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# FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

SINCE 1968

CHEE WAK-WAK

**FREE**

FEBRUARY 1980 ISSUE #122 P.O. BOX 504 VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291 823-5092

## VENICE: 1914-1916

The following article is the first in a series treating the history of Venice California between 1914-1916. The articles were researched and written by students enrolled at California State University, Long Beach. The class, Methodology of History #301, was taught by Dr. Arnold Springer. The students, faculty, and administration of Cal State Long Beach take this opportunity to thank all the people in the Venice community who, over the past several years, have given of their time, energy, and knowledge while helping Long Beach State students in their various research projects. It is hoped that by publishing this series in The Free Venice Beachhead the University will be giving something of value back to the community on its 75th anniversary. Research for the paper which follows was gathered by Nancy Hogan, Art Kuhlmann, Mark McIntire, Marilyn Cavanaugh, Ralph Migliozi, John Haber, Kathleen MacAndrew, and Maureen Burns. The final paper was written by Maureen Burns, edited and revised by Dr. Springer.

## Low Down on Low Cost Housing

By Arnold Springer

Three low income housing projects scheduled for the Venice-Marina area are now either under construction or being processed by the City of Los Angeles. At #1 Venice Blvd a 50 unit HUD senior citizen low cost housing project is under construction. Completion date has not been set. Application forms will be sent out to prospective renters about 3 months prior to completion of the project. Interested parties wishing to receive application forms should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: #1 Venice Blvd Project 25 Calleon St., Venice, CA. 90291.

The proposed 36 unit senior citizen project planned by Thomas Safran and Associates for Navy St. and Ocean Front Walk is in an advanced stage of the city's administrative process. The decision of the hearing officer denying the zoning variances and conditionally approving the coastal permit have been appealed to the Board of Zoning Appeals. These appeals will be heard Tuesday, Feb. 5, at 1 pm in Room 561-A City Hall, Los Angeles. The project is supported by Councilwoman Russell, Supervisor Burke, the Israel Levin Center and the Venice Town Council. It is opposed by a group of property owners on Ozone Ave and as well the owners of condominiums directly east of the proposed project on Navy and Speedway.

On Jan 8 a hearing officer took under consideration a proposal also by Thomas Safran for 50 units of low/moderate HUD family housing located on Redwood Ave east of Lincoln, in the Marina area. The project was made possible by the Coastal Commission which, as a condition permitting over 200 condominiums to be built in the area several years ago, required the developer to dedicate 3.8 acres to the Coastal Conservancy which was to be used for exactly such housing as Safran has proposed. The project was supported at the hearing by Councilwoman Russell, Supervisor Burke, the Coastal Conservancy, the Venice Town Council, the Israel Levin Center, Venice Legal Aid, and the City Housing Authority. It was opposed by a group of homeowners in the immediate area who objected to the inclusion of a child care facility and to the fact that parking for the project was uncovered. They also objected to family housing in the area because, they said, it would cause an increase in crime and gang activity as well as lower property values. The hearing officer has yet to release his decisions.

## Part I: Big \$ Back When

BY MAUREEN BURNS

"Venice-of-America. The favored year-round pleasure beach of the Pacific Coast. The city of health, happiness, and homes, situated on the shores of the Santa Monica Bay."

During the period 1914-1916, the economic base of Venice stood on the twin foundations of tourism and amusements. The origins of this base go back to the founding of the city. On New Years Day, 1907, State Senator Dorsey Patton predicted to a capacity crowd at the Venice Auditorium, that Venice would be "the Mecca for the world's tourists." This hyperbole was, in a small sense, accurate. Abbot Kinney modeled his city after Venice Italy. The facade of Windward Avenue, for example, borrowed heavily from the Doge's palace. The appearance of the city itself was meant to be an attraction. Its architectural style, combined with Venices' natural attractions of mild weather and beautiful beaches, made it a natural resort setting. Numerous hotels, restaurants, theaters, dance pavilions, rides, and pier concessions provided for visitors from the region, state, and nation. Tourism and entertainment were the industries of Venice and the city was, for the most part, dependent on them.

But Venice was also a city of permanent residents and civic improvement and upkeep were essential. Unemployment, municipal debt, taxes, bond issues, capital outlays, all represented characteristic economic issues with which Venice had to deal.

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In order to appreciate the economic history of this period, one should bear in mind that \$1 in 1914 is equal to about \$6.50 in 1979.

In 1914 the average work week was 49 hours and the average weekly earnings were \$10.92; the average wage per hour was 22¢. That is equivalent to \$1.43 in 1979 dollars. To put that in perspective we should know that in 1979 the average wage earner had a weekly income of \$273.00, worked a 40 hour week, and made \$6.79 per hour. The purchasing power of today's worker is thus much higher than it was in 1914.

Wages and hours are not the only things that have changed since 1914. At that time it cost 5¢ to get into a movie, about 33¢ in 1979. One could rent an eight room house in Venice for \$40 per month, or about \$260 in 1979 dollars. It would be interesting to see what kind of a house you could rent in Venice for that price today. The most expensive Ford in 1915 was the 'Sedan' which cost \$975.00, incredibly cheap until you convert to the 1979 equivalent which is \$6,338.00. At the Venice Hardware

Co. on Windward Ave one could purchase a rake from 25¢ to 85¢ (\$1.60 - \$5.50 in '79 dollars) and a lawn mower for \$5 (\$32). At C. M. Young's grocery store one could purchase two pounds of coffee for 55¢ (\$3.50) and two pounds of tuna for 45¢ (\$2.90). A meal could be had at the lunchroom on Zephyr Avenue for 15¢ (86¢ in 1979 dollars).

Prosperity and wealth were important to Venetians and local banks were seen as the indicators of how well or how badly the local economy was doing. The Venice Vanguard reported that the First National Bank of Venice was prospering with assets close to \$2 million 1979 dollars. According to John Moore, president of the Venice Savings Bank, money was more plentiful than ever. The Ocean Park Bank with a branch in the Sibley Building in Venice advertised \$575,273 (1979) in capital and 4% interest on savings accounts held for 6 months. Almost every issue of the Vanguard contained advertisements or other information on the local banks.

Investment and real estate speculation in

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**BROOKLYN WEST**

Venice were very active, then as now. The Moore Investment Co. opened its offices in the community. It was headed by H. S. Moore who worked at the First National Bank. Other partners were Abbot Kinney, R. A. Phillips, P. H. Young, and Carol J. Daly. The purpose of this organization was to "keep up with the necessity for new buildings, provide ample capital for new projects, and aid and encourage new capital" into the area. These men, all of whom had a strong economic interest in Venice, encouraged others to participate in the growth of the city.

Another area of economic activity in Venice was, of course, the inevitable collection of taxes. Venice, it must be remembered, was still an independent city. The Vanguard printed the amount of taxes collected and owed. During the fiscal year 1913-14 it reported that \$373,769 in taxes was collected. The report was addressed to the "gentlemen" of Venice, supposedly indicating that women didn't pay taxes or were uninterested in such issues.

The paying of income taxes was a new thing in Venice. The 16th amendment, passed in 1913, authorized the Federal government to collect such taxes. It was a serious issue with ideological overtones. Two cartoons in the Vanguard illustrate the problem. In one a big businessman is shown at the income tax office giving

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# FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

COLLECTIVE STAFF: Chuck Bloomquist, Brenda Harnay, Olga Palo, Gerry Goldstein, Joan Friedberg, Arnold Springer, Lynn Bronstein. Thanks to Maureen Burns.

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## Venice Town Council

City of Venice



RESOLVED: THAT THE VENICE TOWN COUNCIL OFFER TO REPLACE THE L.A. CITY COUNCIL AS SISTER-CITY TO TEHRAN, IRAN.

This resolution will be debated and decided at an open public town-hall meeting of the Venice Town Council, at Venice City Hall on Wednesday, February 6, beginning at 7:30 pm. No other topic will be on the agenda.

The Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously (10 members present) to drop its 7 1/2-year sister-city relationship with Tehran last November 21st, in a symbolic gesture of support for U.S. policy. Members of the VTC feel that the media reporting of the crisis in Tehran has not discussed the issues and background relevant to the present situation.

By Town Council rules, every resident of Venice is entitled to speak and vote on Town Council resolutions. This special meeting is being called to provide for the widest possible participation and to make sure all points of view are brought forward. Members of the L.A. City Council have been invited to discuss November's Council vote and experts on Iran have been invited to discuss the situation there. Barbara Honig, a lawyer representing several Iranian students in threat of deportation, will be there. Various Iranian student groups, representing a variety of opinions, have been invited to send speakers.

Attendance and debate are open to all. The meeting will begin with a panel discussion and end with a vote on the resolution by the people of Venice. We hope all Venice people concerned with the present problems in Iran will attend and contribute.

For further information contact:  
Bob Wells 396-6876  
Rick Davidson 396-6876  
Kate Keeling 399-3591

# Letters



To the Editor:

I enjoyed the January issue of the Free Venice more than I usually do. Sometimes Venice and the Free Venice seem too negative for any tastes. It was nice to read about the brighter side of things for a change.

Maybe it's because Venice is becoming too expensive. As recently as two years ago a small apt could be had for as little as \$100 a month. How can a small apartment now rent for \$900.00. Even at the beach with rent control? What is rent control going to do about that?

Donald Diamond  
Venice

Dear Beachhead:

To say that I was greatly impressed with the anniversary issue of the Venice Beachhead is putting it mildly. The contents were superb. Anne Alexander's piece held my attention from beginning to end. I didn't know these people lived in Venice.

The drawings of Susan Weinberg are great and captured the "magic of Venice."

Phil Nurenberg really tells it like it is. He needn't worry about becoming a resident any more. He's certainly paid the dues along with his exorbitant Venice rent. Sure sounds familiar about the rent!

With Love,  
Sara Jacot

Dear Beachhead:

I think six months is quite a sufficient period of grace for these lawbreakers who refuse to take our health and sensibilities from the tons of excrement dropped on our sidewalks, grassy areas, and beaches every week. Strays are another continuing problem. The Animal Control officers were afraid to come to Venice, so now a cop rides around with them. Where are they? There can be no area of the city with a worse problem. The parade of dogs on our beaches, where they are not allowed, also continues, especially heavy at sunset. There is one guy herding five or six Irish setters every evening, who shit the entire length of the beach. I have seen one woman pick up after her dog.

If we can control our dog problem, then maybe we can turn our attention to the crazies, alcoholics, bums, and criminals on the Boardwalk, who abuse passersby, and urinate in public, yards from a public restroom. The Marinification of Venice looks better all the time.

Sincerely yours,  
Steven Evans

To Venice Beachhead:

Hello, my name is Israel Halpern. I am a poet living in Venice. I work as a carpenter, and a community Arts Organizer. I read the Beachhead, and dig the paper. I especially want to commend your paper for your articles relating to the rough and tumble, hassles of Life in Amerikkka, Venice. 3 cheers for the article on Sexual Harrassment. I know that your reporter Ms. Reeves did this community a service with her writing. Keep The Faith....

Israel Halpern

Dear Beachhead readers:

with the four year trauma of Wendy Reeves and her most public crusade to have proper action taken towards Bob Greenfield in mind, I would like to call particular attention to Moe Stavnezer's letter in the January '80 issue.

I don't appreciate Moe's ignorance on a play written about madness. Why doesn't he just come right out and state that he doesn't like playwrights or that he doesn't understand Theatre, rather than ridiculing what a playwright wishes to write about. Moe's statement: "The height of insensitivity disguised as art", could be thought of as a precocious critique, but I really think of it as a misunderstanding of art, especially written art. Moe does not know if Scott Tracy's play supports

Bob or if it is 'simply' about madness. Who knows if Shakespeare, Chekhov or Shepard had a Bob Greenfield in their lives. Moe, writing a play is very different than writing a newspaper or magazine article, it is art (at least has the potential). If Moe just doesn't like the idea of plays written about madness, fine, but his taste for Theatre and his attempts to protect Wendy is no reason to trash an unknown play and accuse a playwright of being insensitive. Nor is it any reason to undermine any individuals for how they choose to deal with a paranoid schizophrenic. This, to me, is the height of insensitivity.

Perhaps Moe Stavnezer should realize that there is more to writing than just putting one's ass in a chair; a little research would've easily told him that Greenie has no guardian and that he is supported financially by SSI, emotionally by his own fantasies, and his entire social scope entails lurking the alleys in search of his 'one true love'. Anyone who would support or be an audience to Bob's abuse and disregard of Wendy's life, and the deterioration of Bob's own life, might very well be lurking the same alleys in search of an SSI check or a home. Everyone who has ever dealt with a paranoid schizophrenic (such as Bob) has found it impossible to get any sense into him, or to find any romance in a conversation with such a person. Shall they be tarred and feathered for trying? It is not a pleasant experience for anyone, even remotely involved. Through Moe's fears that someone is condoning what Bob is doing, I find it sad that Moe is so blatant and proud of his own insensitivities.

Wendy is right, that it is going to take many people working together to have the courts changed in order to allot proper and effective action for this kind of harrassment. Harrassing each other, in the mean time, will serve no purpose to the original cause. Yes, Moe, we should be very careful about what one person's speech can do to another person's soul.

My best wishes to Wendy and to everyone else that is helping her.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Cherry

The Beachhead

It was good to see Wendy Reeves article in the Beachhead. It's important for her to externalize her emotions and for the community to be aware of the seriousness of Bob Greenfield's activity but it was unfortunate that her story was followed by Moe Stavnezer's letter that compared Bob to Hitler and Manson and suggested that Bob has supporters, (one has visions of 'Greenshirts' marching in the streets) and that Bob ought to have his 1st amendment rights taken away because he's been known to read poetry in public. This seems a bit much.

To put the situation in perspective, I recall next to Wendy's last letter was a report from a woman who was robbed, beaten and raped, then treated with indifference by the police. A tragedy. An ugly and terrifying criminal act of violent physical aggression. Bob Greenfield is obnoxious, he is redundant, lewd and monotonous. He is guilty of many verbal and emotional aggressions but he is physically passive and in the four years Wendy lived in the St. Charles Bob never presented a serious physical threat to her. This is why Wendy chose to stay in the St. Charles and why the police were reluctant to act. It is also a mistake to think that anyone who lived in the St. Charles or who saw Bob at Beyond Baroque supported him. Those in the hotel who tried to reason with him made that sacrifice with the specific awareness that time spent with Bob was freedom for Wendy. And those who spoke of poetry with Bob were trying to reach him in a language he understood. Another mistake reported by Moe was that I am Bob's guardian. I am not. That is, characteristically, something Bob made up in his head and a simple phone call to Wendy or myself would have gotten Moe the facts but I suppose

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# more letters



the pontification of moral justice is more important than the mere reporting of truth. I have never thought Bob deserved support because he was a poet or an artist. He is no more these things than Moe is a journalist. Bob deserves special attention because of his sickness. Moe says he has no pity for this man; that is his albatross. How easy it is to cultivate that feeling in Venice where we see so much squalor on the streets. Anyone can turn their head. How easy it is to throw Bob on the ground and beat him up. I've done it many times. Who does it help?

When I moved into the St. Charles in Dec of '76, Bob's obsession had been in progress since February. The general hope was that if we kept him away from Wendy his infatuation would pass. It didn't. After his first arrest I helped bail him out and put him on a plane to send him to his brother in Chicago. We called Bob's brother and explained the problem and I made sure he had less money than the return ticket plane fare. But Bob's family seemed to think the problem was that Bob didn't have Jesus in his heart and his family relations quickly grew strained. Bob's brother gave him enough money to fly back to LA and when Bob arrived I took him to court. With the threat of jail over his head I talked him into committing himself to a hospital and I took him to NPI at UCLA. The hope was then that some doctor would take a personal interest in him, after all a paranoid schizophrenic suffering from monomania and referential mania was at least interesting, but he was no better. Nor did Camarillo or Patton do him any good. Though it was a nice vacation for us in the St. Charles Bob's condition worsened in time. When I left the St. Charles I hoped it would be the end of it for me, But Bob still calls me late at night and pounds on my door at dawn. He doesn't call back when I hang up and doesn't return when I slam the door in his face but no more listens to my threats or reasoning now than he did before. If I say the sick man Moe confronted the week before last was not the bright poet I met four years ago I suppose you have only my word for it, but I have seen the final disintegration of this man's mind; it has not been fun for any of us. So let's not throw stones, Moe, let us recognize our responsibilities. Some are mine. My high opinion of myself led me to believe there was something I could do. There was not. Some are Wendy's. She thought others would be more willing to help. They were not. Bob should be put away. After four years I am pleased that Moe has come to understand this. I don't ask where his indignation has been; there are so many causes for a moral crusader. It must be terrible to decide who the Hitler of the week is. I won't 'support' Bob anymore. He has a probation hearing Feb 4th. Perhaps Moe will take him. Or better yet, since he understands that Bob ought to be put someplace and since Moe has no feelings for this man, it seems he is in a unique position; perhaps Moe has an empty attic and a set of chains.

Scott Tracy

Dear Beachhead Readers,

I thank Scott for responding to my article ("Try And Stop Me," Dec. BEACHHEAD) and Moe's subsequent letter. However, Scott's letter contains some totally falacious statements which I want to correct. So: Scott --

Most important among these, from my point of view, is your statement that Greenfield is obnoxious, redundant, etc. (agreed) "but he is physically passive and in the four years Wendy lived in the St. Charles Bob never presented a serious physical threat to her" and the related remarks that "This is why Wendy chose to stay in the St. Charles and why the police were reluctant to act."

It is true that Bob was usually "physically passive" around men, including the police—though other times he successfully broke away from quite strong men who were trying to hold him; it is true that he often went limp with men who had told me they would "knock some sense into him" and so on, a move that over and over saved him from physical harm. But he was NEVER "physically passive" with me; on the contrary, he was astonishingly strong and fast-moving. You never witnessed these direct physical encounters, but I lived through them. I know how my heart pounded; how wild and frightening and strong he was.

I am not a weak or hysterical person; I am much stronger than I look, and I once fought off the attentions of a drunk ex-Marine football player who weighed better than 260 lbs. at a party. I heard from so many men how "passive" Greenie was that I made the mistake of thinking I was capable of physically defending myself. But even with all my adrenalin pumping and

using all the strength I could muster, I was NEVER able to break free of his vice-like holds unaided -- though the times he actually got his hands on me were relatively few compared to the countless harassments and "verbal and emotional aggressions." Twice he grabbed me from behind pinning my arms to my sides, and once he wrestled me to the floor though I was struggling with all my power, in that instance giving me 4" severe bruises on each shin that took several weeks to disappear. As I recall, you were one of the people who eventually showed up when Greenfield was being dragged off me and later arrested that time; it is appalling that you can put forth once more this old "Greenie is basically harmless" bit which has caused me so much pain and frustration in this case.

One also needs to consider his prior arrest for rape and the incident, reported by your brother, where he "freaked out in a restaurant and starting breaking plate glass windows" when considering Greenfield's potential for sudden violence. One of my early City Attorneys also told me a story of a man who harassed a woman for seven years by following her around saying he "loved" her and then one day out of the blue came and threw acid in her face and blinded her. Pyschotic people are often not predictable, and since sexual harassment springs from hostility—even when the harasser professes undying love—there is no telling when the behavior will "flip" into overt violence.

You also state incorrectly that I stayed in the St. Charles because "Bob never presented a serious physical threat" to me: NOT TRUE, and I resent your assumption that you know my motivations (as I resent your assumption that you know Bob's psychoses so well that you can predict his behavior), especially since we have barely spoken to each other due to your involvement with Greenfield that seemed to me to increase over several years (until '79, say). I stayed in the St. Charles because I liked the people, I liked my job as manager, I liked the Venice community; because it was within walking distance of my folks' and oldest friends and my second job, (after I quit the manager job largely because it made me to vulnerable to Bob's persecutions). Because I had a truly wonderful ocean-view room with fabulous light all day long, beautiful sunsets through two huge cathedral windows (a room I was renting for \$145 at first and \$165 when I was forced to move, and which now goes for \$300), and access to all those good healthy beach activities; and because I could not believe there was no legal way to stop this man, or that he could continue to ruin his life and mine with his mania. Because I asked myself "Why should I be forced to move while he breaks the law daily?" ~~Be-cause~~ cause, in short, I decided to try to fight for my rights to personal freedom.

It is also NOT true that the police were reluctant to act for the reason you give. After speaking with me about the case, many of the police were extremely "itchy" to act -- perhaps too itchy in some cases -- but as they told me again and again, "Legally our hands are tied. Our system just has no way to deal with someone like this." One told me, "I'd REALLY like to take this creep and drop him off the end of the pier for you."

As for Moe's remark that you were Greenie's "guardian" -- and note he put the word in quotes, taking away legal connotations -- I was told by the police that you were on record as Greenie's "legal guardian," and did mention that I had been told this and was going to look into the matter, at a BEACHHEAD meeting; when I later asked you, you told me that this was not technically correct, though you had once signed a form when he needed another person's signature, allowing him to collect some back State Aid money.

Many people know that your involvement with Greenfield was very heavy for several years. You drove him to and from hearings, were his constant telephone contact during periods in custody, did hours of lay-therapy on him, and I've been told even put him up when he had no apt—overriding my urgent requests that you (& others) not interact with him about his obsession with me, not focus so much attention on him. It is relatively recent that you have slammed your door to him, beaten him up, etc. I was out of town and did not know of Moe's letter until my return in mid-January; but though you may not technically be his guardian, you have served several times in a guardian-like capacity and I feel Moe's word in quotes was justified.

I did not write about your involvement with Greenfield in my article because I felt you were a well-intentioned (if misguided) person who had paid his own price — the price of seeing endless of hours of your time

and energy sucked into the sink of Greenie's psychoses — for getting involved with this madman. I did resent your play — not because it was "a play about madness" but because to be the focus of endless attention, to have a play and poems written about him and for him to be fully aware of that fact, to have dozens of creative people "interested" in his obsession, this I feel (and several psychiatrists have concurred) did constitute part of the payoff for Bob Greenfield in continuing this whole obsession. I feared for a long time to add to this by writing about it myself, which I was often encouraged to do; but finally, when the law refused to deal with him and there was no other way than going public, and since as one friend put it "Wendy, at this point he couldn't BE more fixated on you!" I have done so.

There is much else I would like to say space forbids. Interested readers, please note hearing information in the box elsewhere on these letter pages. ↴

Wendy Reeves

## HEARING ON THE ROBERT GREENFIELD SEXUAL HARASSMENT CASE

Date: Monday, February 4, 1980

Time: 1:30 PM

Place: Division 90, West L. A. Courthouse, 1633 Purdue, just off Santa Monica Blvd. on the south side of that street, across from Dolores's restaurant, near the Nuart Theater just east of the S. D. Fwy. #1 Santa Monica blue bus will get you there in under 1/2 hour.

City Attorney Jackie Drexler, now handling Wendy's side of the case, has said that a show of strength from the community could have impact in this matter. Open to public.

### For Robert Greenfield

Stand up like a man  
What's this slump act?  
Forget your tormentors  
Forget your monomania  
How morally reprehensible...  
You live continually  
An obsessed fantasy  
You're not a burnt-out case  
You haven't slipped a cog  
Look at it logically  
Stand up like a man  
Wash, shave  
Suck it up  
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# Meetings, Meetings Everywhere

by Moe Stavnezer

During the young month of January I have already begun to feel that my life, and the lives of many of my friends, is a process of calling to order and adjourning. Jan. 8th, 21st, and 22nd were prime examples.

## January 8th, Who's on First?

There were 2 biggies that day. The first was a hearing on the extension of Ocean Front Walk along the Peninsula. Paid for by an assessment of Peninsula property owners, this portion of the Walk features a simulated cobblestone sidewalk that discourages skaters or any other wheeled device. Skaters, bicyclists and the like would, in fact, be banned from using the Walk. Carol Berman and Arnold Springer testified from the north side of the tracks--no decision has yet been made.

Also on that day was a hearing on a low income family housing development in the high-priced condo area east of the Marina, near the big shopping center. The folks over there came out in force against the proposal. Seems they're afraid of poor people, and contend that kids just wouldn't fit in over there. The developer, Tom Safran, proposes to build 50-units of family housing and a child care center on land that was dedicated as a condition of a coastal permit approving 271 condos. Suddenly these 50 units are, according to the residents in the area, a bigger traffic problem than the 270 condos. I am proud to say that the only people testifying in support of the project were from Venice and Legal Aid. The decision will come out later.

## January 21-22, Whew.

First a meeting at the South Coast Commission to discuss 9 motions by our good friend Art Snyder which were aimed at severely crippling what are called the "post certification permit and appeal regulations". These provide for a system of notification and appeals after the Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) are adopted. Naturally, given the make-up of the majority of that commission, all but one of them passed.

The next day the State Commission is meeting to discuss these regulations and the interpretive guidelines on new housing construction. Also that day I, along with people from all over L.A., have a meeting in the Mayor's office to tell Cal Hamilton (L.A. Planning Director) and Jack Fratt (Head of Building & Safety) just what we think of their departments. The amazing thing to me is the basic agreement and similarity of our complaints no matter what part of the city we come from. Developers get what they want, some staff people are plainly incompetent, no one is enforcing the law. Nothing much comes out of that meeting, especially from the two Dept. heads who were on the "hot seat" Could it be that this meeting was, someone suggests to me, just for show, to make us all happy?

While I'm at that meeting the State Commission here's the public on the new housing guidelines which, with certain modifications, the Coastal Committee of the VTC supported. The guidelines are adopted and are better than at first proposed. Generally they will require 25% low income housing on all new condo construction above 5 units (or a fee to buy land instead of the housing). Its more complex than that but that's the gist.

Right after that hearing ends we have a meeting to discuss the L.A. coastal permit process (or lack of one). This gathering includes most of the Coastal Committee, folks from San Pedro and Pacific Palisades and the staff of the Regional & State Commissions as well as City staff (Mel Carpenter, Cal Hamilton & Mike Fischer are present). My feeling is that its the most positive and constructive meeting on the problems with the permit system we've had in the past year. Both procedural and substantive issues were discussed and indications that maybe, just maybe, there might be some real changes. We'll keep you posted.

Before closing I'd like to introduce you to the folks on the Coastal Committee who have been contributing so much time and effort the past year- Arnold Springer, Susan Baker, Olga Palo, Carol Berman, Kate Keeling, Tish Reid, & Jim Bickhart. If you'd like to become a part of this committee--and we can use all the help we can get--give any one of us a call (most of us are listed) or drop a post card to me at 824 Amoroso Place.



FAIR HOUSING FOR CHILDREN COALITION

In December 1979 Dora Ashford and Perla Eston two Ocean Park activists, finished an important study on discrimination against children in housing. The report was presented to HUD which has now initiated a study on the impact of adults only housing policies on families with children. Part of that study is presently being conducted by HUD in Los Angeles.

Among the more significant findings in the Ashford/Perla study were:

Families with children who are renters ranged from 28% in San Jose, to 55% in San Francisco, in every case a significant percentage of all families. For California as a whole 30% of families with children are renters.

A sample survey of newspaper advertisements for available apartments in Los Angeles found that 71% of apartment units allowed no children of any age. That was also true in Fresno (53%), San Diego (65%), and San Jose (70%). In contrast only 12% of all units in San Francisco banned children, in large measure because that city has an ordinance prohibiting no-kids rentals.

Exclusion of families with children is being perpetuated in newly constructed rentals. 74% of new rental units surveyed in Los Angeles exclude children.

In every city studied except San Francisco, median rents were higher for equivalent sized units that allow children as compared to those which exclude children.

Renter families with children are inadequately housed significantly more often than renters without children, 45% compared to 32%.

In all cities studied and for the state as a whole, approximately half of all renter families with children are inadequately housed, with between 81% and 98% of very low income renters with children inadequately housed. Two person middle and upper income renter households with children

Tenants who are evicted so that their apartment building can be torn down, to be replaced by new condominiums or apartments, got some protection from the City Council recently.

An ordinance passed in December mandates that tenants over 62, handicapped tenants, or those with dependent children will be able to receive \$2,500 in relocation payments. Any other tenants will receive \$1,000 in relocation assistance.

In addition, landlords will be required to provide all tenants with a list of available apartments in the area and provide transportation for tenants who do not have cars or cannot get around on their own. For further information contact Jackie Brainard at Councilman Yaroslavsky's office, 485-5013.

are inadequately housed ten times more often than their childless counterparts.

Minority and especially female-headed families with children are renters significantly more often than non-minority or male-headed families with children, and thus are affected more severely by all renter housing problems. Although minorities are disproportionately affected by rental housing problems, the majority of inadequately housed renters with children are white.

Female-headed renter households with children tend to be ill-housed to a greater extent than all other renters with children.



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Renters with children are concentrated in a number of neighborhoods in each city. These concentrations correlate with concentrations of minorities and women, demonstrating that "no children" housing tends to reinforce, if not create, segregated living patterns by age, race, and sex.

With respect to landlord concerns about decreased property values, the presence of absence of children is not a factor in determining a building's market value. No empirical evidence was found to show that operating and maintenance cost were higher for buildings that allow children. Finally, it was found that the presence of children in rental buildings does not affect liability or property insurance rates.

For more information about the detailed report contact Fair Housing for Children Coalition, 393-1093, or 396-7804.

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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



## WHOSE CRIMES WHERE?

damn system that is far more wrong than this particular crime.

Crime in Venice: what a nasty notion, one I'd rather not think about, even now that it's touched me, shaken me, changed me. But it's here, and it's real, and because it happened to me it could happen to you.

I don't imagine for one minute that the police are going to deal with the situation in an effective way. The LAPD is simply not interested in protecting and serving the kind of social awareness that this complicated political and economic problem demands. The answer to crime on the streets of Venice is not more police, God knows, it's in jobs that pay enough to keep food on the table, in education and child care and self-esteem and a sense that the future offers something worthwhile and equitable.

Beachhead:

I am the one who wrote (name withheld) about being robbed and raped, in your January Vol. 121 issue. At that time I was still in shock, and perhaps incoherent. I'd like to tell your readers that one hour before that man picked my door lock and came into my home, I had a telephone call. A man said, are you Mrs. so-and-so, at such-and-such an address? I said yes - what do you want. He said, this is the police - there was a young boy on a bicycle hit by a car at Centinela and Venice Blvd. He is seriously injured and in a coma. The only thing we found on him was a small slip of paper with your name and address. We have taken him to Brotman Hospital in Culver City and are anxious to find out who he is, to notify his parents. Would you please come down here and try to identify him. I replied, I don't know any young boys. There is no children in my family - nor do my friends have such a boy. He said, ma'am, he could be a paperboy or a neighbor. Will you please come and see if you recognize him? I said, you send a police car if you want me to come. He replied, we do not have one available. So if you can get a friend or neighbor to drive you, we'd certainly appreciate it.

I started out to write a narrative piece about the incident and my reactions to it, but I decided instead to simply lay it on the line. This town that I know and love is suffused with crime, and no one who lives here can afford to think that it isn't, or that it can be avoided as easily as dogshit on the sidewalk, or that it happens only to someone else. It happened to me, and you should know that it's waiting to happen to you too.

There isn't much sense of that anywhere in this country right now, and a profound frustration with the system touches robbers and victims alike.

In particular, women along West Washington Boulevard should know that there is a young man who is into purse-snatching, locating the address of the victim, demanding money from whoever happens to be home, or breaking in if no one is there, and then harassing the victim on the telephone, asking for money if the purse is returned. In the week after this scenario happened to me, I talked to two other women who had been through the same thing, involving a man who answered the same description, gave the same name. Unfortunately, this is not the figment of a paranoid imagination: it's something that is happening on West Washington.

But turning on each other isn't going to make it better. Somehow we have to work to change the system which gives rise to the inequities, the desperation, the crime. That's a tall order, and our only hope of accomplishing such change is by working together, not against one another. Until we are willing to stop crimes committed in the name of progress and profit, there is going to be crime on the streets.

I had a person at my door right after that, then busy cooking my dinner. Couldn't even think of any young boy I casually knew. So that when I had that man "masked in a nylon stocking" break in and put a gun to my head and a hand over my mouth, after the nightmare of robbery and rape at gunpoint, about 2 AM I remembered that telephone call - so I called Brotman Hospital and talked to emergency admittance. I explained to the admittance clerk for the emergency room why I was calling and what had happened to me. She was a very cooperative and read me every admittance for 24 hours in their emergency room. She said no young boy has been brought in here, that was a phoney call to get you out of the house so they could come in and take their time to ransack your home. This has been done before. No one should believe such a call until they call the hospital to verify such a call. If it is not a bona fide message then call the police - lock all your doors and bolt them - try to have some friends come in and stay with you, until the police get there. If you have outside lights, turn them all on.

Without a doubt, this kind of crime on West Washington stems from the economic changes along that street as well as in all of Venice: the influx of big bucks at the expense of the poor, black, brown, or white. I resent all those expensive places where I cannot afford to shop, I resent expensive antiques where there used to be nice affordable junk, I resent being pushed to the brink by pressure from the Marina and from Main Street and from everywhere.



I have a new set of locks and an unlisted phone number for the duration, but I won't feel secure until we start working together to change a system that isn't working at all for many of us. You shouldn't either.

But I also resent being victimized by someone, anyone, who thinks because I'm white (or invisible) that it's OK to rip me off. It's not OK, and the fact that I'm white and my robber was black won't make it OK, and the two of us perceiving each other as enemies isn't going to help us change the whole

... (another) Name Withheld ■

I now remember that my phone had rang several times in the past few weeks, but no one on the line when I would say hello. That is how the crooks find out if you live alone and your habits of coming and going from the home, if you work, and when you are away. All these unusual things now tell me, I was being set up for that robbery! Every week there are long lists of crimes committed in the Venice district. It has to be a person or persons living here, and watching for available victims who look affluent. Those who wear jewelry or flash large bills in the stores, the customers standing next to you at the checkout line could be sizing you up. Watching you make out a check and looking over your shoulder at all your credentials - phone number - address - etc. So beware!!

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I am 73 years old - lived in Venice over 35 years. Crime here today has gotten completely out of hand! and our police are too short-handed to cope with it. We are going to get a new library in Venice. When are we going to get sufficient police protection? and courts to convict the criminals, not parole them. ■



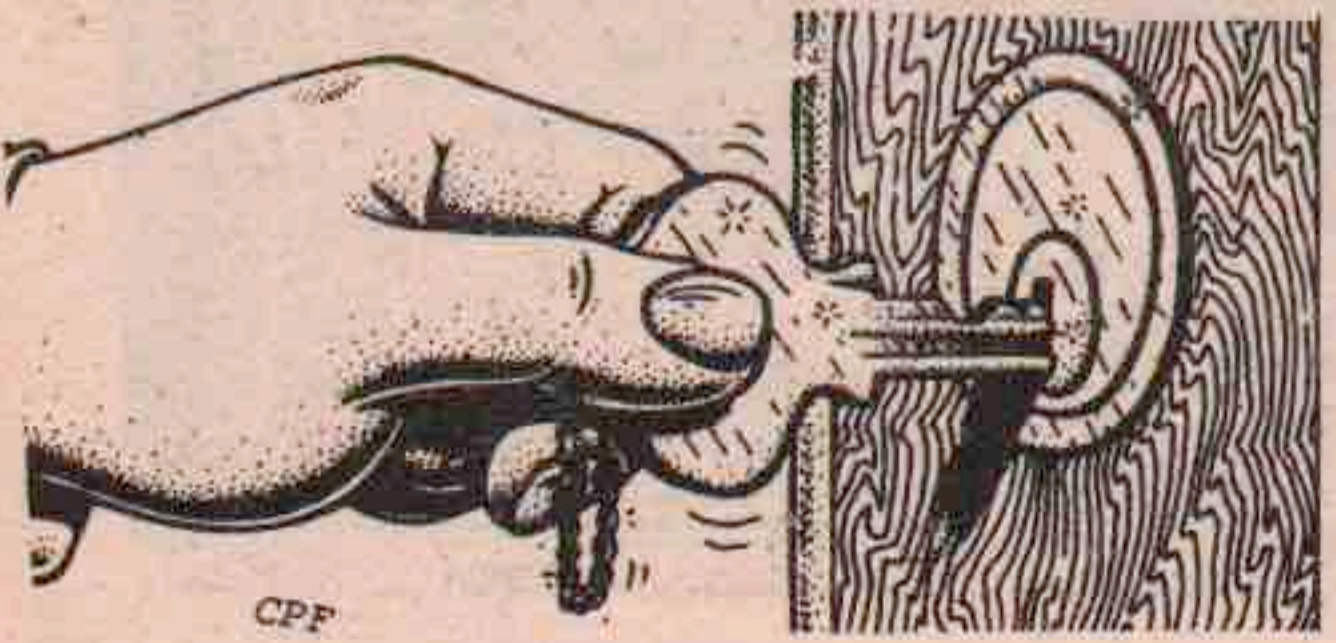
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a large amount of money to the clerk. Behind him stands the ordinary citizen, dressed up as an Irishman, who is very happy because he does not have to pay anything. In the second cartoon a big businessman is shown trying to pay his income tax; however, he does not understand the instructions. These examples illustrate a point of view that was the Vanguard's and possibly some citizen's, that the income tax would undermine the rich and give a break to the poor. The rich were depicted as the backbone of America and the poor as leaches. Although Venice was not a city of wealthy people the attitude reflected here is one of righteous middle class values.

Taxes were a constant topic of discussion at the meetings of the Board of Trustees and, as a result, frequently reported in the newspaper. In July, 1916, the Trustees presented the budget for the year; there was a reduction in many of the city's expenses. The Trustees said that the reduction would not cause unemployment because there was a lot of construction going on in the city and thus jobs were available. The Trustees were intent on reducing the budget and balancing it by eliminating municipal improvement projects which were paid for out of the general fund.

In August 1916 a board of equalization was established in Venice and it assessed the value of all property in the city at \$65, 731 1979 dollars.



UNEMPLOYMENT & VAGRANCY

Unemployment was a problem in Venice during 1914. The newspaper ran free want ads for people seeking work. A sampling of these ads reads: "Employment of any kind in connection with a restaurant or cafe - experienced chef, capable of working at the range or taking charge of kitchen and dining room. - Lady wants position of general house work, or work by day. - Position as chauffeur or automobile work preferred, but will take anything as I need work. - Reliable girl wishes position in a good family; Must be employed before Saturday."

City employees began a fund to help the unemployed of the community. Donations to the "city employees cash fund" were printed daily during the month of December. Similarly, the Trustees planned to give unemployed Venetians work by using workers in relay teams to improve roads in the city and to remove the miniature railway roadhouse. These examples indicate that unemployment was a problem with which the community attempted to deal. Unemployment is mentioned only infrequently during the years 1915-16, probably because the outbreak of war in Europe quickened the economic pace in the United States and in the community.

A problem that resulted from unemployment was vagrancy. Tramps and vagrants who wandered into Venice from Los Angeles were quickly removed and the "purity squad" was out nightly rounding up these men. One article on the subject read:

"Clean Up Made on Hobo's - Sergeant Berkeley, officers Reynolds, Wagner, Sprankling, raided hobo camp south of city near old shoe factory. Nine men were there (four blacks) sitting around a fire made of ties from Pacific Electric Railroad. They were taken to the station and booked as vagrants. None were from California. Later in the evening, a second raid was made and a few more were brought in. Judge Rennie sentenced all nine to six months on the city chain gang with suspension of sentence if they promised to leave Venice and stay away for 6 months. The nine men made a bee line for L. A."

Also:

"Orders to drive anyone out of town who can't give a good account of themselves have been given. Knights of the road are not wanted. They are an annoyance to housewives when begging for food and

# VENICE: 1914-1916

to merchants who they solicit for alms ... a general menace to the community. Chain gang reports are keeping tramps away according to detective Golding."

If unemployment caused suffering at home, World War I was causing it abroad, and Venetians responded to it as well. In December 1914 a collection drive was launched to help with war relief. School children, citizens organizations, and the Chamber of Commerce were all involved. Venice High students mounted a campaign "for relief of suffering humanity both local and foreign... particularly the Belgians." The Chamber of Commerce raised funds to assist "poverty stricken Belgians". H. Rios, a local gardener, "Was permitted to renew his

lease of a piece of ground lately purchased by the city for the purpose... of raising beans on this land next season and the city is to receive one fifth. The beans will be given to the unfortunate Belgians."

Local sentiments favored home charities however. An editorial in the Vanguard read: "Charity should begin at home and end across the seas only when all home relief work has been done." In the spirit of the Christmas season "nearly all of the Santa Monica Bay fraternal, social, and charitable organizations and benevolent individuals are working to provide food and cheer for the needy." In Santa Monica the charity drive included an "anti-rooster society" headed by a man named White. Membership fees were to be the "carcass of a rooster" or a special tax. The proceeds were to go to the associated charities of the city. The society would serve two purposes; "rid the city of the annoying roosters" and help the needy.

In summing up the charity efforts of local citizens the Vanguard opined:

"When the day is spoken of in the past tense, that in not one home on this Christmas Day was this spirit absent. To the credit of our good people, let it be known that they have worked as individuals and they have worked collectively to provide for those who have not been favored as much as themselves."

## PROSPERITY OVER ALL

Hard times were not uncommon in the early 20th century and Venice was no exception. For some, times probably could not have been worse. Nevertheless, the Vanguard emphasized the prosperity of Venice; one of the newspapers major functions was to promote the city. Besides, by 1915 the economic problems experienced by Venice seemed to be diminishing due to the war and increased tourism within the country. "Most people believe that hard times are a thing of the past" said an editorial in May, "though real booming prosperity will not come until the Republicans come once more into power."

Many of the newspaper's articles had prosperity as a central theme. One proclaimed... "Prosperity in Los Angeles means more prosperity for Venice. With the warm weather and the influx of tourists Venice ought and will enjoy one of her most successful seasons." An intimate relationship with her larger neighbor, Los Angeles, is recognized in several articles. Venice was dependent on the influx of visitors from inland areas, particularly Los Angeles and so Los Angeles was seen as a potential rich field which needed to be cultivated. "Venice needs publicity" said the paper. "Los Angeles is a storehouse from which Venice could draw its supply of patronage" was the theme of another article. A cartoon portrayed the city of Los Angeles hooked up by chains to the cars of the Pacific Electric, being pulled towards Venice. However the peculiar relationship with Los Angeles did have its drawbacks and one day the Vanguard published an ominous prediction: Venice was "... a fine spot to settle in... in the future the line of homes along the Pacific Electric will form one solid avenue ... it will be hard to tell where Los Angeles leaves off and Venice begins."

The relationship between the two cities was not always harmonious. For instance the Vanguard feared that L. A. papers were trying to steal her advertising business, sending newsboys into Venice with "extras". The upshot was that the Trustees passed an ordinance which prohibited all but Vanguard newsboys from selling

papers without a license.

Los Angeles stepped on Venices' toes again in 1916, this time in regard to tourism. When the Los Angeles Preparadness Committee scheduled a "preparadness parade" for July 4th all Bay area cities, including Venice, issued strong protests. July 4th was a big economic day for Venice. The Committee offered to make financial contributions to each city so that it could hold its July 4th festivities on the 3rd, in return for which Bay area cities would promote the parade in Los Angeles on the 4th. This proposal was rejected and Mayor Gerety of Venice and Mayor Berkeley of Santa Monica sent telegrams to 25 Southern California municipalities requesting a united front against Los Angeles on this issue. The pressure paid off:

"Due to the unremitting efforts of the beach officials headed by Col. Tom Prior and the secretaries of the three bay Chambers of Commerce, the Los Angeles Preparadness Parade Committee last night agreed to abandon 4th of July as the date for holding the parade. The date will be on June 14, Flag Day. As a result of the decision to change the date of the parade, the beach and inland cities... promised to support the Preparadness Parade to the man."

It was vital to the economies of beach cities that the holidays and weekends attract large crowds; any attraction outside of these cities which threatened to detract from those crowds was bound to meet with stiff opposition.

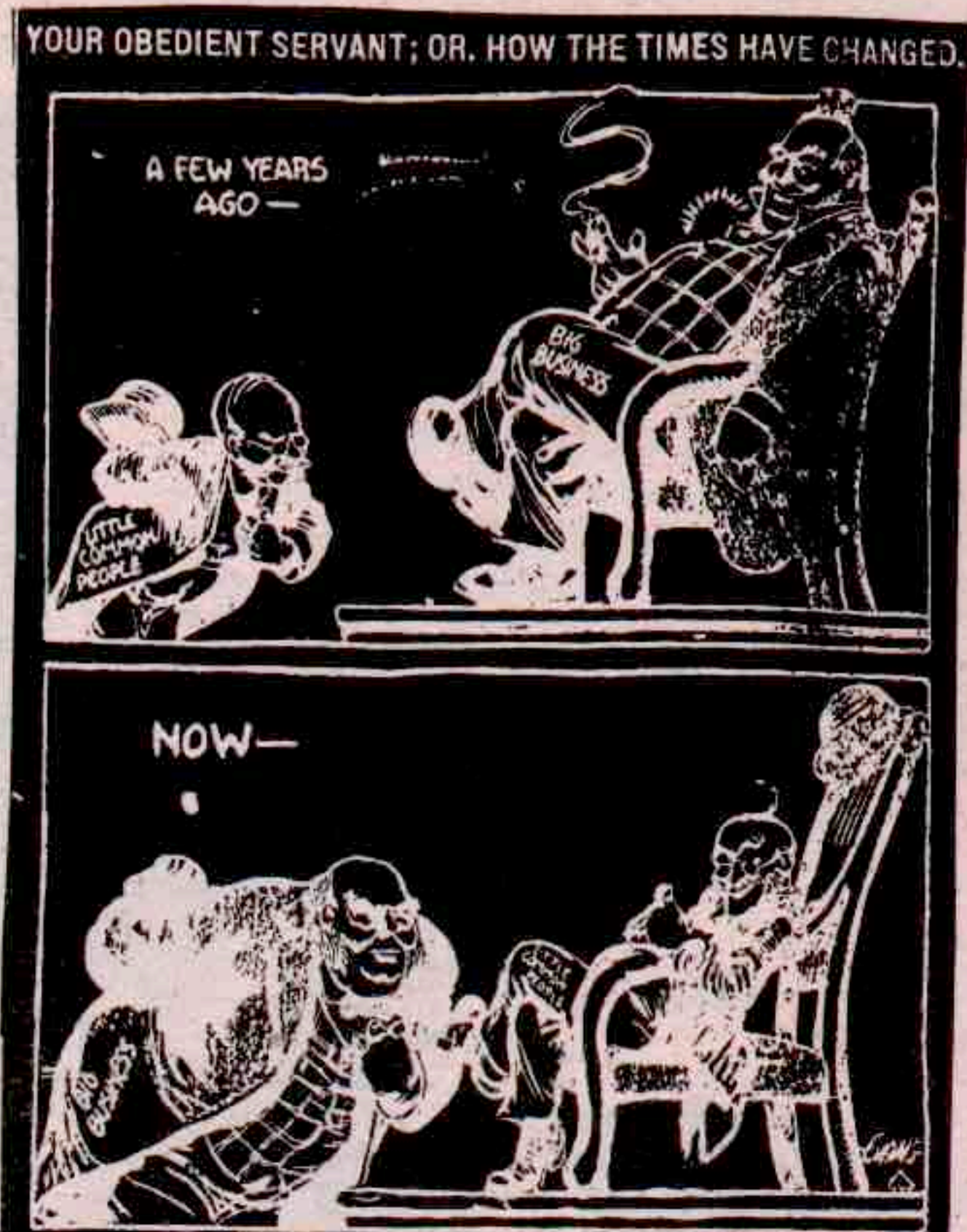
## SELLING VENICE OF AMERICA

Advertisement was one of the vehicles used by Venetians to interest people in their city. George Heisley of the L. A. Herald Examiner appeared before the Trustees with a proposal to publicize Venice. He suggested that an entire edition of his paper be devoted to the city. Although the Trustees decided not to purchase advertising space in this venture some Venetian businessmen and companies, like the Abbot Kinney Co., did so.

Carl Arnold, an "inventor" who happened into Venice, went before the Trustees selling an advertising technique which he claimed could reach 500,000 people daily. The 'technique' was not described. But a cartoonist formerly with the New York World was put on the city's payroll and his job was to advertise the resources, businesses, and attractions of Venice.

Andrew S. Lee, president of the Venice Chamber of Commerce and an active leader of the business community, was one of the most committed advertising enthusiasts. He wanted the city to put more effort into representing itself as a winter resort since it already had its share of summer visitors.

Prominent local businessmen and politicians



# Part I: Big \$\$\$ Back When

were expected to use any opportunity to promote Venice as the ideal place to vacation. The experience of Mr. Lee at the Covina Chamber of Commerce illustrates this attitude:

"He said his presence was appreciated by the Covina committee and they assured him they liked Venice, often came here, and expected to come again. Mr. Lee told of tacking up signs along the way that mentioned the St. Marks Hotel and Venice in very conspicuous letters. He said he wanted at all times to boost for Venice and make people feel they would be welcome here."

The campaign for winter visitors was, at least in part, successful. Tourists came to Venice from as far away as Winnipeg, Chicago, St. Louis, and Seattle. To attract such tourists Venice hotels were advertised as "the finest and most modern". The "American Plan" was put into operation at the Merrit Jones Hotel on Pier Ave to complement the existing European plan. This same hotel reported that 60% of its winter reservations came for "tourist booking bureaus in the East" and 50 reservations from the Northeast came in as a result of advertising.

The Venice Promotion Committee and the Chamber of Commerce organized an advertising campaign "through the East and elsewhere" picturing Venice as "the winter resort of the Pacific Coast." There was some disagreement over just how much money the city should spend on this campaign and some objected to the sum proposed, \$1,298 (1979). The Vanguard chided such 'nay sayers':

"Are we going to take the broad businesslike view of the situation and try to build up the city, or are we going to take the narrow view of some of the pessimists in this town who argue that it is best to let well enough alone?"

All in all, Venice tried to enhance her economic prosperity by advertising everywhere, from Los Angeles to Alaska. This was a necessity because tourism was so fundamental to the community.

## CELEBRATE, CELEBRATE, CELEBRATE

Although July 4th was the most important holiday of the year for beach cities, any holiday or excuse to celebrate was capitalized on by Venetians, especially if they could make to fall on weekends. At the suggestion of the local Chambers of Commerce amusement interests in the bay area founded their own Ocean Park Amusement Association, with Col. Tom Prior of Venice as president. It specialized in organizing spectacular special events, and that was appropriate since those interests stood to gain most from such activities.

Throughout the year there were many opportunities for celebration. In May 1915 the first of the month saw May Pole dances at both the Venice and Ocean Park Dance Pavilions. The dances were so popular that they were rescheduled the following day. A bathing suit parade was scheduled for May 2nd but was postponed because of bad weather.

A sunny day and the postponed bathing suit parade combined, attracted 60,000 visitors to Venice. It was the largest crowd of the season, which was just beginning. Women came from

all over to participate in the bathing suit contest. Local women, department store clerks, and movie starlets wore their best suits in competition for the \$321 (1979) first prize. People flocked to the Ocean Front Walk along which the parade was to pass. Heading up the parade were Mayor Gerety, Police Chief Frank Watson, Fire Chief George Hubbard. Following them were the contestants, and the Venice-of-America Band, floats, and comedians. Miss Fay Tichner one of the starlets, won first prize, Miss Alice Taffe of Venice took second, and Miss Ivy Brown third. All got their picture on the front page of the Vanguard. The immense crowd ate Venice out of bread; the supply fell short at all the food establishments except the werner stands.

An editorial in the newspaper reported that there was "...not one accident and was but one arrest for anything more serious than auto lights off." The contest tailed into another event, the filming of a movie starring Ms. Tichner, "...the scenes in which will lead up to her receiving her prize money." Venice seemed to handle crowds well and the impression is given that

Venetians were professionals as far as the tourist trade was concerned.

Another big event in 1915 was the opening of Topanga Canyon Road and Venetians were all urged to turn out for the celebration. All celebrants were invited to return to Venice that evening for special entertainments.

Memorial Day, like most holidays, was elaborately prepared for. Thorton Kinney was the chairman of the committee organizing the event and, as usual, the Mayor and Trustees led the parade. A parade assembled at the plaza near the Race Thru the Clouds. The USS Farragut lay anchored off the Windward Ave. Pier to fire salutes, followed by the "strewning of flowers on the ocean in memory of departed soldiers and sailors." Naval and state militia were stationed on the end of the pier and fired salutes out of four cannon. Taps were played followed by a final salute to the flag. The procession then went to the Venice Auditorium for a celebration patriotic and religious in nature. Twenty thousand people came to Venice that Saturday and 35,000 on Memorial Sunday. The Vanguard plastered its front page with a picture of the women "strewning flowers on the ocean."

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BABY SHOULDER LAMB	17 1/2c
LOIN LAMB CHOPS	30c
SHOULDER LAMB CHOPS	20c
LAMB STEW	12 1/2c
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PORK CHOPS	20c-25c
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### STORES AT

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Thousand of people visited Venice every weekend during the summer. Business was good, and fishing was splendid. Pacific Electric began its summer schedule in mid May. Parking for cars was at a premium; amusements, cafes and restaurants did landmark business. Thousands also came for evening fun. On one such night thousands packed Windward Avenue and there was boating on the canals, and the plaza was crowded with music lovers.

Invariably the Vanguard waxed enthusiastic about the hordes that poured into Venice:

"Summer was officially welcomed in Venice yesterday by the largest crowd here since last July 4. Indeed many careful estimators declared that yesterday's attendance was ahead of last year. And it was a money-spending crowd. Beginning Saturday night, the people surged in. The hotels and apartment houses filled up. Yesterday the crowd was augmented. From 8 o'clock in the morning until the middle of the afternoon, Pacific Electric trains

brought thousands to the beach. It is no exaggeration to say that 50,000 visitors came here, either in the electric cars or in machines. The cafes were taxed to their capacity to supply the hungry crowd. The amusements ran continuously from morning until late at night. Many special trains were parked on the stretch of track between Windward Avenue and the car barns."

Such articles usually ended in a positive



manner, such as: "Everybody went away feeling Venice was an ideal place for a holiday."

## CONVENTIONS

Whenever there was a convention in Los Angeles, Venetians invited the delegates to visit their city. In May and June 1915 the most important of these was the National Real Estate Dealers Convention. Venice realtors, responsible for placing Venice on the conventioners' program, were in charge of preparing the entertainment. This event was considered a big plus for Venice because boosters hoped that when the realty men got home they would tell everyone about the city. Pacific Electric, Abbot Kinney Co., So. Calif. Edison all took an active part in this promotion. It consisted of: half rates on all amusements and concessions a free aquarium visit showing the fish and plant life of the Pacific, a free exhibit by diving girls, "fancy swimming", and water sports at the Bath House, a special Venice-of-America band concert, free entertainment and dancing at the Venice Dance Pavilion, a demonstration by the Venice Fire Department, a visit to the Ship Cafe, and an automobile parade along Ocean Front Walk escorted by the Mayor, the Trustees, and a citizen committee.

Invitations were extended to other conventioners, but none of them received such an elaborate reception. The Pacific Coast Advertising Men's Association and a group of 500 newspaper editors were two of the many that visited Venice during their Los Angeles conventions. The headlines on the last day of June, 1915, proclaimed that 75,000 Elks were planning to descend on Venice. These examples illustrate the energy expended by Venice commercial interests to promote the city.

The leading role of amusements and tourism in the prosperity of Venice was apparent to the business community as was its special relationship to Los Angeles:

"Venice lacks manufacturing interests and must depend largely upon tourists and the various ocean front amusements. The amusement park district expends about one million dollars annually"

wrote Mark Collins, spokesperson for the Venice Chamber of Commerce who urged Venice to concentrate on its "natural role" as a resort and bedroom community, letting industry locate in Los Angeles.

In 1916 three major additions were being constructed to augment the entertainment facilities already in Venice. The Schleuter Dance Pavilion was being built at a cost of \$448,165 (1979) between Ocean Park and Venice. Another new addition was the Derby Race being financed by Col. Tom Prior on the Ocean Park Boardwalk. It featured a beautiful \$59,755 (1979) organ and the largest carousel in the world measuring 75 feet. The third major addition was the Pacific Coast Excursion Co., owned and operated by Joseph McAfter of Catalina Island, and its new launch The Calypso. For two dollars (\$12-1979) anglers could spend the day fishing while on Sunday the boat was cleaned up for short trips up and down the bay for the expected summer visitors. Besides these major supplements, new "games of skill" and a shooting gallery were being added to the attractions in Ocean Park. Venice was always looking for new promotions to draw more crowds.

The Venice Promotion Committee stated: "The day is not far distant now when Venice will offer more and better attractions than ever before. The Venice Promotion Committee are after them. Venice needs attractions and the sooner it gets them the better it will be for the Venetians and those who are doing business here. That is all that Venice lacks."

The traveling amusements that stopped in Venice enhanced the economy in two ways. For example, when the Al G. Barnes show arrived for its winter quartering in Venice, it was seen as a big plus to the economy of the City:

"Barnes is to pay off all of his people on Monday following closing of the exhibition. (about \$77,900 - 1979) As our (continued on page 8)

8 people will nearly all remain here for the winter, I feel safe in saying that Venice will get the lion's share of this money. Our outfitting for next year... will start at once and is going to cost us about \$142,817 (1979). Venice is going to be a gainer by a whole lot by the show coming here."

Not to mention, of course, the profits to be made from visitors the circus would attract.

But the amusements were as much for the residents as for the tourists and thus they played a dual role in the economy of Venice. The Classified Business Telephone Directory published in the Vanguard lists businesses from detectives to drugs, from florists to furniture, from plumbing to sewing machines. Besides the banks a sampling would include the Lewis Realty Co., Akins Realty, Windward Supply Co, Imperial Ice Co., Watterman Sign Works, Chas. D. Ponedel - Venice Quality Market, R. J. Sadler - "The Merchant of Venice", Holbrook's Market, J. F. Reed Diamonds, Watches, and Jewelry, Santa Monica Dairy Co., Ocean Park Bath House, Home Telephone Co., and the Emporium.

Professional men engaged in business included: Burgess J. Reeve - Architect, Braun, Bryant, and Austin - Contractors, O. A. Kirkeln - Funeral Director and Ambulance Driver, Chas. A. Lyon - Lawyer, A. K. Hancock - Lawyer, and Dr. E. S. Gum - Dentist.

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Cafes and restaurants were also important businesses. Among those advertised in the newspaper were: the Decatur Bar, the Monte Carlo Cafe, Original Joe's White Kitchen, the Cafe Nat Goodwin, the Strand Cafe, and the Ship Cafe. They offered a variety of food, entertainment, and dancing.

There were many hotels in the Venice area. The Grand Hotel was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Rose and boasted of between 30-40 rooms. There was also the Rose Hotel and Apartments purchased by G. C. Evans for \$12,500 (\$74,700 in 1979). Other hotels mentioned were the Windward, the St. Marks, the King George, and the Waldorf. Police Judge King promised stiff sentences to all boarders who failed to pay their bills, an indication that there was some problem in this regard.

Business competition in Venice was disturbing to the editors of the Vanguard who commented:

"When a city ceases to grow, it commences to die, and the more people try to kill each other off in business and good names the more rapidly will utter ruin come to all. Stand together for the advancement of every citizen - and the city in which you live. If some of the nonsense now being indulged by factions in Venice is not stopped we can see the result."

### O GOD!! VENDORS

This conflict between businesses involved not only competing permanent interests and factions within Venice, but it extended into the conflict between year-round businesses and mobile wagon businesses which operated only in the good season. The conflict here is obvious. Those businesses that were a permanent part

of the economy of Venice wanted to protect themselves from the 'parasites' that came to do business only in the good season. Eventually the storekeepers made a formal protest to the Board of Trustees. They wanted to halt the granting of licenses to street vendors who wished to operate such things as popcorn or peanut wagons on leased ground at the corner of Wavecrest Ave. and Ocean Front Walk. The storekeepers objected to this practice on the grounds that there were fourteen empty stores between Brooks Ave and Windward Ave; the vendors should use these stores, not a wagon on one of the corners. The storekeepers also complained that they had kept their businesses open all winter long, while business was not good, and here the vendors could come in just when business was getting good for the summer season. Finally, the City Trustees decided that any future applications for such licenses would probably not be granted. Thus, the Trustees assumed the role of protectors of home business and proper decorum.

Not all new businesses were welcome in Venice. An ordinance regulating the location of saloons was passed in 1915. Two of four saloons mentioned in the ordinance could be located at any spot between but not on Center St. and Zephyr Ave, but not on the Ocean Front and not west of Trolleyway.

Captain Felix, a well-known curio dealer, wanted to lease the site of the Decatur Hotel (it had burned down) to build stores for concessions and a "family style garden like those in Germany. The lease would have gone through if the Ocean Park Chamber of Commerce had

not been opposed. The German Beer Garden was denied and the lease cancelled.

One of the Vanguard's mottos was "Patronize Your Home Merchants and Keep the Money at Home." When the Merchants Association of Santa Monica inaugurated a movement called "Buy at Home Week", the Vanguard added four pages to promote this event. Businesses were to place their regular prices in the windows of their stores to encourage patrons. The merchants claimed that their prices were "as cheap and in many lines cheaper" than in other cities. Everyone was encouraged to "come and see for themselves." This indicates that there might have been a problem with residents shopping in other areas. Late in 1914, a "business depression" was commented on in the Vanguard, and it was hope that the push to buy at home would help reverse the trend.

The theme of progress was harped on in most issues of the newspaper between 1914-1916. Progress seemed to be equated with material progress and business. For example, something called the "Grocery" became the latest tauted novelty in Venice. The paper described it as "the latest thing in groceries". Food items were displayed and a woman could walk around the store and choose the items she wanted, put them in a basket, and go to the cashier. Money could be saved by the owner to the benefit of the consumer. The Vanguard made the statement that "Maybe this is going to be another innovation in the commercial world that was started in the Santa Monica Bay district and copied all over the country."

### REAL ESTATE

The real estate business prospered even when others were languishing. Sales were up in 1914 and the development of United States Island helped. It was located "in the very heart of the city" and offered "cheap yet luxurious homes, with all the modern conveniences." It was owned by Captain Mark S. Collins and the "bungalows" that were built on the 'Island' were named after states. The H. H. Culver Co. re-organized and doubled its sales force. "In anticipation of brisk real estate activity during 1915, the Culver Co. has made preparations broadly to extend its operations. The L. A. to Venice acreage department of the company will be energetically exploited."

Real estate was pushed to bolster the Venice economy and people were encouraged to stop renting apartments or homes and to buy houses. "A small cash payment and balance like rent buys your own home." Near City Hall a five bedroom, 'modern' home cost \$2,750 (\$17,850 in 1979). In 1916 realtors reported an increased demand for houses in the Bay district. Nearly all houses listed that year for rent were occupied and this seemed to indicate that more people were on the beach than the previous year. Property had been sold totaling \$250,000 (or \$1,493,884 - 1979). The prosperous conditions in Venice were recognized by Los Angeles banks which loaned money for Venice real estate. It was stated that the people in Venice sold more property than any other city in California.

Venice issued \$5,485,157 (1979) worth of building permits in 1913. It was a banner year. In January 1914 \$315,009 worth were issued.

In March 1915 \$236,119. By the end of May 1916 building permits issued by the city had doubled against those of the previous May's \$32,138.

The south side of Windward Ave. was an eyesore to many people, due to the fact that it was for a long time a series of empty lots. When building finally began on that side of the street the Vanguard applauded this as progressive. In an article published April 7, 1915 it probably expressed the sentiments of many Venetians:

"The south side of Windward Ave. is assuming a busy aspect and no one is the least bit peeved on this account... This will have a tendency to build up other sections of the city and it will not be long before Lorelei Avenue, Zephyr Avenue and other arteries of the city will be added to the business section of the city of Venice... The proposed completion and opening of the Maier Pier is sure to result in the advancement of Center St and other streets in the immediate neighborhood of the pier... When the Maier Pier is completed and opened with Center St. as a regular stop for trains both ways, there is going to be a great relief to the present congestion at the junction of Windward Ave. and Trolleyway."

The paving of Trolleyway (Pacific Ave.) from Windward to Mildred was begun in 1915 with a projected completion date of June 1. On Windward Avenue two business blocks were going up. On the Ocean Front, the block next to the Neptune Theater was being built and further down near Brooks Avenue new construction was also under way.

In an article entitled "Venice Sure to Prosper" the Vanguard summarized the building improvements from May 1915 to April 1916:

"Never has Venice enjoyed a more assuring outlook for progress and development than at the present time. This does not apply to the amusement interests alone, but more particularly to the city's future as a center for educational institutions and beautiful homes."

"The growth of Venice as depicted by a review of a few of the principal public buildings, erected in the past 12 months, proves that Venice is growing very much faster than the average..."

"S. J. Conron started the ball rolling about 12 months since, with his brick block of stores on Ocean Front and Horizon Ave, at a cost of over \$96,415 (1979).

Next came Caesar Menotti with a two-story, brick building on Windward Ave that cost about \$15,000.

The City of Venice comes next with a comfort station at the foot of Navy St. on the Great Western Amusement Pier, the cost of which was over \$19,283 (1979).

William Ellison with his new, five-story annex, makes the Ellison Apartments a most handsome and imposing structure. The Ellison Apartments are a fine example of what up-to-date down-to-the-minute buildings and management will do. The last improvement will cost over \$385,657 (1979) and will be open to the public in a few days.

Next, Mrs. La Croix at number 22 Rose Ave. was forced to rebuild her apartments which fire partially destroyed some time ago. This cost \$19,283 (1979).

J. B. Garacoché built a handsome store and bakery on Rose Ave. near Fourth, at a cost of \$24,425 (1979).

Mrs. Lena Rose built a modern class C Grand Hotel building on Zephyr Ave., of 25 rooms, up-to-date and modern in every way, cost \$15,000.

W. G. Auburn with Giant Seawing at the foot of Zephyr Ave and Ocean Front, an amusement device to entertain bathers, at a cost of over \$3,000.

Next comes that magnificent attraction on the Windward Ave. Pier, the Humboldt County Redwood Stump and Log, costing many thousands of dollars.

Mrs. C. F. Dodge, on Breeze and Speedway, is erecting a brick class C garage, costing \$32,138 (1979).

And last, but not least, we find our attention called again to the foot of Navy St., on the Great Western Amusement Pier. There we find Henry W. Schleuter erecting a reinforced concrete amusement pavillion, involving structural features of unusual interest. The pavillion, which will be used for dancing, will be surmounted by a reinforced concrete true hemispherical dome, 101 feet in diameter. The cost of which will be \$482,072 (1979).

It is certain that Venice is growing and will continue to grow faster and faster, for the businessman and homebuilder with modern ideas, and up-to-date methods with buildings designed for comfort and convenience will transform our healthful shores into a modern city of homes."

Despite the optimism and the obvious growth



in the city, the Trustees were experiencing great difficulties in meeting the demands for municipal improvements. These improvements were essential for the upkeep and beautification of the city.

"Mayor Gerety has now appointed a committee of fifteen to constitute a sort of advisory body to work with the city Trustees and plan for important measures for the good of the city.... This committee represented the citizenship of Venice and there seems to be no reason why all cannot work out some way in which to get a bond issue to provide needed improvements."

This committee was created to help develop a plan for financing some major improvements in Venice and was primarily made up of businessmen.

"... a bond issue to provide for south beach protection, a breakwater to extend the salt-water high pressure fire system into the industrial district, for a storm and flood control water drainage system in the back country, and for a sum to pay the city indebtedness and to put the municipality on a cash basis."

Thus the Trustees recognized that Venice was growing and needed more municipal facilities which present income could not provide. Consultation with the "citizenship of Venice" thru the Welfare Committee was developed and contacts were established with the East Venice Improvement League (W. H. Geldert, president) and the North and South Venice Improvement Leagues.

The issue of financing new municipal improvements was a constant and sometimes bitter one. When the Trustees levied an assessment on property fronting Venice Blvd to improve that street, the property owners went to court and argued that the improvements should be paid out of the general fund. The Trustees won.

Money was always a problem and the City had to tighten its belt. In August 1916 the city's budget was reduced through the expedient of reducing wages and \$288,690 (1979) was thereby saved. All salaried employees took pay cuts and the maintenance and supply departments were reduced. The Board's policy was "not one cent for improvements until the City is out of debt."

Venice was a summer resort in which many non-residents owned property. Absentee property ownership caused problems for the community. For example the Venice Chamber of Commerce called the City Trustees' attention to the growth of weeds and the neglect of homes by absentee owners. A general clean-up was urged and real estate agents notified non-residents that they must clean up or else it would be done by the City at their expense. Eventually, June 14 was set as "Clean-Up-Day" for Venice. May 19 was originally suggested by the Chamber but the Trustees thought a later date would be better to insure that the City was still clean upon the arrival of the summer tourist season. Everyone was asked to pitch in, including women, school children, and the Pacific Electric. The Vanguard promoted this event and an editorial a few days before official clean-up day read:

"Weeds, unsightly places, heaps of old bottles and cans will disappear as if by magic. Everyone who cares about the good looks of this beautiful city by the sea will lend a hand."

Clean-Up-Day resulted in much good for the city. "... a lot of unsightly weeds have gone up in smoke and tons of tin cans have found their way to the dump."

The Vanguard also reported that "... as a rule, few Venetians litter up the Ocean Front, for they realize how unsightly the appearance of papers, empty boxes, banana and orange peels and so on is. But the visitors are not always so careful and considerate...."

Venetians were proud of their city and resentment can be sensed from reading the Vanguard towards those who did not cooperate with them. They were grateful towards those who did. For example, the Abbot Kinney Co presented the City with some palm trees on the condition that the City plant them on Washington Blvd between "Death Curve" and the baseball park.

Additional municipal improvements dealt with fresh water for the canals and the fresh water table. The intake pipe under the Windward Ave. Pier that fed fresh sea water into the canals was out of commission. The Abbot Kinney Co. repaired it temporarily, but reported that it would last only two or three months. The Trustees said that they would take immediate action to make the repair permanent. Nevertheless, several weeks later, it was still out of commission and badly in need of attention; the

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pipe was swinging against the pilings. Venice, because of its extraordinary nature as a city of beaches and canals, had many unusual problems that were not always easily remedied.

The Chamber of Commerce called the Trustee's attention to the continuous lowering of the fresh water table in Venice, from which all of the domestic water of the city was derived. Some of the wells had dried up and salt water had seeped into several others rendering the water non-palatable. The Chamber suggested, for immediate protection, that Venice should control the removal and sale of water to districts outside of the city, in particular, Santa Monica. The members felt that all of the water was required for the increasing population and for the future expansion of Venice.

CONCLUSION

A vibrant, healthy economy is vital to any city and Venice was no exception. The main difference between Venice and most cities was that her economy was dependent on tourism and amusements. This type of economy can be quite profitable but, it can also be expensive and difficult to maintain. Public relations and advertising, special events and natural beauty all served to draw the multitudes to Venice. Something novel seemed to be occurring all the time. The city had a good disposition with a growing metropolis just inland of her. Civic pride was an outstanding characteristic and was actively promoted. Venices businesses were protected to enable them to flourish and in turn, Venice herself would grow. Growth was progress

The tentativeness of the city's economic base fostered the long term development of

both sociological and psychological volatility in the evolution of community mentality and helped create an air of tension and expectancy that was communicated to the outside world and made Venice attractive.

But the City's economic base was definitely vulnerable since it was dependent on socio-economic conditions outside of the community. The commercial base could not be supported by the residential community while real estate speculation, with its pronounced ups and downs contributed to the uncertain economic atmosphere. Little or no manufacturing base existed in Venice to provide more consistent economic growth and stability and, for the most part, Venetians worked outside of their community.

This special economic configuration contributed to the development of a curious community consciousness, schizophrenic in the sense that there was a strong tendency to

identify with Venice emotionally but at the same time to hedge one's bets as far as total commitment to the community was concerned. Only a small minority of people, led by the Abbot Kinney Co., were prepared to make the commitment while the principal characteristic of most Venice businessmen was adventurism and speculation in pursuit of quick profits.

Thus the economic base had a great impact on the peculiar development of Venice. But in the short run, Venice was viewed by all as a place where people could relax and get away from everything. It was an entertaining and desirable place to visit or live. The Vanguard's motto, printed below its masthead, certainly was appropriate:

"Devoted to the interests of Venice and Santa Monica - A herald of peace, promotion, publicity, and prosperity of the Bay".

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# Eating Radioactive: A NAVAJO NIGHTMARE

by Irene Fuerst, Liberation News Service

(Editor's note: Everyone know the nuclear accident at Three Mile Island was bad. And could have been worse. The nuclear accident that took place in Church Rock, New Mexico last July was worse. But relatively few people even know it happened.)

That may be partly due to the nature of the accident. No threats of a "China syndrome" core meltdown here. Just a dam break and flash flood. A flash flood that happened to be highly radioactive...and happened to spill across Navajo Indian land.

The fact that the people most directly affected were Navajo shepherders rather than Pennsylvania state legislators may explain the lack of publicity surrounding the spill. It certainly doesn't excuse it, as the following article excerpted from a longer version in the Friends of the Earth publication, *Not Man Apart*, points out.)

On July 16, 1979, a dam broke at United Nuclear Corporation's uranium tailings pond at Church Rock, New Mexico, sending 100 million gallons of radioactive mill tailings flash flooding 60 miles down the Rio Puerco, past the city of Gallup and into Arizona.

The nation's largest spill of radioactive waste, the Church Rock spill has surprisingly not stirred any major protests. After United Nuclear (UN) lost \$10 million from the enforced shut-down of its milling operations, it reopened on October 26 for a 60 to 60 day interim period.

The dam's failure was attributed to cracking caused by settlement of earth below the dam. Apparently UN had known about the problem for two years but had not reported it to the state engineer's office, which in turn had never inspected the dam.

Few news stories about the spill have appeared outside of New Mexico, a state where uranium is the "number one cash crop". Official opinions have been generous to UN, reflecting a "no uranium no Santa Fe" attitude. Repercussions of the Church Rock spill, however, may be far reaching than has been evident so far.

## NAVAJOS HARDEST HIT

Those hardest hit by the spill are the approximately 1,700 residents of the Rio Puerco valley, mostly Navajo Indians. They own about 2,660 head of livestock that drink from the river. UN has been trucking in water for about 350 people in the immediate Church Rock area. Signs were posted warning people away from the water, but many Navajos cannot read them. And since there is no storage for the trucked in water, animals have continued to drink from the river.

The Navajos must do without their herds, the mainstay of their diet, or eat them anyway, knowing that the Indian Health Service (IHS) "did not feel.... that they could give an unqualified okay for the consumption of affected animals". Gordon Denipah, of the IHS said, "One reason for this is the lack of knowledge by experts concerning the effects of low-level radiation and how radionuclides may be transmitted in the food chain."

"At first there was an assumption there was not much of a problem," said Dr. Richard Hoffman, state health specialist. Nearby residents "don't face danger of acute radiation exposure," but in the handling of the incident, "those Indian people out there have really been screwed," he added.

The Navajo tribe has spent about \$100,000 on trucking in water and on

other activities to deal with the contaminated river, including checking on UN's clean-up efforts. New Mexico Governor Bruce King refused to declare the Rio Puerco valley a disaster area, therefore the state Health and Social Services cannot distribute extra food stamps, even though residents have been requesting money for food from a temporary tribal task force office.

In August, a month after the spill, the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Department issued an order demanding that UN intensify its clean up efforts. But only after loud protests by Navajos dissatisfied with what was blatant foot-dragging on the part of UN. UN is now insisting that the spill has been more than cleaned up. Many observers disagree, pointing out that no more than 40 men using shovels and buckets have been cleaning up over 1,000 tons of radioactive dirt.

Even though UN's milling operation was shut down, the actual mining continued without a break. Water from the mine kept the river too muddy most of time for them to use heavy earthmoving equipment. The mine water was determined by the Environmental Protection Agency to be radioactive, but local officials have turned a blind eye to the release of this water into the Rio Puerco.



## LONG TERM HEALTH EFFECTS?

Although state officials are satisfied that there is no danger to the population as a result of the spill, others are not so sure. The consequences may not show up for decades.

Only 8 people out of 1,500 have been tested for radioactive contamination. Children who had been seen playing in the river were given body scans and urine tests at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory. These tests showed no thorium, one of the major contaminants in the spill. But Dr. Winterer, pediatrician with IHS in Gallup, says tests "don't mean anything" since thorium is unlikely to be detected by such procedures.

If thorium is incorporated into the body through inhalation or ingestion, it has a biological half-life of 400 years. Thorium is absorbed most easily through the lungs, and is a more toxic

inhalant than plutonium.

As the Rio Puerco water was de-acidified by UN, the dissolved thorium could have precipitated to the bottom of the stream. Ordinarily, most of the Rio Puerco is a dry arroyo, and the dried out residue left in the desert could be blown into the air, where it can be inhaled.

A registry for the children in the area who've been exposed to the Rio Puerco water is being sought. "This is unpopular around here," Winterer admits. "In the South it's King Cotton, but in the Southwest it's King Uranium." He wants to develop a study which would follow the children for 30 years, checking their deciduous (baby) teeth when they fall out, and determining if there's any chromosomal damage.

"The state is very close to becoming a national sacrifice area," said Dr. Winterer. There are 70 millions tons of tailings in New Mexico. "I'm outraged by how it was handled by UN. The clean-up crew aren't even wearing dust masks. And I'm worried about what might happen if thorium gets into the wells." The mill reopened with the same people, the same site, the same dam.

Said Peter McDonald, Navajo Tribal Chairman, "the spill represents a far greater threat to the health and safety of the people in this area than did the celebrated incident at Three Mile Island".

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# A Year For The Environment

by Moe Stavnezer

"Environmentalism" has, for many moons had a bad name among urban social activists. The environmental movement has often been seen as a middle to upper middle class issue mainly because it has dealt with the protection of the more remote and pristine areas of the environment. To a large degree environmentalists have not done very much to change this rather unflattering image and, in fact, have often contributed to it. Time and the times are beginning to change the direction of the environmental movement and are dragging some of the activists, people and groups, along with the change. A sign of the times are a number of articles that have begun to distinguish between people who use the issues and words of the environmental movement as a means of controlling growth and keeping "them" out of the neighborhood (there are all kinds of "thems", some of whom are "us"). But the fact that rich people must resort to the concept of protecting the environment to control growth--instead of more traditional and accepted means like total control of "city hall"--is somewhat encouraging. It means that many more people are now understanding and accepting the concept of protecting the environment even though these people are using those concepts in an unacceptable way. It seems to me that it is up to those of us who are urban based environmentally conscious people to use and expand the very nature of the environmental movement, to in effect, demystify it and bring it home where it belongs.

A very direct dictionary definition of the word environment is "external

conditions which determine modifications in the development of organic life." Just consider the effect on how we live if the air is filthy and causes destructive and painful diseases (or if the water we must drink does the same)? Or if the place we work is, in some way, very threatening to life and limb? Suddenly we have, as a common event, a smog alert, a truly amazing event that prevents thousands of us from so much as venturing from our homes because the air is too dirty to breathe.

A smog alert modifies our development. It forces many people out of work, out of school, often out of their homes entirely and, in too many cases, often into hospitals. Smog alerts alter life expectancy, eating habits and nutrition, and a myriad of other, fairly simple, patterns of life. And behind every smog alert is a total disregard for all these patterns. Cars, and other machines, that produce this slow death need not be, in themselves, so destructive to our lives. The supposed glory of the industrial revolution is its ability to free us from the drudgery and "slavery" of the past. But the replacement of one kind of slavery for another is not what any of us expected, or have been taught to expect, from the industrialization of the places in which we live.

Safe places to live and work, clean water and air, affordable housing, non-toxic food, parks and other places to play or simply look at and enjoy-- that's what I was taught to expect. I actually thought, until I was just a little bit older, that I had a right to those basics of life. (I also thought, when I was MUCH younger, that banks were nice places that kept peoples' money safe). Energy was

just there and it came from big dams that never hurt anything but provided an endless supply of energy that ended at the light bulb in my house. And I bought that stuff. I was not taught that there was a credit system involved, that we were all really buying on time. Well the time to pay has arrived and most of us don't have enough money in the bank to meet the payments--foreclosure ain't far away.

This year you're going to see, in shopping places or in movie lines, folks just like you asking you to sign a petition (oh no, not another petition) for a ballot initiative that will add to the state Constitution an environmental bill of rights. Pretend, if you can, a time when a major issue was preserving an existant situation from an imagined power able to destroy that situation. If the issue involved were "freedom of speech" many of you would not hesitate to protect that freedom. Strangely enough there are many who are reluctant and/or cynical about working to protect the freedom to live in an environment that will not destroy them. The petition you will be asked to sign will, hopefully, qualify for the November statewide ballot and get more yes than no votes in that election. And if it does, what will that mean? How will it help the "us" having a particular battle to fight, a cause to win?

Well, directly, probably not very much. But neither, at first, did the bill of rights in the American constitution. I do not suggest that that bill of rights has successfully guaranteed the rights about which it waxed eloquent. This

(continued on page 15)

## SHRINKS FOR POT

--Reprinted from High Times

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) has affirmed its support for nationwide marijuana decriminalization, High Times magazine reports in its February issue.

"For the majority of users," notes the APA, "the main danger is being convicted of a crime." Neither marijuana nor people who smoke it "can be said to constitute a danger to the public safety," the APA board of directors asserts in its decriminalization recommendation. The board notes that states which have adopted decriminalization statutes since 1976 have not shown "any harmful effects or even any increase in marijuana use."

"There appears to be no convincing evidence of serious physical or psychological damage caused by moderate or intermittent use in healthy adults," the APA board of directors cautiously observed. "Nonetheless, there have been more than 400,000 arrests annually for the last four years, at an estimated administrative cost of \$600 million a year and an immeasurable cost in damage to the lives of many young people and their families." The APA goes so far as to say that most anti-pot law enforcement procedures impose a "destructive effect on efforts to present dangers of drugs honestly to the public."

In calling for the "cessation of disproportionate penalties for marijuana possession and use," the APA joins the growing ranks of other national groups of professionals. To date, the American Bar Association, the American Public Health Association, the National Education Association, the National Council of Churches, the National Association for Mental Health and the American Medical Association have all come out for marijuana decriminalization.

The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

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## Vieques Island, Puerto Rico: U.S. NAVY OUT!

In 1898 the United States invaded the autonomous nation of Puerto Rico, and that country has been occupied by a U.S. military presence ever since. Today Puerto Rico is the Caribbean base for maneuvers of the armed forces of the United States. Roosevelt Roads in Puerto Rico is the largest naval base in the world. The island of Vieques and its surrounding waters are used for NATO maneuvers and bombing practice, providing a base for the U.S. and its allies to train and prepare for warfare on a scale unlike anywhere else in the world. As U.S. naval officers have stated, "The island (of Vieques) is the only area where the Atlantic Fleet can conduct training exercises and is essential to national defense."

But what has the Navy's occupation meant for the people of Vieques? The military activities have destroyed much of the island and its fishing grounds. Over three-fourths of the island is occupied by the Navy; unemployment exceeds 60 percent; half the population has been forced to emigrate from Vieques, looking for work; hundreds of Viequeses have been maimed or killed by bombs or underwater mines. A genocidal attack has been waged against the people of Vieques by the U.S. Navy.

In the past few years the fishermen have begun a fight to force the Navy out of Vieques. They have used their small fishing boats to stop the movement of naval warships. (In a photograph that has come to symbolize the struggle, a Vieques fisherman standing in a small skiff gives the finger to a massive steel-hulled warship looming over him.) Their struggle has received widespread support from the Puerto Rican people, while clandestine organizations have taken military actions in solidarity with the Viequeses, which have included the liberation of naval documents outlining the strategic nature of Vieques and Puerto Rico in trying to maintain U.S. hegemony over the Caribbean and Latin America.

On May 19, 1979, the level of resistance increased. Fishermen and their supporters marched to and occupied Camp Garcia on Vieques to protest and to prevent landing exercises and target bombings.

Twenty-one persons were arrested. In September these patriots went to trial. One, Angel Rodriguez Cristobal, a farmer and leading member of the Liga Socialista Puertorriquena (Puerto Rican Socialist League), refused to recognize the jurisdiction of the U.S. courts to try him -- he demanded to be treated as a prisoner of war between the United States and Puerto Rico. Others followed his example.

Angel was sentenced to six months for trespass, but instead of being sent to a local jail he was exiled to a U.S. federal prison in the United States. What he really received was a death sentence. For months Angel protested against mistreatment, threats, and forced drugging. On November 11, 1979, Angel Cristobal was murdered in his cell. Prison officials claim it was suicide by hanging, but his cell was full of blood and there was a large gash on his head.

The U.S. wants to use Angel's death as a threat to all those who are fighting for Puerto Rican independence. But intimidation could not prevent eight thousand people from attending Angel's funeral. Mass demonstrations continue, and the clandestine forces are escalating their attacks on the U.S. military presence.

It is crucial that stateside Americans show support for this struggle, and in particular to show support for those who remain in jails and prisons for reclaiming their island from the Navy last May. They, along with Nydia

Esther Cuevas and Pablo Marcano, who are in U.S. prisons for their takeover of the Chilean Consulate in Puerto Rico, reflect the highest aspirations of the Puerto Rican people in their fight for independence.

A people's victory in Vieques and the destruction of the naval presence there would be the beginning of the dismantling of the United States armed forces' occupation of Puerto Rico, and of U.S. naval hegemony over Puerto Rico and the entire Caribbean and Latin America. A free Vieques would be, in every sense of the word, a step toward victory for the Puerto Rican people in their war against U.S. imperialism.

INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO!

U.S. NAVY OUT OF VIEQUES!

FREE THE VIEQUES RESISTERS!



## Puertorriqueño 4 in L.A.

by MERLE GEFFNER

On February 5th the Four Puerto Rican Nationalists freed from prison last September -- Lolita Lebron, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Irvin Flores, and Oscar Collazo -- will appear in Fritchman Auditorium as part of a ten-city speaking tour of the United States.

In September of 1979 the Four were released from United States prisons after spending over 25 years as captured freedom fighters for Puerto Rican independence. Oscar Collazo had been in prison since October 1954 when, as part of an armed insurrection against U.S. colonization of Puerto Rico led by the Nationalist Party, he and Griselio Torresola, who was killed, attacked the residence of President Truman.

Lolita Lebron, Irvin Flores, Rafael Cancel Miranda, and Andres Figueroa Cordero, who died of cancer last spring, attacked the U.S. Congress in 1954 to protest the brutal colonial domination of Puerto Rico and incorporation of Puerto Rico as a U.S. Commonwealth.

The Four were freed unconditionally because they refused to renounce their armed attacks, stating that their actions were part of the war between the Puerto Rican nation and the United States -- a war which began with the 1898 U.S. invasion of Puerto Rico, a war which is escalating today through the military actions of the clandestine

forces and the struggle to force the U.S. Navy out of Vieques, a small island used by the U.S. Navy for target bombings and landing exercises.

Upon their release, the Four were greeted by thousands of Puerto Ricans in Chicago, New York, San Juan, and throughout the villages of Puerto Rico. Puerto Ricans came to celebrate the release of their national heroes and to demonstrate their support for Puerto Rican independence.

During their visits to Puerto Rican cities and villages the Nationalists have challenged the people to take their struggle for liberation further and to fight their enemy -- U.S. imperialism. The tumultuous reception they have received demonstrates the level of understanding that the Puerto Rican people have about colonialism and the need for independence.

The Nationalists return to a growing consciousness, where not only organized pro-independence groups are taking up the struggle against the U.S. but where two young independentistas, Pablo Marcano and Nydia Esther Cuevas, were moved on their own to seize the Chilean consulate in San Juan to protest the July 4th, 1978, U.S. independence day celebration in Puerto Rico and to demand the release of the Nationalist Prisoners of War.

The U.S. response to their militant and patriotic act was to send them to prison in the U.S. for at least ten years.

Nydia Esther Cuevas and Pablo Marcano are part of the new generation of Puerto Rican Prisoners of War whose freedom must be won. They, along with Vieques Resisters, are freedom fighters who have taken the risks necessary to put an end to the occupation of their homeland. To fight for their freedom is a central part of the struggle for a free and independent Puerto Rico.

The visit of the Four Nationalists to Los Angeles will help build support for Puerto Rican independence. All progressive and freedom-loving people are urged to come and hear these leaders and show your solidarity with the Puerto Rican people. They will be speaking on Tuesday, February 5th (election day), at 8 P.M., at Fritchman Auditorium, 2936 West 6th Street (at Vermont). ☆

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# Gov't Moves to Expedite D.C. Railroad

By the Committee to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants

As a tribute to their New Year and a taste of days to come, December 27, 1979 the U.S. government fired up its legal railroad of Bob Avakian and the Mao Tsetung Defendants with the filing of an appeal in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

The government is appealing a November 13, 1979 decision dismissing all 25 felony counts against Bob Avakian and the 16 other Mao Tsetung Defendants, and they took no time to do this. (In fact, the prosecution has asked the court to put aside usual procedure and hear the appeal and case as soon as possible.) A decision regarding this appeal is scheduled to be delivered sometime in February, 1980.

The charges stem from a January 29, 1979 demonstration in Washington, D.C. exposing the visit of Chinese Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping as a signal of China's reversal of its Socialist path and another step towards World War III. (With the Iran-Afghanistan conflict a hotspot today, we can see how important that war alliance between the U.S. and China has become.)

By dismissing the charges, the government was simply maneuvering to launch an deadly attack under more "favorable" conditions, as the case against the Mao Tsetung Defendants grew too hot because of its worldwide, broadly-based support. People from Gil Scott-Heron and Philip Berrigan to 29 Doctors, Nurses and Health Care Workers at Cook County Hospital publicly expressed support, not to mention the Amicus (Friend of the Court) brief prepared by the National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee and a request from Amnesty, International, London to monitor the political trial. Washington, D.C. was turned into a political battleground as 150 "troops" of political activists spread word of the case to every street-corner in that city, and plastered the city with posters.



It was in this atmosphere, and days before major demonstrations were to be held in Washington, D.C. and the Bay Area that the government retreated. (The demonstrations were held anyway and drew over 1,600 people to celebrate the victory against the government and to express support for the revolutionary struggles of the Iranian people.)



Secret Service agents have taken up where the courts left off in another phase of the assault on the Revolutionary Communist Party and in particular, its Chairman, Bob Avakian.

On Wednesday, November 28, 1979 the Secret Service began combing Washington, D.C. and Chicago looking for Bob Avakian in connection with an "investigation" into threats he allegedly made on the life of President Jimmy Carter. The basis of the Secret Service "investigation" is an L.A. Times article dated August 19, 1979 which contains statements attributed to Avakian which were actually fabricated by the reporter. (Various forms of this lie are being circulated around the country today as factual statements.) The Times issued a partial retraction of these statements 2 weeks later, after public pressure and a threatened lawsuit forced them to expose their lies.

While the government pursues on this angle, though there is no basis for it, Secret Service agents have appeared at rallies and at locations in Washington, D.C. where the RCP is speaking, spreading rumours and slandering Avakian, flashing badges to intimidate supporters, and openly admitting that they are out to "get" (to kill) him.

And the above actions against Avakian and the RCP represent more than isolated harrassment, for there have been over 400 arrests of RCP members in the past year mainly involving selling the organization's newspaper, the Revolutionary Worker. This past December, 4 members of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade were sentenced to one year in prison for leafletting at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and 9 RCP supporters face 18 to 24 months in prison stemming from a police attack on a rally held in the housing project where the Greensboro massacre occurred. With growing turmoil throughout the world and deepening economic crisis here at home, the government desperately needs to keep revolutionary and progressive opposition suppressed. Under the veil of super-patriotism they have orchestrated with the Iran/Afghan crisis, they attempt to railroad their opposition through the courts and by attacking with the Secret Service.

They are capable of more. The FBI COINTELPRO frame-up of Black Panther Geronimo Pratt and the murder of Panther leader Fred Hampton while he was awaiting appeal proves what lengths they will go to to do this.

It is therefore imperative that people step forward to take up the case of Bob Avakian and the Mao Tsetung Defendants, and build on the Victory of November 13th when the government was forced to temporarily retreat.

There is a great need for legal and defense monies and major fundraising events are currently underway. All interested people are urged to call the Committee at (213) 585-8234.



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 IV July 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4, 11, 18  
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# Mobilization for Survival

## MFS 1980 TIMELINE

**WINTER-SPRING:** Teach-ins and outreach to educate on MFS issues.  
**JAN 13:** MFS endorsed national Equal Rights Amendment March in Richmond, VA.  
**MAR 23-APR 13:** Radiation Victims Tour.  
**MAR 28-30:** Three Mile Island Anniversary actions.  
**APR 11-14:** Citizens' Hearings on Radiation Victims in Washington, DC.  
**APR 25-28:** COALITION FOR A NON-NUCLEAR WORLD—Activities in Washington, DC with parallel actions in the West. Lobby Day, Teach-in, March & Rally, Religious Service, and Nonviolent Civil Disobedience at the Dept. of Energy.  
**MAY:** Conference for a Nuclear-Free Pacific in Hawaii.  
**SUMMER-FALL: NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT SUMMER**—grassroots campaign to highlight disarmament during the election period.  
**JUN 7:** Midwest No Nukes Demo in Chicago.  
**JUL 18-26:** Black Hills Survival Gathering, South Dakota.  
**AUG 6-9:** 35th Anniversary of Hiroshima-Nagasaki bombings. Local observances and MFS endorsed delegation to Japan.

For more information contact MFS or your local group.  
 Mobilization For Survival  
 3601 Locust Walk  
 Philadelphia, PA 19104  
 215/386-4875

Four hundred activists representing 36 states and 92 organizations attended Mobilization for Survival's Third National Conference, "Survival in the '80s -- Building a Unified Movement". The conference, held in Louisville, KY December 7-9 produced an ambitious timeline of actions and outreach for the coming year and began the process of formulating a long-term strategy for the 1980s.

The conference adopted three major foci for the coming year: April 25-28 actions through the Coalition for a Non-Nuclear World (this will include lobbying, a mass rally, and non-violent civil disobedience in Washington D.C., with parallel western actions); the International Survival Gathering being organized by Native Americans through the Black Hills Alliance in South Dakota July 18-26; and Nuclear Disarmament Summer, a grassroots organizing campaign designed to raise the disarmament issue during the 1980 election period.

Endorsed actions included decentralized Three Mile Island anniversary actions March 28-30, a joint conference with the People's Alliance to develop closer relationships between the anti-nuclear and Third World struggles; a Midwest regional No Nukes demonstration in Chicago June 7th; and the National E.R.A. March January 13 in Richmond, VA. Local observances and protests were encouraged for August 6-9 to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Nuclear Disarmament Summer, patterned after Vietnam Summer; will run immediately after the April actions until election day November 11. This project is urgent in light of the new generation of first strike nuclear weapons being developed, and acquisition of the bomb by dozens more countries (as many as 35 by 1985). Action ideas include: canvassing; leafletting; exhibits; house meetings; teach-ins and forums; media outreach; and presences at candidates' meetings.

The Conference sent a message of solidarity to the people of Vieques, Puerto Rico, calling for an end to the U.S. Navy's use of their island for bombing practice and war games which disrupts the lives of the local people.

The Conference also adopted a strong statement on the Iranian crisis, stressing the following principles: 1) No U.S. military intervention, 2) An end to the use of punitive economic measures, 3) Public forums and tribunals to investigate the crimes of the Shah and the U.S. role in installing/supporting his regime, and 4) Safe release of the embassy hostages.

Speakers at the Conference included: anti-war activist Phil Berrigan, arms race expert Randi Forsberg, nuclear physicist Michio Kaku, and Washington D.C. City Councilwoman Hilda Mason.▲



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# Boardwalk BEAT

by Linda Burdick

"Environment" cont. from page 11)

article would be totally unnecessary if it had (it may be in any event). But in and thru many of our most trying times those 10 statements of principled belief in human values have prevented gloom from becoming darkness. In what appears to be an approaching darkened period, it might help a little bit to have a few rays of hope and protection. Seriously, folks, it seems better to have a positive word about the environment in our Constitution than a negative one.

The "environmental bill of rights" is a serious attempt to bring together the divergent wings of the movement to change for the better the environment in which we live. It is not a "union question" to protest breathing asbestos(etc.) in the factory or an "environmental question" to protest hydrocarbons along the freeway. Both kinds of pollution kill all of us, or friends or our families. We are running out of places to which we can run that aren't as polluted as where we have come from. And every year the air here at the beach looks worse than it did the year before, even though it still looks better than it does downtown. The idea is to have it look better in both places. And that's a matter of life and death, not just a matter of esthetics. I hope that you'll sign this initiative and work for its passage next November.

### It's "The Year of the Coast"

Well, "buy"-golly it's a real good year to invest in our coast-- whadya say? \$100,000 for a 3-by-9 playpen? Not very funny I admit but not very far from reality either. About 80% of California's population lives within about 30 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Lots of "abouts" in that there sentence. All those people are crowded onto a fairly small and very finite piece of real estate and, for some strange reason, there are those who think it odd that land here costs a great deal of money and want to blame that cost on something. The something has become the Coastal Commission.

Seems fairly obvious that if you take a finite area and attempt to put an infinite amount of something, anything, on to it that push will come to shove. And then there are choices that have to be made and some people are bound to get bruised in the process. It's the essence of conservation that valuable things must be saved. Unfortunately for us, and a number of other species of plants and animals, we have too often waited for imminent extinction before finding value in some other creature than ourselves. Consequently we have come to have a rather jaded view of what's valuable. So there are many of us who feel that a piece of land in the mountains or by the beach is more valuable than land somewhere else. And so the development of that land becomes more valuable than the land itself. And an agency of government that puts more value on the land than the development becomes a threat to the "american way" and the "god" of private property.

The coast, our coast is an immensely valuable resource, providing vast amounts of food, transportation routes, and an amazingly endless supply of beauty and peacefulness. Going to the beach is more than just going swimming. It's the look and feel of the place, the waves breaking on an ever-moving shoreline, the grit and smell of the sand.

And we repond to the specialness of the coast in a very strange way. We build houses on bluffs that are constantly eroding into the sea, or on beaches that get washed away in storms and then we spend millions of dollars protecting the housing of the wealthy, houses that never should have built in the first place. We allow owners of beachfront property to exclude the general public from enjoying the beach. We build ships that carry vast quantities of oil that we really don't need and those ships break up in the ocean spilling this murderous oil into the ocean's eco-system. (In 1979 tankers accidents spread more pollution & death than in any year previous; some 776,000 tons of crude oil was spilled into the sea as a result of tanker accidents, 100,000 more tons than the 3 previous years combined). There is no way to calculate the damage this oil will do to the breeding and feeding places upon which so many sea creatures depend.

The "Year of the Coast" will attempt


to focus and educate about coastal issues, to make people aware of the vast resources of the coast and the ocean. A broad coalition of groups and businesses has been formed to perform these function, in L.A. and So. California. Other groups have formed in the northern part of Ca. and throughout the country.

There are many more reasons for urban social activists and environmentalists to unite and acheive common goals than there are reasons for them to remain separated. I hope that 1980 will see the beginning of united action by these groups. Our lives depend on it.Δ

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**A BENEFIT FOR**  
THE BOOK SHOP IN OCEAN PARK  
  
**Saturday, February 23rd**  
• Dinner 7:30  
• Award winning film 9:00  
• Raffle/Music/Fun  
**Church in Ocean Park**      **Donation \$3.50**  
**235 Hill Street**                      **(At door, \$4.00)**  
Tickets at Book Shop  
Sponsored by Friends of the Bookshop

Trying to elaborate on musical tastes of a well spent youth in Motown, I'm on a continual search for music of the same quality and sense of feeling and rhythm. Living in Venice has sometimes been rewarding in that respect and other times has been disappointing. Ironically, Venice is a music oriented community where while some talent spend some time here but many pass through leaving a basic fare who are not necessarily the best. But there s been a change coming lately and frankly I welcome it with "open ears". We're ripe for a diversion from those on the constant slate of entertainment at Venice clubs and the Pied Pipers of the Boardwalk. By this new trend, I'm referring to the Reggae/calypso music of Carl McKnight et al on the street and to the Rockabilly sounds of Ray Campi and his Rebels and The Blasters at the clubs.

For history's sake, let me say that this is not Carl McKnight's debut but rather his encouraging return to Venice. Last year the group (Carl and his entourage) brought their steel drums and set up on the boardwalk for several weekends. Even though they jammed long and hard for everyone to enjoy, they reaped little reward. The truth is that while crowds gathered round to dance and listen few contributed to the obscure collection tray. Well, perhaps that is the plight of the street musicians especially in Venice where music is loved but ill afforded.. Carl McKnight et al were naive and unsuspecting and probably caught up in the pure pleasure of making music. Occasionally, Carl would mention monetary concern and politely hand out a calling card or attempt to sell a record from a stack lying nearby. Then they disappeared. And with them all hope for hearing the tropical rhythm of calypso/reggae. Then as suddenly as he d vanished Carl was back. But this time, it was

different. They weren't just playing or advertising- they were "practicing" to quote a band member. Still crowds gathered and Carl made a half hearted attempt at selling records. But the group is not business oriented- just good musicians. If the group would appear at a local club, as well, Venetians could enjoy the sound and Carl and his band of men might make some profit of their talents. Perhaps they won't tire of "rehearsing" but if they do then hopefully some local night spot will sign them up and give us an opportunity for an addition to the daily menu. Some musical places have already added another new sound to their fare--that of Rockabilly music--the hillbilly rock n roll of the '50's. Venice and its immediate surroundings is fortunate to have Ray Campi and The Rebels and The Blasters playing here. The Blasters -- a new group formed by 2 brothers Dave and Phil and their friends. One of the key elements that lends to their success is the congeniality among the musicians. Another is the skill with which Phil particularly as lead singer delivers the country/blues rooted songs. His singing and versatility is reflected in his modeling in one song. The Blasters have been playing locally during the past 2 months and will return to the Blue Lagoon Saloon soon. As they have a deal in the offing with a large record company, it may become more difficult and expensive to see them at a later time. Ray Campi has been around longer--

since the early '50's to be exact. Though his group has just been re formed during the last year, Ray is a veteran Rockabilly singer and was pre nominated 14 times for Grammy s this year. His fame is better acknowledged in Europe but Ray is a casual person who sells on the boardwalk in the summer. The show is both interesting to watch with Ray stop his bass ala Bill Haley style and offers a good legitimate '50's sound not an imitation but ;the real thing. With the expansion and changes continuing in Venice, hopefully the music scene will retain such groups like Carl McKnight, Ray Campi and his Rebels, and The Blasters and continue to flourish in that direction.▲

# COMMUNITY

## EVENTS

### COMMUNITY

#### ALLIANCE FOR SURVIVAL

- Feb 5, Downwind from Atomics International  
 Feb 12, The Last Slide Show. A filmstrip on the buildup of nuclear arms.  
 Feb 19, Speakers Workshop directed by Conrad Melleni.  
 Feb 26, 1) How heavy is our dependence on oil?  
 2) Bio-Mass, What are the possibilities?  
 John Roesch and Jim Lester, speakers  
 All meetings held on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 3647 Watseka, Palms  
 For info call: Jim 839-0576 or John 823-5595

#### CETA JOB TRAINING

30 position open for immediate enrollment at Venice Skills Center, 611 5th Ave. 392-4153. Paid training in Auto Upholstery, Auto Body, Auto Mechanics, Property Maintenance, and Multi-Clerical Skills. Must be unemployed and economically disadvantaged, live in Venice or West Los Angeles area.

#### SINGLETARIANS

Male & Female Rap - 6 pm every Sunday Donation \$1 Unitarian Community Church, 1260-18th St. SM

#### MEN AND WOMEN

A three-part developmental series on men and women will highlight the important transitional issues for young adults, the middle years, and the older years and will explore how and if these issues are different for men and women. The series will be presented on Thursdays, January 31st, February 7th, and February 14th, from 7:30 to 10 pm at the Didi Hirsch Community Mental Health Center, 4760 South Sepulveda, Culver City. The program is free to the public. 390-6618.

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT - NEW THOUGHTS ON FOOD

Lecture on new metaphysical and psychological approach to food and weight loss. Manhattan Beach Library (15th and Highland), Wed. Feb 6 at noon. Free. Speaker is Patricia Lichtenstein Bisch Info 545-7028

#### Little Tokyo Organization

Little Tokyo People's Rights Organization has following schedule of events. Fri, Feb. 1: Horikawa Restaurant Workers Support demo at Horikawa restaurant, 6:30-8 pm. Mon Feb 4 - NLRB Hearings on Horikawa strike. Sat, Feb 16, Reparations/Redress conference workshop at Little Tokyo Towers, all day. Sat, Feb 23, Annual Organization Dinner, Higashi Hongwanji, 505 3rd St. 6 pm. Info 680-1143.

#### LA MEN'S COLLECTIVE

Feb 1, 7:30 pm Barry Cohen, a licensed clinical psychologist will explore intimate relationships, both friendly and sexual, between persons of the same and other gender. Center of Feminist Therapy, 12581 Venice 223-4462

Mar 1, 9 am to 4 pm. A workshop on "Achieving/Exploring Equal/Intimate Relationships" Wildwood School, 3111 Olympic Blvd., SM, Fee \$15. Pre-registration is necessary. Enrollment is limited. 391-6321

The Los Angeles Men's Collective invites men to attend their open, drop-in pot-luck dinners and discussion groups on the first and third Sunday evenings of each month, at 7 pm at the Friends Meeting House, 1440 S. Harvard, Santa Monica All men are welcome. donation \$2.

#### DEFENSE FOR ALL

Feb 10, 2 pm to 5 pm. Free Self-Defense Class at the Church in Ocean Park, 235 Hill Street, Santa Monica. Dr. Betty Brooks, Instructor. Call COMMUNITAS for info and advance registration. 394-0282.

#### Aspen West

Academy of Martial, Healing and Movement Arts such as Tai Chi, Belly Dancing, Aikido, Aerobics, Yoga, Acupuncture, Hwa Rang Do. FEE 202 Main St. Venice 392-5143

Beachhead staffmember Gerry Goldstein and Alison Arnold, columnist for the Santa Monica Independent, will appear at the Santa Monica City Council meeting during February, to criticize the S. M. and RTD bus service. Send us YOUR complaints or call Gerry at 823-2626

# POETRY

#### ORIGINAL LANGUAGE POETRY SERIES

- Feb 3 Banaj Basu - Bengali  
 Rekha Dasi - Hindi  
 Feb 10 Rosario Caparo - Peruvian  
 Feb 17 Maziai Kunene - Zulu  
 Fifth Street Studio Theater 4157-5th St. L.A.

#### BEYOND BAROQUE

- Feb 1 Poetry of Patricia Hampl  
 Feb 8 Poetry of Ronald Koertge and Charles Webb  
 Feb 15 Poetry of Steve Benson and Aleida Rodriguez  
 Thursdays Bilingual writing workshop, Sp/Eng  
 All meetings 8 pm Old Venice City Hall 681 Venice Blvd. 8223006

#### INTELLECTUALS & LIARS

- Feb 2, 8pm Non-fiction reading by Patricia Hampl  
 Feb 16, 8pm Fiction reading by Maureen Strange  
 1028 Wilshire Blvd SM 451-1842

# FILM

#### FESTIVAL OF YOUNG PEOPLES FILMS

Films by young people in kindergarten thru 9th grade are now being accepted for 2nd annual Jr. Student Film Festival. Films in sound or silent, Super 8 or regular. Deadline for entries is April 1. For info 789-7715. Sponsored by Los Angeles Film Teachers' Association.

#### CAMERAVISION

- Feb. 26. 7:30 pm. Edmund Teske will lecture on The Male Nude. \$2 donation, \$1 students.  
 4121 Wilshire Blvd. L.A. Jody Lozon 380-4266

#### NORTH BEACH 90291, RICH MANN IN VENICE

At California Institute of the Arts off Highway 5 across from Magic Mountain on McBean Parkway in Valencia. Through February 2. 805-255-1050

#### Photographic Contest

Sponsored by Cameravision. Annual student competition. Deadline May 25. For info and application send self addressed stamped env. to Student Competition, Cameravision, 4121 Wilshire Blvd., L.A. 90010.

#### Santa Monica Library Films

- Feb. 14, 3 and 7:30 pm. Red White and Bluegrass, Sitting on Top of the World: At the Fiddlers' Convention, In a Rehearsal Room.  
 Feb 21 same times Messages in Clay, The Tribal Eye: Sweat of the Sun

# THEATER

#### AUDITIONS FOR ACTORS

First Sunday of month. Membership in the Fifth Street Studio Theaters Studio Unit. Meets regularly to develop productions for new and neglected American plays. Director, Albert Morgenstern. For info call 383-7177.

#### BURBAGE THEATRE ENSEMBLE

Michael McClure's "Goethe: Ein Fragment" Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 through April 5. Century City Playhouse 10508 W. Pico Blvd. 839-3322

#### SELF-IMPROVEMENT LECTURES

- Tuesdays 7:30 pm.  
 Feb. 5: Analyze your life style: Is it really for you? Edward Olander, Ph.D.  
 Feb. 12: Personality patterns: compatibility or conflict? Alice Fairhurst M.A.  
 Feb. 19: Values: What is important to you? Libby Rosenauer, M.S.W.  
 Feb. 26: Getting Your signals straight: The fine art of using body language: Tanya Crouch, M.A.  
 Mar. 4: You - I - WE ! (or does it?) with all above counselors.  
 Mar. 11: Life Style & your environment: Do they fit?  
 Institute for Life Style Analysis & Change, Inc. 2811 Wilshire Blvd., S.M. Suite 550, 829-4828. \$3.50 each, all six lectures, \$15.

# WOMEN

#### WOMONSPACE

- Mondays 3-6 pm, Tuesdays 6-9 pm Battered Women's Legal Counseling Clinic 392-8383  
 Wednesdays 7:30-9 pm, Women's Support Group. A workspace for learning about ourselves and others. All women who want to experience and to contribute to such an atmosphere are welcome. Facilitated by Lynn Boylan. \$1 Donation  
 Womonspace, 235 Hill St., Santa Monica 396-0054  
 Women's Self-Defense

Workshop, lecture, demonstration. \$10. Sat Feb 16 and March 15. Registration ends Jan 18 at City Hall room 210. Santa Monica parks and recreation dept.

#### SOJOURN SHELTER

Battered women need shelter and shelters need volunteer workers and phone counselors. Sojourn Shelter for Battered Women and Children is holding a volunteer orientation on Tuesday, Feb 5 at 7 pm. Hotline counselors and shelter staffers are desperately needed. Call 399-9228.

# ART

#### I.D.E.A.

- Jan 13-Feb 10. Photography/Graphic Arts by Pam Munyer  
 Feb 12-28. Geoffrey Cook - Performance Documentation by Marion Gray, photographer.  
 Mar 2-Apr 3. Images of a Different Color. Photographs by Miklos Gyulai.  
 IDEA Co. Tues-Thurs, 2-4 pm Free 522 Santa Monica Blvd. 395-0456

#### BEYOND BAROQUE GALLERY

Feb 2-29, Penciled Miniatures by Johannes Asmus Old Venice City Hall 681 Venice Blvd. 822-3006

# DANCE

#### I.D.E.A. - Sundays 8pm - \$4 Donation

- Feb 3, RUTH ZAPORAH, "Meet Yourself, Babe" - Solo Action Theatre Performance  
 Feb 10, Two Dancers From New York-DAVID APPEL, "Matter: Solo Sound and Movement" and NANCY TOPP, Solo Dances  
 Feb 17, INDEPENDENT COMPOSERS ASSOCIATION Presents "Battersea"  
 Feb 24, DANCE CONSORT, San Diego Dance Company directed by Ellen Segal  
 Mar 9, MANGROVE, San Francisco Men's Contact Improvisation Collective  
 IDEA Co. 522 Santa Monica Blvd. 395-0456

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