



WATER

Have you noticed your water bills creeping higher and higher the last few months? We're beginning to pay the costs of our new water plant designed to provide more water for Lawrence. Everyone wants more water, in fact water use in the U.S. has doubled since 1950. Where does that water go? Well, the breakdown for daily water use per person looks something like this:

Drinking and kitchen	2.00	gallons
Dishwasher	3.75	"
Toilet	24.00	"
Bathing	20.00	"
Laundrying	8.50	"
Auto washing	2.50	"
Lawn watering	25.00	"
Garbage disposal	.75	"

While Lawrence doesn't list "precise figures" like this Ohio survey, the breakdown is similar. The amount of water sprinkled on our lawns is surprisingly high until you realize that a 1/2 inch garden hose and sprinkler uses 240-300 gallons each hour. People in California, faced with severe water shortages, are learning the ways of water conservation. With no car washing and lawn watering, and flushing toilets only when necessary, they have cut water use as much as 50%. As the ground water in Kansas slips away and our lakes show the drought's effect, we may turn more attention to wise use of the water available to us.

Coors Boycott

Coors has a private police force, reminiscent of the company goons who made the lives of thousands of coal miners miserable in the 1930's. This police force conducts searches and seizures of personal clothing, lunch boxes, automobiles, and other personal effects. The company is not totally opposed to the Constitution, however. William Coors, president of the company has publically stated, "You have a Constitutional right not to work at Coors." It is implicit that if you do decide to work for Coors, it is strictly on their terms.

Coors has actively sought to destroy the union. Coors has been a union shop for 42 years. In an election held last December, 92.4 percent of the workers of the bargaining unit voted to continue the union shop. Coors agreed to this provision in early negotiations, but later reneged. Coors, as a corporation, and the Coors family as individuals have given vast sums of money to right wing politicians and organizations who support their vision of a "free enterprise economy."

In negotiations, the union has not limited itself to economic issues and dignity for the workers. They are demanding quality control check of the product. The

HEADQUARTERS

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Perspective

Underneath the skyline

Opinion

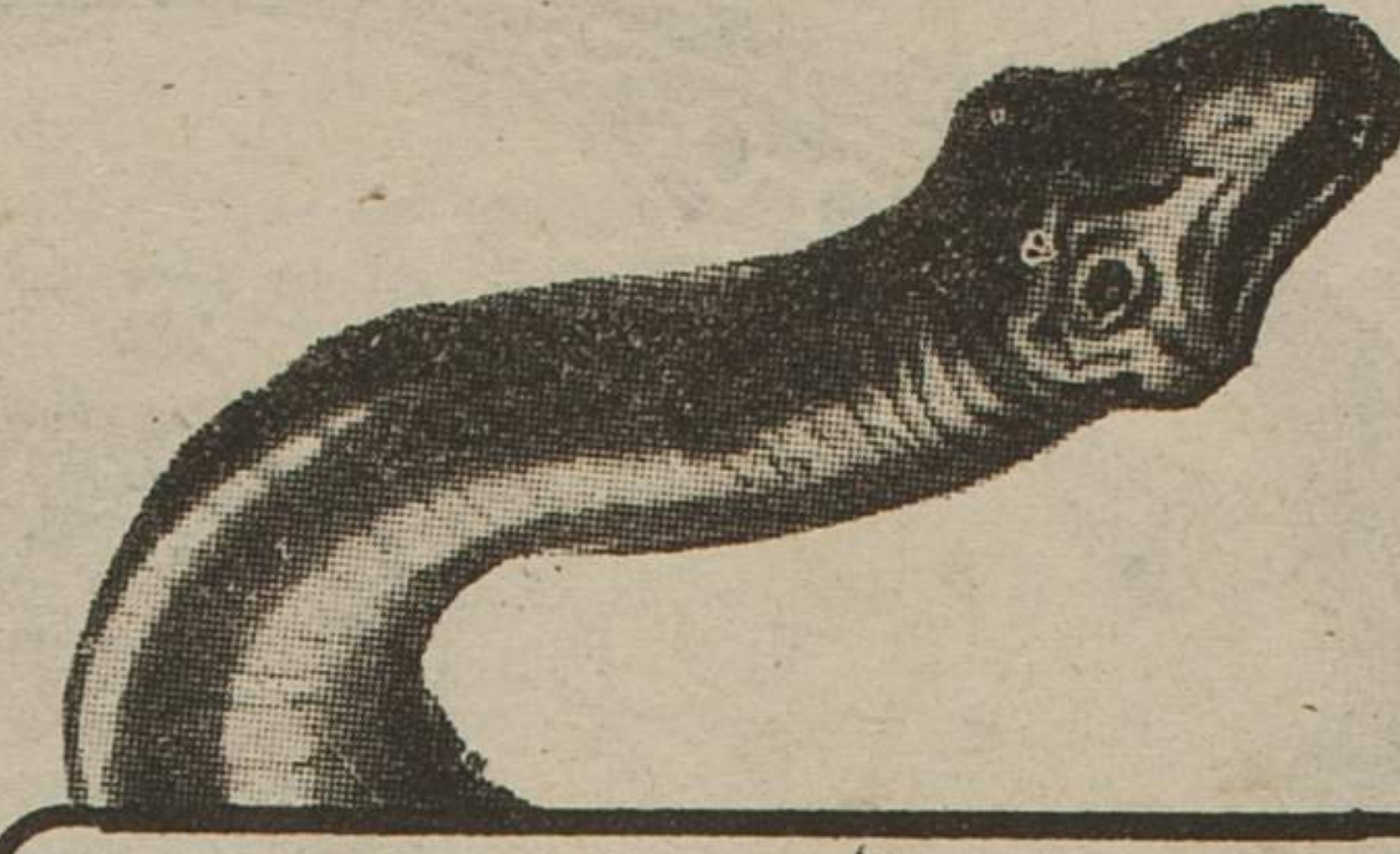
Lookie here, lookie here! Forget those chinchillas and cash in on worm farming. With a regular market among all those fishermen and the new(!) discovery of worms for the garden, worm farming is a sure deal.

Indeed, earthworms are getting boosted these days, the past two months hosting a national worm grower's conference in Kansas City, and the second annual earthworm recipe contest. Much of the hub-bub reflects an interest in the role of worms in organic food production, a subject discussed by Charles Darwin 100 years ago.

It seems that worms are directly related to soils with high organic matter; loose, fertile soil ideal for food production. Worms act both as indicators and improvers of soil quality. Land subject to chemical farming will contain very few worms because they are sensitive to the complex soil balance destroyed by synthetic fertilizers, and poisonous insecticides and herbicides. But these little animals can actually aid in rebuilding farm and garden land.

As worms burrow they loosen compacted earth and provide the oxygen exchange necessary for soil microbes and bacteria. Also, in chomping their way through the earth they digest organic matter and leave behind a trail of smaller particles easily absorbed by plant roots. And worm castings make great soil. You can check it out with the folks at Turner's Market, at 8th and Maine.

The Turners have been raising worms for 16 years now and have become well known in Kansas's \$6,000,000 live bait business. In fact, there's worm beds, big 5 foot square, plastic-lined boxes, right there in the park-



The South African giant earthworm has a creosotic smell so unpleasant that hogs, which generally are indiscriminate eaters, will not eat it. The odour of the small manure worm smells foul to some persons but only pungent to others. The Chinese earthworm smells like raw carrots, and an Oregonian species delightfully like a fragrant trillium. The taste of edible worms was praised by medieval epicures in France. Choice kinds of earthworms could be eaten, among the Maori in New Zealand, only by chiefs or by a dying commoner in his last meal.

Encyclopaedia Britannica

ing lot of the store which serves as a grocery, bait & tackle, plant, and tropical fish

market. And, as Mrs. Turner explains it, they've grown food right out of those worm beds. "We've put up trellises and just vined melons and tomatoes right on up them. The worm castings make such great garden fertilizer we've sold it here in the store."

Glen Turner would fill the beds with shredded, soggy newspaper, add worms, and feed them fruit, vegetables, flour, just about any trash from the store. Since one breeder worm can produce 1200 to 1500 worms per year, the rest of the work was just a matter of sorting them out for sale.

Unfortunately the Turner farm is nearing its end due to medical problems that will keep Glen in the hospital for six months. The worm beds are being sifted out and the worms sold. According to Mrs. Turner, no one else in town is raising the red worms like they were. Several folks have tried but they never managed to keep their worms healthy and alive, she reported.

For people interested in earthworms as a source of supplemental income, libraries offer several bits of information on worm life and techniques for raising them. In addition, a resource group centered in Kansas City can answer questions and offer suggestions. Contact: Earthworm Technology, c/o Steve Bridgens, 603 Greenway Tr., Kansas City, MO. 64113.

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company wishes to change to packaging control, leaving other areas unchecked.

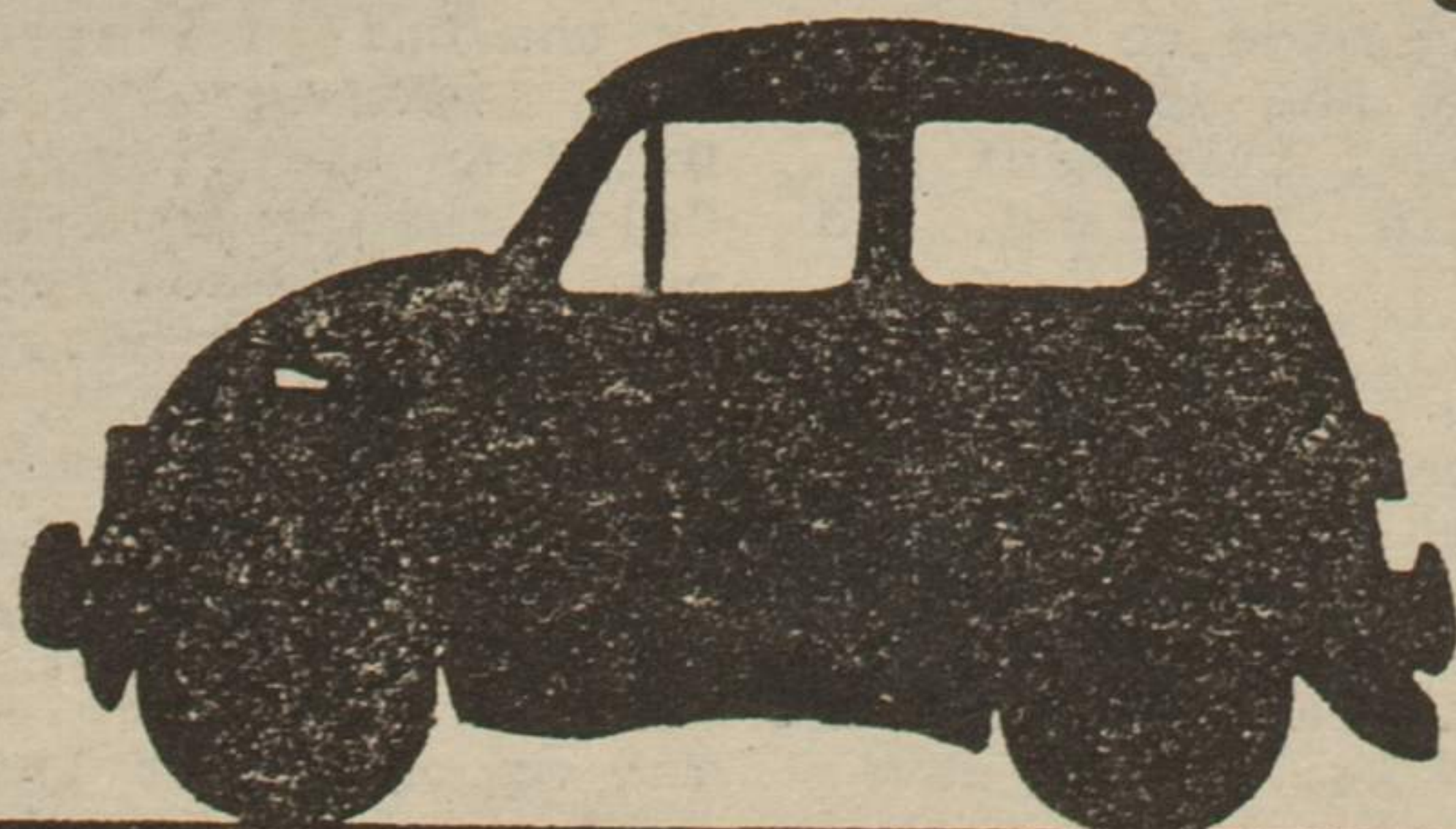
Consumers should show the same concern for striking workers that the workers have shown for them. Without a strong public boycott, striking workers can-

not force the company to treat them with the fundamental respect owing to any human being. An effective public boycott has won some measure of decency for the people who pick the food we eat from California farm fields. There is no reason why the same cannot happen for the Brewery Workers Local 366.



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