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FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968

BEACHHEAD



FREE

JUNE 1980 ISSUE # 126 P.O. BOX 504 VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291 823-5092

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS MAKE HOUSING

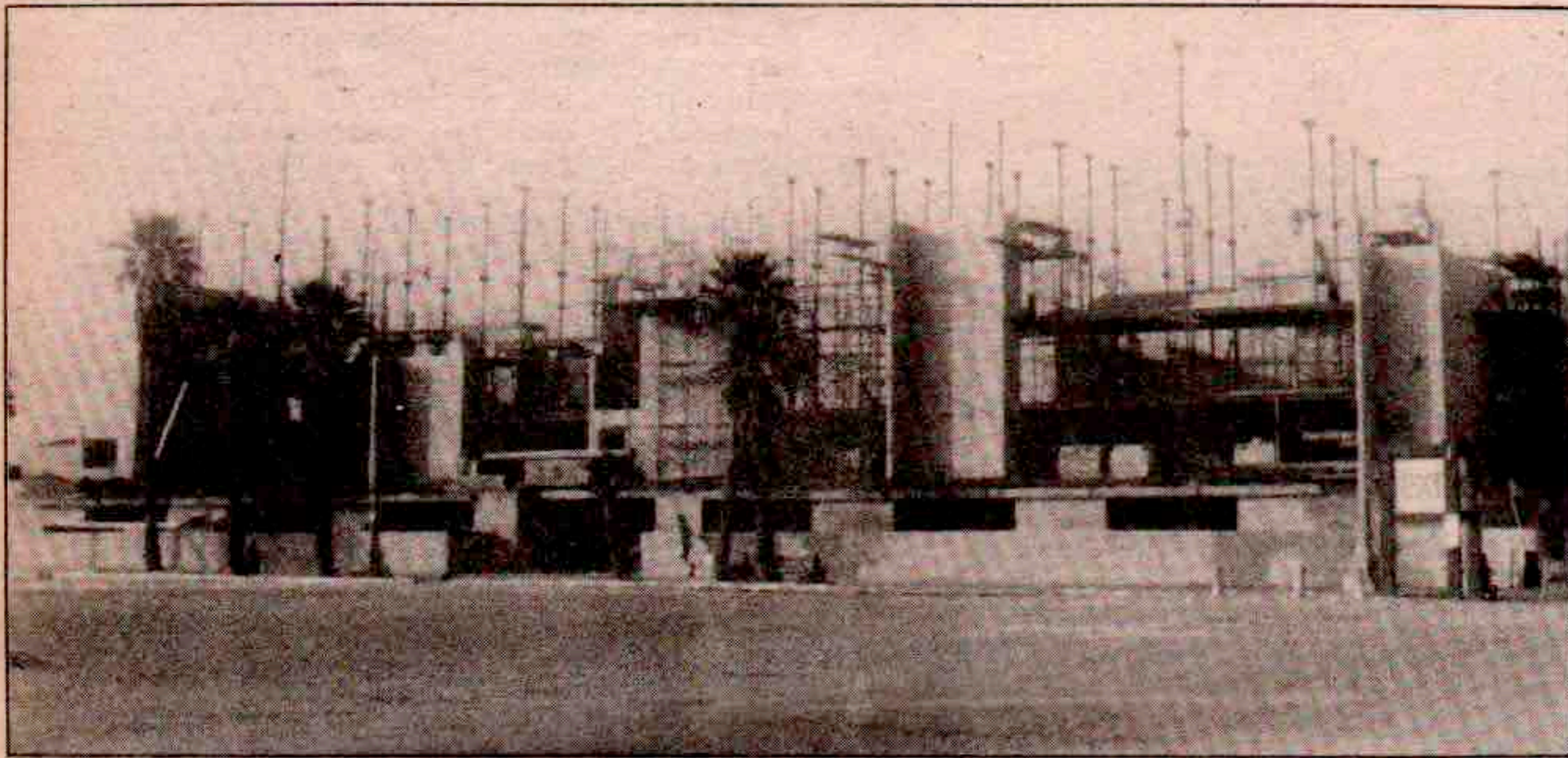


Photo by Gerry Goldstein

Politicians TALK, TALK, TALK, about the housing crisis, about the loss of affordable rental units, about the 1% vacancy factor in rental housing, but so far have done nothing to change things around. Only one local political entity acts and produces, the Coastal Committee of the Venice Town Council. Unbelievable? Read on.

Over the past several years the Coastal Committee of the Venice Town Council and affiliated groups have established a reputation for successful and persistent resistance to demolitions of affordable housing and condominium conversions in the Venice Community. This Committee and its successes are recognized by housing activists up and down the California coast. Up until now the main work of the Committee has been to stop development which would have eliminated low and moderate housing stock here in Venice but the production of affordable housing has also been accomplished. For example, the 50 unit subsidized senior citizen housing project now being built on Ocean Front Walk and Venice Blvd. was in large measure engineered by members of the Coastal Committee, working with the developer, helping him get all City and Coastal Commission approvals. Working closely with the Committee was Councilwoman Pat Russell. The Committee stood side by side with the developer helping to get the project approved, a project which is perhaps the largest and most significant subsidized senior project built along the Coast.

Now the years and years of persistent work are really beginning to pay off. The Committee no longer has to struggle against, but to struggle for. The City of Los Angeles, embarrassed by disclosures that it has squandered or not spent millions of dollars allocated to it by the Federal government for the specific purpose of providing such housing has suddenly become eager to help the Committee. Rent control, the low vacancy factor, and the disappearing rental housing stock have convinced some local and state officials that it is now time to get serious about providing affordable housing. It is clear to them at last that developers will not provide such housing unless 'encouraged' to do so.

Thus during the last 6 months the Coastal Committee has not only been engaged in defeating developer plans, but in hosting developers and their representatives, coordinating negotiations with these developers and local and state officials, and has proven that it can produce.

Item #1 The Committee was partly responsible for the dedication of land by a private developer for the purpose of building 50 units of low cost family housing on Redwood Ave. near Villa Marina East. Not only were members of the Committee instrumental in convincing the developer to deed this land in return for supporting his proposal

for market rate condo units, but the Committee has appeared in active support of the low income housing project's developer, Thomas Saffron and Associates - helping him to defeat opponents and gain City approval.

Item #2 The Committee is in large measure responsible for the senior citizen project, again subsidized by HUD, at Navy St. and Ocean Front Walk. The project includes 36 senior units, 6 market rate condos, and some commercial. The project was negotiated from the start between the developer, Thomas Saffron, and the Coastal Committee of the VTC. The project as well has benefited from the strong support of Councilwoman Russell and Supervisor Burke. The Committee has appeared on behalf of the developer time and time again, most recently before the Board of Zoning Appeals which has now approved it. Such assistance is critical to such developments, especially if they are opposed by some neighbors, as both of these projects were and are. There is little doubt that this project will receive final City and State approval, perhaps as early as the end of the summer.

Item #3 The McGinley Co. project at 2500-2522 Washington Blvd (between Crestmore and Angeles). The project was first proposed to the City of Los Angeles in May of 1979. At issue was the demolition of 4 single family moderate income units and their replacement with 14 market rate condominiums. The Committee opposed this project, claiming that state regulation required that the moderate income units be replaced by the developer. City authorities refused to apply the regulation and so the developer refused to talk to the Committee which continued to file appeals. The Regional Coastal Commission, then dominated by Art Snyder and developer interests, also refused to listen. But the State Commission determined that moderate income housing was an issue and convinced the developer to begin thinking about responding. The result was that the Committee and developer sat down together and began to talk. The Committee agreed to support density bonuses for the developer who in turn agreed to construct low/moderate income housing. Instead of 14 units on his property, the developer applied for and received permission to build 21, but also applied for and received permission to build 11 (7 family and 4 senior) low income units (to be administered by the City Housing Authority under a federal rent subsidy program)

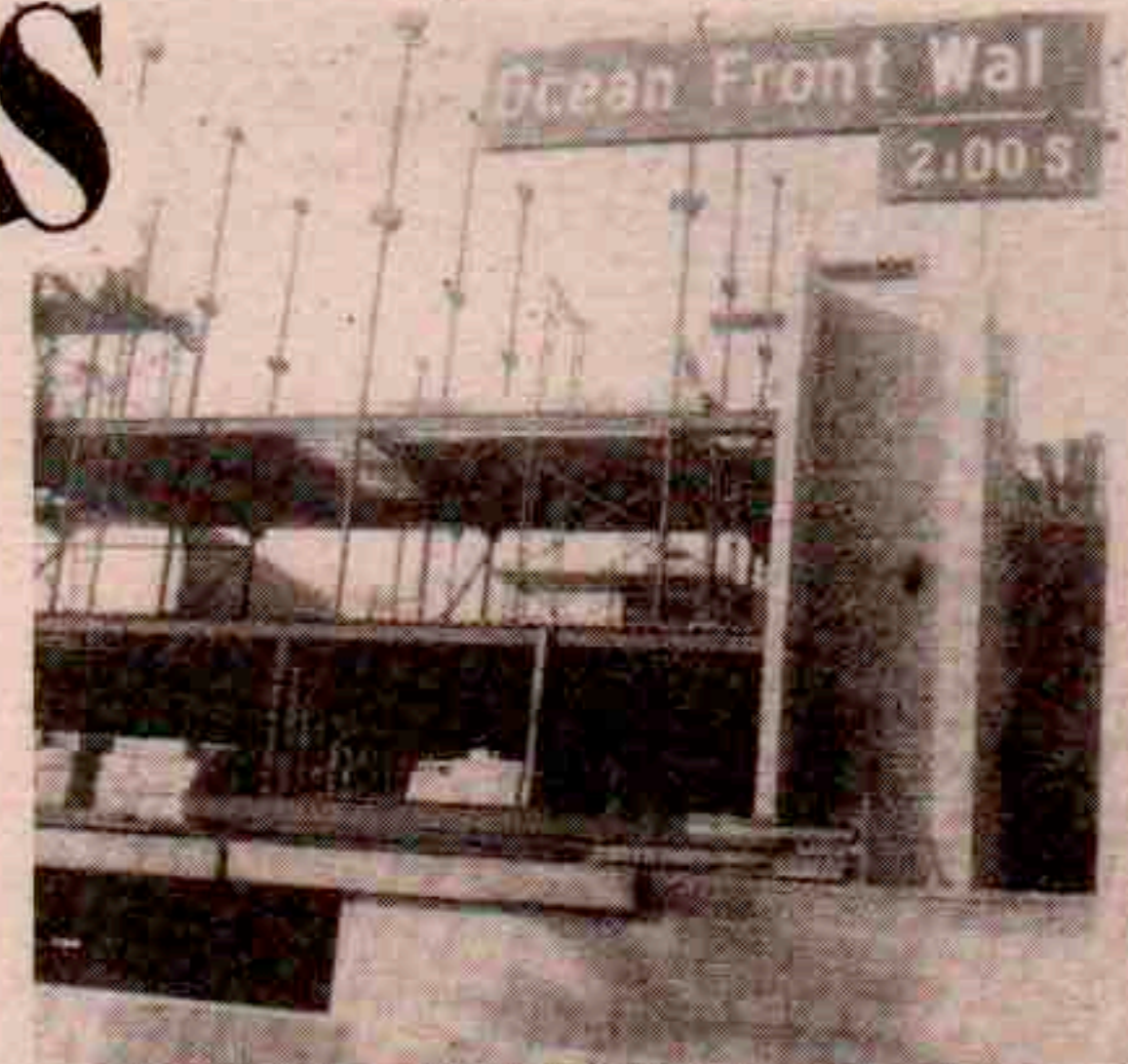


Photo by Gerry Goldstein

on the Venice Peninsula. Councilwoman Pat Russell's office participated in the final and crucial stages of the negotiations and deserves a great deal of credit for its assistance. Developer representative was Ms. Cathy Anderson.

Item #4 The Committee is now engaged in discussions with S.K. Management Co. of Los Angeles. S.K. wants to build 40-50 subsidized units, both family and senior, in the Venice area. Councilwoman Russell's office is participating and assisting.

Item #5 The Committee has succeeded in stopping virtually all unmitigated conversions of apartments to condominiums in buildings of 3 units or more. One third of the units in such buildings must, under state regulation, be set aside for low/moderate income housing opportunities. Most of the activity is on the Peninsula where so far 13 apartment units have been given permission to convert into condos, with 4 of the 13 units being set aside for low/moderate income units, regulated by the City Housing Authority.

Item #6 A 7 unit apartment complex at 2600 W. Washington Blvd. was permitted to convert to condos but only if 2 of the units were set aside for low/moderate income housing. This project was fought by the Committee for almost one year, hearing after hearing, until this final decision.

Thus far the Coastal Committee of the Venice Town Council, with the help of neighborhood groups and local and state officials, has delivered to this community a total of 117 low/moderate income units, units which are either under construction, scheduled to commence construction shortly, or to be turned over to the City as a condition of permission to convert to condos. About 80 more units are now in the planning/negotiating state.

Activity in Progress: Condominium Conversions

There are City of Los Angeles permits outstanding which would permit approximately 50 apartment units on the Peninsula to be converted to condos. These projects have all been opposed in the City, with mixed results, but none have yet received Coastal Commission approval. They will be opposed by the Committee. With the above mentioned precedents already established, the Committee anticipates that it will produce an additional 15 units of low/moderate income, subsidized rental housing for the Venice community.

The Committee is presently talking with one of the most prominent lawyers representing developers in the Venice area. It anticipates that these negotiations will provide 3-5 homes in the Oakwood area which can only be purchased by people of low/moderate income. Strict resale restrictions make it impossible to lose this housing stock.

Activity in Progress - New Construction

The Committee is monitoring a 20 unit incremental project (townhouse) on Mildred Ave. The developers are MDR. Under state guidelines such developments may be required to provide up to 25% of the units for low/moderate income housing. The Committee hopes to provide to the community up to 4 units of such housing through participation in the permit activity on this one. It has

-continued on page 2-

Letters

Dear Beachhead Staff,
 Returned for a visit to dear old Venice and packed up an issue of your paper. Decided it was so good, we just couldn't live without it.
 Love,
 Vince & Sunshine

Your coverage of the Peace & Freedom presidential primary was more than disappointing. There are four major slates yet you essentially gave space only to advocates for Gus Hall/Angela Davis of the C.P.U.S.A., and Dierdre Griswald/Larry Holmes of the Workers World Party. Their politics were presented in the most favorable light with unfavorable positions omitted, alongside a convention "report" strongly tilted towards one slate. This might have been convincing even to myself, had I not received the following material, vital yet totally missing in your coverage.

There are several important differences between the four candidates. Griswald/Holmes as well as Hall/Davis belong to disciplined organizations and their positions must concur with the official publications of their parties. The following comparisons were compiled by Tom Condit of Berkeley, whose research has been respected and used by Peace & Freedom since our beginning in 1967.

	McREYNOLDS	SPOCK	GRISWALD	HALL
FREEDOM OF SPEECH & PRESS Supports these freedoms even for those with very differing views:	YES	YES	NO	NO
NUCLEAR POWER & WEAPONS Calls on both U.S. & U.S.S.R. to close plants & phase-out weapons:	YES	YES	NO	NO
CZECHOSLOVAKIA Opposed the 1968 Soviet invasion:	YES	YES	NO	NO
WOMEN'S RIGHTS Has always supported the E.R.A.:	YES	YES	YES	NO
GAY RIGHTS. Vocally supports Gay rights & rejects view that homosexuality is "sickness" caused by capitalism:	YES	YES	YES	NO

It must be added that David McReynolds, an open Gay, and Sister Diane Drufenbrok have been endorsed by a significant percentage of P & F officers, candidates and statewide figures, and that Ben Spock is not an active candidate. All this info should have been part of a fair article aiding a reader's choosing a presidential slate. At minimum you should have made an effort to contact the P&F office here in L.A., allowing some representation of McReynolds and Spock. Yet more proper and useful would have been assigning a reporter to gather materials on various important positions and histories of all the candidates. It saddens me to know that this material will appear after election day. I strongly urge the good staff of the BeachHead not to repeat such an error.

Edwin M. Pearl, Candidate for P&F State Central Committee.



by Moe Stavnezer

SB 1585 (Garcia) would destroy the housing portion of the Coastal Act. It has the strong support of the League of Cities, led by L.A. It was barely passed by the full State Senate earlier this month and is now scheduled to be heard by the Assembly Committee that killed a similar bill earlier this year. We must kill this bill in committee!

In a cute move, Garcia has asked the Resources, Land Use & Energy Committee to hear the bill on June 3rd, Election Day. Call or write Victor Calvo, Chair of the Committee. It's also very effective to call the committee's consultant, Tom Willoughby, and ask him to relay your message. Or call Mel Levine's local office and ask them to do it (277-5228).

**ABOLISH SELECTIVE SERVICE
 PREVENT A NEW DRAFT**

The draft was recently stalled in Congress. But it's not dead. Bills are still pending to begin draft calls. The machinery of conscription is still fully in place. Further, the President retains the power to begin mandatory draft registration at any time - without consulting the Congress. The only way to stop the draft is to take the offensive - by eliminating the machinery needed to implement it, the Selective Service System.

House Resolution 5134 has been introduced to repeal the President's power to begin draft registration and to totally abolish the still functioning remnants of the draft. H.R. 5134 has received bipartisan support in Congress. But it needs your help. Write or send a telegram to your Congressman today asking him or her to support H.R. 5134.

It's easy. Call Western Union and tell them you want to send a public opinion telegram to your Congressman. The charge is minimal (about \$2) and they'll add it to your phone bill. Or ask to send an inexpensive mailgram. You can send a letter to your Congressman care of: House Office Building, Washington D.C. 20515.

strange bedfellows

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

extended an invitation to MDR to discuss the issue but that offer has not yet been accepted.

The Committee is monitoring a project at 3115 Ocean Front Walk, near Anchorage St., for 6 condominiums and some small amount of commercial, by Sarlo Realty. The developer has estimated his construction costs, without land, at \$750,000. But based on previous condo sales in the area, the Coastal Committee estimates that the 6 condo units alone will gross \$2,700,000. It hopes therefore to be able to provide for the Venice community several low/moderate income units, either on or off site, or at a minimum, a 6% in lieu fee of about \$160,000 which will be used by the state or an agreed upon trustee to purchase and secure existing low/moderate income housing in Venice.

The Coastal Committee, VTC is producing for the community. Its work is time consuming, but creative and fruitful. With more and more developers seeking out the Committee for its input and assistance it needs more hands and minds to pitch in with ideas and time. If you're interested in being part of this process contact Moe Stavnezer at 822-4725 or Arnold Springer 823-5092. Part of the future is in your hands.



COLLECTIVE STAFF: Brenda Harney, Olga Palo, Gerry Goldstein, Joan Friedberg, Arnold Springer, Lyane Broastein, Emily Winters, Elizabeth Eider, Chuck Bloomquist.

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. We welcome and take responsibility for publishing contributions exactly as the contributors submit them, although the opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Collective staff. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, graphics, or other material of interest to the Venice community. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor on the Beachhead. The Beachhead Collective is an open group and welcomes interested Venice people's participation.

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Venice Town Council

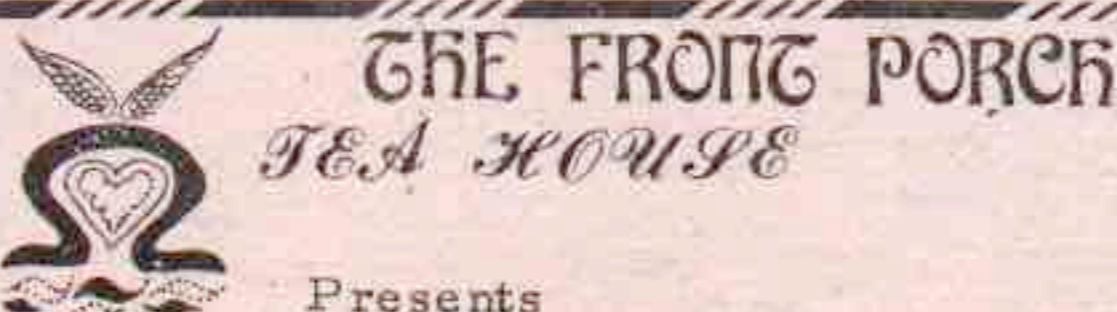
City of  Venice

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15, 1980 7-7:30
 Venice City Hall -- 681 N. Venice Blvd.

AGENDA:

1. Announcements
2. Election Analysis
3. Coastal Committee Policies and Review.
4. Committee Reports

Everyone from the community is always welcome.




"SOME THINGS FROM NOTHING" by Charlie Nothing

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AS I REMEMBER IT

rick davidson

The May meeting of the Town Council began with a report from the Abortion Rights Coalition and their rally/march being planned for June 28 protesting the Right-To-Life Convention at the Anaheim Convention Center. Meet at 12 noon at Soddard Park, march to the Convention Center at 1pm. Call 392-7690 for more information.

Next we had a slide show presentation as an update on the progress of the Green Machine. It's still in the works - on its slow walk through the bureaucracy. Those interested should call Glen Small at 822-0024.

A group was to come and discuss alternatives to the skating problems in Venice. They didn't show; summer's rolling on.

A lively discussion was held on the question, Should the VTC focus on national and international problems. Some rough quotes as I remember them:

"VTC should seek organizations to co-sponsor such events/programs."

"The Town Council should create a roving ambassadorship."

"There should be discussion and debate on such issues, but not at the regular monthly meetings"

"They shouldn't be at separate meeting have them at the general one - local and national/international issues help reinforce one another."

"Can't understand why the question has come up. Relative to the Iran meeting, it was a matter of how it was planned. We should bring up such questions. We should be discussing what's happening in Miami - it's gonna be a long hot summer."

"VTC should only deal with local problems ones we have some power to influence."

"It's a shame that we are having this discussion when the people who wanted it are not here to participate."

"We have limited energy as in any organization - the active members are the ones that have the energy; and they are the ones that bring forth the issues. Others who aren't involved sit at home and criticize, but don't participate."

"We should discuss local as well as larger issues, but the Iran meeting was a mistake. No problem with backing off, we bit off more than we can chew."

"The VTC voted a sister-city relationship with Vietnam and Nicaragua when it wasn't popular. What's with the question about Iran? Sounds like racism to me. It would be absurd to limit issues to Venice - most of the issues we get involved in are much larger than local Venice: rent control, coastal development; Prop. 13, 9, & 10."

"It was a terrible meeting. The VTC should learn from its mistakes. We don't have a feeling for where the community is at."

"We shouldn't be afraid to take up hard questions. If we don't raise questions just because we may get some negative feedback - that's giving up to the enemy."

"It was a good meeting even though it didn't come off. The average VTC meeting runs 30 to 40, the Iran meeting had over 100. People want to know what's going on."

"Everyone is reacting as if the meeting

was "to" become a sister city, the question was to be discussed "should" we. Are we to the point where we can't even discuss certain topics?"

There was a great deal more, but it began to repeat itself.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that the VTC should take up national and international questions and take positions.

At the Coordinating meeting the possibility of a teach-in on Puerto Rico will be discussed.

After another long discussion on Iran a motion was made that we have the meeting on Iran, but the committee setting it up should bring the plans/details back to the full Council for approval.

The meeting ended with a committee report from the Coastal Committee. It was a long hot night - very much what a town council should be (in my opinion).•

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3

PARK CO-OP

V.C.P. Coop has expanded its store hours and is now open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 11-8, and Saturday and Sunday 11-6. These expanded hours were approved by the membership at its semi-annual meeting May 18, and were made possible by increasing membership participation.

A recent price comparison, made on May 10, showed V.C.P., as a neighborhood market, to have lower prices than the local supermarket. Hughes' prices averaged 6% more than V.C.P.'s for a wide range of comparable food and grocery items. For instance, a bunch of celery cost \$.40 at V.C.P. and \$.59 at Hughes; Jack cheese cost \$2.07/lb. at V.C.P. and \$2.29 at Hughes; paper towels cost \$1.09 at V.C.P. and \$1.27 at Hughes.

Anyone can shop at V.C.P., and non-members are especially welcome. Becoming a member of V.C.P. is easy and inexpensive. Upon joining one pays \$10 in share capital (which is refundable when one leaves the Coop) and works 2 hours per month in the store or on one of the committees. In place of working at the store a \$5 monthly direct charge may be paid.

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- SUNDAYS AT NOON — DAVID GROSS
- SUNDAYS AT 2:00 P.M. — MIGRATIONS



ACOUSTIC DINNER CONCERT 6 P.M.

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| Monday | Patient - Lee |
| Tuesday | C.F. Callahan Trio |
| Wednesday | Carlo Bizio classical guitar |
| Thursday | C.F. Callahan Trio |
| Friday | Shinobu Sato |
| Saturday | Patient - Lee |
| Sunday | Ann Hughes cont. folk |

JAZZ FUSION SHOWCASE 9 P.M.

- | |
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SPATZ SPEAKS



To the FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Your article by Elizabeth Elder has been brought to my attention. I have read it carefully & I wish to reply to it.

There is hostility throughout the article, & we are described as rich, successful exploiters of poor people. Many statements are made, some of which are true, but most of which are untrue. Just before the strike ended, I was visited by an elderly couple interested primarily in rent control, who had some additional charges against us; I shall add these to your list, so that all can be reviewed.

We have treated our employees fairly for many years, hiring & terminating them on the basis of merit & seniority. Many people have been with us for many years. Let us move to specific charges:

1) There are no benefits: Untrue. For 18 years, we have had good health insurance, paid for by the company; only family members have to be paid for by the employees, if they wish them covered. Our monthly cost for this benefit is about \$8,000. We also have life insurance. We have six paid holidays & paid vacations.

2) We delayed the start of negotiations: Untrue: The union did not even offer to negotiate until July 23, 1979. We had nothing to do with the delay.

3) We are among the "few" who steal the wealth created by "the majority": Untrue. We spent much of our 25 years in business fighting for survival. Our average profit per year for the last ten years is \$19,490. That works out to \$9.37 per hour. For 200 employees, that is less than 5 cents per hour. That is All the profit we made. We told this to the Union's president, who could not believe it & who then went to look at our tax returns for the last few years. They are still open for inspection. 1976 was audited by the government (IPS) last month & they did not find \$1 due.

4) The next paragraph suggests we are sneaky, have lied & bribed (whom?), & states that in a new election the original workers would not vote. This is untrue & irresponsible.

5) A \$1 per hour raise is reasonable: Untrue: I wish it were true. How can you make your statement, without the necessary facts? A \$1 per hour raise would price us out of the market & ultimately lose 200 to 300 jobs from California to lower cost labor markets in other parts of the country. Also, it's more than our profit.

6) A new health-care plan to be paid for by the employees will come into effect: Untrue. We shall continue to pay for health insurance.

7) Employees were sent home without pay when there was no work. Partially true: Our Molding employees receive four hours' "show-up" pay when there is no work. Apparently, under former management this practice was not kept up in Assembly. I was told about this by Union's president during lunch February 14. He told me that 2 hours of "show-up" time had been negotiated for Assembly. I wrote a memo saying it should be four hours. And it will be.

8) General harrassment of pro-union employees: I do not believe it. I have been assured by the foremen that none of the charges are true. I know that the Union filed charges against us seven times, with the NLRB, & that they lost all seven cases. I have been told that there were instances of rudeness by supervisors in 1978 & that there may have been sexual demands. The first such report came to me in January 1979.

9) Our company called a meeting of the workers to sell them cosmetics at wholesale prices & then got their signatures, fraudulently, on an anti-union statement: Untrue. Another outright lie. We did not offer to sell our products to employees (most of them are empty plastic containers & many of the remainder are the property of customers such as Revlon, Avon, etc.) There is no occasion when we got signatures in any matter, from the employees.

What did happen during the strike is that I was asked if I would receive a few operators in my office & I agreed. I had no idea what this would be about. Instead of a few, nearly all the operators on Assembly Day Shift filed into my office to tell me that they did not want the Union.

I replied that I could do nothing about it. A few days later I was asked to come up to Assembly during coffee break; all the operators said they were against the Union & I gave the same reply. In no way did the company encourage these two meetings.

10) We did say, right after the first meeting, that we believed the Union did not represent more than half of the employees & that we wanted to protect the larger group by not negotiating. Within the same day, just to be sure we were not wrong, we agreed to continue negotiating. There was less than one day's interruption. The strike made no sense whatever & gained nobody anything. To this day I do not know that the pickets were thinking & what grievances they had, beyond those I knew about (especially money). We had agreed on a 10 cent raise & I do not know what else they wanted. The charge that we used fraudulently obtained signatures as an excuse to break off negotiations: Untrue.

11) Those who did not go on strike were given a lot of inducement not to strike: Untrue: Nothing was offered them at all. It was their own choice. I am sorry it rained during the strike; but it is romantic nonsense to suggest that the pickets were engaged in a noble struggle against an evil force. We are not rich landowners or a big oil company. We have quite a struggle of our own, even though it may not be obvious to visitors.

12) We withdrew offers already made: Untrue. Some points still remain to be negotiated. This is being done.

13) We let out sub-contract work: Untrue. We did this in the 1960's (to Synanon). We have not done so for ten years, & we have no plans for doing so.

And now, some of the charges you did not make, but which others make:

14) We have threatened employees with Immigration Service proceedings if they join the union, or support it: Untrue: This is a charge the Union has filed with the NLRB, & they will lose it just as they lost their seven earlier charges. Calling the Immigration Service is a dirty trick.

15) When OSHA inspectors come to the plant, we slow down the machines: Untrue. Nothing like this has happened.

16) When people get injured at Spatz Laboratories, they are fired right away: Untrue. Do you know of any such case?

17) When people get injured, they get no compensation & they have to sue: Untrue and silly. Workers are covered by Workmen's Compensation, under the aurgery of the State of California, & it is not necessary to bring suit in order to collect on a just claim. The same is true of State Disability. Neither of these has anything to do with us. We pay premiums of about \$9,500 per month for Workmen's Compensation. Any payments are due, not from us, but from the insurance company.

It was obviously bad management to let people get upset without helping them when it was necessary & possible to do so. But I care very much whether people are treated fairly, even if we cannot pay them \$4 or \$5 per hour. If I hear of a complaint which is just, I shall be more concerned than anyone outside the company, & I shall make certain that abuses by supervisors do not go uncorrected.

What about the wild charges? Who was threatened by us with Immigration proceedings? Who had to sue to get Workmen's Compensation? Who has been threatened by management in other ways? Why are there so many untrue charges made? Who benefits by them? Why can I not meet some of the accusers face-to-face?

Your political enthusiasm leads you astray. We are not trying to build & maintain a huge enterprise, designed to oppress people. I did start the company with the idea of making a lot of money, when I was much younger. I have not succeeded so far. When I left Papermate (where I had designed their pen) I had more money than I have today: that was 25 years ago.

The attached sheet shows the products we lost, just in the last year. We now have to design new products to take their place, & to find a way of paying for tooling. I am wondering if it is worth all

the trouble. Luckily, a couple of our products are doing very well just now & keep us running. But, in our business, that could change very quickly. We go from contract to contract. For example, Mary Kay whose brushes we make, have told me that they are getting another supplier;

they now account for a third of our business.

It is easy to misunderstand our condition, even for supervisory personnel. A foreman once asked me if we were doing very well now, because three new molding machines arrived. We do not buy these machines. We never have had enough money; we simply pay a certain amount per month. Keeping the old machines too long would put us out of business. In the same way, we have never been able to think of buying our own building.

Our business is not a tree whose fruit we steal. It is a continuous struggle. The last few months have been good, & perhaps this will continue. Our entire history is, at best, dismal. For instance we make a pencil for Revlon. It took us nineteen (19) years to get Revlon as a customer. I started visiting them in 1955 and kept it up until 1974, when we got our first contract. Now, Avon (it took only five years to get them as customers) is dropping one of the two products we make for them.

It is my belief that you wrote your article with a clear conscience. But you are quite wrong, & you probably think yourself too close to the angels to be ashamed, even if you got proof of your errors. I regret not knowing that Assembly did not follow Molding's example in "show-up" pay. I am unhappy about any justified grievances I was unaware of (such as supervisors' rudeness). I do not want anyone working here to be uncomfortable or harassed & I do not distinguish between pro-union & anti-union people. They are all the same to me. We shall have no trouble if the Union makes no promises that we are supposed to keep (& cannot); & if no untruths are spread, by anyone. The Union & we can work together.

Your article is headed "Strikers Win". They did not win. The company did not win. The strike made no sense; it just hurt everybody. The contract we signed contains no benefit that had not already been agreed upon, before the strike. To this day we are not sure what the strike was about. I believe it took place because the Union was angry about the employees who had come to tell me they did not want the Union. The Union sees a big

difference between people who are for the Union & those who are against it. I do not see much difference; everybody wants the same things: Decent treatment, money, security. We can promise the first, but we can only hope to achieve the other two, for all employees. We cannot achieve them if there is bad feeling, rebelliousness or interference with work.

It is my belief that you ought to print a retraction of your article, or this letter.

Very truly yours,
Walter Spatz
President
Spatz Laboratories

Walter Spatz



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In Spite Of Spatz

5

by Elizabeth Elder

Reading the Spatz response (this issue) to "Viva La Huelga" in the March Beachhead, a person can almost feel bad for Walter Spatz, seeming innocent persecuted by a big, evil, unscrupulous union. However, in doing more research around his letter & my original article (which, incidentally, was well-researched), any aroused sympathy for the man steadily melted away. He's very good with words, but I think I share the opinion of a former Spatz employee who feels that Mr. Spatz is a very "tricky" man.

I will certainly admit that the article I wrote had a particular perspective which I make no apologies for. I do not feign any sort of "objectivity" that treats workers & owners as somehow "equal". This economic system is already heavily weighted in favor of those who "own", even if they be small potatoes like Spatz. So in the interests of "equality", I do not identify with Mr. Spatz, but rather with his workers.

If any of you care to go back to the March issue & reread the original article, you'll find that some of the things Mr. Spatz claims I said I didn't even say. For example, his points 3, 10 & 13. But most of them I did say and I'll stick with.

Spatz' use of the collective "we" is interesting to note, since, to my knowledge, he is the sole owner of Spatz Laboratories. But if he really thinks of himself & all his supervisory personnel as "being" Spatz Labs, that says to me that he must have pretty close communication with them & should (or does) know what these folks do or don't do in his behalf.

He says "we are described as rich, successful exploiters of poor people". And this statement raises something that I feel is important to examine. I don't think Spatz was anywhere in "Viva La Huelga" described as either rich or successful. In fact the union, on seeing his profit & loss statements, could not believe how poorly managed a business it was. But my point is this: not all "exploiters of poor (or any other) people" are rich or successful. This would, indeed be a romanticized view of things. We live during a time of increasing monopoly capitalism, which is a more highly developed form of the system. In times like these many small & even fairly large businesses are literally being swallowed up by big corporations & conglomerates. By the federal government's own estimates, perhaps as many as 25% of small businesses in this country will fail by the end of 1981. Certainly there is a difference between Spatz Labs & Exxon, AT&T, or even Revlon or Max Factor. But the difference is one of degree & not kind. Spatz may not be Exxon, but he certainly wouldn't mind being that "successful" or "rich". He admits his intentions upon going into business were to make "a lot of money", & he has no basic aversion to making that money out of someone else's labor power. He may be a small, unsuccessful & not very rich capitalist, but not by choice or any particular righteousness on his part.

According to his response, about the only thing Mr. Spatz might be guilty of is not knowing what went on in his own plant. Well, just as ignorance of the law is no defense in court, Mr. Spatz being ignorant of conditions in his factory would be no excuse for anything that went on there. It was & is his responsibility to know.

I was able to get a copy of the charges against Spatz Labs in one of the 2 cases still pending before the National Labor Relations Board. (No, Mr. Spatz, not all of them were "lost" by the union. Three were withdrawn by the union itself due to lack of evidence. Four were denied and appealed and the appeals denied. But 2 were merely taken off the Board's calendar, i.e., postponed.) However, as of this writing, more charges I believe have been filed or will be filed.

The NLRB is not particularly interested in trying charges that have dubious or no merit, because of obvious time and money considerations. This is why when a charge is filed against an employer (or a union), the NLRB itself investigates the charge before the NLRB files an official charge & proceeds to hearing. What follows is taken directly from the Com-

plaint & Notice of Hearing in Case #31-CA-8615, "The Spatz Corporation & Retail Clerks Union Local 1442", filed before the National Labor Relations Board, Region 31, parentheses mine:

"Respondent (Spatz Labs), acting through (molding dept. foreman),...:

(a) Interrogated an employee about signing a union authorization card.

(b) Threatened to discharge employees for signing union authorization cards.

(c) Created the impression of surveillance of employees' union activities by telling employees that Respondent had a list of all employees who had signed union authorization cards.

(d) Threatened employees that Respondent would call the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service if employees continued to engage in union activities.

Respondent, acting through (assembly production manager),...:

(a)...told employees to cease talking about the Union during work time while permitting employees to converse about other subjects.

(b)...(1) Threatened to send employees home if they continued talking about the Union during work time while permitting employees to converse about nonunion topics during work time.

(2) Created the impression that Respondent was engaging in surveillance of employees' union activities by telling an employee that Respondent knew that said employee had spoken to fellow employees about the Union.

(3) Threatened to continue to require an employee to work on a difficult machine rather than move said employee to a less difficult machine because of the employee's union activities.

(4) Told an employee that she/he would not be protected in her/his job if the Union lost the representation.

(c)...told an employee at a machine in order to discourage membership in and support for the Union.

(d)...told an employee that he/she could not talk about the Union during working time while permitting said employee to talk about nonunion subjects.

Respondent, acting through (molding dept. manager)...solicited employee grievances.

Respondent, acting through (lead person), ... told employees that if the Union won the upcoming representation election, Respondent would move its facility to San Diego."

Hmm.

Well, maybe the boss was just "out to lunch" a lot. (Excuse the executive pun.)

I undertook to talk with some of the strikers themselves. Through an translator, I questioned some of the Spatz workers (or former workers) about Spatz' response & their experience at Spatz Labs. A few of them would not answer any questions. Even though I explained carefully that their names would not be used, they explained carefully that even with the union now at Spatz, they feared for their jobs. Oh, sure, if they were fired the union would go to bat for them with the NLRB, but all the cases the union lost had to do with discriminatory firing, probably the most difficult charge to prove against an employer. Pro-union sympathies, of course, are never the official reason for firing someone. The others I interviewed basically corroborated the events as put forth in "Viva La Huelga" that they had knowledge of, such as the 15 cents an hour offered workers not to strike & the "meeting" to sell cosmetics. But they also told me other things about the place, based on experience ranging from one to five years. They spoke of the foreman's wife who was permitted to sell Avon cosmetics, clothes and other merchandise inside the factory, while workers were hot, & in fact, one worker was fired for trying to do the same thing. One foreman was (or is) an out front racist, often overheard making remarks about how much he hates Mexicans. Before the union, some of the machines were not kept in good repair and the workers who operated them were blamed for the substandard parts the machines produced. More than one supervisor had a reputation as a lecher. Since the union came in, supervisors are under a little more scrutiny, for which some of the women are

particularly grateful. One woman no longer worked at Spatz & felt she had nothing to lose by telling me what she knew. She was fired from Spatz, she said, because she was pro-union. She had worked there 5 years. Once she had been offered a better job in a different department if she would go to Las Vegas with the supervisor. She passed up the trip to Las Vegas... & the better job. She said pro-union people were put on the machines, the most difficult job. She also said a supervisor, in her presence, not only threatened the workers with firing if they supported the union, but with calling the Immigration authorities, which Mr. Spatz in his response refers to as a "dirty trick". At last he and I agree on something.

You know, there is a world of difference between the reality of people who own nothing but their power to work & who struggle to make only \$500 a month for that work - and the reality of, yes, even someone who only owns a business, probably a home, & who "struggles" to survive on \$20,000 a year. A world of difference.

Walter Spatz and I could go back & forth in the pages of the Beachhead indefinitely. The paper has certainly contained more than a few such debates, but very likely it would not get us much further than we were to begin with. Most of what it all boils down to is this: who as a reader do you choose to believe, & where in all of it does your loyalty, your consciousness, & your own reality lie?

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CHUCK'S BRIEFS**

Stansfield Turner, Director of the CIA, does not understand why news organizations would object to their employees working for the CIA. He said, "If you slant the news because you are on our payroll, that's bad...but it is your choice whether a relationship with us, providing information to us, somehow profanes your work"

The CIA recently won a Supreme Court case against Frank Snapp. Frank published a book (Decent Interval) about the disastrous U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam and the CIA role therein. The CIA and the Supreme Court have ruled that brother Snapp must surrender all earnings from the book to the CIA. Thus, a condition of employment by the CIA is surrender of Constitutional rights to freedom of the press and speech.

###

The following is a news item from the New York Times (3/9/80), in its entirety:

4,000 Dolphins Force Japanese Boats Back

IKI ISLAND, Japan, March 8 (Reuters) - About 4,000 dolphins massed around this island today, forcing fishing boats back to port, a day after fishermen from the island slashed and stabbed about 200 dolphins to death after trapping them in nets.

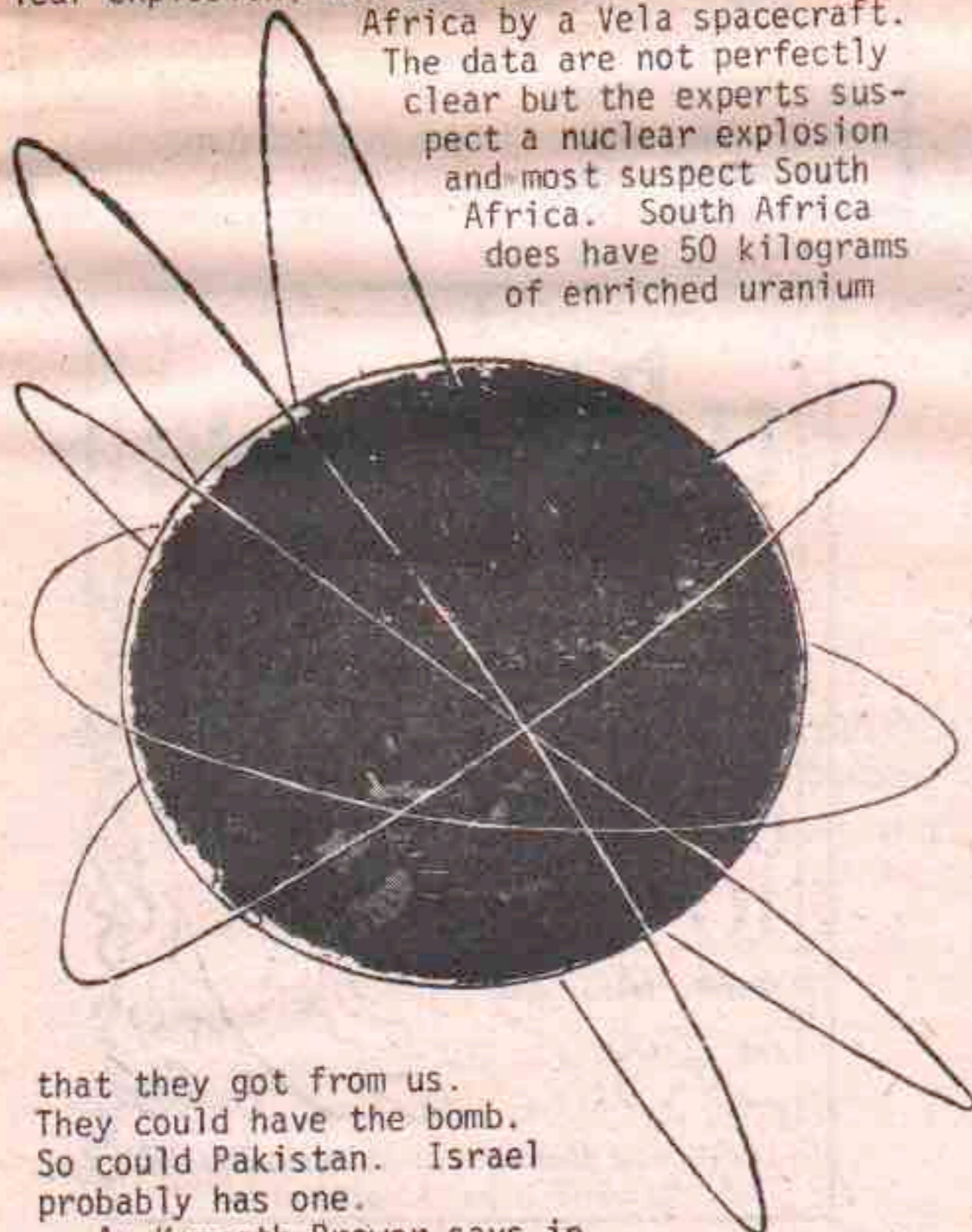
Meanwhile, an American environmentalist was formally charged in Nagasaki with freeing some 250 dolphins that had been trapped in the bay at Iki Island where the others were killed, the Prosecutor's Office announced.

A spokesman said the conservationist, Dexter Cate, 36 years old, of Hawaii, was charged with obstructing fishermen's business by force and damaging equipment by cutting nets.

There was no explanation for the massing of the dolphins around the island.

There are a series of U.S. spacecraft called Vela. Ten of them were launched in the late sixties to monitor the nuclear test ban treaty. Their sole function is to detect atomic explosions and report them. These satellites have detected and recorded 41 explosions (tests outside of the treaty) over the years and were always right. On September 22, 1979 at 3 a.m., South African time, a flash, typical of a nuclear explosion, was observed off the tip of

Africa by a Vela spacecraft. The data are not perfectly clear but the experts suspect a nuclear explosion and most suspect South Africa. South Africa does have 50 kilograms of enriched uranium



that they got from us. They could have the bomb. So could Pakistan. Israel probably has one.

As Kenneth Brower says in reporting this incident in the April issue of OMNI magazine: "Of all dangers inherent in nuclear power, proliferation is the gravest. It is remotely conceivable that we may someday learn to prevent our Three Mile Islands, that we can ship plutonium about the country without hijackings, that we will find safe places to segregate our radioactive wastes. It is not remotely conceivable that we can avoid nuclear war in a world where 50 nations, or 100, have nuclear bombs." Maybe the satellite goofed; or it may have seen the beginning of the end of the world.

###

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Standard Oil-Indiana	1.5
General Electric	1.4
Gulf	1.3
Sohio	1.2

This is approximately \$100 for every man, woman and child in the United States.

###

You have probably heard that the U.S. with 6 percent of the world's population consumes a third of the world's income. But did you know that Latin America with 8 percent of the world's population gets less than 5 percent of its income? Or that Africa with the same proportion of population gets only 2 percent of the world's income and 1/4 of that goes to South Africa? Or that Asia, not counting Japan, has over 50 percent of the world's population and only 8 percent of its income?

###

Speaking of income, the March 1980 California Journal reported that former state Attorney General Evelle Younger would celebrate his 65th birthday and begin receiving an estimated \$104,000 in annual pension allowances under four separate public retirement systems to make him probably the nation's highest-paid retired official. The April 1980 issue of the same journal reported without further comment, that ol' Ev' had filed suit to triple his state pension!

###

Jan Levine, wife of our intrepid Assemblyman, has been bounced from her \$20,000 per year Sacramento job as "graduate legal assistant" with the Public Utilities Commission. It seems the State Personnel Board got a little testy when it came to light that Jan had detoured around standard hiring methods and, furthermore, that there were no PUC attorneys to assist in Sacramento.

###

An award for best idea of the year might go to James Stegenga, ex-Marine and professor at Purdue. He suggests (L.A. Times, 28 February 1980) that if a draft is needed it be restricted to 50-year-olds. Besides the rather obvious fact that this would reduce the probability of enacting a new draft, he argues that

- * You would have mature troops already used to "working in organizations, understanding and accepting legitimate restrictions, suffering fools and shouldering responsibility."
- * Brute strength is no longer a necessity due to automation and modern transportation; furthermore, the required physical activity would probably improve their health.
- * 50-year-olds might even look forward to a two-year paid sabbatical after 25 or 30 years of the same old routine.
- * 50-year-olds have more at stake to defend on the one hand and are not so likely to engage in activities not related to that end; on the other they would give us a real citizen army.
- * It might be good for the nations economy and government to remove a bunch of fat cats every year from their positions at or near the top, "clearing the way for new people with new ideas."

"Where is it written that the young should do the sacrificing, killing and dying for the old? Is it too harsh to suggest that, when soldiers must die in warfare, it's better (or at least not quite as sad) for 50-year-olds to miss their last 20 years than for 20-year-olds to miss their last 50?"

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We enjoyed a wonderful dinner at the Fish 'n Fly, the "in" new eatery over on Main St. Owner Alan Mirabeau says that Fish 'n Fly hopes to offer a new eating experience for all the folks in the Bay area who can afford it. One depressing note on the horizon however. Alan says that volume in local eateries has dropped 20% over the last month. He says the cause is the economic recession and the stories about violent gang activity in Venice. He expects that up to 50% of the restaurants in Ocean Park and Venice will probably experience difficulties beginning this summer.

Charles Gotanda, one of this areas most persistent builders, has a new project pending in the Peninsula area. It includes demolition of 4 or 5 older units, to be replaced by some new condominiums. Gotanda has had some trouble with the Coastal Commission in the past. Seems that somehow some of the buildings he put up on the Peninsula weren't exactly what the Commission thought he told them he was intending to build. Seems that now however he has to contend with a rather testy woman who lives near his project. She has complained to Councilwoman Russell and Councilman Bernardi that in this day and age we shouldn't be tearing down perfectly good rental housing just in order to build new condos for wealthy people. She thinks the beach should be enjoyed by everyone - rich, poor, young, old alike. Some people never give up.

Chuck Arnoldi and Frank Gehry, two famous Venice residents associated with art and architecture, are busy upgrading their property on Brooks Ave. and Ocean Front Walk. They hope to be able to open a bar (Bistotec???) in a currently vacant store front, and one of their lessees wants to open up a juice bar in another. Problem is that the building doesn't have any parking and they need parking in order to open. Seems like the usual Catch 22. When you want to do something good people are always tearing you down. Meanwhile rumor has it that the Ocean Front Market people, located in the same building, have decided to reduce the square floor area in their place and close off one of the bays. They are giving up 1/3 of their floor area and increasing their rent from about \$300 to \$1,800 per month! Sounds like they think they're sitting on a gold mine. Who's sitting on a gold mine? Or how about, 'Let's get this building set up for a sale'?

We got a strange call the other day suggesting that we call Sidney Copilow, a Venice resident and lawyer. Why? Well, Mr. Copilow confirmed that he was representing some people (he couldn't say who they were - lawyer, client relationships and all that) who wanted to know if anyone had legal title to the name Venice Town Council. Copilow called Sacramento and found out that noone did. Looks like the Venice Town Council is up for grabs. Go for it, all you grab baggers.

The hopes of many Venetians were lifted several weeks ago by news that Long Beach State had agreed to set up an archive for the history of this little burg. For a moment however it seemed that we would see a start up of the old McCoy McDermitt feud. Venice USA was miffed that another archive proposal had announced before they did. Suddenly it seemed that Long Beach might get Abbot Kinney's papers and Venice USA would keep his shorts. No one would ever be able to see him whole. But Jody Cooper, Tom Moran, and Arnold Springer had some coffee and it looks like everyone will be able to work together for

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CLARE - i - fying the question

by Moe Stavnezer

To those who know it at all the Clare Foundation is a good group. An alcoholic rehab organization with an office here in Venice, on Lincoln, and headquarters in Santa Monica on Pico Bl. Some, like me, may be most familiar with Clare because it runs the DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) classes required by the S.M. and L.A. courts in lieu of a bigger fine or going to jail. The sell is soft-core by the instructors who are sincere, ex-alcoholics trying to alert the still-drinking population of the evils of demon alcohol... And without any kidding at all there's a whole lot of evils for us to be concerned about.

But the Clare Foundation is a bit more or should I say less than it appears to be. Recently a series of events have taken place that call into question the squeaky-clean image that Clare has tried so diligently to maintain. Seems that Clare purchased an apartment building on 9th St. in S.M. right behind the main office of the Foundation. Don't know if Clare did that with the idea of converting the place into an "alcoholic rehab. center" right from the beginning but that's what they claim they want to do now. And in order to do that they have to get rid of the current tenants. And there of course lies the rub. 'Cause Santa Monica, as you may recall, has a Rent Control law that requires landlords, no matter who they are, to obtain approval from the Rent Board before removing a rental unit from the market. It also contains a "good cause" eviction section that sets limits on the reasons a landlord may evict a tenant.

Do The Means Justify The Ends?

Clare has applied twice to the Rent Control Board, under different sections of the law, to have the apartments it owns removed from jurisdiction of the law. The first time Clare claimed it was exempt from the law because the apartment was an alcoholic rehab. center when that was NOT the case. That application was denied by the Rent Board. Then Clare submitted a removal request which has the effect of removing the units from the jurisdiction of the law and allowing the owner to proceed as if the law didn't exist. But this portion of the law has very strict criteria and it was obvious that Clare could not meet those standards so that application was withdrawn. So far so good, at least as far as compliance with the law goes. But Clare, it seems, had other ideas that don't seem to jibe with the law or Clare's image.

Several tenants in the 6-unit building were told that they had to leave and that Clare Foundation would not accept their rent checks. Other tenants couldn't pay rents because Clare had failed to

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designate any particular person to be available to collect rents. When they did not pay rent Clare gave them "3-day notices" to quit or pay rent, a kind of eviction notice that is usually satisfied if the rent is paid. After the tenants were given these notices they again tried to pay their rent. Again the rent was refused by the Clare Foundation employees under instructions from its lawyer. These tenants were then given 30-day notices to leave--for non-payment of rent!

Another tenant, a mother with 5 children, claims to have been given an illegal rent increase as a condition of remaining in her apartment. Because she felt intimidated, she has failed to seek help from the Rent Control Board. Other tenants have filed violation complaints against Clare with the Rent Board.

Ken Shonlau, who runs Clare, denied all of this when I spoke to him on the phone. He claimed, just before having to answer an important long distance call, that Clare tried to help all the tenants find other, comparable, housing and that the tenants hadn't paid rent for a long period before they were served eviction notices (he would not specify the length of time). Further, he said that none of the violation claims were correct and the Rent Board had not or would not work with Clare to help convert the apartment to an alcoholic rehab center. Clare, according to Shonlau, is completely faultless. Its the tenants who are all wrong.

But some tenants claim that Clare is much more a landlord than a rehab center. One recovering alcoholic claims to have paid rent to Clare for nearly a year and though grateful for the apartment, says that he has received no counseling during that time. He's been referred to another agency for help and apart from that his only contact with Clare has been to pay his rent.

Whether Clare Foundations or its tenants are telling the truth will soon be decided by the Rent Board. In the meanwhile I must confess that I'm a bit uneasy about Clare's position and its real intentions. Part of the Clare credo seems to be being honest, especially with one's self. Can't help feeling that the current situation is a "do as I say not as I do" problem for the Foundation and the people who live in that apartment building. ■

DOUBLE

SPEAK

a reply to Arnold Hansen's WORD GAMES
Rick Davidson

In reading Arnold Hansen's WORD GAMES in the May issue of the Beachhead and considering the known facts underlying world events I find it difficult to understand why Hansen can't comprehend Wells' concerns over our (U.S.) foreign policy, especially as it relates to Iran and the Draft. In the beginning of his article he writes, "I'm all for condemning imperialism and oppression, but I happen to think that we've got an adequate share of both right here in Venice." Then he concludes his article with "first things first" meaning local issues should come before national and international ones. Sounds like "double speak" to me because part of his word game is "saving Venice" without drawing connections between Venice's problems and imperialism. That share of imperialism and oppression "here in Venice" is not an isolated phenomenon unique to Venice and will never be changed if not understood in the context of reality.

Those of us who were struggling against our War in Indochina and for the liberation of oppressed minorities here at home in the '60s were the same people fighting local oppression, such as, the first invasion from the Marina, unlawful evictions, police abuse, freeways, etc. In fact, the Free Venice Beachhead which printed Arnold's WORDS is a product of the '60s struggles. We realized imperialism has two faces: its international acts of oppression and its local one of manipulation and population control.

Our view then was to draw the connections between what was taking place in Indochina and what was happening in Venice. In the '60s the machinations of our government: national, state and local, were not so obvious as they became with Watergate, CIA & FBI scandals, Prop 13, 9 & 10. If we go through life never seeing the connections, we are, like Santanna said, doomed to repeat our history. But it is not sufficient to just draw attention to those connections, we must act on our understanding. The first step in such actions is communication, therefore, the creation of the Beachhead. Another step is organization, therefore, the Peace and Freedom Party, Free Venice and the Venice Town Council - efforts to get us to come together to organize against the very oppression designed to keep us down and separated. If we restrict our view (understanding) to rent control, coastal development, freeways, i.e., just local issues, we'll lose the shell game every time; and words, words, and words will never explain reality. It's important for all of us to remember that the object is not to place one project above another; the thing to do is to get more and more of us working to expose, connect and defeat the organized oppression attacking us. Expose it in Indochina, Chile, South Africa, and Venice...expose it as the one system it is so it becomes obvious that we are all fighting against the same enemy and therefore on the same side. Sooner or later we will have to come to a political agreement as a basis for our organization. At present our individual advantages in this society are separating us. Most of us are unwilling to give up the privilege we have in order to transform this world into one without imperialism. A key to coming to a political agreement is the development of priorities. Priorities speak directly to seeing capitalism/imperialism as one system. Again, our privileges cloud our vision. One way of seeing this privilege is to consider the different ways Black, Brown and White activists were treated during the '60s and '70s. Many of the White activists are still active today working on the issues of the '80s, while most of the Black and Brown activists are either dead or rotting in prison. Even the Weather Underground and Patty Hearst can re-enter

-continued on page 18

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8

VENICE:

1914-1916

THE RECENT BATTLES CLEARLY ILLUSTRATE THE SKILL AND COURAGE OF TWO KINDRED RACES NOW BATTLING ON THE SEAS - FOR IT SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN THAT GERMANS AND ENGLISHMEN ARE OF A COMMON RACIAL STOCK. I ASK, WHY WIPE THEMSELVES OUT, WHEN THE SHADOW OF THAT ASIATIC AND MUSCOVITE MENACE IS THE REAL PERIL OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD.

EDITORIAL VENICE VANGUARD JANUARY 12, 1915

minorities and racism

BY MARK McINTIRE (C) 1980 TRUSTEES OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

It is impossible to fully appreciate the status and condition of racial minorities by leafing through the pages of an anglo, community paper like the Venice Vanguard. Brown, black, and yellow people are infrequently mentioned because they were despised and therefore unworthy. This is called racism. They are invisible because they are petty bourgeois, working class, or poor. This myopic vision of reality is called class consciousness. The editors and reporters of the local newspaper were not members of any ruling class but they unconsciously promoted that view. In such a world minorities appear only infrequently, and then for the most part as criminals, anti-socials, or curiosities. Nevertheless, when studying local Venice history between 1914-1916 through the pages of the newspaper one catches rare, fleeting glimpses of these people and the lives which they lived.

Predominately white, anglo-saxon Protestant Venice of 1914-1916 had a variegated ethnic population and was no different from other small cities of the area during this period in its attitude towards minorities. The Venice Evening Vanguard reflected the attitude of its readers; it was racist. A person's race or ethnic origin was used to trigger a stereotypical image in the reader's mind. No attempts were made to disguise the bigotry; no apologies were made. The newspaper was naively ignorant of its prejudice against other races even when this prejudice was quite obvious. The three minority groups given the most attention were Orientals, Mexicans, and Blacks - the three most prominent minorities in California. American Indians were also mentioned in the paper as were national minorities from Europe. All were stereotyped, some more viciously than others.

One of the main causes of bigotry among Venetians was their extreme ethnocentrism. White, Anglo-Saxon Protestant American culture was seen as the greatest form of culture to which a society could attain. A 1915 society page article described a James Chapin, explorer, along with the Pygmy he found in Africa. He had just returned to tell about his "strange discoveries." Referring to a photograph published in the paper Chapin is quoted: "This little fellow is a polygamist as are all the members of his tribe. Some of the chiefs had as many as 200 wives." It was noted that "the explorer did not see any evidence of cannibalism for himself".

ORIENTALS

A rather large population of Orientals lived in or near Venice. A Japanese fishing village was located near the Long Wharf north of Santa Monica while small numbers of Chinese lived or worked in both Santa Monica and Venice. These two ethnic minorities were often viewed differently by Venetians who were often well disposed towards the Japanese but condescending towards the Chinese.

The inhabitants of the Japanese village were fishermen and an integral economic part of the Santa Monica Bay

community. Economic competition led to animosity which was exacerbated by racial differences. When a sudden increase in the schools of fish in the Santa Barbara Channel occurred, the Vanguard reported that the abundance would cause a decrease in the price of fish. But white fishermen out of San Pedro decided to restrict fishing in order to keep prices up. The members of the Japanese village refused to comply with the voluntary fishing restraints proposed by the San Pedro group, which then threatened to sail a flotilla up the coast and force them to comply. Violence was only narrowly averted by local authorities who stepped in and fined four Japanese fishermen \$50 each for illegally fishing with seine nets within the three mile limit.

Crime also cast a shadow over the relationship between Venetians and the Japanese. For example R.E. Denning and M. Oura were arrested at the village on charges of white slavery. There was a search for the women involved but they were not found due to "...secret passages

**OVERTURNING OF LAMP
CAUSES \$40,000 FIRE
IN JAP VILLAGE**

passages connecting one Jap's home with another...not known to any white man." It was suggested that county officers make a thorough "cleaning up" of the village. It was reported that "the police arrested a Japanese with an unpronounceable name" on charges of annoying residents near Thornton Ave and Ocean Front Walk by looking through their windows.

There was also a widespread fear of "the yellow peril". A Venice city trustee commented on the 100,000 Japanese living on the Hawaiian Islands: "the presence of so many Japs on the islands is going to become a most interesting problem for Uncle Sam to handle.... Even now the country is virtually at the mercy of the little brown men.... There is no telling what may happen...." This issue was further expounded on by City Attorney Hanna who said: "A number of these sturdy little yellow fellows were on the beach doing Jiu Jitsu and they were models of perfect development. It is possible that some day we will have to send some of our people against these fellows in battle."

Japanese considered themselves Americans as evidence by their celebration of the Fourth of July. Through the organization of the Japanese Association of Southern California, a 4th of July picnic was held at the Japanese village. What was referred to as "Nipponese" pastimes and games were played on the beach. As was customary for any picnic, speeches were addressed to the crowd by important Japanese of the Southland". Because they

were oriental the entire affair was termed an "Oriental Activity", not an American one.

Another article reported that a fire in the village had caused over \$40,000 worth of damage to 25 buildings. The Pacific Electric Co, whose tracks ran thru the village pledged to help repair the damage. But the Vanguard could not resist a racist innuendo. It reported that the fire made the Japanese realize that in order to protect their homes they would have to install a fire bell. The bell was located on top of a high pole and the only way to ring it was for someone to climb the pole, according to the paper. The suggestion of monkeys was obviously being implied.

Japanese art and ambition were however admired. The Strand Cafe was re-decorated with a Japanese theme and the "whole interior is said to be the most beautiful creation yet attempted on the beach". A news item described a Japanese businessman who donated to the Christmas charity drive as a "noble hearted son of the Cherry Blossom Land...he has a generous heart even if his tongue is foreign". It was reported without comment that Tom Yamaraka and Ike Irakazawa had graduated from the Venice School of Aviation. The Christian Woman's Board of Missions welcomed kindergarten age Japanese children to their institutional programs. A movie about Japan played at a local theater. An ad for The Courtship of O San stated that the movie portrayed the "beauty, poetry, and whimsical daintiness of the Japanese people".

Chinese were also the victims of prejudice. Len San's application to establish a Chinese laundry was denied by the Board of Trustees because of the objections of Westminister Ave. property owners. The specific objections were not given, but the need for a Chinese laundry hardly held as much sway as any objections local property owners might have raised. Another article entitled, "Now, what do you know about this, Chinaman beats Irishman" discussed the victory of Leo Lee, the pride of Chinatown over his caucasian opponent. The tenor of the article shows the pre-conceived racial beliefs of "white-skinned" superiority that existed among many Venetians. Another reference to Chinese involved the seizure of "vast amounts of opium and morphine" by Los Angeles police at the home of Toy On and Wong Sing.

Chinese were described as gamblers and dope smugglers in some articles, but in others they were ordinary citizens who forecasted the weather, and played baseball. Jack Woo, Hom Chung, and Quing Pin were arrested in Santa Monica on charges of maintaining a place where lottery drawings were held. There was mention in the paper of "connections with L.A. and San Francisco." The area near Playa Del Rey was being watched by police and concerned citizens because of unusual activities observed by a chemist named March. He reported that he

had seen men in parked cars on the bluffs shoot rockets off toward the ocean. Shortly afterward "Chinamen" landed on the beach, got into the cars and drove off toward Los Angeles. They may have been "Chinese smugglers, opium smugglers, or in communication with some of the foreign men-of-war ships known to be in southern waters." Ray Jones of the State Board of Pharmacy and four deputies visited Chinatown (5th and Pennsylvania Ave.) in Santa Monica. They "were on the lookout for dope", but didn't find any. Santa Monica's Chinatown was also warned that unless the occupants cleaned up their district it might be wiped out. The Chinese got busy painting and cleaning and no action was taken.

A few semi-positive articles concerning Chinese did appear. Young Sing described as a wealthy Chinese, was attacked one night while walking home. He shot his assailant but not before being hurt himself. The Vanguard expressed its sympathy for Sing and hoped he would not be in the hospital too long.

Lon Wa of Venice was described as a "Chinese gardner and weather prognostator extraordinary." Mention was also made of Lai Tin, a Chinese baseball player from Honolulu who was signed by the White Sox as the first Chinese player in major league history. Fook Wo Lung was the only Oriental mentioned by name in the newspapers during May-June 1915. He engineered a deal by which the Chinese Chamber of Commerce contributed to the

La Fiesta de las Flores parade. But the Vanguard could not resist belittling the man. The Bay area had been experiencing a great deal of rainfall around this time and Fook Wo Lung was reported as saying that a "great Chinese dragon" had caused it.

Whatever Venetians felt about the Orientals in their own community there is evidence that they were fascinated by oriental culture. For example, the Breakers Club put on an Oriental Ball that was elaborate and popular. Here, Japan, Persia, Egypt, and "all the countries of the Far and Middle East" were represented in the costumes worn by Venetians. Similarly, some of the women's clubs held Japanese tea and chop suey parties. They discussed topics such as Oriental fashions make up, and bound feet. Japanese prints were displayed and discussed at one such meeting.

Another minority, blacks, were generally treated with disdain. Segregation was the goal in Venice. Two separate articles in the Vanguard addressed this issue. The first dealt with a national issue, a legal challenge to anti black occupancy laws before the U.S. Supreme Court. The particular laws in question were from St. Louis and Louisville, which prohibited blacks from occupying property in predominantly white neighborhoods. Commented the Vanguard: "The mixing of people...of decidedly opposite colors is not at any time desirable". Segregation should not be legislated but achieved by other means.

In another article it was reported that Los Angeles property owners had organized to raise money to fight a law allowing the sale of property to negroes.

Blacks were meant to be isolated, presumably like the Japanese in their village and the Chinese in Chinatown. For blacks this isolation manifested itself in a segregated "colored" church, Phillips Chapel M.E. of Venice. Clearly identified as a "colored church" it was nevertheless mentioned that "everyone was welcome". A classified ad announced that a "colored" woman was offering her services as a cleaning lady.

Blacks were never mentioned on the society page. An exception occurred when one of the local Venice delegates to the convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in San Diego, Mrs. A.B. Davis, read a "charming little negro dialect poem of her own composition" to her club.

Crimes committed by blacks were often sensationalized. Race was considered an important piece of information about a person whose name was entered on the police department docket. One story of crime did not even have the names or descriptions of the suspects but their color was known. The headlines read: "Five Negroes in a Ford car...beat up three moving picture actors." Guns were used, the actors were robbed, and Chief of Police Watson and his men "started after the negroes toward Playa Del Rey".

Criminal tendencies were pointed out when a "colored man" reportedly cashed bogus checks in the city. When three "colored crap shooters" were taken into custody from the grounds of the Al G. Barnes Circus it was so reported. In Camden New Jersey, Mrs. E.T. Sherman,

El Militarismo Prepotente.



formerly of Ocean Park, was assaulted and robbed. She was unconscious for an hour, dragged herself to a farm house a mile away, and told her story relating that it had been done by two negroes. The next day, a single negro was spotted with blood on his clothing, and with no "straightforward" story of his whereabouts the evening before. He was hung on a telephone pole and shot full of holes. So reported the Vanguard.

A black janitor, the newspaper referred to as a "trusted coloredman", was in the bank when the alarm went off after closing time. People began peering through the windows at him and he became "uneasy", because he was certain someone would soon assume him to be a "bandit" and take a shot at him. Calling him a trusted black man leads one to assume that most blackmen can't be trusted.

It was the idea of J. Goodman Braye to establish a negro industrial school in Southern California. Mr. Braye was black, but because of the light color of his skin it was sometimes difficult for whites to recognize that fact. The school Braye proposed was to be structured along the lines of Tuskegee Institute. He came to the Bay district in July of 1916 hoping to obtain subscriptions to a \$100,000 building fund. This school idea was endorsed by some of the leading citizens of Venice, including Mayor Gerety, W.A. Rennie of the Vanguard, R.A. Phillips and Douglas Wilson. No location for the school at yet been selected. The school would train blacks in agriculture, domestic science, mechanics and vocational skills.

Blacks were often made fun of and described as abnormal. For instance a first page story told of a "colored gentleman, after imbibing too freely, tells the police of fantastic experiences." Andrew Carson, "colored", much the worse off for the potions he had imbibed, was arrested apparently for being drunk. He was quoted as having told police captain Lingo, "I had been fishin cap'n and my pole broke. Jest when I started for hum the tide rose up and the bridge was done gone down the stream. Cap'n I'se not a bad man at all I jest was naturally over come by the high water and could not na-

vigate home." Captain Lingo replied: Not just water, I guess. Carson, unless you drank a great many chasers. You are simply drunk and the best place for you is in the can."

Blacks, referred to as colored, were treated as subservient to white people. A cartoon printed by the paper showed the stereotyped black housekeeper as a clumsy imbecile. In two successive cartoons she drops a vase and an egg.

A black porter named Henry was mentioned in an article about the Venice Bowling alley. The article implied that everyone acquainted with bollowing knew Henry.

The paper reported that Jefferson L. Edwards, editor of the Liberator (a black publication) had died. He had been a teacher, Justice of the Peace in Mississippi, a delegate to the National Silver Convention, and was self-educated. The article ended with an editorial aside: "he was a colored man far above the average intelligence of his race."

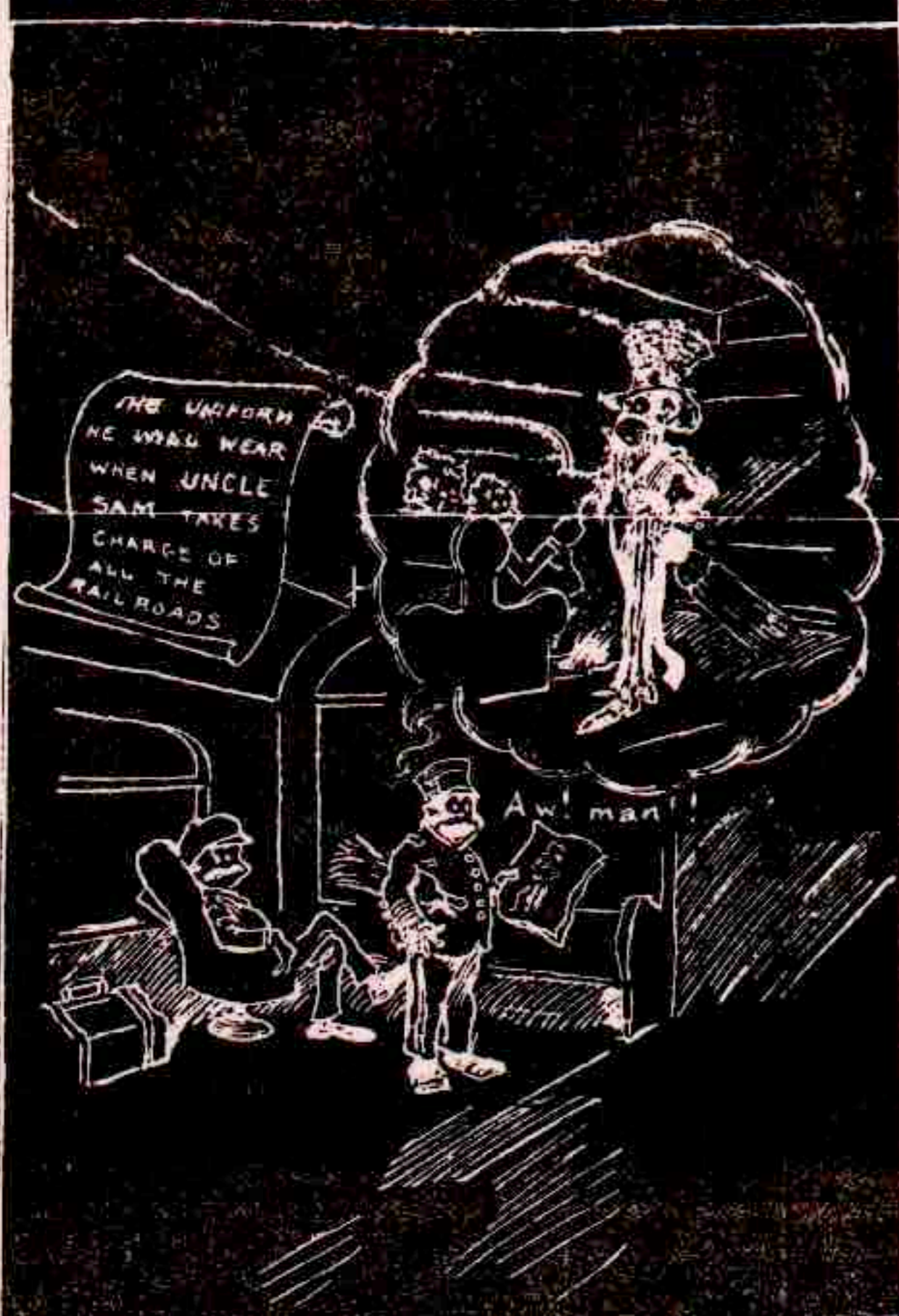
Black culture was a novelty to Venetians. When manager Middleton of the Ocean Park Dance Pavillion booked the Sierra Colored Troupe, it was expected to draw the biggest crowd to the Ocean Park Pier since the fire. Similarly "old-fashioned colored cake walks" (strutting dance performed by southern blacks) attracted many to the amusement district.

The economic standing of negroes was exemplified in an article that described a fire in Santa Monica at the home of L. Burke, a "colored man". His gas stove exploded causing a fire. While there was no loss to the building "perhaps \$10 would meet expenses of replacing carpet and bedding."

In regard to the entertaining qualities of negroes an advertisement for the Strand Cafe read: "The Big 4 Colored Entertainers from Mobile Ala. Plantation Melodies and All Popular Music." An article with this same theme described a blackman named Nat Love of Santa Monica. He had been famous in wild west days as "Deadwood Dick", and had recently pub-

(cont. on page 10)

THE DRUMMER EXPLAINS TO THE PORTER.



lished a book about his life as a champion rope thrower and revolver shooter. He had also worked as a porter before moving to Santa Monica and, at that time, was "a faithful worker, a checker at the city yards."

Negro eating habits were ridiculed when prizefighter Sam Langford rewarded his black trainers with a chicken dinner at the end of a training session. He remarked that "after them coons got through with them barnyard fowls, there was nothing but a pile of bones as big as the skeleton of a mule."

One well known black in Venice was Sam Green who shined shoes on Pier Ave. He was praised for recruiting between 50 and 75 blackmen to serve in the army during the border fighting with Mexico. But the newspaper couldn't resist a racist editorial comment, quoting Green as having said that he was having trouble getting blacks to serve as privates because they all wanted to be officers.

Blacks appear to have had their own club in Venice, called the Colored Society, where they held dances, vocal and instrumental concerts.

Another ethnic group which experienced prejudice were the Mexicans. Approximately 500 Mexicans lived in Venice, mostly in a barrio near the old Motordome ((around Jefferson and Lincoln). These people were also hated and feared more than the other minorities. During the Mexican civil war Pancho Villa had raided many parts of the American south-west and anglos believed that the Mexicans were intent on recovering California.

These concerns were expressed almost daily in the pages of the Vanguard where Mexicans were pictured in a stereotypical and derogatory way. When Mexican-U.S. relations deteriorated in April 1914, the racist attitude of Venetians towards Mexicans became more virulent. The newspaper said that Ocean Parkers were casting "suspicious eyes" upon the Mexicans.

Independent municipalities began to pass laws restrict Mexican residents. It was warned that no Mexicans would be allowed to "congregate on street corners" and no more liquor was to be sold to Mexicans while the war was in progress. Said Santa Monica Police Chief Randell,

"There's no telling what kind of trouble might start" if Mexicans are allowed to fill up with cheap wine". Not long after this two Mexicans were placed under arrest for being boisterous. And chief Randell eventually issued a directive that anybody "looking suspicious" would be arrested. The law should have read: "Anyone looking Mexican will be arrested"

Two Mexicans were arrested for disturbing the peace and three Mexicans were arrested for begging and acting in a "threatening manner" along Strand St. An individual, "looking as if he were dead", and passed out in the street, was not identified other than as a Mexican. When on patrol one day, officer Stukey ran into an "aggressive" Mexican. "He (the Mexican) coolly informed the officer that he would cut him to pieces.... Stukey shoved his revolver against the Mexican's stomach." The Mexican was arrested and the newspapers headline to this story was... "Officer Stukey whipped Mexico yesterday without firing a single shot." At the police state, it seems that the man's name was "unpronounceable" so he was booked with the prestigious name of "John Doe Mex."

The escalating conflict in Texas over the search for Pancho Villa added to the suspicions and hostility many Venetians felt towards Mexicans. While the newspaper kept them well informed about developments there, Venetians were told of the danger that existed closer to home. In early May the Vanguard reported the U.S. government was conducting a search for spies and Mexican revolutionary plotters in San Diego and other areas of the Southwest as far east as New Orleans. Meanwhile Antonio Morales was arrested for suspicion of having participated in "a riot" in Montebello, three Mexican "riots" occurred in separate sections of Los Angeles on one day, and Ricardo Flores Magon and his brother Enrique, two alleged Mexican revolutionaries, went on trial in Los Angeles, charged with illegal use of the mails to incite riot. The Magon brothers were indeed revolutionaries. They published a revolutionary newspaper for Chicanos out of Los Angeles called Regeneration. It called for armed insurrection against



Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon in Los Angeles County Jail.

U.S. capitalism and imperialism and the creation of an anarcho-communist Mexican Republic in California, Texas, Arizona and New Mexico.

A cartoon entitled Volunteering in Mexico, portrayed Mexican peasants as lazy. The Mexican army was getting volunteers by lassoing, drugging, and knocking out their 'volunteers'. This cartoon stigmatizes Mexicans as lazy and unpatrotic, just the opposite of the good American, hard working, competent, and undyingly patriotic.

By late June tensions between Mexico and the United States began to peak. A virtual state of war existed between the two countries (the semi-independent state of Yucatan actually declared war) and the United States withdrew all its consuls from Mexico. The Mexican government threatened to arrest any American found in that country. Sentiment in favor of war was high, as a visiting Texas rancher commented to the Vanguard. "We've simply got to teach those fellows a lesson... Mexico needs a good house-cleaning and she's going to get it...." The California National Guard was mobilized, including the local Company E. Mexicans living in Southern California were now treated as a potential 5th column. Both Venice and Santa Monica passed restrictive urgency ordinances against at Mexicans.

Venice and Santa Monica police departments will keep a strict watch over the large bay Mexican population. When Mexicans in their own country are reported to be torturing Americans, at least police in our own cities can take steps to prevent intoxicated Mexicans from buying arms and ammunition and from going out on a little bandit mission of their own. No liquor should be sold Mexicans, and Chief Watson of Venice and Chief Ferguson of Santa Monica will see that the order is strictly enforced. With perhaps 75,000 Mexicans in Los Angeles county, a riot would result in the loss of many lives and the destruction of much property. Withholding liquor and firearms from the Mexicans will be the best preventative of crime.

Not all Mexicans in Venice or Santa Monica were treated in a stereotypical way. Jose Lopez was one such individual who "realized what many white-skinned Americans have failed to, that his first duty is to his country..." Lopez ignored the idea "prevalant among those of foreign blood, that the boys of Company E do not desire them to join..." and became a recruit in the California

National Guard. The Vanguard concluded: "It has been assured that all American citizens of any birth whatever...with clean habits are welcomed at all times by every member of the company". Implied in this statement was that the typical Mexican failed in the opinion of many Venetians to meet the criteria of "clean habits."

Another exception to the Venetian stereotype was J. Tonzales. This visitor from Juarez planned to spend the summer with his family at the beaches until the "unpleasantness existing in his section of the country has blown over...." This apparently wealthy individual with assumably clean habits, also stood above the typical drunken Mexican. The Vanguard treated him in a manner of relative equality, using none of its typical inflammatory words to describe the "unpleasantness" which Mr. Gonzales was avoiding. All this suggests that the conomically successful individual was not meant to be included in the stereotype of the typical Mexican.

But in general the Vanguard projects the impression that Mexicans were undesirable elements, frequently arrested, and forced to leave town. There is no indication given that Mexicans living in the American south-west were the victims of racial prejudice and economic exploitation, and no recognition or appreciation of the growing spirit of national pride among them is apparent.

Eduardo Ramos was arrested (called Ed) on a charge of frunkeness. According to the paper he was found at 3 am "entertaining" a group of "his countrymen" with a speech. Fined ten dollars and ten days in jail, he was quoted as saying, "I'll kill every American that I can find in Mexico when I get back there." It is not known whether Ramos was connected with the Magon brothers. The only glimmer of recognition in the Vanguard that the revolution going on in Mexico was justified came when it reported the comments of a visitor to Venice just returned from Mexico. "As soon as the middle and peon classes can be assured of their rights, warfare now in progress will die down."

Some native Americans lived in and around the Venice area. A group of Objbawan Indians had been brought in as actors in the locally produced Longfellow play "Hiawatha". This was a revolving group of Sioux Indians from the Dakotas at Inceville in the Santa Monica Mountains. Inceville was a small town, part of a ranch owned by the Ince Movie Co. and it was there that many early westerns were made. The indians lived in the town there and were generally well received by the population of the Santa Monica Bay. When the first Sioux indian child was born on the ranch to Chief Thunder Bull a "huge blaze could be seen in the mountains" announcing the event. Indians also participated in such local events as the Los Angeles "preparadness parade" designed to show popular support for the government against Germany and Mexico. That political consciousness among native Americans was still alive was demonstrated when they carried a banner in the parade which read: "You people wouldn't be here now if we had been prepared."

But native Americans were also stereotyped. For instance there were typically credited with drunkenness. Ernest Swallow of the 101 movie ranch was taken into custody in Santa Monica "after inbibing too much firewater". This was also the reason that V.A. Brooks "this morning shipped back to the Rosebud reservation in South Dakota a part of 22 Indians who had been used in the moving picture camp in the Santa Yuez Canyon. Mr. Brooks intends to bring in a bunch of new Sioux and Pawnee Indians who are not so well acquainted with white men and their ways." The newspaper reported without comment that "One of the sights of the street was a quartet of gaily bedecked Indian squaws riding about the city in a big seven-seater car with a paleface driver behind the wheel". A white person chauffeuring Indian women around, and Indian women riding in a car worth considerably more than most people in Venice could afford?

Doc Sam was an Eskimo who lived in Santa Monica. He was the last remaining member of a group that had come to visit Venice, perhaps as part of a side show, in 1915. Arrested for vagrancy and drunkenness in Santa Monica, he became the handyman of the local jail. Generally "a peaceful and harmless" individ-

Wm. S. Hart's
Latest Master Picture
The Aryan
AT
NEPTUNE THEATRE
—VENICE—
THURSDAY

ual, he had a "highly cultivated taste for liquor" and while under the influence of alcohol, he was suspected of "molesting children and frightening women by his queer actions and gestures."

There were Jews living in Venice but they were not often mentioned, and it is difficult to judge if anti-Semitism existed. But the existence of anti-

LAS RAZA PROSCRITA

El deber de todos los trabajadores es salir a la defensa de nuestros presos; y para los que somos de raza mexicana, el deber es doblemente imperioso. Bien sabeis, mexicanos, que en este pais nada valemos. La sangre de Antonio Rodriguez todavia no se orea en Rock Springs; esta caliente aun el cuerpo de Juan Rincon; esta fresca la sepultura de Silvestre Lomas; en las encijadas de Texas blanquean las osamentas de los mexicanos; en los bosques e Louisiana, los musgos adornan los esqueletos de los mexicanos. No sabeis cuantas veces ha recibido el trabajador mexicano un balazo en mitad del pecho al ir a cobrar su salario a un patron norteamericano? No habeis viaje en los carros de los hombres del piel blanca? En las fondas, en los hoteles, en las barbarias, en las playas de moda, no se admite a los mexicanos. En Texas se excluye de las escuelas a los niños mexicanos. En determinados salones de espectaculos hay lugares destinados para los mexicanos.

No constituye todo esto un ultraje? Y como detener tanto ultraje se permitamos con los brazos cruzados? Si tenemos verguenza, ahora es cuando debemos ponernos en pie. Unamonos como un solo hombre para demandar la libertad absoluta de nuestros hermanos presos en Texas; agitemos la opinion; demostramos que sabemos unirnos enfrente de la injusticia y de la tirania, y si pesar de nuestros esfuerzos y de demostrar su inocencia, no se pone en libertad a nuestros hermanos, levantamonos en armas, que es preferible morir a arrastrar una vida de humillaciones y de verguenza. Si no se hace justicia a los nuestros, encarbolenos la bandera roja aqui mismo y hagamos justicia con nuestras propias manos. Accion reclaman los tiempos que corremos; pero no la accion de poner en tierra las rodillas y elevar los ojos al cielo, sino la accion viril, que tiene como companeras la dinamita y la metralla.

Hay que hacer entender a los perseguidores que si el verdugo pone la cuerda de la horca en el cuello de Rangel y companeros, nosotros, los trabajadores, pondremos nuestras manos en el cuello de los burgueses. Ahora o nunca! esta es la oportunidad que se nos presenta para detener esa serie de infamias que se cometen en este pais en las personas de nuestra raza por el unico delito de ser mexicanos y pobres, pues hasta hoy no se ha visto que un burgues mexicano haya sido atropellado. Es contra nosotros los pobres, contra los trabajadores contra quienes se comete toda clase de atentados. Unamonos todos los desheredados resueltos a ser respetados o a morir, y gritemos a la burguesia ensorberbecida; justicia o rebelion. Viva Tierra y Libertad!

Ricardo Flores Magon
REGENERACION
July 4, 1914


in Venice in 15 months.

Racial stereotyping went beyond nationalities to include racial groups. In general British, Canadians, Irish and Germans were well liked and appreciated. Latins were often stereotyped as hot-blooded and hot-headed. For example in the reporting of crimes, the crimes themselves were not as significant as the fact they they were committed by persons who were not White. Anglo-Saxon Protestant. This kind of reporting made the stories more attractive reading, because the average reader did not associate the criminals with his culture or society. For example when Greeks got into minor trouble with the law their names were often not mentioned, only the problem. "A Greek restaurant proprietor", a "Greek janitor", a "Greek laborer".

Racial prejudice was promoted by the Vanguard. Terms such as coons, Greasser and Chink often appeared. Venice was predominantly a white, anglo-saxon, protestant community. California was known as a melting pot, a place where a new start could be made. Population was increasing, and many colored and ethnic groups were mentioned in Venice. As long as they were clean, thrifty, and light skinned, as long as they stayed out of sight, they were desirable. Dark skins, low-economic status, and any suspicion of crime no matter how minor caused this WASP community to become upset.

The general sentiment of Venetians with regard to minorities was probably best echoed by City Attorney Byron Hanna. When asked why he thought Venice needed a charter, he talked about the growth of the city, new problems, and that he "hoped Venice and her people would look towards the future in that respect: that the right of local self-government was as dear to the anglo-saxon people as liberty itself, and that when we are ready for a charter we will lay aside all factional feeling and approach it in the right spirit". Obviously "laying aside all factional feeling" in the pursuit of democracy did not include eliminating racial prejudice and the hatred and injustice which it bred, not just in Venice, but through the country

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emism throughout the world was brought home to a particular Jewish family when part of it was destroyed in a Russian pogrom. Mr. H. Fisher of Venice was located by the Jewish Relief Society of New York which informed him that his mother, brother, and sister in law had been beaten to death while out walking. Five children survived who Mr. Fisher agreed to sponsor into the United States. The children were scheduled to arrive

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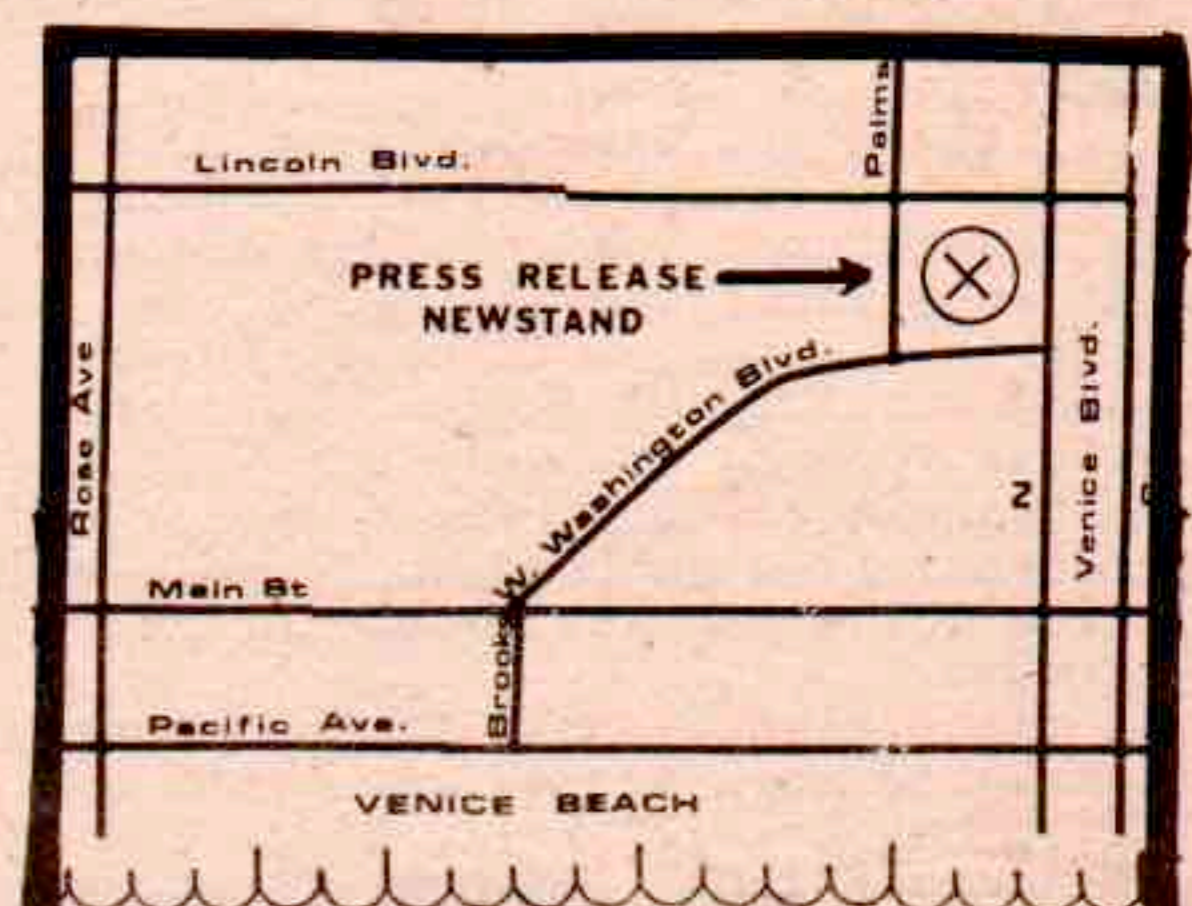
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Resolving the Energy Crisis

by Jeff DeZellar

Most Americans have felt the increase in world tensions in the last several months. The hostages in Iran, the Soviets in Afghanistan, rising petroleum prices, & a falling dollar have conspired to make many of us anxious about the international situation. These events also seemed to ignite a strong surge of nationalism in America, resulting in enthusiastic displays of patriotism in a variety of settings. It is my contention that this "patriotism" is just another way to avoid confronting the real problem: American overconsumption.

On college campuses earlier this year, students & others sang God Bless America, waved American flags & shouted anti-Iran slogans at rallies. On some campuses, clashes occurred between pro- & anti-Iran factions. Congress was in a bellicose mood over the hostage situation, with some members calling for bombing Iranian oil fields or other direct military action. President Carter talked tough. People on the street were seen wearing anti-Iran buttons & t-shirts.

An even more vivid display of the new patriotism came in the United States' stunning victory over the U.S.S.R. team in the Olympic hockey tournament. The game was a thrilling athletic event, but was also billed by some as a victory of capitalism over communism. The ringing chant "USA, USA" & the many American flags at all the U.S. hockey games reinforced the feeling that the games were not merely athletic contests, but were symbolic struggles of national will.

These displays of patriotism may serve to create a sense of national solidarity, or may convey a message to politicians, but I believe they ignore a key point. That is, the United States has had a significant role in bringing about what is a lamentable state of world affairs. In particular, the consumptive & wasteful energy habits of the U.S. have created a situation where our country imports about half of the oil we consume. The hostage situation in Iran & the Russian action in Afghanistan take on added significance because of the proximity of mid-East oil reserves. Rising world petroleum prices impact the U.S. sharply, & are a prime ingredient of our present 20% inflation rate. (In Los Angeles, consumption is flagrantly excessive, & contributes in a major way to our problems of air pollution, congestion & general environmental degradation.)

The connection between our consumptive habits & some of our most pressing problems seems clear, but many people have chosen instead to place all blame on those nasty foreigners. I say the efforts we expend worrying & blaming outside forces can be better expended elsewhere.

In particular, a positive form of patriotism exists, & is ours for the taking right now. It's called conservation, & it has several merits in this context. First it isn't us against them, it's us against us. This may not provide as convenient a focus for our frustrations, but eventually we must acknowledge the link between our dependence on foreign oil & our wasteful habits of consumption. This is the only way we can effectively begin to deal with the problem, & the sooner the better.

Second, if you believe as I do that our dependence on foreign is at the root of much of today's international & domestic stress, then conservation attacks that root directly. Reduce consumption & you reduce imports. Finally, conservation is patriotic, because it would make the country stronger, cleaner, safer, more self-sufficient, & perhaps even more united.

Energy conservation can be achieved in a variety of ways using presently available technology or knowledge, often at relatively low cost. The many ways individuals can save energy is well documented in the literature, & a complete discussion of such practices is beyond the scope of this essay. Suffice it to say that home insulation, reduced hot water use, & car pooling are only a few of many proven techniques for reduced energy use. Many conservation methods boast an energy reduction for a particular use of up to 50% or more.

One might rightly ask "If these practices make so much sense, why isn't conservation happening?" Well, there are several interrelated reasons. First, as a

society, we have been raised on the notion that energy in abundant quantities is readily available & relatively inexpensive. I'm from the Midwest, & the local electric utility used to encourage the use of appliances by proclaiming that "electricity was penny cheap from NSP to you." Personal perceptions of abundance, & personal habits of excessive consumption, both die hard.

Second, politicians seem most reluctant to call for or legislate for meaningful sacrifice, let alone practice it, even if desirable long-term goals may be better served by doing so. This political inertia borders on complete paralysis in an election year such as 1980. Finally, the free enterprise system has been based to a large degree on excessive consumption, accumulation & waste in the name of economic growth. The profit motive, which is the cornerstone of our economic system, surely plays a major role in encouraging consumption & discouraging conservation. More is not always better. More is just more.

So the barriers to conservation of resources are formidable. Still, in the past, modern Americans have demonstrated an ability to change habits & cut consumption under certain circumstances.

For example, during the 1976-77 drought in California, water use for entire communities was cut by 40-50% & more primarily through the efforts of individual water users. In Marin County, public education campaigns gave a sound rationale for water conservation, and conveyed proven water conservation practices to water customers. The result was excellent community cooperation with subsequent rationing ordinances, & a marked decrease in consumption.



In October, 1977, I was in Marin County conducting interviews & collecting data for a research paper on water conservation & the drought. At that time, the drought was dragging on in its second year, with no relief in sight. Water conservation ordinances had been in effect for about a year, & water demand had been cut approximately in half. But during my month stay there, I didn't detect a strong sense of resentment, insecurity or major personal inconvenience. To the contrary, people seemed pleased that they could adapt to a shortage situation, & felt the security that comes with successful adaptation to change. Local newspapers talked about "community spirit" & "pulling together" in coping with a problem the people had in common, & the people lived that way.

So water conservation can happen. It has happened right in our own back yard, & there is no reason why energy conservation couldn't be the same way. But it can only happen if the public perceives a need, & if our institutions respond accordingly. If we perceive a long-term energy shortage, we can conserve.

To confront the problem requires adequate information reaching all the people, effective political leadership, responsive institutions, & a host of other things. But first & foremost, it requires that we be honest with ourselves, & confront the reality that we have to consume less. We may even come to like it.

In his 1977 energy address, President Carter said that fighting to improve America's energy situation was "...the moral equivalent of war" and stressed conservation. Although these statements were not backed up with effective political action, I think his admonition was & is well taken. Clearly, the international energy situation has deteriorated since 1977. Our national preparedness for an energy shortage situation does not appear adequate. And now international tensions & domestic woes are growing.

Well, we can get mad at foreigners all we want. But consuming less is a far more effective & rational way to strengthen our country & improve our living environment. Now that's a truly patriotic thing to do. ●

A Tribute to the Decadence Of Cinema

By Linda Burdick

Cinema usually reflects a sign of the times and places. With the "times" as an environment where nuclear and/or germ warfare are within reach, a certain sense of anomie and diffused aura of responsibility exist. Two films which show this free floating anxiety best are: "Foxes" & "Over the Edge". The place, L.A., & in it, it's own wealthy child-products of the children of the 60's, swarming around in a hypocritical world. That is, the children of the children of the parents who philosophized industry at all costs, as did THEIR immigrant parents. Whereas the 60's fought off responsibility, the children of the 70's have founded a new kind of responsibility. And it is responsible filmmakers who are showing this to us.

"Over the Edge" is perhaps the most exemplary & extreme of this testament of rootlessness. The story of children in a planned community whose only allegiance is to each other, it depicts a situation where chaos reigns free. The ultimate nihilism exists here. The kind we talked about in the 60's but couldn't accomplish because of our inbred guilt. Well, these kids don't have that, and they are remarkable at creating a dangerous situation which we cannot cure or control.

"Foxes" takes place at a time when our children are a little older - teenagers now. It also takes place in a rich L.A. community. The Valium children reaching puberty and looking for something of truth and value to hand onto. Exactly where are we, timewise, when a teenager says that she "listens to my mom's 'Abbey Road' when I want to feel mellow"? Fighting to feel secure in a world without security, friendship is the key instrument which keeps these teenagers intact & for the most part, alive. One girl, Annie, has found self-destructive salvation in drugs. But who is it that ultimately helps her to realize that the end of the road is near unless she changes, and who accepts a maternal responsibility, but a friend herself? Without ruining the story lines, suffice it to say that both films demonstrate a society where "mother" is no longer that image of a pie-baking woman tattooed to the arm of a sailor. MOTHER is anyone who looks out for you, who will protect and defend you in the face of danger (which you may well have brought upon yourself). It is not necessarily someone who gave you life, but someone who helps you keep it. It is the similar sentiment that "Rebel Without A Cause" portrayed.

"Foxes" and "Over the Edge" lend wonder to us products of the 60's and makes that age-old adage, "where did we go wrong?" all the more poignant. And, if we're looking to keep our society from the dregs of rootlessness & chaos, "what can we do different?" Venice probably has more per capita refugees of the 60's than any other area around here. What does that say about us? ●

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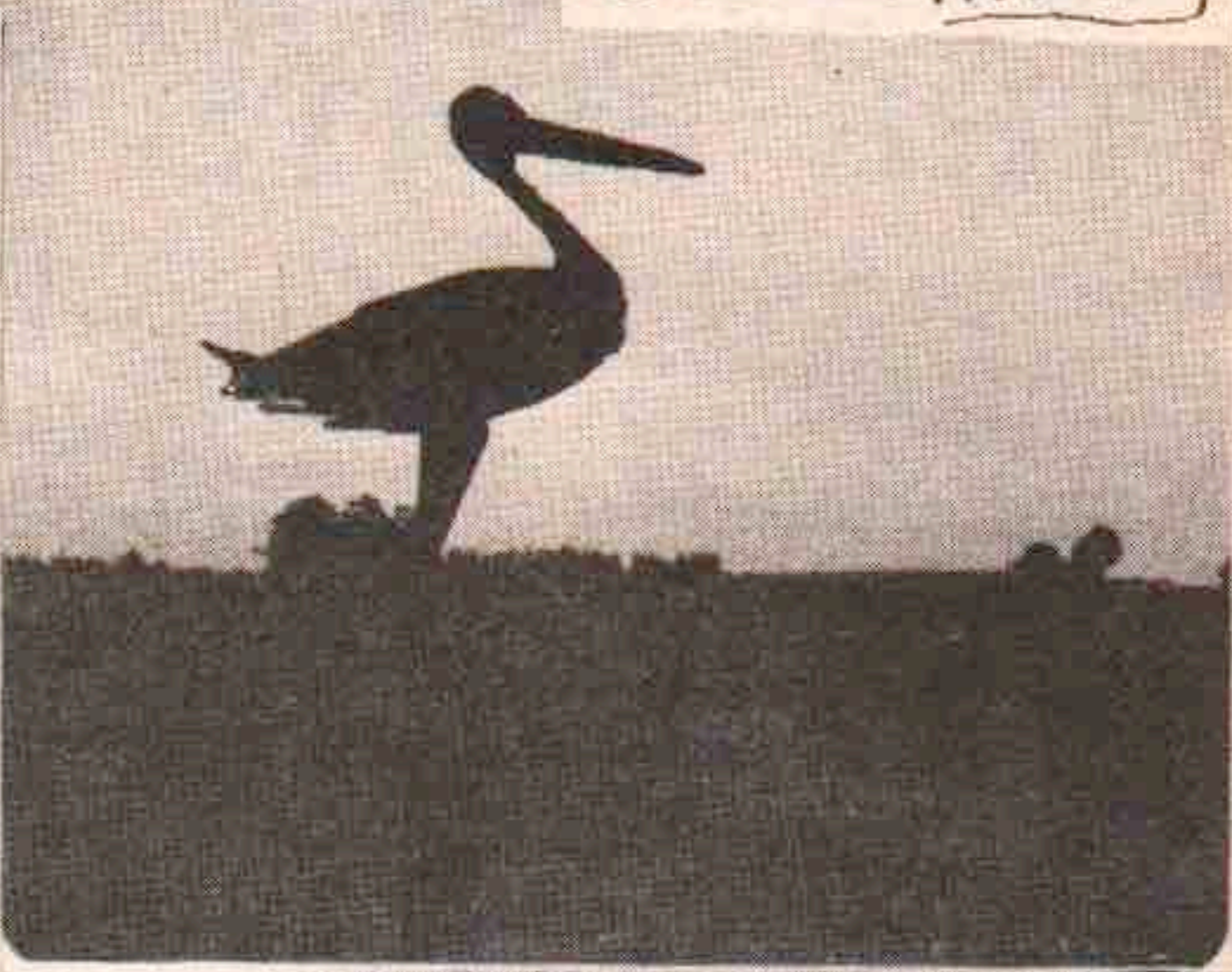
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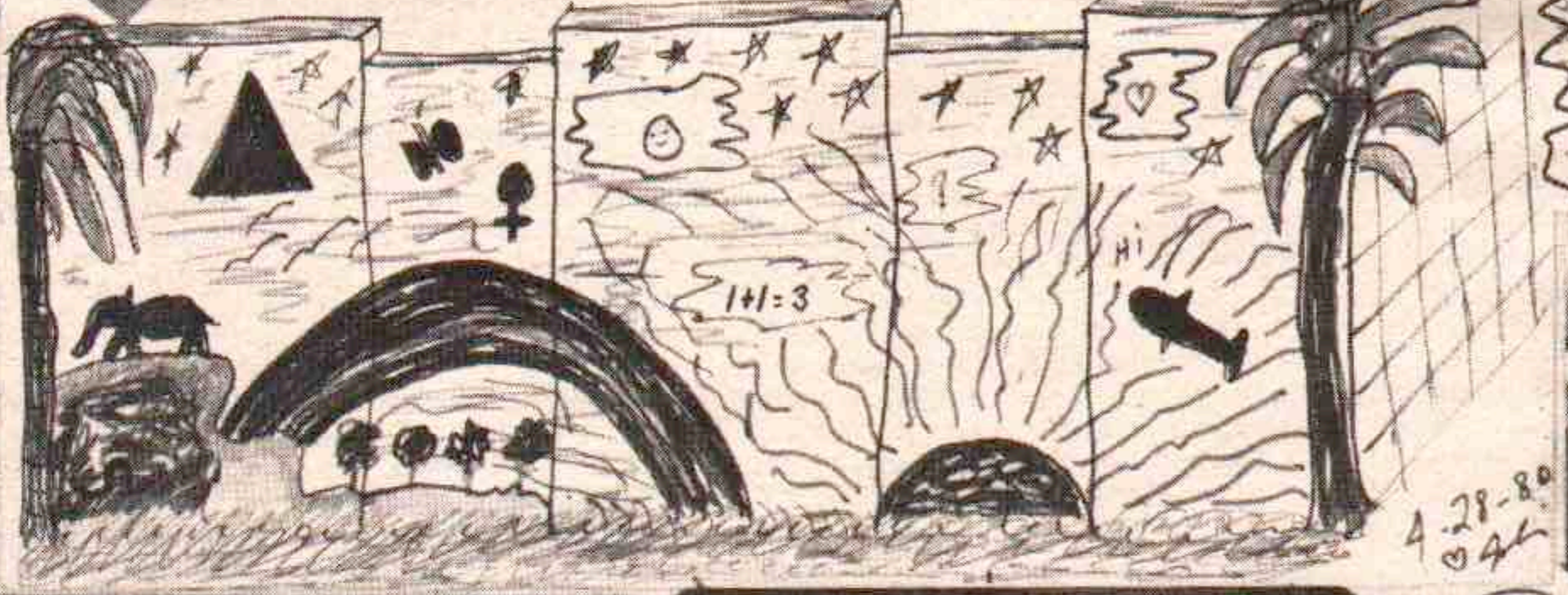


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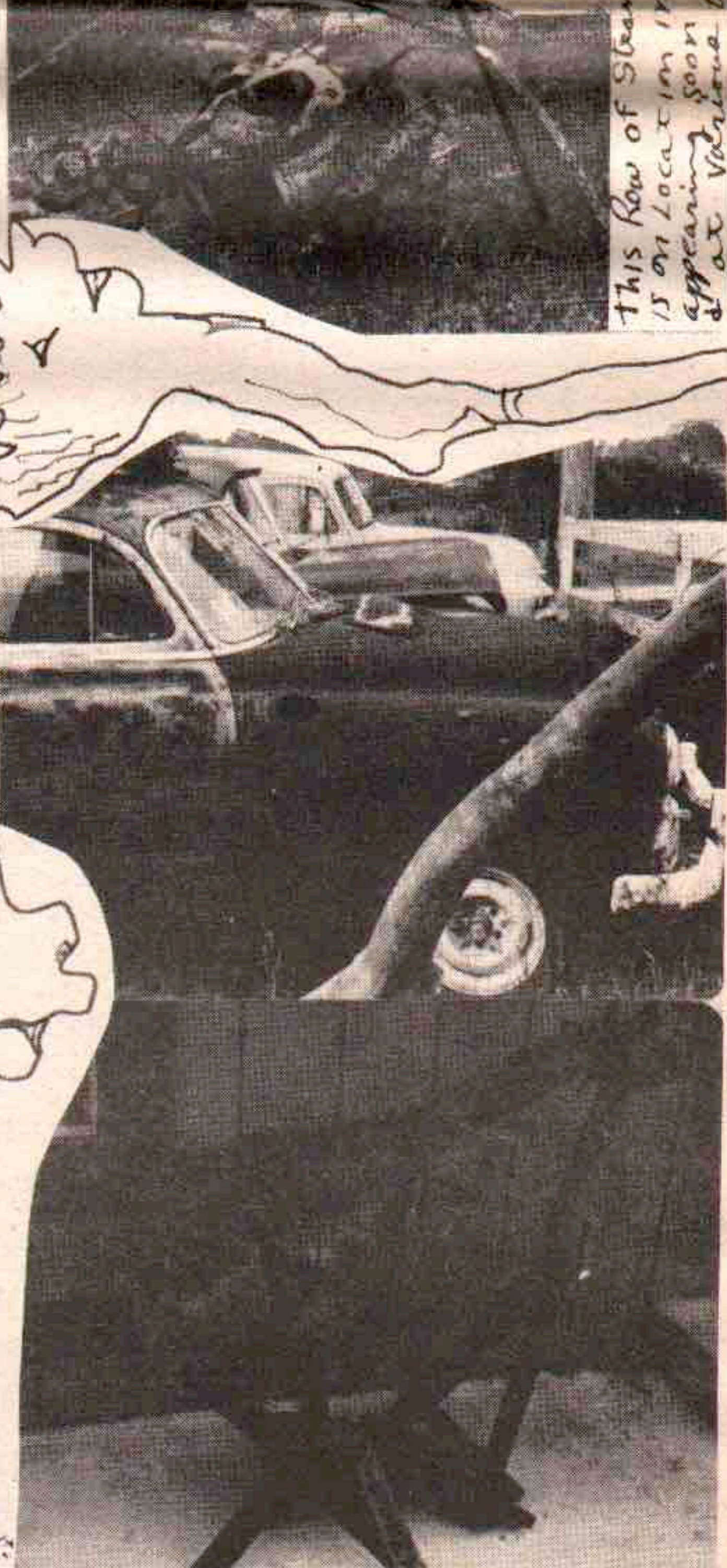
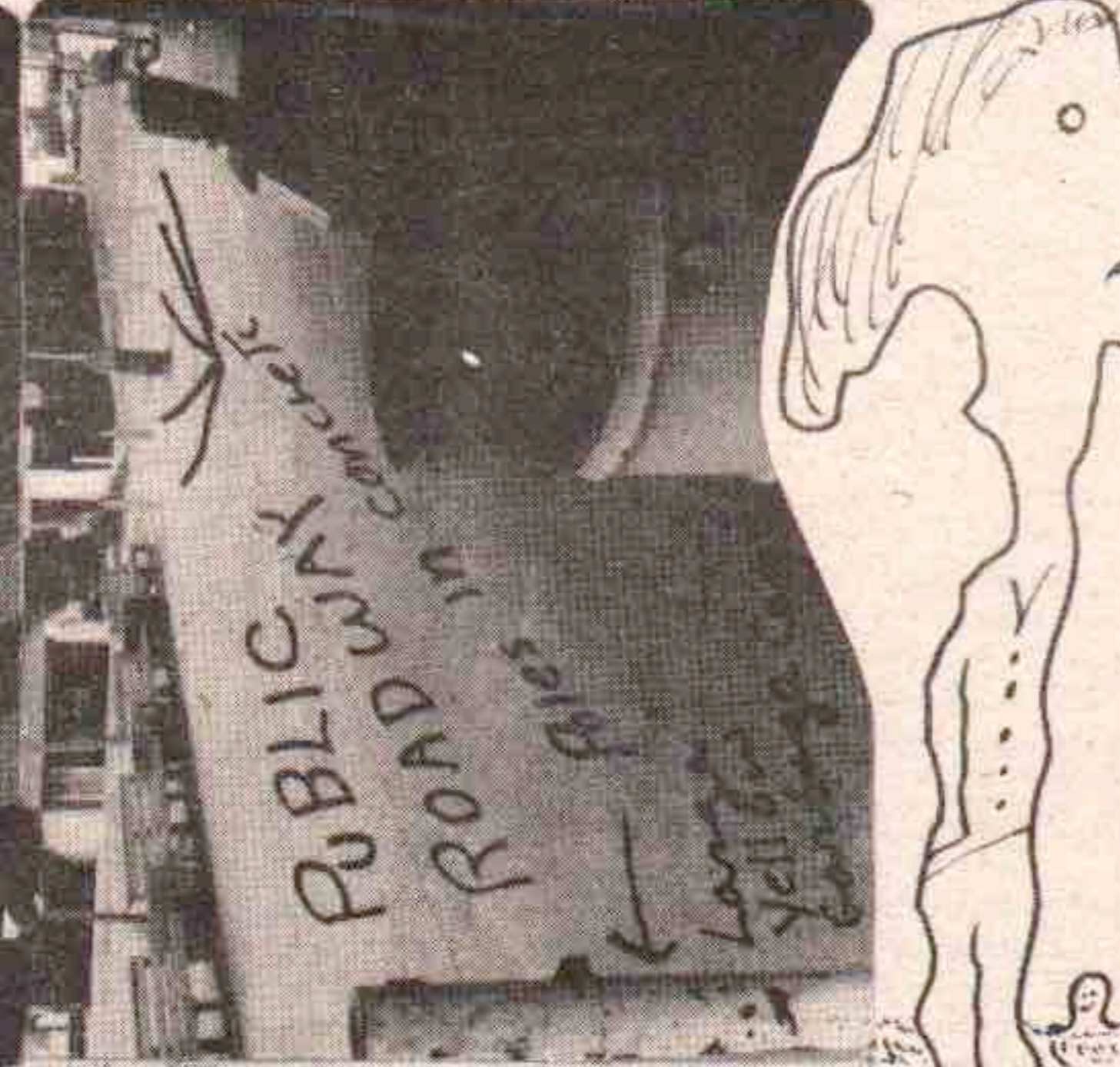


Presented by the Children's Art Group of Beyond Omega Preliminary Design of: Venice Beach Mural

This sketch was 5/6 sent to L.A. County of Beaches for approval for painting this summer on grey wall at #1 Market St.



This Row of Strange and Unusual Items is on location in Santa Cruz to be appearing soon in Venice, in part at various times and locations



Presented by the Children's Art Group of Beyond Omega

Submitted by John Kertis

14 LEGACY OF THE BEATS

by Joan Friedberg

Back in about 1958 or 1959, I remember that the one thing I wanted most, next to a date for the Senior Prom, was a dyed-to-match skirt and sweater outfit like the one Pam Fox had. Every high school had its Pam Fox, the epitome of the perfection of beauty, an ideal that made everyone else feel inferior. Today, she'd be called a "10." The one thing that stands out in my mind from those days in looking back was the tremendous peer pressure to conform to a set standard of appearance and behavior.

About that same time, a few poets and other creative types, who came to be known as Beatniks, were rejecting materialistic values and going largely unnoticed in doing so until the media picked up on them. Then they became a huge joke.

By 1962, when I was a sophomore at the University of Illinois, great cultural changes were taking place, and in retrospect I think many of us would give credit to the Beatniks for creating the spiritual enlightenment that set these changes in motion.

The Beatnik movement, if it can be called that, was centered in Greenwich Village and on the West coast, in San Francisco and here in Venice. Some of the Beat poets still live in Venice. I once asked one of them what it was like in Venice in those days, expressing the idea that someone should come forth with something left from that era, whose only legacy seems to be its poetry.

"We're not interested in our own history," he told me.

Others, however, apparently are, judging by the healthy turnout at the Fox Venice Monday, (Memorial Day) May 26 to see the premier showing of Philomene Long's *The Beats: An Existential Comedy*.

A short historical film immediately preceding *The Beats* (and produced by some of the Beats) seemed to me like a poorly-made home movie whose main theme was to show how a bunch of surly, down-and-outers get bored, play a little jazz, and spend a lot of time talking about whether or not it's time to leave. Just when I was wondering why I've always had this fascination for anything having to do with the Beats, Long's film opened with a hilarious clipping of the late Venice poet, Stuart Perkoff, making his debut on the Groucho Marx show.

Perkoff, who must have been somewhat short, steps out onto the stage, his head shaved, with an innocent-looking, blonde girl who towers over him a full head taller, and Groucho asks them if they're engaged to be married.

Groucho then asks Perkoff, "Are you



a Beatnik?" And Perkoff, while denying he is a Beatnik, proceeds to give a very articulate definition of the Beatnik philosophy and lifestyle to what must have been, we can imagine, a very sceptical audience.

The film keeps coming back to this little vignette in a running gag technique, which by itself is worth the price of admission. I don't know why, but every time the film cut back to this Mutt and Jeff scene, I had to restrain myself from bursting into uncontrollable laughter. Maybe I saw myself in that innocent girl. (As I recall, she was wearing what looked like a dyed-to-match outfit.)

Watching the film, I remember that it wasn't just our clothes that were dyed-to-match then. We were supposed to think alike also. And that's why, I think, Beat history interests us... we forget now that these were the days when nice girls didn't have sex before marriage, everyone went to church on Sunday to purge themselves of guilt, and MacCarthyism had everyone worried that their neighbors might be Communists.

"We had to fight for what we now all take for granted," says Aya, a poet in the film. The Beats were the first of a group of middle class people who rejected middle class values, Shirley Clarke reminds us as she reminisces about the Beat era. The Beats planted the first seeds of what would become the social revolution of the 60s.

The film is interesting in two other respects. One highlight is some rare historical footage of Venice in the days of Venice West, superimposed with narrative and some fine poetry by Frank Rios, who confirms what I've always imagined when he says, "There was a magic in Venice then."

The most salient quality of the film is the poetry, which is thought-provoking, meaningful and moving even 20 years after it was composed. Lawrence Ferlinghetti's "Dog," about the freedom of a dog has some finely-tuned humor. If nothing else, this film illuminates the fact that some excellent poetry emerged in an era which is often remembered only for having produced "Howl."

The film winds up with Perkoff and his tall blonde partner as they walk off the stage of the Groucho Marx show... an apt ending. When Alan Ginsberg earlier is asked whether or not he has any nostalgia for the Beat era, he says no. He claims to be living in the present, as a true existentialist should. The real feat of this film is that it doesn't take the whole Beat thing too seriously, and it shouldn't. They never took themselves too seriously, after all.

Simulators Stimulate Strife

The Regional Coastal Commissions approval of Allan Saffrans "SR-2 Simulator" amusement attraction, scheduled to open later this month at Ocean Front Walk and 18th Ave., has been appealed to the State Coastal Commission. Public hearing date has been set for June 17 at the Airport Marina Hotel. Opponents of the project, which has received all L.A. City permits after extensive reviews by the Police and Fire departments, include immediate residential neighbors and an assortment of restaurant, commercial, and real estate interests. According to Saffran, Mr. Doug Christmas of Ace Gallery has assumed a leading role in marshaling opposition to the project.

Opponents appeared at the Regional Commission hearing on May 19th hoping to defeat the project or at least gain a full public hearing. But the Commission ruled that the project presented no coastal related issues which it could legitimately address. It appeared that the public safety issue had already been dealt with by the City and applicant.

If Approved, the project would be the first 'traditional' type amusement project to operate in Venice since the demolitions of the Windward Pier and P.O.P. Throughout much of its history Venice was a mecca for such amusements, occupying a position similar to that of Disneyland and Magic Mountain.

The City has imposed stringent conditions on the project regulating noise, crowd control, and fire abatement. The amusement tent will close at 9 pm most nights, and security guards, at times as many as six, will be on site at all times. The SR-2 Simulators, located within the tent, will produce virtually no noise, as is true of the video machines. Saffran removed the pinball machines, an original part of the project.

The amusement is scheduled to open June 28, with all receipts from that day going to the Venice Family Clinic. The Clinic has recently been denied a state grant and needs funds to continue to operate in the coming year.

According to Saffran opponents have accused him of being a shill for big money interests and of bribing unnamed Regional Commissioners and members of the Venice Town Council which is supporting the project. Again according to Saffran, these charges were made at the Venice Beach Association meeting of May 28. As a result Saffran says he is contemplating the engagement of lawyer and a suit against as yet unnamed parties for slander, defamation of character, and for financial damages.

Saffran has leased the 18th Ave. site from Venice Community Associates, represented by attorney Ira Yellin. Saffran alleges that a prominent business person in Venice has offered the Associates a substantial increase in the lease, dollar wise, if they will back out of the agreement with Saffran. So far, he says, this proposal has been rejected. Yellin was reported by the L.A. Times to be a collector of Warhol and Raushenberg, both artists exhibited by Ace.

In another irony Saffran says that by chance the lawyers he has retained are also representing Ace. And still another. The tent site is slated to cover parking until now used by The Heart of Venice. Any Kuchrawy's lease on the land ran out and The Associates renegotiated that lease with Saffran. Now Kuchrawy's parking, already reduced when the restaurant erected an outdoor dining area, without permits, in Nov. 1979, will be further depleted.

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The Ballad Of Reading Jail

an incomplete history of two years of poetry in Venice

by Lynne Bronstein

Would you like to attend a poetry reading?

Ask most people that question and you'll have asked them to winter in Lapland. Aren't poetry readings those dainty affairs that take place in drawing rooms or gardens with tea and cookies and stiff well-dressed people quietly applauding a few pastel-colored sonnets and one or two impassioned villanelles? Aren't poets those gals, alleged boozers and suicidal recluses whom we couldn't stand to read in school? Hail to thee blithe spirit, it was the schooner Hesperus the moon was a golden galleon tomorrow and tomorrow and do not go gentle into that whadday call it? You mean that stuff could be as diverting an evening as a baseball game? Why did 14 poets get together once on a foggy night in a cold basement room at the Venice Pavilion and read to each other for three hours? And why are poets like them now reading to actual audiences at an art gallery that used to be a jail?

You could call it the most insane and unlikely optimism of our times but the series that was born on that chilly June night and continues at the Venice Jail is two years old this month. During these two years more than a hundred poets have appeared in ten sets of programs, doing

what poet John Thomas calls "one of the two most peculiar human activities"--reading their opinions, visions, fantasies, and life stories, set in musical language, out loud to surprisingly rapt listeners. (The other peculiar human activity is the writing of poetry.)

GENESIS

Poetry in Venice of America has a history as long as the city itself. Abbott Kinney envisioned his Venice as a center for all the fine arts, and some barnstorming poet and lecturers of the early 1900's stopped off to contribute to the cultural festivity of those days. In the 1950's Venice had its own Beat Poetry scene with readings at such coffee houses as the Gas House and the Venice West Cafe. (L.A.'s Finest closed down the Gas House citing among other things the noisiness of whatever went on in there.) Poetry readings have come and gone at many Venice locations, the Comeback Inn, the Temple of Man, Figtree's among them. The best-known center for literary activities anywhere in the Los Angeles area is the Beyond Baroque Foundation, started in 1968 as a storefront gallery, now a non-profit government-supported corporation housed in the old Venice City Hall.

Some two and a half years ago, a number of us who read regularly but never long enough (5 minutes being the time limit) in Beyond Baroque's Friday evening open readings, mused about an alternative. Steve Goldman, a Venice poet whose erudite and often metric monologues on God, Jewishness, urban angst and intellectual problems were virtually ripping the open reading format at the seams scouted around for a place to hold readings of his own. "I wanted" said Steve "to hear at length a number of good people who it seemed were unlikely to get a chance to read at length at Beyond Baroque." The Venice Pavilion, a far cry from Kinney's original culture palace with its brick facades and athletic areas, was the site finally selected. That first reading took place June 5th, 1978 and some where in Venice there's a guy who had his tape recorder running to get it all down. I can't remember ever hearing so much exciting wordcraft in a single evening. For the record the poets were: Scott Wannberg, Garrett Hawkins, myself, Dennis Holt, Frances Dean Smith, Steve Goldman, R.E. Maxson, Jerry Harrison, Mardell Mar-

tinez, Nick Varljen, Eloise Klein Healy, Nikki Selditz, Dennis Koch, and Milan Salka.

Diana Spears, a Venice artist who attended as an audience member, recalls that evening in a poem of her own:

"There is something about hearing poets read that makes me envious their words breathe fire into my mouth that makes my belly warm and long for birthing I spread my legs and echoes of the ancients pour out."

EXODUS

That first summer, our cadre of 14 provided each other with listeners as we staged reading after reading up against Pavilion schedule conflicts-- like meetings that took over "our" room, Shakespeare play rehearsals (poets vs the Bard-- divide and conquer?), legal holidays (Steve switched the readings from Mondays to Tuesdays to avoid this) and occasional incidents of beachfront violence. Despite the high quality of the presentations, few knew anything was happening down beyond the Bocce Court. And although some of us enjoyed the thrill of hearing actual waves behind the gentle voice of a young woman reading Wallace Stevens' "The Idea of Order At Key West" ("She sang beyond the genius of the sea"), it was becoming apparent that the Pavilion was for us only a lifeboat awash in a sea of problems. We had to get on dry land or find a bigger boat.

At this point (early 1979) Steve joined forces with two area poets, Liza Jane Braude and Velene-Campbell Keslar. Velene hit upon the converted police-station-jail which had been housing SPARC for the previous year, as the new location for the "Venice Poetry Readings" as they were then called. The main gallery room had once been the main holding tank and many of the cells were still there. But the SPARC crew had painted them white, works of art came and went on the white-washed walls, the gallery was long and sufficiently wide enough for six folding seats a row plus aisle space. The Venice Poetry Readings became the Venice Jail Readings. Liza and Velene designed a flyer for the first Jail-held series, decorated with a drawing of a risen phoenix.

IS IT TRUE THEM ARTISTS ARE ALL OF THEM CRAZY?

Group enterprises seldom hold together as solidly as jello though they shake just as much. Steve Goldman's life took him down a different path and he left the series in the summer of 1979. At that time I became an organizer along with Jennifer Macchiarella and Israel Halpern who were among the first poets to read at the Jail. We continued the format Steve had devised; two poets reading per evening with an intermission, poets reading in separate blocks or trading off (their choice), "smorgasbord" readings of brief segments of their work by all the poets in each series at the beginning and end of each eight-week series. We collected donations to pay a SPARC staffer to turn out the lights for us but SPARC in a most generous gesture, waived our paying them as long as we did our own maintenance. This enabled us to collect donations for the poets instead.

We picked out art work for our flyers--an Eskimo drawing of caribou, a Max Ernst fantasy etching, an Art Nouveau drawing of fairies, printed on bright poster paper, electric blue, soft blue, bone, green, yellow, inscribed with such slogans as "Paste this on your refrigerator". Publications like the L.A. Times and the Reader began to list our events. People talked about us. The old holding tank was jammed for readings by New York renegade satirist Michael Silverblatt and Venice Poetry Workshop alumni like Stuart Lishan, Kita Shantiris, and Joe Saffie. Kita sang and performed a playlet with a professional actor. Liza Braude sang songs with guitar and acapella. Barry Simons, a living legend in Venice poetry circle strummed acoustic guitar punk, read with the Jailhouse lights turned off and locked himself inside one of the cells --("Barry, what are you doing in there?" "I'm writing! Leave me alone!") Michael C. Ford, Richard Merlin, and Monica Gayle read from Ford's satire on 1940's radio plays. Jack Grapes showed us a beautifully bound book of his own verse, declared it was awful, threw it on the floor, and read from another equally professional-looking bindery job. Lind Macaluso made her debut as a reader of her own poems, playing cassette tapes of her favorite songs between poems while her

co-reader S. Diane Bogus set up a stand of her self-published books in the back of the room.



In spite of colorful antics such as these, we've never had a really rough moment at the Jail. We're still in Venice, at 685 Venice Blvd. and local gangs who know the building only as the jail it was have left their black zigzagged calling cards on the walls. A few kids on angel dust have wandered in and out but mostly it's been quiet on Tuesday evenings and except when the fire station on the corner sends out an engine or a car screeches to a halt on the street, all you can hear is the age-old sound of people putting words together to tell stories of their lives and ours.

BUT THE QUESTION IS?

How do you get to read at the Venice Jail?

Drop by some Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm. Listen to a reading. We've modified the format, offering open nights where any poet can read instead of the eighth-week "smorgasbords". Read a couple of your poems at one of those readings or give copies of a few of your poems to one of the organizers.

Our commitment is still--although we've presented many of Los Angeles' best-known poets--to present fine unknown poets from all over. Of course we're in a bit of friendly competition with Beyond Baroque (which happens to be right next to us on the Blvd.). In this age of alleged non-readers and non-writers, more poets and fiction writers want to read than Beyond Baroque alone can handle. It could be said that we play contrapuntal parts of the same melody--Beyond Baroque schedules Diane Wakoski, videotapes of Charles Bukowski and Allen Ginsberg, a night of Love Poems; we schedule Nick Varljen reading his prose work on the reconciliation of science and art, exciting unknown poets like Karen Mimms, and most recently an outrageous Dada night featuring poets reading with backs to the audience and a "heckler" making up his oratory on the spot. Liza and Israel lead Beyond Baroque's Wednesday night poetry workshop from which some poets in the current series have been culled. Beyond Baroque regulars have been seen in the audience at our readings. So there's definitely a cross-pollination going on and that's to everyone's advantage.


We've had male, female, hetero, gay, black, Hispanic, Jewish, Catholic, agnostic, right, left, and middle-wing poets. We do admit to a certain bias in favor of poets with a strong humanistic viewpoint. We'd especially like to get more

non-sexist male poets and more third world people. Among our future goals are bilingual and works-in-translation readings.

Until the day when we will hopefully have money from local and or Federal grants, we continue to squeak along on donations and commitment, introducing people who never liked it or read it, to poetry, introducing people to poets, poets to each other. Come to think of it it is a garden party. That is, if you can see the vines creeping through the old jail bars, covering the prisons of nervous human silence with a living green network of words.

The rest is up to you. Like to go to a reading? ■

(The author expresses gratitude to Steve, Liza, Israel, Velene, Jennifer, SPARC, Eric Ahlberg, Penny, Wallace Stevens, Kenneth Fearing, Diana Spears and Oscar Wilde (through Luis Galvez) for the title.



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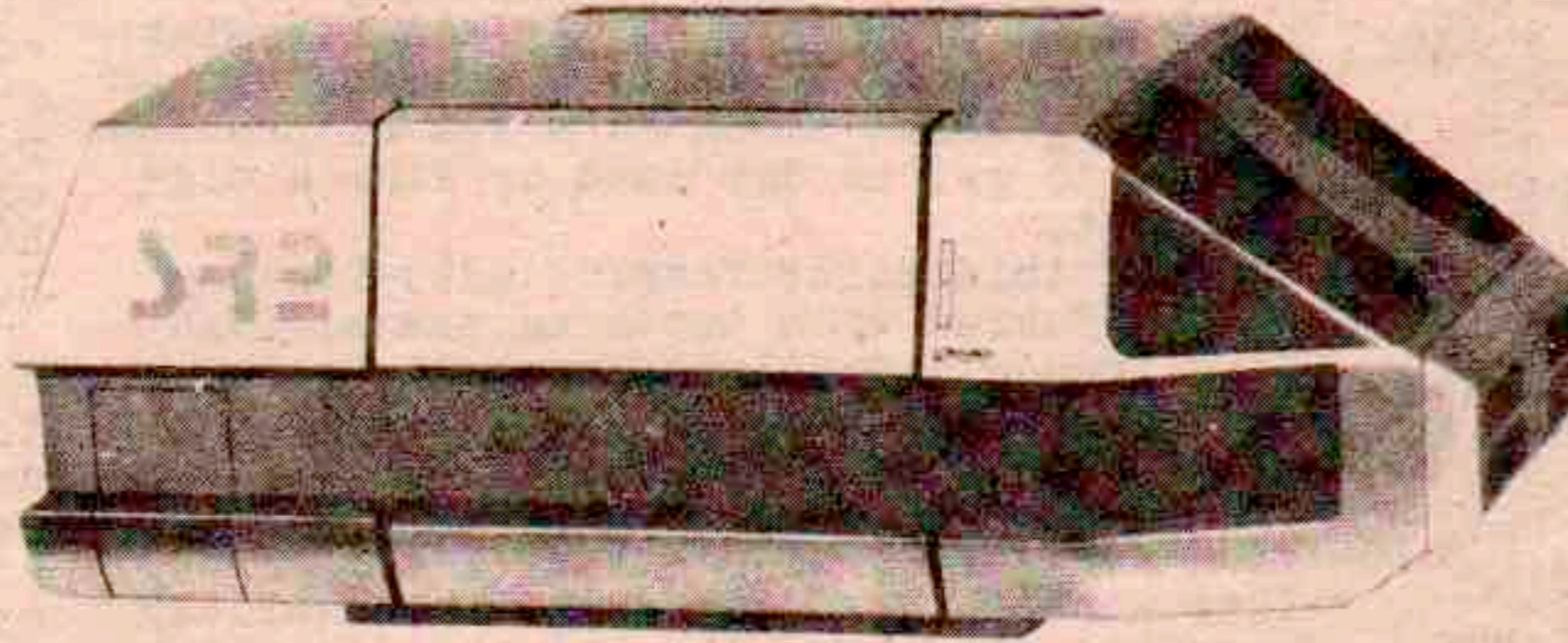
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Venice (Just So. of Windward Ave.) Or Contact:
A.G.S. Worldwide Promotions

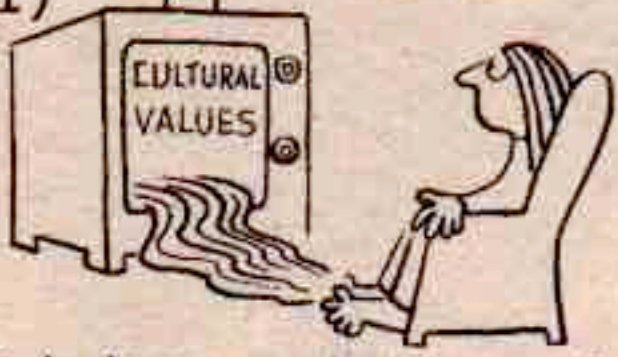
476-3093

ARTS 'N CRAFTS

BY GERSHON ULYSSES GELERNTER

(Turn your spare hours into cash. Earn as you learn. Something on everybody. Arcane ramblings of a cosmic junk-man***)

Accident Theater production of Brecht's "The Good Soldier Schweyk in the Second World War" (theater located at 5015 Melrose, W. Hollywood, production closed end of March, next production planned for Fall)



*** A transmutation of Brecht's Epic Theater concept in the style of film director Peter Brooke (Persecution & Assassination of Marat..., Shakespeare's King Lear). Rather than fulfilling Brecht's purpose, an ultimately stark confrontation of reality, we are given a surrealist dream quality, on a level of fantasy. Is this the fate of Brecht? Do the times and incidents of the Nazi barbarism of necessity lose focus in this contemporary world of no goals and no ideals? Brecht sought an ultimate truth, and this production gives us only the emotions of the moment, an aimlessness relieved only by the intensity and involvement of the players, and the desire of the director to make a statement, albeit one on the nature of art and the experience of theater.



BBC PRODUCTION on PBS
(Of Shakespeare's Henry IV, pt. 1)

*** Was a chore to watch. Could there be a stuffy Falstaff? There could be, there has been. Did Shakespeare bore his audiences? Doubtful. Does BBC bore its audience? Does this audience. Tedium is not theater. Perhaps it is English literature. Can Shakespeare be salvaged? Can there be a living Shakespeare? Not through the resources and talent of the BBC. Perhaps Shakespeare has gone the way of the ancient Greek drama. Possible to be read but not performed. Shakespeare's outstanding fault is his redundancy. Perhaps it is time to "Bowdlerize" him once again. Today's audience has no problem with Shakespeare bawdy. It cannot abide Shakespeare boring.



**** Retrospect of a Review of an Expose -- People's Attorney Marge Buckley on The Brethren by Woodward and Armstrong, at the Venice Library, Thursday evening, March 27, 1980.

*** Little Red Riding Hood vs. the Big Bad Wolf, once upon a time, a classic confrontation. Read Earl Warren, chief justice of the Supreme Court in the Eisenhower period, "Grandma, what big teeth you have!" And Warren Berger, same office, Nixon's reign, "The better to eat you with!" Marge in a min-skirt, new to the court as Grandma prepares to gobble her basket of briefs, let justice be done Marge would have us believe there really was a Grandma (i.e., Warren), and that the Big Bad Wolf (in the person of Berger has taken her place. We have Woodward and Armstrong, woodsmen who appear "ex-machina" to save Red Riding Hood (and the justice system). It was Earl Warren and his court that refused to hear the Rosenberg case. Refused to hear it. Well, Red Riding Hood was a slow learner, and that was what the story was about. The fairy tale. ●

**MANICURES
and
PEDICURES**
by Connie
The Palm Salon
2224 Main St.
Santa Monica 399-3678



showbiz comes to Venice

by John P. Marsh

The best part of the day was the ribs. Lunch came at about 1:45 PM and lasted about 40 minutes. The rest of the day we made sure that we stayed within the camera's field of vision as it was repositioned for each shot in a scene from "THE JAZZ SINGER" starring Neil Diamond. We were what you call the "deep background milieu." Little dots on the beach. Beach balls and imperceptible activity. Probably out of focus when it came right down to it. They probably would have liked to use cardboard or rubber mannequins as stand-ins for us but they would have had to hire union people to move the rubber ones around all the time to always be seen over Neil Diamond's shoulder and when it came right down to it we're cheaper.

I consumed 3 orders of ribs, a chili dog without the bun, 2 orders of fries, a salad, a milk, another milk, fudge cake, coffee, a Cheddar Cheese Burger De-lux and two cobbettes. After that I was supposed to go back down on the Venice beach and play another 3 1/2 hours of volleyball and throw the frizbie: "Be sure and pick up your old places when we left off," they yelled through a bullhorn. The horn wasn't working too good and so you could hear the person yelling into the horn more than the noise from the horn -- which sounded sort of tinny treble. From where I was way out on the beach I could see a woman, who worked the huge arc lamp for the shoot, hitting the lamp with either a hammer or a wrench and someone saying something about the connections not working or something.

A wino who was drinking a lot of Ripple fell off the bench right below where the woman was whamming the lamp. He fell onto the ground right in front of the old motel-grocery that was being used as Neil Diamond's mother's apartment in the film. Why the hell they are shooting the Jazz Singer at all -- much less at Venice beach -- I'll never understand. Rumours swarm the shoot. Everybody knows that the "shoot" (that's what it is called in the biz) is way over schedule. Everybody "knows" that Lucy Arnaz replaced Debra Raffin and that the previous director was also fired and that the film is way over budget. The big rumour floating today was that B. Streisand turned the flick down cause it was such a bad script -- "even though Neil and her are friends."

The wino, who wasn't being paid, just might have been in better focus than the rest of us since he was about 400 yards closer to the camera than any of us. He'd been sitting around very atmospherically selling magazines off of his bench. He had the magazines all laid out around his feet and he would cajole passersby to buy them. He'd picked them up somewhere like a laundromat or a garbage can. Old copies of Vogue, a couple of Watchtowers, a LIFE with no cover and a few Readers Digests. Later he seemed to latch onto a bottle of Ripple so he must have made a sale.

The pages of the magazines flapped in the wind and some tore off and flap-flopped along the roller-route on Venice Beach. After the wino fell off the bench he too sort of flap-flopped about in his drunken state. He sort of lay there for a long long time and then every once in a while the arms, legs, and magazine covers all ruffled in the wind. I knew this cause I didn't have anything to do but lie on the beach and be a prop for this bad movie they seemed to be making.

It turned real cold about 3 PM. Real cold. And the A.D. came out and told us to move into the "last shot of the day" and "look like happy beach-combers." He laughed like hell but hardly anybody could hear him because he'd stopped trying to use the bullhorn and besides the wind was kicking up nicely. While we had been "assigned" certain areas of the beach to locate into -- by 3 PM people had reorganized themselves into special interest groups.

The "Vietnam Vet" and "Ms Football" were way down the beach together snuggling and an "older woman's group" were immediately identifiable. There was also a jock contingent from USC who kept leaving the beach to buy beer and a "regulars group" of about 8 people who had been on the shoot for over a week. The gay contingent had put three umbrellas together to shield themselves really nicely from the wind. We were the "deep extras" -- Living backdrop on a big budget feature.

The political highlight of the day consisted of this one upheaval centered around this one guy -- who to my surprise -- everyone hated. He got called off the cold beach to stand-in for Neil Diamond cause he was 6' tall. He was disliked because he had replaced this other guy -- one of the "regulars" -- who stood 6'2" and he would receive the extra 50 dollars you get if you do this kind of work. He's hussled in quickly off the beach to take over for the guy that was too tall. When this occurred, the regular types and the older woman contingent stood around on the volleyball court and talked about how they "never liked that guy from the beginning." The big gripe against him was that he was always off drinking beer instead of freezing on the beach. He's arranged his coat, hat and book bag next to an umbrella to look like a stand-in for his body. In long shot, and out of focus, he probably looked like a person without even being there. I mean, there were people who didn't go off for beer that didn't look any better because they were asleep for 3/4 of the day.

It didn't matter. We all hated the dude cause it was cold and we'd all been sucker enough to spend the whole day on the cold windy beach for 25 dollars and lunch. A good lunch it was but it didn't justify the existentially vacant, bankrupt experience we's put ourselves through. Out of focus, unseen extras in a bad Neil Diamond movie who would probably be ending up on the cutting room floor anyway, the way the picture was going.

Some real smart people wrote and knit and spent their time in some personally productive activity. They did stuff that they probably had scheduled for themselves at home anyway and so they were the lucky ones who didn't have to suffer any emotional backlash from the total experience.

The award for the "best work" of the day went to a great volleyball exchange which occurred during a filming break. People moved and grooved but later were unable to reproduce "on camera." Actually we never knew when we were "on camera" or off. For all we knew they might have never had the camera rolling the entire day.

At about 5:00 PM the A.D. (wearing one of those silver "space jackets") came out on the beach and told us "good work." He added that we wouldn't do "your kind of work for nothing." (He didn't know that we got 25 dollars?) He said that we looked "real nice, like a beach set." "Great work, kids." We all lined up to sign for our checks and they announced that if we called back Tuesday night after 9 PM we could probably get work seeing Neil Diamond sing in some concert portion of the movie. Somebody asked if they would be serving dinner and then we all went home. ●

Know anyone needs a job?

The L.A. Childbirth Center
has an opening for a
BOOKKEEPER/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT.
20 hours per week \$6-7.50 per hour
Must be experienced.
Prefer someone with interest in
women's health and/or home birthing.

In Venice (213) 396-2455

more Dawn Defeat

the good of Veniceburg. Onward and upward.

We hear that Jane Erikson of Ace Gallery appeared at yet another losing cause before the Coastal Commission. Seems that certain restaurant interests and residents along Ocean Front Walk didn't appreciate the Zargon or Zylon or whatever spacecraft phantasmagoria that Australian Allen Saffron wanted to try out on 18th Ave. The Commission was treated to another Venice spectacular with signs, shouting, and lots of emotion. But one of the opponents got up and said that they didn't want any spacecraft on the Walk because that would attract the kind of people they were trying to get ride of. That seemed to rub some of the Commissioners the wrong way. Most of them appeared to be spaced out by the whole affair.

Speaking of the Ace Gallery, we note that it suddenly withdrew its support or whatever from the art walk to benefit the Venice Family Clinic. Gee whiz, and that after the 'other paper' gave Doug all that nice free publicity. It seemed to be such a nice item. The reasons for the falling out are hush hush, but speculation has it that Ace simply forgot about the dinner party scheduled for the Windward Ave site and had booked another exhibit on the same date. But all the Westwood, Brentwood, and Marina people really had a good time trooping down the Speedway. John Morse of B.H. commented that it was just like the time he had explored the back and by ways of Kabul. Everything was so colorful, and the smell. Not to forget the natives John.

And how about that Bob Wells. The well known Venice politico was standing at the corner of Lincoln near the Union Oil station waiting for the big blue bus. Along it came, Bob waived, and it kept going. Now that's what we call.... Calling the Question.

People in the News: Tom Saffron. Just how much money is he going to make off the low income family project near Villa Marina east? No one knows but the Coastal Conservancy is trying to find out. O.P., notorious Venice activist, is off to Moscow this summer, says she plans to break the boycott and get some of that Moscow Gold. Judy and Sid Penchansky got their house painted over on Breeze Ave. Looks real spiffy Penchanskys. It took them three years to finally decide on the color. Noted local sculptor Bob DelMonte is finally ready to build his canal dream house. We hear its got three spiral staircases and a three level 50 foot subterranean basement. Rumor has it that Bob anticipated the deep water dredging of the canals proposed by the Peninsula CAC and already has this unique design for launching his fishing boat from the submerged second floor of the basement. Architect Guy Bartoli dreamed up that one. Eat your heart out Miguel Angelo. Carol Berman is wintering in New York and she says the food is great. But she can't wait to get back to Venice where some of her friends are planning a big July 4th bash at Hama's. Who cares if they're short on parking. Carol just adores the food. ■

wells, continued
our society, but not so for the Malcolms, Kings, Jacksons or Pratts. There's a difference even for revolutionaries.

It's interesting that Hansen feels it's "truly regrettable that while rents in Venice continue to rise and long term residents continue to be displaced by chic hot-tubbers from the hinterland, the Venice Town Council spends its time, its energies, and what little credibility it has left debating U.S. foreign policy..." If Hansen is correct I wonder who it is filing all those Coastal Commission appeals, and how did he miss their participation in the anti-prop 9 & 10 coalition and their participation in the coalition looking into the misuse of grant block funds by the City. I suggest that these Town Council Activists, while not having the same opinions on U.S. foreign policy or even how the Town Council should respond to it, are the same ones that feel that local and national/international issues are connected. Just like ecology, politically we live in a one-world system. In thinking of our one world, I realize that I haven't seen Arnold around anywhere; I guess he's out there fighting the good battles too. I hope so.

Another important fact to remember is that Peace & Freedom and Free Venice as well as Town Council activists have always stated that they are not struggling just so "they" can continue to live in Venice. No, we understand that the uniqueness of Venice of America is not because it's an artist's colony, but due to the unusual mixture of Black, Brown, White, old, young, poor and not so, all sharing the same space and thereby creating the potential environment our Bill of Rights called for: a democracy.

Sacred or Profane?

18

By Jimmie Catalina

I wandered into a bookshop in Venice the other day and I had a very interesting conversation with one of the patrons who is a student at UCLA.

The catch words were "sacred Indian grounds" and "building a new terminal" and "testing for faults." Being a human rights advocate my interest was sparked.

The names Bill Klewlow and David Whitley were mentioned as champions of the Indians cause. It seems they had introduced a proposal to the members of the Society for California Archeology. This proposal would help protect the rights of California's native peoples.

I made a call to David Whitley, a resident of Ocean Park, and member of the Land Use Committee of OPKO (Ocean Park Community Organization). Here is our conversation:

JC: "Mr. Whitley, I ran into someone in a bookshop the other day who mentioned you in relationship to a proposition you presented to SCA, which would protect the rights of Indians."

DW: "Well, actually that was Bill Klewlow, but he is my associate."

JC: "So you can speak for him?"

DW: "Yes."

JC: "What exactly will this proposition do for the Indians?"

DW: "It doesn't do anything. Because the membership doesn't have the power to do anything."

JC: "What was the proposal supposed to do?"

DW: "Well, it's supposed to keep people from working out there."

JC: "Out where?"

DW: "Out at Point Conception. LNG wants to build a plant out there."

JC: "What is LNG?"

DW: "Liquified National Gas."

JC: "And the Indians are opposed to building out there?"

DW: "They say it's sacred."

JC: "What makes it sacred?"

DW: "That's something I couldn't answer, but it seems that you can't develop it."

JC: "So there is no work going on at Point Conception?"

DW: "No, except that they are testing for earthquake faults."

JC: "There is no other work going on?"

DW: "No, not yet. But you see we did the testing to see if it was an archeological sight."

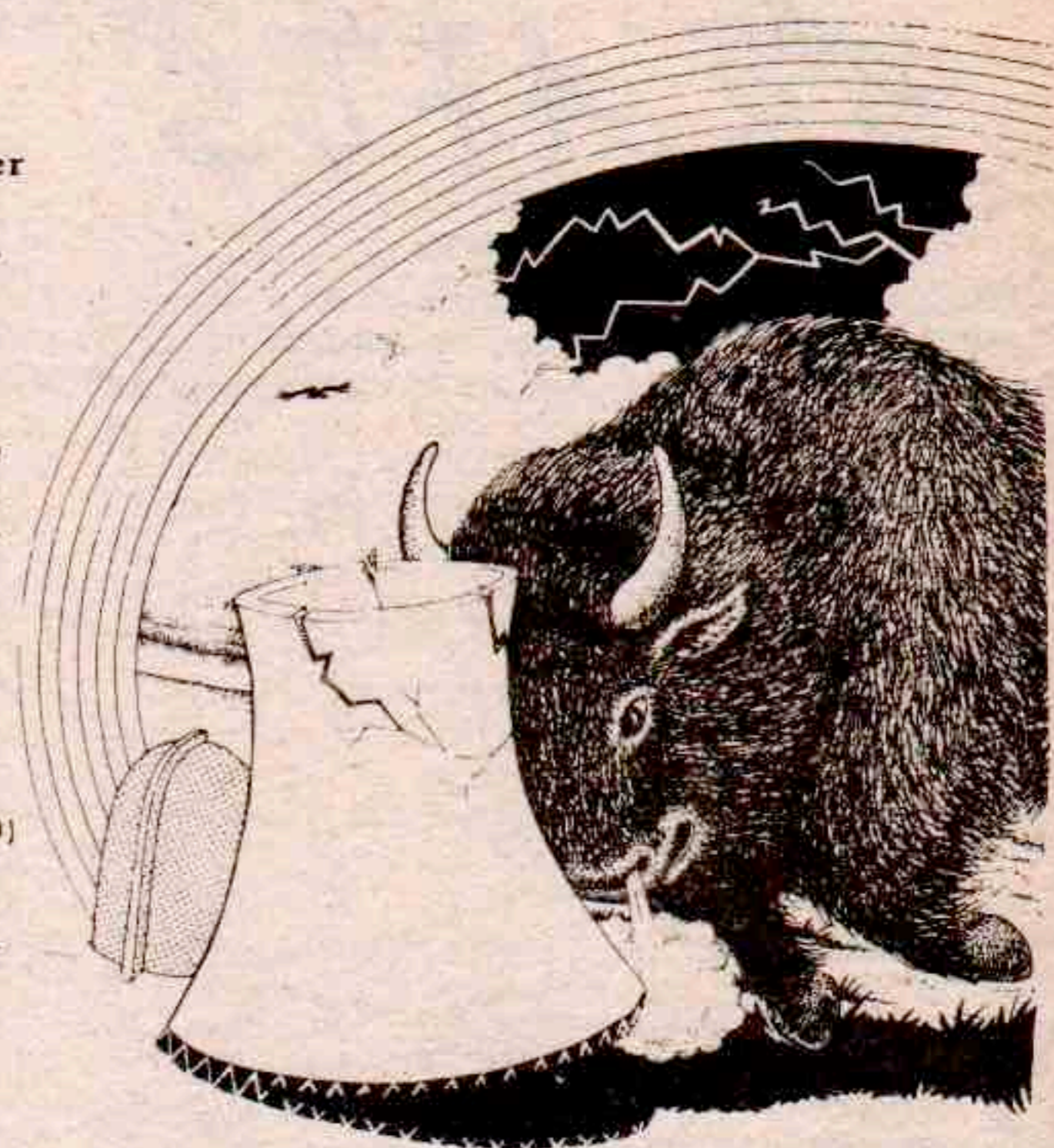
JC: "Who is 'we'?"

DW: "Ancient Enterprises. That's the name of our company."

JC: "What does this company do?"

DW: "We do these tests. Sometimes we recommend that they move their location a short distance."

JC: "You are referring to NLC. How far do you recommend?"



DW: "1500 feet."

JC: "How do the Indians feel about this?"

DW: "They don't like it. They are suing."

JC: "Was this place ever officially decided to be officially 'sacred' like in a treaty?"

DW: "Not to my knowledge. But a federal judge decided that this place is not sacred."

I spoke to Joe Bird at the Santa Barbara Indian Council who said of David Whitley and Ancient Enterprises: "What they're doing out there is not kosher. Anything else I might say about this you couldn't put in a paper."

I did some other checking and discovered that David Whitley and Bill Klewlow, who teach archeology at UCLA, are now involved in the "dig" at Point Conception. They are being paid as "Ancient Enterprises" for their work by Liquified Nat. Natural Gas.

The Indians were asking, at the last Society for California Archeology, to have Ancient Enterprises censored for their activities. The impact of this request was diffused by the proposition presented by Klewlow and Whitley.

Was this their purpose?

Who is protecting and preserving our cultural heritage?

Who is managing cultural research if the Society for California Archeology is truly powerless? In whose hands lies the power to decide Sacredness? ●

you and I, were caught, exposed. It is a fact that Cleaver always reminded us of before his conversion, you are either part of the solution or you're the problem. With our knowledge of world events that is not an abstract thought.

I imagine Arnold is yelling, 'The hell with all this rhetoric! What about the hostages?' Can we truly separate those people working in our embassy in Iran from our crimes committed against the Iranian people? If we can, that's convenient, neat, clean...so departmental. They were just "good Americans" doing their jobs, following orders. They are just innocent folks like you and me. We, you and I, must begin to realize that just doing our work is doing the work of IMPERIALISM. I refused to be a "good American" in the '60s. I certainly don't want to become one in the '80s. We as "the people" must begin to take responsibility for our government's acts around the world as well as at home.

So what does it mean? What do we do? It means that we have to begin to understand that the war in Indochina has come home. The anti-war movement is needed as much today as it was before, but in a different way than in the past. We must see and comprehend the connections of imperialism and how each of us plays our part. Then we must begin to organize to dismantle the empire. Simultaneously we must experiment with alternate forms of rule to replace the outdated one we suffer under. If we work fast and with revolutionary love and commitment we may be around to rebuild a new society - a new society where our Constitution and Bill of Rights are expanded to include all human beings and is truly the law of the land; a society where our politics and economics are not departmentalized. ●

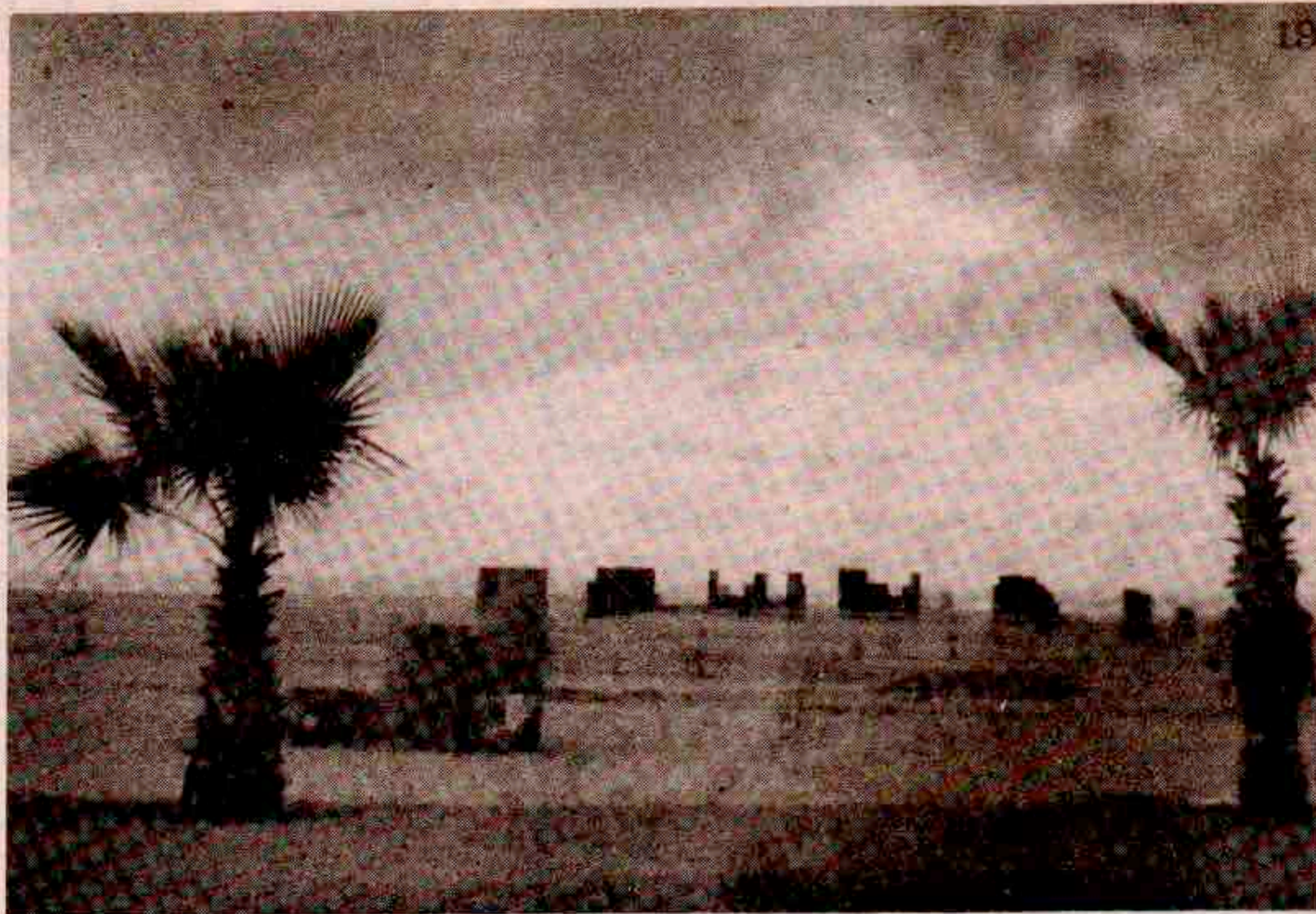
On paper - in words - our country is a democracy. In a democracy, "the people" is not an abstraction as Hansen would have us believe. Democratically it is imperative for the people, you and I, to know what is taking place in our name. We have a right to know what dictators we are supporting; what war we are planning next; where our tax dollars are spent. We not only have a right to know, but a responsibility. This is very important when we speak of imperialism abroad and oppression here at home. We are responsible. Yes, we, you and I, are responsible for putting the Shah and his SAVAK henchmen in power including all the death and torture that meant for the Iranian people. I don't know how old Arnold Hansen is, but he certainly is old enough to know what the phrase "good Germans" means. Not the monsters who designed and ran the concentration camps; not the Gestapo; not top military leaders of the Third Reich. No, "Good Germans" refers to the German population that went along with Hitler's regime, supposedly unknowing. They were just supporting their leaders, their Fatherland, their self-interest. To the degree that the American people, we, you and I, refuse to discuss, learn, understand, pick a side and act - to that degree - we are the "Good Americans" of today. That includes known and unknown Bay of Pigs, Indochina from My Lai to the "carpet bombing", to the tiger cages, the defoliants, all of it; to Chile, South Africa; and also Harlem, Watts, Miami - every ghetto across the USA. Nor can we overlook the thousands of political prisoners rotting in our jails. Watergate wasn't an accident where only the Nixon gang was caught - America, a whole system, the people, we.

VENICE ARTS

I AM NOT A JOINER

My plank leans into the stud, my nail sinks into the stud.
 Thick plank with hard knots on the level in my square.
 Each sawtooth on my sawblade sinks into wood, as I frame, as I join.
 A joiner I am
 Tho socially, I am not a joiner at all.
 My carpentry makes me join.
 My plank leans upon my sill.
 My board joins my plane.
 My roof reaches my floor.
 My plank leans on my stud.
 Another nail binds my corner.
 I dowelled my box with birch pegs.
 My plank leaned into my stud.
 The walls are now sturdy.
 The wood is now joined.
 A joiner I am....though socially, I am not a joiner at all.

Israel Halpern



you may believe the lick

next to my skin, your blue pajamas
 are a thin sheet of warm water,
 a dry and slippery current.
 our eyes light the space
 between our faces.
 words not connected to our brains,
 breathe out, splashing cheeks,
 flowing hair like fine reeds,
 bowling through corners of the room,
 the expanding wave floods back
 into a pool of purrs and giggles.
 the same wonder in the swell
 of your moon, the same white curve,
 equally unending, though yours more perfect,
 not a reflection, a glow.
 deep fires in the eyes bare
 unplumbed pits, erect unclimbed heights.
 hearts wired to our lips,
 tongues code volumes in surrender,
 split centers angels know.
 if ever, we say, this mouth says other
 than I love you, know I lie,
 that I am not all there,
 as we am tonite, and ever, never less.
 believe only the lick of this tongue.

-- Steven Evans
 Venice, CA

All Photos By
 CHARLES A. WILLIAMSON



How many Howard Hughes
 clones can dance on the
 tip of a hypodermic needle?

utilizing a deadly element
 to create a nuclear explosion
 to generate intense heat
 to turn water into steam
 behind concrete walls
 is a little like
 ringing a doorbell w/
 a cannon
 cutting butter w/
 a chain saw
 or making love to
 a jack-o-matic
 under reflector sunglasses

7/8/79
 Lawrence Karp

FACE

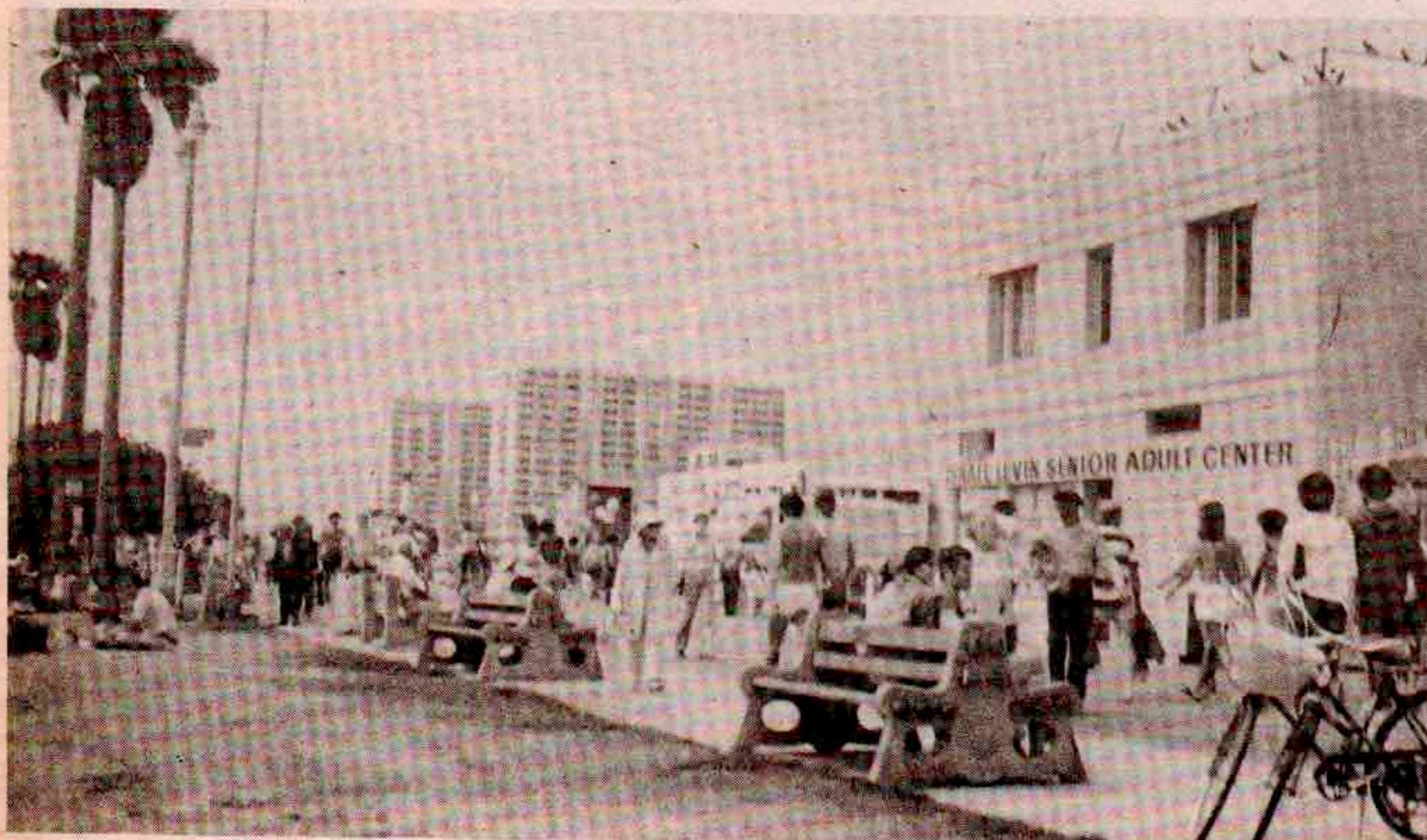
When you have
 lipstick, blush and eyeshadow on
 I can still see your real true
 face.

-- Cammie Groode
 Age 12

WORLD

Bunnyrabbits, babyducks,
 small squirrels,
 and birds
 and a lot more other
 animals love the world too
 not just you.

-- Cammie Groode
 Age 12



Love

Like a drink
 You used me
 Seeing my bottle was cracked
 Seeing that my warmth could easily flow out
 Seeing your chance to give nothing in return.

Gradually you emptied me
 Gradually so I would not feel the ache
 Gradually you shattered me
 And you walked away
 Laughing.

Pauline F. Griffith

WOMEN

ABORTION RIGHTS BENEFIT

A film "Abortion" made by the Boston Womens' Health Collective and a discussion on the current situation on abortion rights led by Marge Pierson will highlight a benefit for the Abortion Rights Coalition on Saturday June 14. The Coalition is organizing demonstrations in support of abortion rights at the convention of the National Right to Life Committee to be held in Anaheim on June 28. The discussion at the June 14 benefit will focus on the right wing assault on abortion rights and other womens' rights by groups such as the National Right to Life Committee. The program will be held at 525 Georgina in Santa Monica at 7 p.m. and will be followed by a party with music and dancing. The benefit is sponsored by the Westside Womens' Clinic and the westside branch of the New American Movement. For information, call 392-7690 or 450-2191.

MUSIC

June 6. Santa Monica Folk Music Club, 8 pm. Bring instruments. Food & Song, 1440 Harvard St. SM, Fridays

June 27. Songmakers, Westdale Savings community room, Sepulveda & National Free 8 pm.

July 4 American Music, from folk to Am. Indian, to jazz, from blues to popular. 72 hours of uninterrupted American music. KPEK fm 90.7

Fri, Sat. June 6-7 Lightnin Hopkins, Big Mama Thornton.

Fri, Sat. June 13,14 Maria Muldaur, Chambers Bro. Fee.McCabe's 3101 Pico Blvd.SM. 828-4497 Folk Festival

July 12 Free Folk Festival

July 13 (Sun) Copanga Banjo Fiddle Contest UCLA Athletic Field 9:30-6 pm, info 354-3797

John Messar Orchestra

June 7, 8:30 pm, Schoenberg Aud at UCLA. 55 musicians performing original Classical Contemporary works. \$2.

Blue Grass

Fri, July 18, 9 pm, Casino Hall, 9521 Normandie Ave. in L.A. Bob Starr, Little Alberta, Blind Joe Hill and others. Donations at door.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

THEATER

Live Theater Marathon

June 14-15. Jewish Heritage Productions and UCLA Hillel. 9 pm Sat thru 4:30 pm Sunday. Non stop live choral and instrumental music, dance, theater and comedy. Workshops on poetry and dance. By non profit Pardes Theater Co. 900 Hilgard Ave. Westwood. 653-8197

Pinter Play

June 3-5. San Francisco's Julian Theater production of No Man's Land. Info Odyessey Theater 826-1626.

Church in Ocean Park.

June 13. Lilith Theater

June 14 Women's Theater from San Francisco.

June 27 Public Works Opening Night. Their new piece about Ocean Park. Thru July

June 29. Dances of Universal Peace. Sufi Order. 235 Hill St. Ocean Park. Info 399-1631

POETRY

Beyond Baroque

June 6, 8 pm. Poetry of Leland Hickman and David Trinidad

June 13 8 pm. Poetry of Edmund White.

June 20 8 pm. Poetry of Jack Grapes & John Thomas Original Language Poetry Series

June 8 Yusef Komunyakaa & Leslie Wolf - American

June 15 Alajos Kannas - Hungarian

June 22 Lois Red Elk - Sioux Indian.

July 6 Al Robles - Filipino.

Fifth St. Studio Theater. 4157 W. 5th-St. L.A.

Info 383-7177. Free. Sundays at 3:30.

Venice Jail Readings

681 Venice Blvd.

Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

June 3rd--Aleida Rodriguez, Jacqueline De Angilis

June 10th--Uri Hertz, Judith Ivalon Volborth

June 17th--Martin Nakell, Glenn Wayne Dixon

June 24th--Judith Rechter, Sue Thorpe

July 1st--Mardell Martinez, Stuart Lishan

artists and craftspersons

Needed for VENICE ART FAIR JULY 5-6

guzartz gallery

160 1/2 W. WASHINGTON BLVD. 396-2579

Cameravision Events

June 4 7:30 "A Practical Approach to the Zone System. Jeff McCombs.

June 8 2-5 pm. Opening Reception Annual Student X

June 10 7:30 The Still Life as Subject Matter in Photography Barbara Drucker.

June 17 7:30 Artists' Hotseat - Dina Dar "Rhythms in Xerography"

June 22 Sunrise "Frazier Workshop" Stephen Cohen

July 7, 7-10 Opening Reception July Show.

4121 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles 380-4266

COMMUNITY

"THE KLAN TODAY". documentary film about the growth & increased activity of the Ku Klux Klan, a uniquely American right-wing extremist group, will be shown on Sat. June 7th, 8 PM, at St. Augustine-By-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 1227 4th St., S.M. (between Wilshire & Arizona). Sponsored by the National Chicano Moratorium, the Coalition for Economic Survival & the Young Workers Liberation League. Donation requested. For further info: 617-4741.

Sat. June 7, 9 am-5 pm. RTD Fare Increase Public Hearing. 425 Main St. Los Angeles.

Nuclear Power and the Navajo Nation

June 11, Wed. 7:30 pm. Marine Park Bldg. 1406 Marine (near 16th). Alliance for Survival.

Slide show "People and Energy of the Southwest" Mining and milling of uranium. Speaker. Free 392-3172, 829-7251

Vets Center in Venice

Help Vets put Vietnam behind. Stress, family conflicts, self esteem, peer group support, self-help program, rap groups, discharge review, job development, VA benefits, drug and alcohol treat. 1406 Pacific Ave., Venice 392-4124

Mining Law Comments

The period for commenting on proposed regulations pertaining to the Mining Law of 1872 is extended to June 16. Protects public lands from unnecessary damage and could effect 1 1/2 million mining claims. BLM 714-787-1424

Childrens Health

The Child Health and Disability Prevention Program will hold 4th Coastal Region Advisory Board Mt. on Thur. June 5, 12 noon, at Inglewood Health Ctr 123 Manchester Blvd. Olga De Jesus 313-533-2324

S.M. / Venice Draft Task Force

Draft counseling in anticipation of the registration for the draft. Tu, Wed eve 7-9, Sat. 1-4pm 235 Hill St. in Ocean Park. Info 399-1631

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ROAD SKATES MARINA DEL REY
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