or agencies to be heard with respect to the effect on energy conservation and the social, environmental, and economic aspects of the proposed fare increase. Interested persons may submit at the hearing, orally or in writing, evidence and recommendations with respect to the alternative fare increases!" The District's Short Range Plan and Trans-

of the needs of the people it is supposed to serve Legal Aid lawyers are investigating the possibility of filing a law suit on behalf of the community to stop the project.

The Coalition for Community Development Reform, comprised of community and consumer groups including the Venice Town Council and the Tenant Action Center, has pledged its support of the boycott and member organizations have begun organizing picketing at Pep Boys stores throughout the City. On the Westside, the Tenant Action Center is coordinating the effort to shut down one or more of the three Pep Boys stores out here, one in Santa Monica, one in Inglewood and one in West Los Angeles.

If you can help distribute literature and walk a picket line at any of these locations PLEASE contact the Tenant Action Center, 1301 Main St, Venice, 399-9255, Mon & Wed 7-10pm and Sat 1-4pm. Call up Pep Boys and tell them you aren't going to shop there until they settle with the Pico Union community and BOYCOTT PEP BOYS !!!! ●



Line #83 displays "NOT IN SERVICE" motto of RTD and other bus companies everywhere. As a PUBLIC RELATIONS GESTURE busses running empty will display "Special" sign instead, so as to avoid irritating people waiting for the bus. Photo by Gerry Goldstein.

portation Improvement Program are available for public inspection, by appointment, in the Office of the Secretary. A description of proposed fare "changes" (Increases) compared to current fare structure is available, on request, from the Office of the Secretary, 425 S. MainSt. Los Angeles 90013.

Over the years, it has been observed, that each time a transit fare increase is granted, so many rider-patrons find it as cheap or even cheaper to drive their own cars, that the transit district actually suffers a net LOSS in fare-box revenue every time it raises the fares! So, knowing and anticipating lost patronage and revenues as soon as fares are increased, transit officials traditionally petition for yet another fare increase as soon as one has been granted, to make up for the losses CAUSED by the LAST fare increase!

Any other business faced with a loss in sales/revenue in a competitive market, will either improve the product, improve the service, or lower the price, or a combination of the three, so as to increase sales volume and profits. RTD, on the contrary, reduces the service to ZERO and demands higher fares!

Before ANY further fare-increases are granted, I believe a representative citizens committee (NOT a "rubber-stamp" committee) be formed and listened to; since that citizens' committee will probably serve without pay, we should consider withholding or ending the high salaries paid the RTD board of directors.

The directors themselves should be required to ride the busses themselves, wearing distinctive jackets, so that passengers could make complaints directly to them, on the bus.

One director, George "Mr. Sulu" Takei, seems to have acquired his rapid transit "experience" as navigator/astrogator on StarTrek's "Enterprise." "Computed and laid in, Captain." Or is that "Disputed and late in, Captives?" ●

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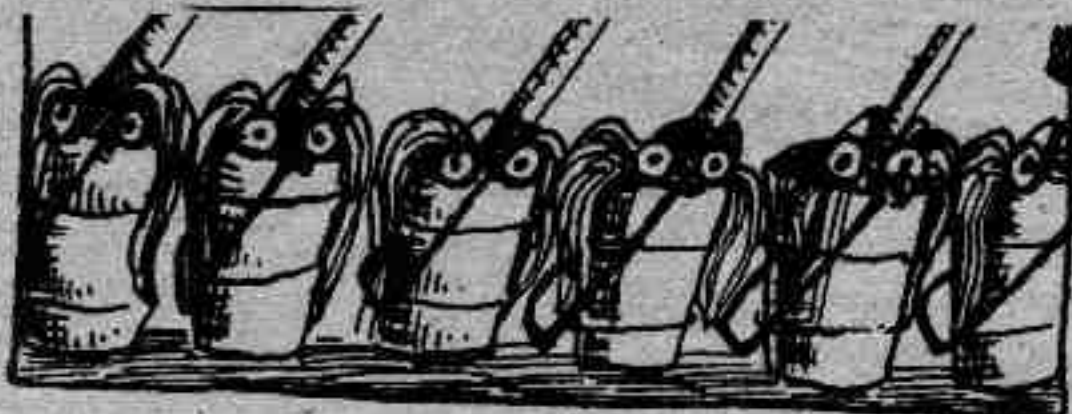
CORNER OF LINCOLN & PICO BLVD.
SANTA MONICA 392-6335



14 PLUG PULLED

Cont' from pg 1

out of the process of citizens participation mandated by federal law; Little Tokyo residents determined to make the City keep its promise to replace the housing it destroyed there to make way for the multi-million dollar OTANI Hotel complex; residents from the Central and South Central Los Angeles, angry that of the millions of dollars allocated for housing rehabilitation in the city only one loan has been made to a black family; even a few people from Venice, where Pat Russell has made citizen's participation one of the best kept secrets of her tenure as 6th district rep.



The meeting began uneventfully enough; introductions and a warm welcoming speech by Ruby. Next, a report from Parks and Recs on proposed expenditures for recreational improvements throughout the city. Wait a minute, point of order. A man from Canoga Park steps up to the mike and informs the CUP that there are many people present who do not speak English and that according to the federal regulations, all CUP meetings must provide Spanish translation if needed. Ruby's eyes narrow. Is this some lunatic or a harbinger of unsettling events to come?

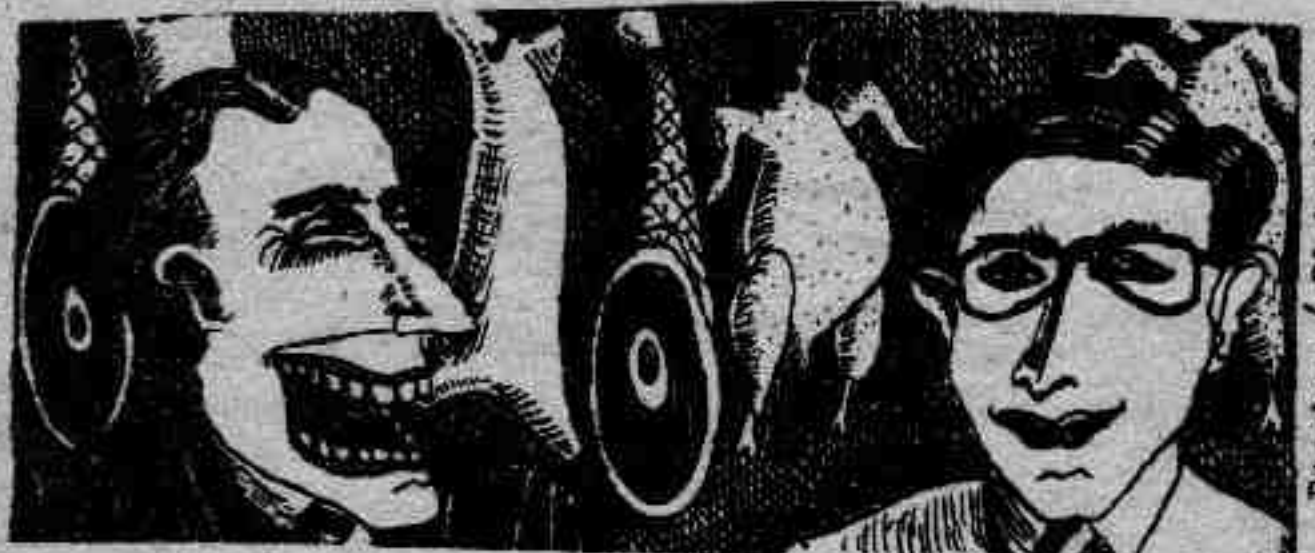
"Would you like a summary of the various presentations or," says Ruby with a slight smirk on her face, "concurrent and literal translation of the entire proceedings?"

The Chambers explode, "Concurrent! concurrent! concurrent!"

The City, of course, has made no provisions for this contingency, but after some delay and much caucusing, produces a bilingual bureaucrat who apologetically attempts to translate the Parks and Recs report into Spanish. Ennui settles in as the charade unfolds. Finally, the bureaucrat finishes his report and suggests that we endure the whole thing once again, combining it this time with a slide presentation. Mercifully, Venice's own Marvenna Kennedy steps up to the microphone and asks that the rest of the City's presentation be suspended in order to allow the people who have come an opportunity to participate in the citizens' participation meeting.

As you may imagine, this highly irregular request is met with instant resistance. "You will have an opportunity to speak after the slide show, after the CRA report, after the Community Development report (and after all this bull shit has been translated into Spanish)." "We demand an opportunity to speak now," responds Marvenna. "The slide shows and reports should be taken into the communities and neighborhoods and presented there. We are here to tell you our concerns and our criticisms."

"No, you can't speak," the chairperson rules.



"Let her speak! Let her speak! Let her speak!" The chair is overruled.

"My name is Marvenna Kennedy and I am speaking on behalf of the Los Angeles Coalition for Community Development Reform." (This is a coalition comprised of community groups and organizations from all over Los Angeles, including the Venice Town Council and the Tenant Action Center, and which filed the administrative complaint challenging the City's application for Block Grant funds last August.) Marvenna begins to read a prepared statement by the Coalition and Ruby makes a beeline for the phone to find out how Mayor Tom wants this handled.

The statement is militant but loses something in the translation (the mili-

Continued on page 15

SENIOR PROJECT continued from page 4

- Q. Once the City changed its zoning regulations to permit residential in commercial zones, why didn't you abandon this project and go ahead with regular apartments? just skip HUD? You had that option, why didn't you take it?
- A. Well, to be honest we didn't think we could get through the Coastal Commission. Also the economics weren't right. We would have had to build at low density, approximately 16 units. We would have had to rent them for \$700-\$800 permonth. At that time we thought that we wouldn't be able to get that rent, given the location fronting on the County parking lot. So, if we got the 50 units, and a situation with practically a zero vacancy factor, we thought it would be to our advantage.

But I think the main reason was that we didn't think we could get through the Coastal Commission.

- Q. You mean that people from the community would oppose any new project?
- A. Yes. And we wouldn't get enough density so we could afford to build it. So we thought that there would be no financial insensitive to build low density 16 units, as opposed to a 50 unit subsidized complex. I think at that time we were right. Now however I think we could get the kind of rents we needed. But you know, by then we already had \$100,000 committed to the project, and we couldn't ignore that fact either.
- Q. I'm interested in the interaction between you as a builder and the North Beach Planning Task Force. How would you describe that relationship?
- A. Well, I had two or three meetings with the Task Force. It would never have gotten through the Coastal Commission without their support. Also, we needed City variances and the Task Force was helpful in this area as well. You know, the Coastal Staff had recommended denial because of height and density, but the Commission approved it because of community support, as evidenced by Task Force testimony.
- Q. Builders and developers do not like to work with community groups. You had a good working relationship with the Task Force and cooperated with it. How can you explain this difference in your approach and experience?
- A. Well, for several years there had been talk about how the community needed senior citizen low income housing. This was a situation in which we could build such a project and it would work out economically, if we received variances for the parking and for density. Then, I've lived in Venice for 13 years, perhaps I'm more sensitive to community concerns. You could clearly see that rents and housing prices were going up and older people were being priced right out of the community. This was a project on which we could make a little money. We just had a good feeling about the project.
- Q. Did you have to convince your partners?
- A. No. I told them that I thought that that was the only project we could get through. But Dr. Tong was always supportive of the concept. He lived in Venice for several years.
- Q. You're probably familiar with the North Beach Specific Plan. Do you realize that the density and height bonuses in that plan are modeled after your project?
- A. I did see that. It looked similar. I get a good feeling about it. We're hoping that the building looks as good as possible. We've planned more money than required by HUD for plantings and exteriors.
- Q. How would you describe Pat Russell's role in this project?
- A. Again, without her support, we wouldn't have gotten thru. She gave us help whenever we asked. She intervened with the Planning Department. They were holding us up on technicalities. The project was almost killed. At one meeting she told them, you're supposed to be expert planners. There must be some way to make this building fit the rules. She also was very helpful at the Coastal Commission. Without Pat and the North Beach group, this building would not have been possible.
- Q. Do you think other developers might be interested in putting up similar projects?
- A. Yes, I think so, especially if they have owned the land for some period of time. To purchase land at today's prices would probably be prohibitive. Now, something might be done on the City owned lots. I've always thought that if the City consolidated its holdings, such housing could be built on them. But I think that there's no question that the North Beach Specific Plan with its height and density incentives could make a big difference, and make such projects attractive to developers.
- Q. People who are skeptical about manipulating zoning to encourage socially responsible and useful projects say that no matter which way you go, the economics don't work out, that there isn't enough profit in it for developers. What kind of profit are you looking at when this project is completed?
- A. Probably the maximum we will get is a 6% return.
- Q. What does a 'normal' residential development usually return?
- A. About 100%. That's especially true because of the risk factor in Venice. Normally I wouldn't get involved in anything that I wasn't expecting 100%. You can get 10%-12% in Treasury Bills, with no risk involved at all.
- Q. Well, so financial gain is not the principle motivation behind this project. What's the source of satisfaction for you?
- A. I think providing homes for 50 or more people. And on the Ocean Front. I'm not a philanthropist, but I've been pretty successful in other projects, and I don't have any problem with this kind of thing.
- Q. Who should interested people contact about this project and when will the applications be available?
- A. Forms will be available as soon as construction begins. A sign posted on the construction site will list a phone number that they can call. I'm having a special phone installed in my home to take all the calls. Certainly, the Israel Levin Center and Westminster Senior Citizen Center will be able to help applicants with the forms. Park Management Co. will be the official managers of the building. There will also be announcements in the local papers.
- Q. Do you know how busy your telephone will be?
- A. I can imagine. I've already had several telephone calls. One person from Culver City has called 4 times. People have heard about it who follow proceedings of the Coastal Commission.
- Q. You may have heard that there is an incipient Venice Secession movement underway, to become independent from Los Angeles. Your name has been mentioned as a possibility for Minister of Housing. Would you accept that post?
- A. I accept. How much would it pay? ●

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5 ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S MYSTERY CLASSICS THE LADY VANISHES	6 IN CONCERT AND BEYOND THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME STEREO	7 CHARLIE CHAPLIN THE GENTLEMAN TRAMP plus the Chaplin shorts "THE MARRIAGE" and "THE BOUNCERS" and "HIS NEW JOB"	8 A TRILOGY ON TIBET THE DALAI LAMA \$3.00 THE FIELD OF THE SENSES A PROPHECY IN PERSON GRAHAM COLEMAN SOGYAL RIMPOCHE RADIATING THE FRUIT OF TRUTH	9 JEAN COCTEAU'S Beauty and the Beast	10 ORPHEUS	11 LINA WERTMULLER'S ALL SCREWED UP
12 JANE FONDA FULLA STEREO The turning point	13 Bertrand Blier FEMMES FATALES GERARD DEPARDIEU Going Places	14 CHARLIE CHAPLIN CITY LIGHTS LIMELIGHT plus the first Chaplin short "THE MARRIAGE" (1914)	15 LULU SALOME FANTASIA on the childhood of Busoni BABYLON SEQUENCE FROM "INTOLERANCE"	16 THESE ARE THE ARMIES OF THE NIGHT THE WARRIORS THE DRIVER	17 WHALE FILM FESTIVAL	18 OF RAGE CHILDREN Z YVES MONTEAU
19 MILOS FORMAN HAIR THE LAST WALTZ THE BAND	20 WEST SIDE STORY see! see! go! go! BYE BYE BIRDIE	21 CHARLIE CHAPLIN A KING IN NEW YORK THE CHAPLIN REVUE plus Chaplin in drag in "A WOMAN"	22 G. W. PABST'S Pandora's Box THE 3 PENNY OPERA	23 PREMIERE THE SURVIVORS plus...the short "The First Time" Director Tomas Alea will appear in person	24 MEMORIES OF UNDER THE LAST SUPPER	25 Brian's Royal Shakespeare Company A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM THE Taming of the Shrew
26 Friendship Through Smoke Amalgamation HARDWARE WARS	27 DEER HUNTER BLUE COLLAR plus the 1914 Chaplin short "THE BIRD"	28 CHARLIE CHAPLIN THE GOLD RUSH M. VERDOUX	29 HITCHCOCK NORTH BY NORTHWEST CARY GRANT EVA MARIE SAINT JAMES MASON To Catch a Thief	30 Mae West SEXTETTE Something for Everyone	31 NEW GERMAN CINEMA FIFTY, FIFTY Director Uwe Brander in person MORITZ, DEAR MORITZ	1 NEW GERMAN CINEMA BYE, BYE, BAVARIA THE COMANCHE Director Herbert Achternbusch Katharina

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plug pulled from pg 14
tance). Marvenna skips ahead to the demands of the Coalition.

We demand that every CUP member:

Cease your support for projects which violate HUD regulations.

Cease your support for projects which benefit only City Hall friends and exploit our neighborhoods.

Give us your support for real progress in housing, jobs and public services!

And ends with the final demand that the rest of the people be given a chance to speak.

The chair rules again that the people can't speak.

The room erupts. Everyone is on their feet. "We want to speak! We want to speak!" People begin to line up at the mike and Reverend Dorch begins to address the CUP. Ruby has her orders; she pulls the plug on the mike. The meeting is adjourned.

That's right folks. Incredible as that may sound, the citizens' participation meeting was adjourned when the citizens demanded their right to participate. I understand that the next citizens' participation meeting will be held at Ruby's house by invitation only. We'll keep you posted. ●

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MUSIC

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Fri., Oct. 5 Rodney Crowell, Buck White and the
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 Sat. Oct. 6 Steve Gillette and Shep Cooke
 Sun Oct 7 New Miss Alice Stone Ladies Society
 Orchestra/ Moejpas Glover & Wray
 Fri Oct. 12. Hertz Jansch John James
 Sat. Oct 13. Mike Bloomfield Woody Harris
 Sun Oct 7 & 21 Childrens Concerts.
 Beyond Baroque Music

Sat. Oct. 6 8 pm. Jim McAuley Electric and
 Acoustic Guitar. Classical and jazz

Sat. Oct. 13, 8 pm. Evening of Punk-Rock
 Oct. 20 Southern Calif Early Music Consort
 Music of Spanish Renaissance
 Oct. 27 La Chantrelle. Baroque cello trio.
 Nov. 3 Kubist Post Schonbergian electric maniac
 music
 Nov. 10 Charles Hammer. Classical guitar.
 681 Venice Blvd 822-3006. Donation. 8 pm.

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 Oct. 16 Michael Silverblatt and Stuart Lishan
 Oct. 23 Bob Tomlinson and Mardel Martinez
 Oct. 30. Dennis Koch and Barry Simons.
 Nov. 6 Joe Safdie and Kita Shantiris

Tuesdays, 7:30 pm 685 Venice Blvd. Venice

Fri. Oct. 5 Gerald Locklin 8 pm
 Fri. Oct. 12 Barbara Dube Gershman 8pm
 Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Bl. 822-3006

ART

ART PHOTOGRAPHY

Thru Oct. 14. Images of the North American
 Indian, 1903-1928. Photographs of Edward Curtis.
 Art Gallery Loyola Marymont U.

My Brazil

Oct 14 at 8 pm. Performance d art by Rachel Rose
 Rosenthal. The art piece deals with her expe-
 rience as a young refugee in Rio in 1940 Info
 and reservations 395-0456 \$4. Idea. 522 SM Blvd



COMMUNITY CONTINUED.....

Defend Freedom of Information Act.

Sat. Oct 20, 1-5 pm. Rally to Protest Carter
 Administrations attack on Freedom of Information
 Act. MacCarthur Park 7th and Alvarado St.
 Ausp. A.C.L.U. and Citizens Commission on Police
 Repression. Info 633 S. Shatto Pl. Los Angeles
 90005

SINGLETERIANS

10/7 8 pm. From Russian with Laughter. Russian
 Soviet Humor with Emil Draitser.
 10/14 8 pm. Folk Music Sing and String Along
 with Norm Swirin.
 10/21 "Why Melancholy" and "The Facilitation of
 Communication" with Dr. Lois D'Asara clinic
 psychologist and Michael D'Asaro speech patholo-
 gist.
 10/28 Cabaret, Halloween and October Fest. 8 pm.
 at Unitarian Church 1260 18th St. SM. \$2 donation.

Oct. 4 7 pm. Inner Beauty Workshop for Women
 Manhattan Beach Pub. Lib. 15th and Highland
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Self-Defense Classes

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 defense tactics. By Betty Brooks. Call
 Communitas 392-8376. Classes held on Thursday
 evenings at Church in Ocean Park

COMMUNITY

TENANTS RIGHTS TRAINING SESSIONS

October 11 - the eviction process
 October 18 - defenses to eviction
 October 25 - security deposits & small claims ct.
 November 1 - rent control, L.A. and S.M. &
 "good cause" eviction requirements.
 November 8 - special motions to delay evictions

All sessions at the Tenant Action Center
 1301 Main Street, Venice - 7:30 pm
 For more information call 396-1773

Step-Parenting

A 12 week "survival group" for step-parents will
 begin Oct. 18, 6:30-8:30 at Jewish Family Service,
 1424 4th St. Information call 393-0732

Gay Day

KFFK will air live coverage of the October 14
 National March on Washington 88. Coverage begins
 at 9:30 am.

A free presentation entitled "Marital Communica-
 tion, an evening of learning and sharing about
 how marital partners can effectively talk to one
 another. Thurs Oct 4, 8 pm, at Didi Hirsch
 Community Mental Health Center, 4760 S. Sepulveda
 Blvd. in Culver City. Call 390-6618

BEYOND BAROQUE

Sat. Sept. 29 thru Oct. Exhibit of historical
 fotos of Venice by Tom Moran and Tom Swell.
 681 Venice Blvd. 822-3006

Jewish Family Services of SM Fall Program

COUPLES

Couples Communication, Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 P.M.

STEP-FAMILIES

Step-Parenting Group, Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 P.M.

ADOLESCENTS

Rap Group, Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 P.M.

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

Support Group, Thursdays, 10:00-12:00 Noon

YIDDISH ONLY

Yiddish, Tuesdays, 12:00 Noon

SENIORS

Senior Rap, Fridays, 2:00 P.M.

Senior Rap, Fridays, 10:30 A.M.

Senior Rap, Tuesdays, 10:30 A.M.

Senior Assertiveness, Wednesdays, 2:00 P.M.

WEIGHT

REAL (ReEducate Your Appetite for Life),
 September 11, 7:00-9:00 P.M.

REAL (ReEducate Your Appetite for Life),
 September 12, 9:30-11:30 A.M.

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