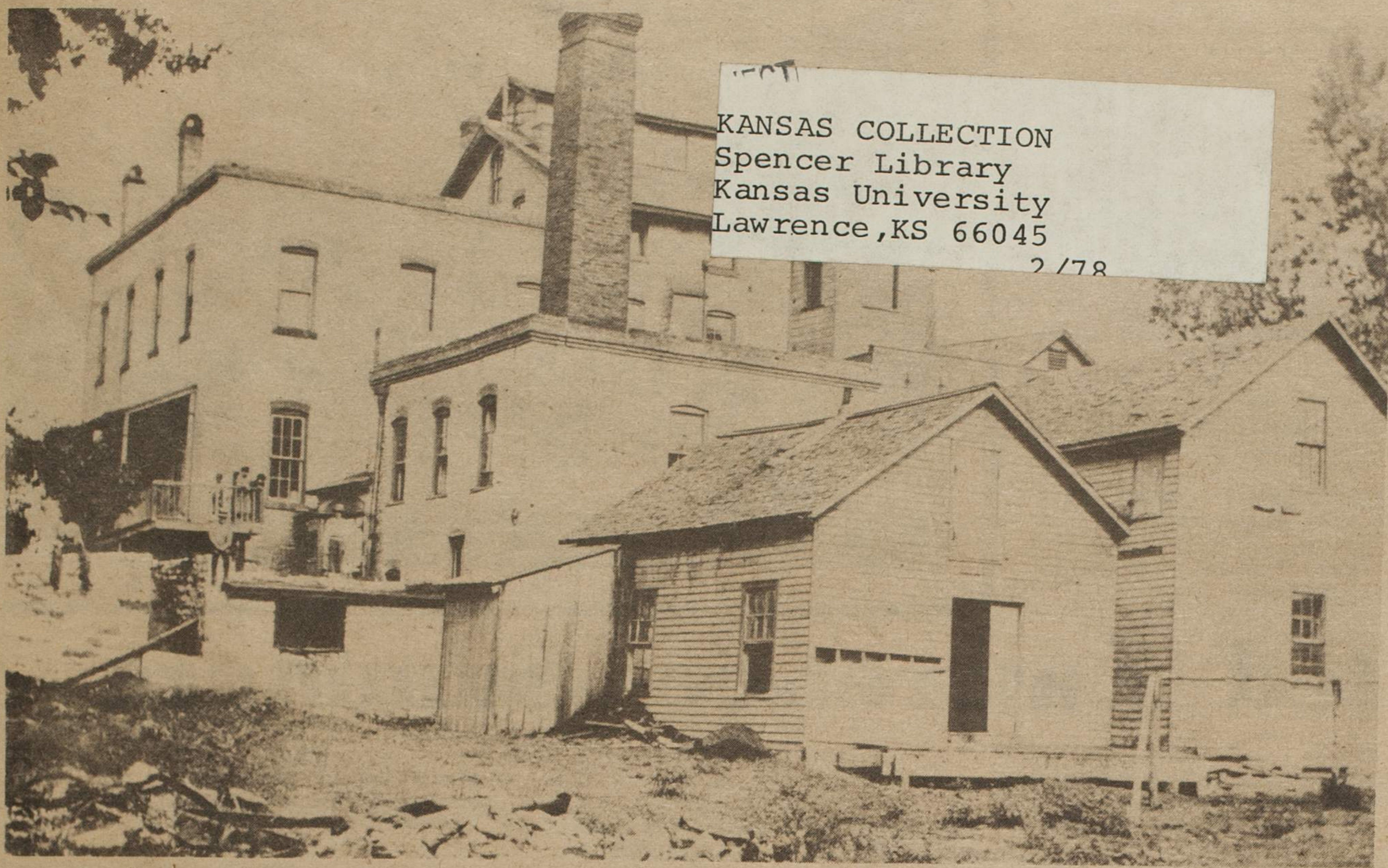


HOT TIME AT LAWRENCE BREWERY

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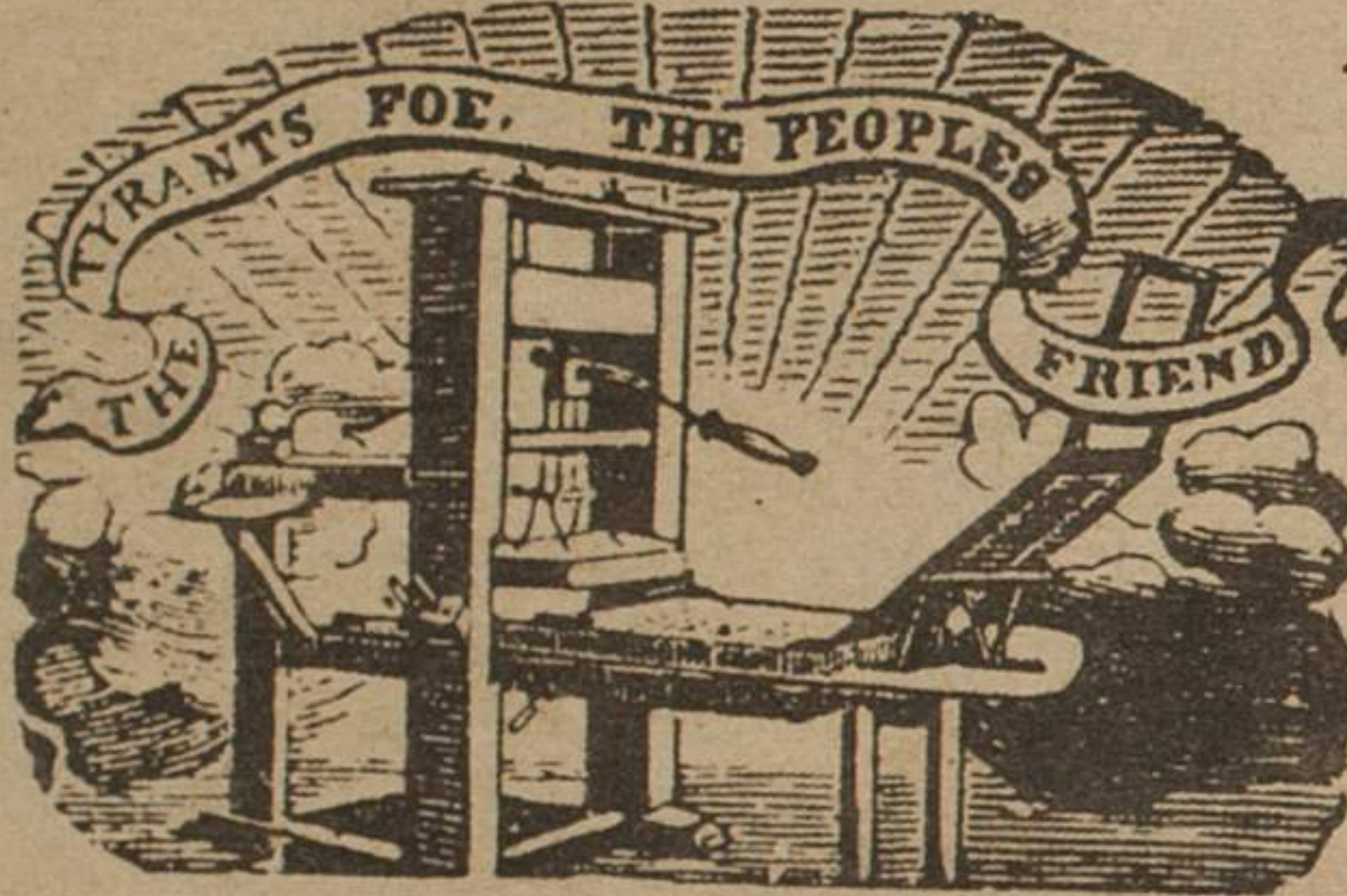
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KANSAS COLLECTION
Spencer Library
Kansas University
Lawrence, KS 66045
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STORY ON PAGE 2

"Here Bro. Elijah and myself used to sit at long rows of tables that were filled with eatables such as brick and Swiss cheese, Limberger cheese, pickled herring, boiled ham, rye bread, pretzels and the like, and drink beer and blow our horns until late at night, eating and drinking and blowing our horns, but not drunk."
-member of Buch's Brass Band



Public Notice

In Cooperation with the Community Mercantile

Vol. III No. 6 MAY 1978 Lawrence, Kansas
25¢

City and Chamber "Movin' On..."

Downtown Expansion Sought

BY JENNIFER SHAW & SUSIE HANNA

The destruction of the Bowersock Mill buildings marks the latest step in growth as the town of Lawrence becomes a city.

Replacing the mills will be a \$3 million City Hall. More than just a new addition to the city's skyline, the City Hall will act as a catalyst to private redevelopment of the North Central Business District.

The City's rapid growth to the west has shifted the physical center of Lawrence away from the central business district. As the population moves west, so follows business. A new shopping center area is now being developed at 23rd and Iowa and south of that intersection along Iowa. More shopping centers, including a giant regional mall, are planned further west.

Prompted by the downtown merchants concern that the future of the downtown is being threatened by suburban shopping areas, the City Government and the Chamber of Commerce are campaigning to redevelop the "blighted areas" of downtown in the 600 block and to expand the central business district into the adjacent neighborhood and along the river.

According to Glenn West, Chamber executive director, the downtown must become attractive enough to encourage people to drive the extra distance in order to compete with suburban shopping centers.

"The key to the project," he said, is the location of City Hall at 6th and Mass. Our experience indicates that it is impossible to bring in private investment as long as the Bowersock and Fiberboard buildings remain."

store is also important to a healthy downtown, West said. One of the only downtown department stores, J.C. Penney's, may be moving westward.

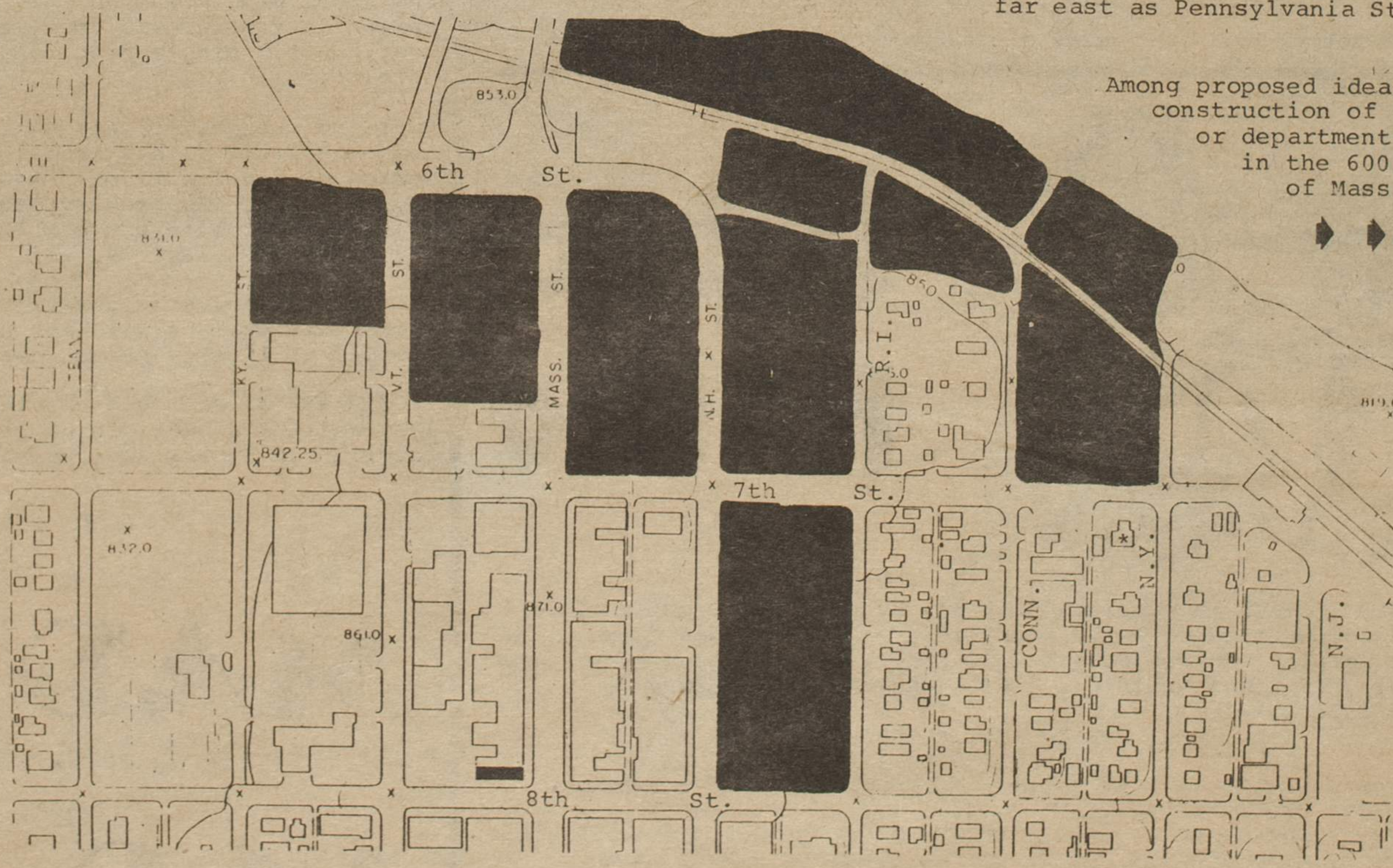
Joe Scales, Penney's manager, said that although he doesn't know of a planned move, he expects that "more than likely we wouldn't stay in the downtown. We try to move where the greatest concentration of customers are."

Unlike West, Scales doesn't think the loss would kill the downtown. Another company would probably replace such a business, he said.

In an effort to begin redevelopment, the City and the Chamber have spent considerable time and money. The City has hired two firms to study and publish reports on the area. Both reports were designed to market the area to private investors.

The first report in 1972 by the Lawrence-Leiter firm, recommends redevelopment from Kentucky to Connecticut, north of Seventh. It included demolition of most buildings in the 600 block of Mass. and construction of a major retail center, a hotel convention center, an office complex and retail shopping complex.

Last fall, the City hired Design-Build Architects to study the area north of Eighth, including land as far east as Pennsylvania Street.



Among proposed ideas were construction of a hotel or department store in the 600 block of Mass.

page 2

NORTH CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT Potential Development Sites

design build architects
11842 39th

A major department or discount

EXPANSION Cont.

a high-rise for the elderly or a major retail center in the 700 block of New Hampshire, and new multiple-family dwellings east of Mass. A restaurant and retail stores along the Kaw were suggested to accompany Lawrence's new Riverfront Park, now being developed.

The City and the Chamber have been quite vocal with their plans, but little has been heard from neighborhood groups and residents.

Clearly the priorities of the neighborhood associations clash with the commercial redevelopment plans. The East Lawrence Improvement Association has repeatedly emphasized that housing preservation and improvement is their chief concern.

During recent Community Development hearings, the City Commission was once again reminded by neighborhood representatives serving on the CD Review Committee, that quality housing is one of the main needs of Lawrence residents.

The City's priority is to boost business by subsidizing large developers and investors.

The question now is whether this conflict will erupt in confrontation between those pushing commercial redevelopment and neighborhood residents.

Asked what he's most concerned about as a Lawrence resident, Commissioner Barkley Clark, author of tax-increment financing (an ingenious plan for government subsidy of redevelopment in the 600 block of Mass.) replied, "rehabilitation of Lawrence's older neighborhoods."



Beer Spirited Lawrence Summers

By Chuck Magerl & Don Zavelo

I don't know much about old J.D. Bowersock. The Lawrence histories of the 1870's and 1880's simply title him as "a capitalist", a leading civic figure with a finger in nearly every major industry. He was a member of the upper crust undoubtedly, but when it came time for relaxation and enjoyment, he joined the rest of the townspeople of Lawrence and headed to John Walruff's brewery and beer garden.

In 1867, a certain C.J. Walruff built a small brewery near a

spring fed stream at the north end of Maine Street. C.J. was an experienced brew master from Germany, and his "Walruff's Health Beer" caught on in the dusty, young town. The springs and stream also gave him a chance to open a "Bathing House" in the grottos near the stream, "hot and cold baths to be enjoyed all hours of the day."

But in July of 1870 the brewery complex was ravaged by a fire. C.J. turned for help to a relative, John Walruff, a banker in

Ottawa.

The Lawrence brewery was rebuilt in grand style. Along with the brick and stone brewing buildings, a maze of underground storage tunnels and caves, and a private residence, the new brewery hosted two floors of drinking parlors and five acres of shady groves, lawns, and gardens for lawn bowling, swings, croquet, shooting gallery, and canopied tables for sipping beer. Early sketches show peacocks and prize birds wandering the grounds.

The German population of Lawrence was first to respond. But soon, to accommodate the visitors, the brewery and beer gardens were opened all day, every day, the busiest time being Sunday afternoon for family outings.

Walruff's Beer held a virtual monopoly in Lawrence, served in many establishments and sold by delivery wagons through the streets of the town. In addition, as news of its quality spread, Walruff's was shipped to every station on the Leavenworth, Lawrence, and Galveston Railroad.

Then in 1880, Kansas voted in prohibition, the first state to do so, and John Walruff was faced with the fact that it was illegal to make beer except for medicinal purposes. In the winter of 1880 John Walruff was busy making mysterious improvements at his brewery. A different process was required to make beer for medicinal purposes, he said. He leaked news of improvements to the local papers and in the spring introduced his "medicinal beer," not a single drop different at all.

Outraged prohibitionists challenged Walruff with a long series of legal battles. Few people wanted the brewery stopped, and Walruff's patrons included judges, lawyers, and Mayor J.D. Bowersock. Though Walruff was arrested several times, his charges were either dropped or lightly passed over.

Five years after the prohibition law, Walruff's beer was still a favorite in Kansas and the con-

tinuation of the brewery was becoming a state-wide laughing scandal.

At Walruff's third trial, a United States Circuit Court judge in Topeka by the name of Brewer ruled against the State of Kansas. He claimed the State could not close the brewery without compensating Walruff for loss of business income. This decision was highly approved by the citizens of Lawrence and Walruff optimistically printed thousands of new labels for his bottles. The labels for "Extract of Malt" instructed; "Keep it very cool. Take a wine glass full at meal time and before retiring at night."

Prohibitionists were aghast at Walruff's pluck and persistence, but they weren't about to admit defeat. They appealed Judge Brewer's decision all the way through to the United States Supreme Court. Late in 1887 the court in Washington D.C. reversed Brewer's decision, ruling the State was not depriving Walruff of his property, but merely abating a nuisance and prohibiting the injurious use of that property. The Lawrence Brewery must close.

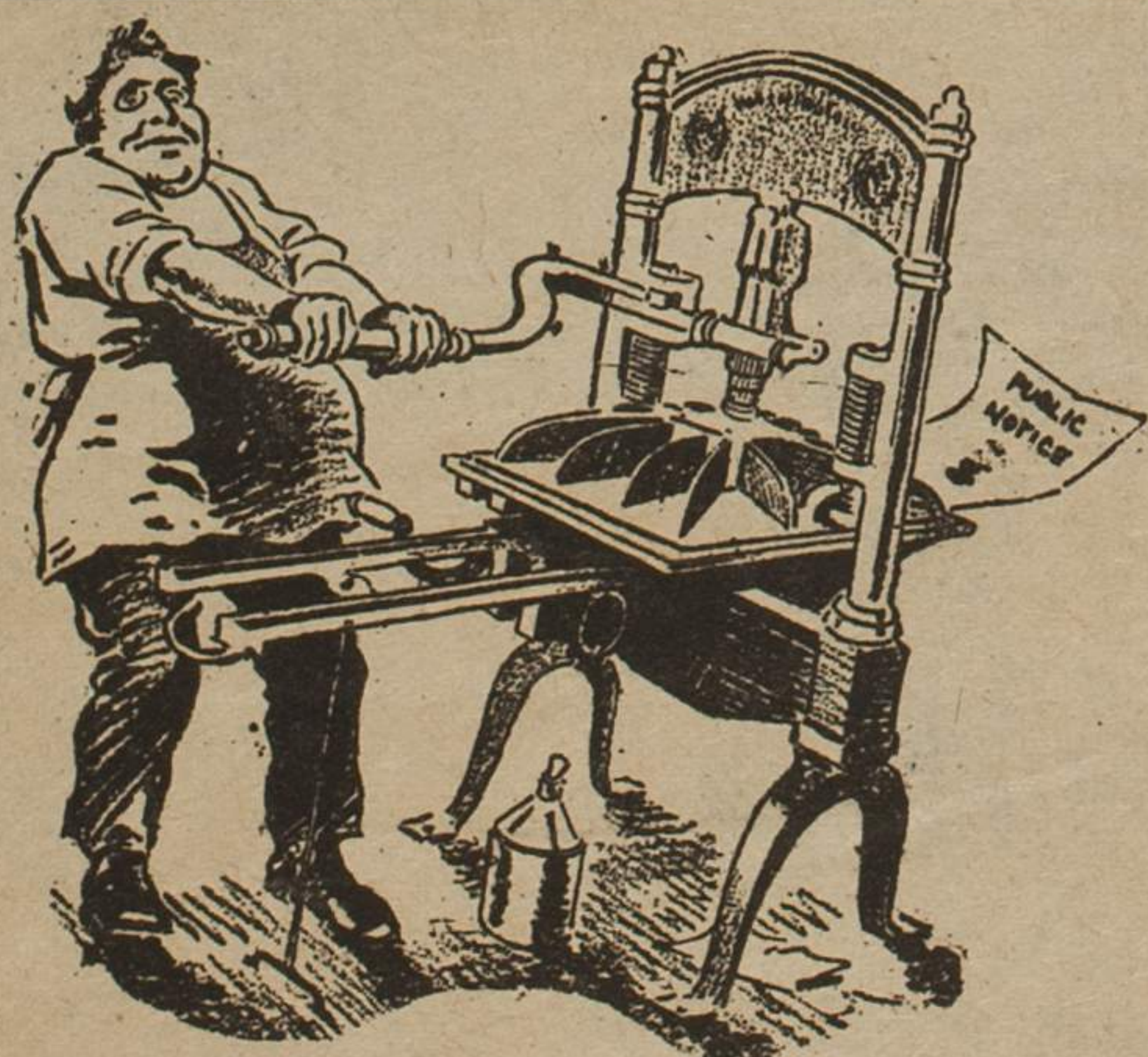
The Lawrence Tribune lamented "John Walruff must go. There are a great many other Lawrence establishments which our citizens would prefer to see moved than this."

Walruff, admitting his loss in Lawrence, but continuing his dedication to brewing, moved to Weston, Missouri, establishing his reputation once more.

The brewery property changed hands many times and was the site of three different tanneries, was used for farm storage, apartments during World War II, and was periodically abandoned. With the development of a mobile home park in 1964, all but one of the buildings were destroyed. The trailer park and the adjacent softball field at Woody Park leave little reminders of the pleasure park and beer garden that was once the toast of Lawrence.



The former stable remains at the brewery site, 2nd & Maine.



Public Notice

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MAD

DOG

Dog enjoying a subtle sense of the miraculous



Hell No We Won't Glow!

Rocky Flats Conference

by Lawrence Wallman

The "Anti-Nuclear Fools" (translated from the Japanese) was one group among the 5000-6000 participants in attendance at the Rocky Flats Conference and demonstration held April 29-30 at Denver, Colorado, and at the Flats nuclear weapons plant 15 miles north of Denver. The Japanese delegation consisted of survivors and victims' relatives of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, truly concerned people.

The Lawrence delegation, made up of myself, Anne Moore, John Harvey and Patty Scobey, boarded a chartered bus at 8:00 PM Friday, and along with approximately 40 others from Kansas City, Salina, etc., arrived in Denver about 9:00 AM, Saturday.

About 2000 there heard speeches, ranging from cogent to impassioned, from seriously committed people like Pat Schroeder, U.S. Representative from Colo., and Stokely Carmichael, black activist from the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee days, among others. Carmichael's presentation was especially moving and brought all to their feet. Turns out he has been a closet "ban-the-bomber" for 20 years.

The most overwhelming event of the weekend was the caravan to the weapons facility which is operated by Rockwell International. It lies in the foothills of the Rockies between Boulder and Denver. The purpose of the demon-

stration was primarily to focus Colorado citizen's attention, especially the plant workers, on the extreme health threat and the desirability of conversion of the workers' skills to peace-time labor.

Conversion, the domestic policy which would take some of the \$150 billion earmarked for the military this year and put it into social programs, was the main theme of the conference. Conversion serves as a rallying point into which environmentalists, peace workers and social activists can all hook.

Six thousand of us from all over the country were there in Hell, as Helen Caldecott, the Harvard-based Australian physician, so eloquently stated. And we were inspired by about 15 different speakers, all long on valuable information and short on rhetoric. As it rained a huge rubber ball, painted like the Earth, bounced by human hands and heads from the front of the crowd to the back.

At the end of the rally Dan Ellsberg led approximately 40 persons to occupy the railroad tracks which carry nuclear materials to and from the plant.

Workshops on Sunday were well-planned and incisive. I attended a "Mobilization for Survival" meeting and learned of past progress. Plans for the upcoming conference in New York, May 25-30, in correlation with the special session on disarmament at the UN, were also announced. Disarmament supporters from all over the world will attend that conference.

We left the mountains with an urgent motivation to join the struggle against the politics of death so rampant in this and other countries. Brevity here does not convey the urgency well, but for those who are interested in learning more and in helping plan future actions in Lawrence, at Wolf Creek and in New York, we four will be present at a meeting 8PM Monday, May 8th, B-28 Watson Library.

"Get Active or Get Radioactive!" No Kidding!



O-Keet-Sha Trail

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

BY GEORGE LATHAM

More than 175 people rallied in front of the Tonganoxie City Hall April 9 to show their support of the bike, hike and nature trail along the railroad right-of-way between Lawrence and Leavenworth now being abandoned by Union Pacific. The trail is called the O-Keet-Sha Trail.

The colorful supporters moved off down the tracks toward Lawrence shortly after 1 p.m. Many in the group were decked out in full bicycling regalia of tights, jerseys and cleated shoes carrying bikes on shoulders. Others wore full hiking dress including packs, Colin Fletcher hat and walking staff.

They biked, drove and walked from more than eight neighboring communities and as far away as Kansas City, Missouri, Topeka and Wichita.

The Rails-to Trails project has a growing list of supporters, including the Mount Oread Bicycle Club, Henry Leavenworth Wheelmen, Lawrence Sierra Club, and Jayhawk Audubon Society. In Tonganoxie, O-Keet-Sha Trails Committee is supporting the trail. Various local Planning Commissions, including Douglas County's, have endorsed the project.

All of these bodies, sweat and miles demonstrate a significant public interest in development of new recreation areas in Kansas. To get involved, contact the Kansas Trails Council, 1226 W. 7th, Lawrence, 913-843-3328.

Marijuana

Alert!

BY THE STAFF

The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) has issued a consumer alert in an attempt to warn smokers of the presence of paraquat-contaminated marijuana in the U.S.

Paraquat is a highly toxic herbicide employed by Mexican authorities to destroy marijuana. The chemical causes the plants to decay in a matter of days if the fields are left standing.

Mexican growers, however, have apparently been harvesting their crops immediately after they are sprayed. This arrests the decaying process and leaves the poison on the harvested plants.

More than 20 per cent of the marijuana samples recently seized near the U.S.-Mexican border have been contaminated with paraquat.

Preliminary results of research on laboratory animals by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) have established that smoking paraquat-contaminated marijuana can cause permanent lung damage, a disorder called fibrosis.

NIDA estimates that an individual who smokes three to five contaminated joints a day could suffer permanent, measurable lung impairment after several months. Ironically, eating the contaminated marijuana is believed to be relatively harmless.

A confidential and anonymous test for contamination is now available to consumers. Send one joint in a plastic bag to Pharm Chem Analysis Anonymous, 1844 Bay Road, Palo Alto, Cal. 94303- Identify the sample with a five-digit number, enclose \$5 cash or money order, and mail in an envelope marked "hand cancel."

Results of the analysis can be obtained after three weeks by calling Pharm Chem at 415-322-9941 and identifying the sample by the number. The analysis fee is tax deductible.

Headquarters, the local drug crisis center, is making an effort to keep on top of the situation. The staff requests that you inform them of your test results.

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The Paraquat Crisis

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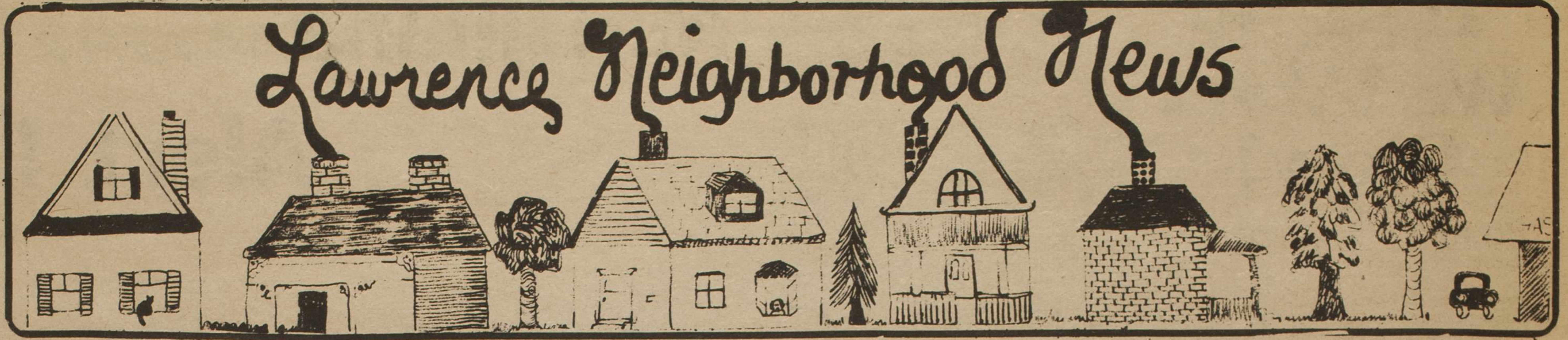
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C.D. Funds Disputed

By Susie Hanna

Disregarding many of the recommendations of a special, citizens review committee, City Commissioners adopted most of the City Manager's recommendations in allocating next year's Community Development funds. CD money is federal funds channeled back to cities to help revitalize older neighborhoods.

The decision came at a public meeting following weeks of discussions among the 15 representatives of the six older neighborhoods who Commissioners appointed to determine how to spend the funds. This citizens' review committee was formed at the urging of CD Director, Lynn Goodell, as part of the new Lawrence's citizen participation plan.

With the citizens' review committee formed, more people were involved in the funding process, and in some ways, the City's use of CD funds was different than it had been in past years. For example, in the past the majority of CD funds was slated for demolition of houses in East Lawrence in preparation for the Haskell Loop roadway. This year, more money than ever (\$300,000) was allocated for housing rehabilitation.

But even though the citizens' com-

mittee spent over 40 hours deliberating over numerous requests from neighborhood associations and other groups, the Commission had the final say in a "public hearing" that was politics as usual. Despite the two hour discussion of items, the Commission's decisions differed little from the staff's (i.e. City Manager's) list of recommendations.

Many of the committee's members were disheartened by the Commission's alterations of their recommendations.

Richard Eisner, vice chairman of the committee and Oread Neighborhood representative, commented, "I feel they adopted the staff recommendations without much consideration of the committee's..."

The Commission's decision on the funding of neighborhood associations was the most surprising. The Commission voted to drastically cut the groups' funds and to adopt a new method for funding that would assure more control over how CD money is spent.

All the associations were cut to \$2,500 each with the exception of

Old West Lawrence which was cut to \$1,200 over Commissioner Don Binns (now Mayor Binns) objections. "I'd be in favor of not giving them anything," he said.

A discretionary fund of \$66,500 was established from which all the associations may request money. Before, associations each were given funds for special projects. The CD director reviewed projects and approved expenditures. Now the CD director will review requests for less than \$500 and the City Manager must approve expenditures between \$500 and \$2,000. Any request over \$2,000 must go before the City Commission.

"I just think we've got to have more control over the City's money," Commissioner Ed Carter said. "First, you people come here requesting \$4,000, then the next year it's \$5,000 then \$10,000. I'm afraid we're just creating little agencies..."

Dismayed committee members and other neighborhood residents attempted to argue with Commissioners, pointing out that controls already exist and that the result of the new system will be competition among the groups for money, causing divisions among the older neighborhoods.

when they should be cooperating to revitalize their areas.

The biggest difference between the committee's recommendations and the Commission's decision was the approval of \$100,000 to continue the senior center project at the municipal building, 8th and Vt. The committee had not favored funds for it this year, stating that the City should first use CD money to revitalize the older neighborhoods.

The Commission also eliminated funding for renovation of the historic Eldridge house at 945 R.I., a project favored by the committee.

The final allocations were: Neighborhood plans \$12,000; neighborhood associations, \$13,700; discretionary funds, \$66,500; CD Dept. administration, \$115,000; rehab grants (including \$25,000 for a pilot loan program,) \$250,000; demonstration rehabs, \$50,000; CD Dept. winterization program, \$15,300; special winterization program for renters through Penn House and Consumer Affairs, \$2,500; drainage improvements, \$43,000; senior center, \$100,000; North Lawrence sewers, \$64,000; contingencies, \$28,000.

Oread Plans Neighborhood Survey

BY BOB MARVIN



The Oread Neighborhood Association met April 3, 7:30 pm at the South Park Recreation Center.

ONA heard a proposal for expansion of parking facilities at Shenanigan's discotheque. The expansion would involve purchase and destruction of a home South of Shenanigan's. The space would be used for 19 more parking places. ONA members voted 20 to 1 opposing Shenanigan's plan as it entails commercial encroachment and destruction of their residential area.

The association plans a neighborhood survey to gather background information from Oread residents. The survey is intended to provide some insight as to various aspects of living in the Oread Neighborhood. A dozen people volunteered to distribute the survey questionnaires.

ONA plans to coordinate their Spring Cleanup Week with other neighborhood groups. Mrs. Lynch has volunteered to be liaison between Oread and other neighborhood

groups.

ONA board of directors will investigate incorporation of the association as a not-for-profit corporation.

The next meeting of the Oread Neighborhood Association will be May 1, 7:30 pm in the South Park Recreation Center. Dick Dunhaupt Mercantile Credit Union Manager, will discuss possible credit union expansion to include neighborhood association members.

HISTORIC HOME STILL THREATENED

Weathered yellow-painted bricks of the two-story house are crumbling and dull in the afternoon light. Missing glass panes give the windows a checkered, forlorned look.

It is one of a handful of standing homes to have survived Quantrell's 1863 raid on Lawrence and is one of Lawrence's oldest structures.

Located at 945 Rhode Island, it was the home of Col. S.W. Eldridge, a Kansas pioneer and past-owner of the famous Eldridge Hotel.

Many Lawrence residents are familiar with the house through its use by the Jaycees as a Halloween "Haunted House," an activity which has not improved its condition.

Now the historic home is threatened with a fate which is the bane of preservation advocates--being turned into a parking lot.

But recent discussions involving East Lawrence residents, City Commissioners and the Salvation Army, the present owner of the home, have yielded new hope that the house may be saved from destruction and perhaps restored to its original ante-bellum elegance.

The once-proud home has reached its present grim state through a series of misfortunes. Purchased by the Tophan family in the 1880s, it finally fell to Laura Tophan, a worldly aesthete who spoke six languages.

In her later years she became an eccentric recluse who moved from room to room in the house as each

became filled with refuse. When she was placed in a nursing home in 1972, she had worn the same hat for so long that her hair had grown through it and had to be cut in order to remove it.

The brick mansion she had inhabited had fallen into a state of serious disrepair. Having no living heirs, she left her home to the Salvation Army upon her death in 1975.

Unable to locate a buyer willing to restore the house, the Salvation Army Board of Directors contemplated demolishing it to provide additional parking for their facility that is located on the lot just west of the Eldridge home.

◆ ◆ ◆ CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX

SCOOP

ATTENTION EAST LAWRENCE PROPERTY OWNERS!!!!!!

Sometime in May, you will be receiving a letter from the Kansas State Historical Society. This letter will ask for your comments about the proposed East Lawrence Historic District application. (See Public Notice, Feb. '78, P. 9 for more information about Historic District.)

If you would like the Historic District project to go through, it's very important to send your comments to the State Historical Office. They want to know what the residents think about the plan. If you have any questions, be sure to come to the May 8 general meeting, 7:30pm at New York School.

East Lawrence Review

BY SUSIE HANNA

The East Lawrence Improvement Association tackled a lengthy agenda at its April meeting at the New York Grade School. Twenty people gathered to discuss the City Commission's decision on the use of next year's Community Development funds and to plan neighborhood improvement activities.

President Richard Kershenbaum, who represented ELIA on the Citizen's CD committee, reported on the City's allocation of the federal funds. (See related story on this page.)

Although the City disregarded many of the committee's recommendations, Kershenbaum said, the neighborhoods should be pleased with the increased amount for housing rehabilitation. The City appropriated \$250,000 for housing rehabilitation grants, an amount equal to what the City has spent in the past three years on rehab work.

Additionally, \$50,000 was allotted for a special demonstration rehab project. The funds will be used to purchase houses that are threatened with destruction, repair them, and then sell them. Money from the sale of a house will be returned to the fund and used to buy more houses.

Kershenbaum said East Lawrence may be involved in the first two demonstration rehabs. The ELIA executive board has recommended to CD Director Lynn Goodell that two houses at 6th and Arkansas, threatened with demolition for a new medical office, should be moved to vacant lots in the 900 block of Pennsylvania.

"I'd like to see these houses made available to low-income people who might not have a chance to own a home," Kershenbaum stated.

He said the houses should be offered to someone who'll make a commitment to live there for several years. Requiring a low down-payment would help a low-income family buy a home, he said.

Kershenbaum also explained the Commission's decision to change the funding of the six neighborhood groups. The City had annually allotted a portion of the CD money for use by the associations.

The Commission voted to set up a discretionary fund of \$66,500 for all six groups.

Commissioner Ed Carter explained at the public hearing on CD funds that the City needed more control over the CD money.



Barbara Willits told the other ELIA members that she thought the City's action will set neighborhood groups against one another by forcing them to compete for the funds.

Kershenbaum questioned whether the City Commission would have granted funding for the East Lawrence historic survey under the new system. Any project costing more than \$2,000 now has to have the approval of the Commission, whereas in the past, the CD director reviewed projects as to their eligibility under federal guidelines.

The Commission also approved \$12,000 for completion of neighborhood plans. The East Lawrence survey should begin in January 1979, Kershenbaum said.

"We hope we can gather information to help stabilize our neighborhood," he said. "I was hoping it would begin sooner. There are a lot of pressures on our area."

The ELIA also voted to support "Neighborhood Pride" month in May. Karen Goodman, president of the Old West Lawrence Assoc., asked ELIA to cooperate with the other neighborhoods in publicizing neighborhood clean-up activities.



ELIA members watched a film on historic preservation and discussed the group's application to recognize the area as a historic district. The State Historic Preservation Officer now has the completed application and should review it by June.

Ed Boles, who worked on the survey, said he planned to set up a meeting with the City Commissioners, the State Preservation Officer and ELIA representatives to discuss the historic district proposal. The meeting is needed to avoid misunderstanding and confrontation, Boles said.

Plans for the meeting started as a result of City Manager Buford Watson's comments that he plans to oppose the district's recognition. The City is encouraging redevelopment (mostly commercial) in the northern portion of East Lawrence (see related story pg. 1)

Although the Commission rejected the CD committee's proposal to use \$40,000 to begin restoring the Eldridge home, 945 Rhode Island, Kershenbaum told the ELIA that as a result of the request, the City had made a commitment to save the house. (See related story page 4.)

The Salvation Army, owner of the house, had planned to tear the house down soon, but these plans have been halted now, Kershenbaum reported.

No formal decision has been made, he said, but Glen Kappleman, a member of the Salvation Army board strongly supports saving the house and has suggested that they might be willing to help fund restoration work.

ELIA members also voted to spend \$1,500 to plant 25 large trees in the area north of 9th street. Judy Bailey, who has been working on the tree planting program for several weeks, recommended focusing on the northern area as a way to fight the City's plans for development, "by doing something positive in that area."

The group voted to purchase 30 more smoke alarms. Fifty smoke alarms, purchased in January, have been given away.

Permission to spend up to \$1,700 to purchase two new playground toys for New York Grade School was also granted by the group.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 7:30 p.m., New York School.



SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCE THE REOPENING OF THE SEWING CENTER, 9TH AND RHODE ISLAND. WE WILL BE OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY STARTING MAY 17 FROM 9AM TIL NOON. WE'VE GOT THE MACHINES OILED AND READY TO GO!!! BRING YOUR SEWING AND MENDING. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED. TELL YOUR FRIENDS!!!



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Old Enough to Buy Twinkies, Old Enough to Vote

By Jim P. Davis

Corporations are becoming increasingly involved in political issues. The extent to which they finance campaigns, lobby for or against specific issues, and receive government contracts or subsidies defines their level of involvement in government policies. It is because of this corporate political activity that consumers should be cautious in purchasing domestic goods.

Often the purchase of a seemingly innocent product contributes money to a conglomerate with far-reaching political power.

It is easy to overlook social issues when spending money, because policies in Washington seem too remote from commonplace shopping. Few people think of the Pentagon when they buy Barbie Dolls; fewer still think of Chile when they purchase Hostess Twinkies. But when the products are traced to their respective conglomerates, these simple purchases gain significance. The revelation by the Pentagon that all the plastic parts currently used in manufacturing weapons are made by Mattel Toys, adds a social di-



mension to an otherwise private act. Money spent on Barbie Dolls is profit for an industry which thrives on warfare. Hostess Cupcakes, Wonder Bread, and Morton Cream Pies are all owned by International Telephone and Telegraph. When the C.I.A. influenced the elections in Chile with the result that the reformist government of Allende was overthrown, one of their reasons was to preserve the parasitic role of I.T.T. on the Chilean economy. There are alternatives to the products of I.T.T., and by choosing these alternatives we can withhold our personal endorsement for their illegal activities.

The elections of 1972 illuminated another method of corporate influence. Most citizens felt that their largest role

in the election was voting. Though personal votes may be of human interest, their political impact is moot because electoral votes, not personal votes, elect the President. Conversely, most citizens disregarded the politics of their purchasing. But when it was revealed that I.T.T., Pepsi, Coca-Cola, and many others made illegal contributions to Nixon's campaign, it seemed that we elected our President more by what we purchased in the grocery store than by our vote on election day.

Of course, a corporation need not involve itself with the government to commit acts, which they perceive as economic, but which are essentially political. Witness the mass deaths of infants throughout the Third World, arising from the overzeal-

ousness of the Nestlé's company in finding a new market for baby formula. Nestlé's promotes the use of baby formula in areas which have neither the facilities to sterilize the bottles, nor the money to purchase the product once the mother stops producing milk and Nestlé's stops giving free samples. This situation has prompted the Crunch Nestlé's Quik campaign to boycott all Nestlé's products, which include Taster's Choice coffee and all Libby's products.

It should seem obvious that when making a choice between two virtually identical products, choosing the item produced by the conglomerate with the worst record of abuse should be avoided. Every time we spend money we are making a political decision, and if we ignore this dimension to our spending, then we ignore perhaps the most significant way in which the average citizen influences politics.

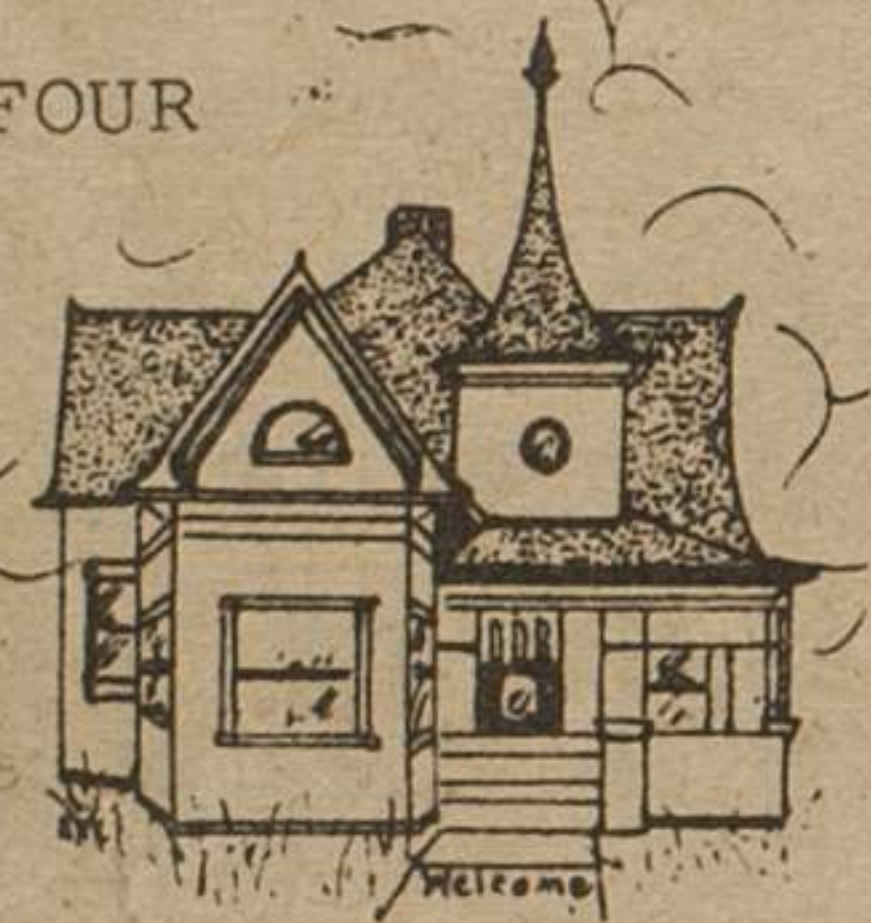
Yet, any trip to the supermarket, gas station, restaurant, or hardware store reveals that ordinarily enlightened consumers become prey to packaging design and other advertising, mindlessly giving profit to businesses which cause many of the problems a particular consumer might be working to remedy.

Boycotts can be effective. One of the most encouraging examples was the Farah slacks boycott. Farah's employees were primarily Chicano women who were underpaid and denied nearly every fringe benefit. When Farah started harassing all attempts by the women to unionize, a boycott was organized against all Farah products. After two years and the closing of half their factories, the management of Farah yielded and reformed their labor policies. Only after we realized the importance of our spending were we able to stimulate responsible policies.

There are innumerable reasons why we purchase what we do. But whenever we spend money, we distribute power. In the case of Presidential elections, our consuming is felt more than our voting. Like voting, spending money can be done knowledgeably or blindly. It is the responsibility of the consumer to be aware of the political effects of his or her spending and to spend in accordance with one's beliefs. The old doctrine caveat emptor has, thus, a new application.

HISTORIC HOME

FROM PAGE FOUR



The East Lawrence Improvement Association had offered plans for the venerable house. They proposed that money be allocated from the City's 1979 Community Development budget for a demonstration project using the home.

Richard Kershenbaum, ELIA president, told the other members of the CD Review Committee, the group charged with recommending a CD budget, that the project would have benefits to the city far beyond the simple addition of one living unit.

He said the restoration project would save a building with unique historic significance, and would draw attention to the potential for historic preservation in Lawrence, spurring private restoration efforts.

The presence of a fully restored house would also help to stabilize the surrounding neighborhood, he said.

Despite the Committee's recommendations that \$40,000 be allocated to the project, the City Commission axed the request in favor of a \$100,000 allocation for remodeling work in the new Senior Center, 8th and Vermont.

Commissioner Don Binns opposed the plan because he said he didn't want to use public funds to restore a house for someone who could afford adequate housing on their own.

"I'm concerned with using public funds to subsidize private funds," he said. CD funds weren't meant for private use. We would just be helping out some-

one who would have plenty of money any way."

But although the Commission was unwilling to allocate a large sum from the CD budget, the neighborhood's pleas that accelerating deterioration would soon make restoration infeasible, prompted concern from Commissioner Barkley Clark.

He suggested the interested parties meet with the City Manager and Commission to explore ideas for saving the home.

As a result, the Commission sent a letter to the Salvation Army urging them to postpone destruction of the building and advising them of the future availability of HUD 312 Loans, which could assist with rehabilitation.

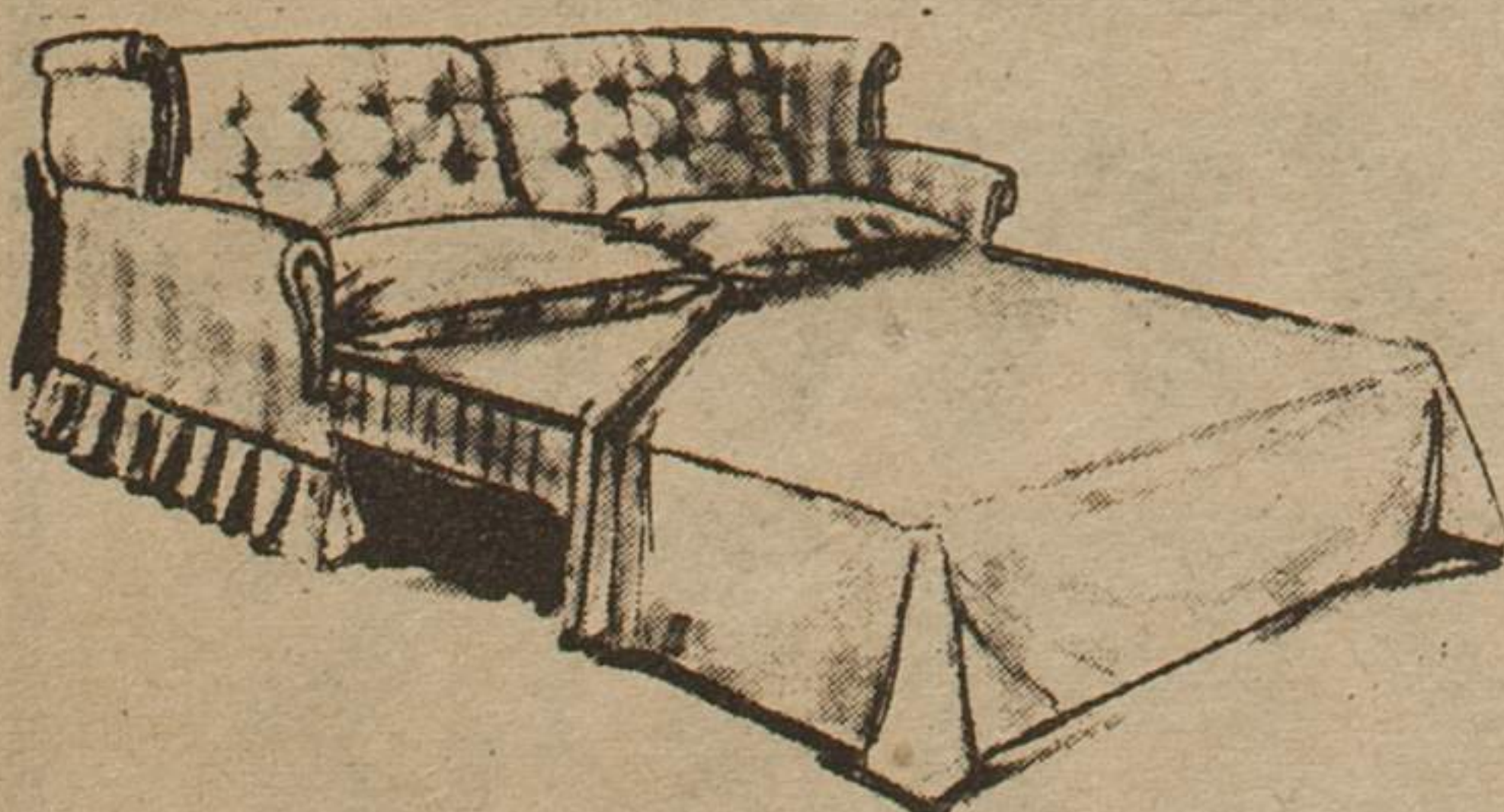
Glenn Kappelman, a member of the Salvation Army Board and chairperson of its building committee, said the group is examining alternatives for funding the restoration.

The Salvation Army has postponed indefinitely, its plans for demolishing the house this spring.

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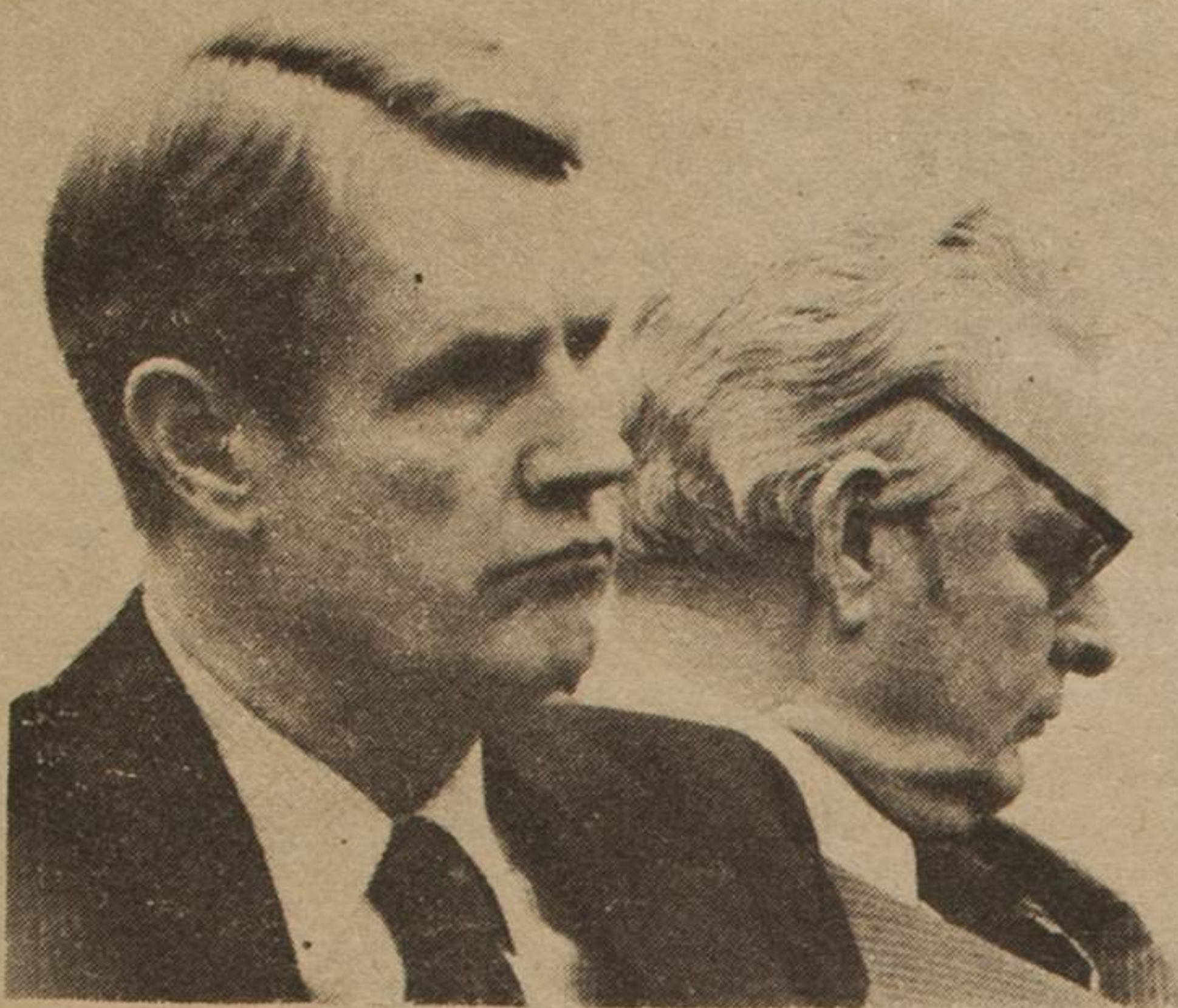
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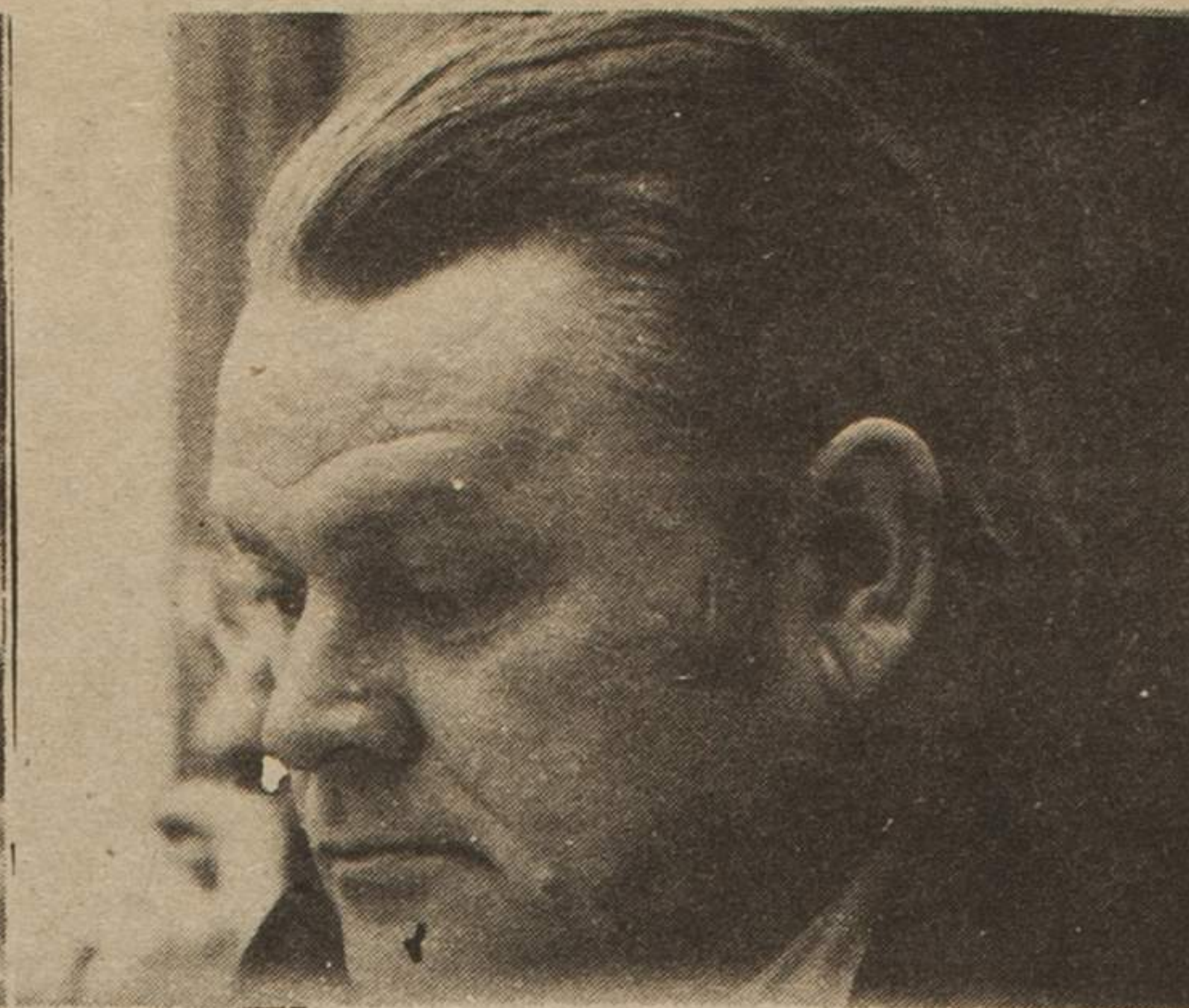
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Ralph Foster, Ralph Fiebach of KG&E



KCP&L's Vice-Pres. Arthur Doyle



Representative Ben Foster



KCP&L's Pres. William Wall

WHO CONTROLS THE LIGHT CO. ?

Utility executives' sadness pervaded the room. Out of the woodwork these masters of Kansas destiny were forced. Kansas utility customers won a partial victory from the special Kansas Legislative hearings (April 13 and 19) on the sale by Kansas City Power and Light Co. (KCP&L) of 17% of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Station to the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). The committee recommendation, however, will not have an immediate impact on the continued construction at Wolf Creek.

Legislators learned from the hearings that the state has no control over the sale of a part or a whole interest in the plant at Wolf Creek to out-of-state utilities.

Fred Adams of the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) testified that the KCC could not deny a construction permit solely on that basis. The special investigative committee also concluded that the Kansas Legislature wasn't "intentionally misled." This conclusion came despite the conflicting information presented by utility officials at the hearings.

KCP&L officials initially stated numerous times to the committee that no sale of the plant had been offered before October 1977.

Arthur Doyle, KCP&L executive vice-president, had testified to legislative committees in September and August that almost all of KCP&L's Wolf Creek's capacity was needed for existing customers.

KCP&L officials revealed during the second day of hearings that they had offered part of Wolf Creek to NPPD last June but had been turned down. A subsequent offer in late January 1978 was accepted.

As a result of the investigation, some changes are likely that may protect Kansas utility customers in the future. The hearing testimony led lawmakers to adopt these recommendations to the legislature:

- 1) that there is "no evidence of intentional misrepresentations" to the legislature by KCP&L, but that KCP&L had "failed to advise" lawmakers of the impending sale, even though they knew it was a serious proposal
- 2) that the legislature repeal the "grandfather clause" that prohibits the KCC from approving or disapproving any future construction or additional proposed generating units at Wolf Creek or the Jeffrey Energy Center (being constructed by Kansas Power and Light close to St. Mary's, Kansas)
- 3) that a legislative summer interim study be made of the KCC's authority over construction and state-wide coordination of power plants
- 4) that the State Water Resources Board be directed to draft standards and guidelines for the sale of a part interest in a power plant operating under a state water contract.

The hearings revealed that a guaranteed source of uranium fuel for the Wolf Creek plant has not been obtained. This is necessary because Westinghouse partially withdrew from its original uranium supply contract in 1975. Westinghouse is now only responsible for the first core load (which lasts 3 years). Right now KG&E is busy drilling holes in New Mexico looking for uranium. Sure hope they find some.

Kansas Gas and Electric (KG&E) had stated, in rate hearings earlier in the month, that they faced immediate financial problems if they were denied any part of their requested rate hike. KG&E is doubling the worth of their company in 6 years. An unbelievable task in the annals of Kansas history. Any minor setback such as not selling as much electricity as they planned is serious. KG&E's recent batting average at growth figures has been pathetic.

Michael Viren, head of the utilities division of the Missouri Public Service Commission (MPSC), the Missouri equivalent of the KCC, testified that KCP&L and KG&E had greatly overestimated their future growth the past few years. KCP&L was ordered by MPSC to improve their growth forecasting methods.

Viren noted that better forecasting methods were adopted by

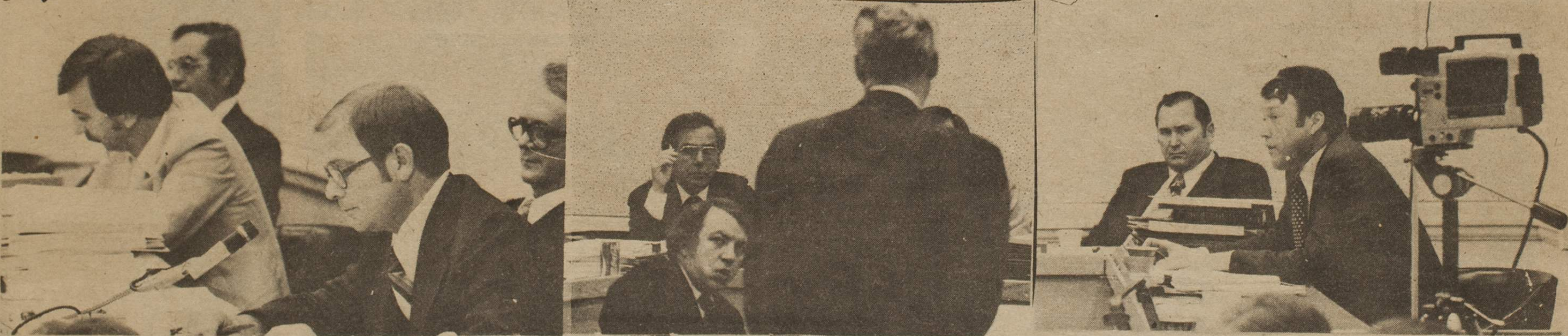
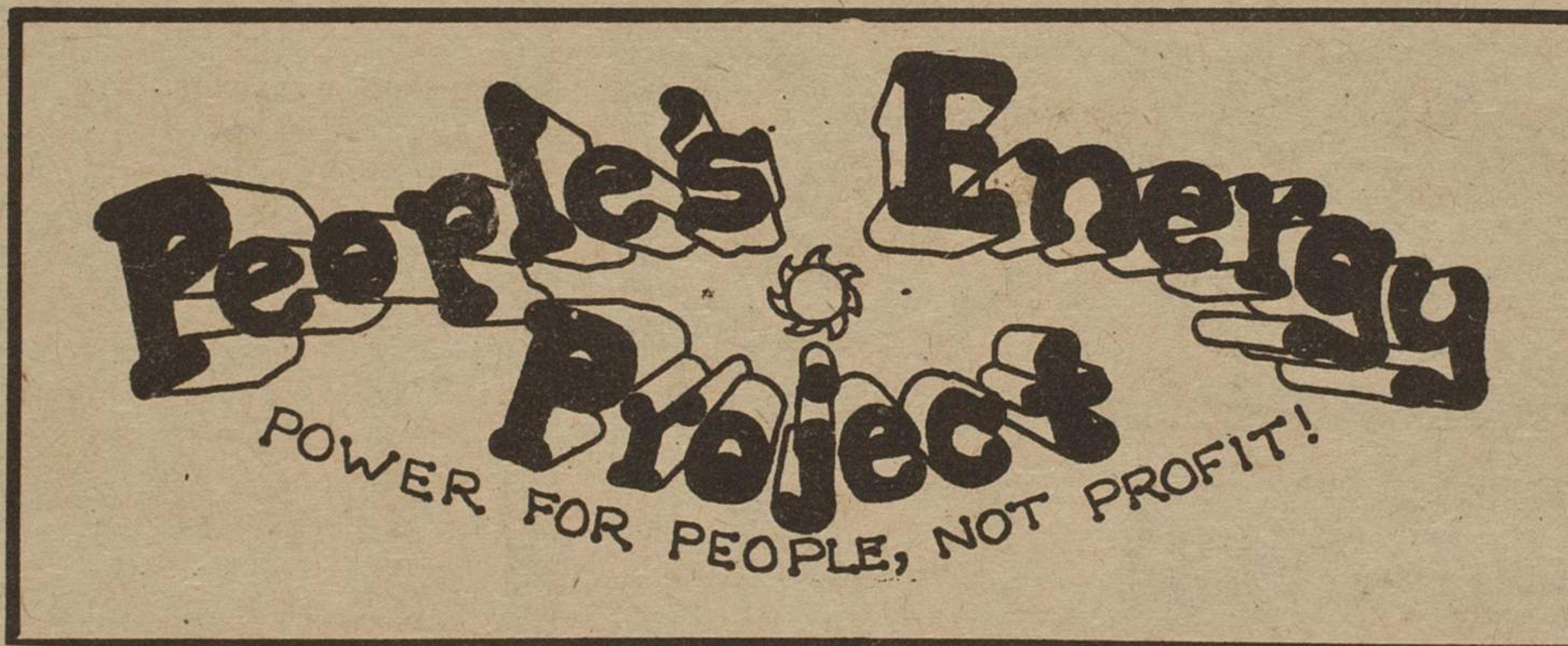


KCP&L and that given their decision to push ahead with Wolf Creek, that the sale to NPPD was prudent because it relieved their customers of the burden of paying for unnecessary power plant capacity. Viren, a former nuclear engineer, said he personally did not favor the nuclear plant.

Once nuclear fuel is used in a plant, the waste fuel must be reprocessed and stored somewhere. This country has no reprocessing plants in operation and no answer to the storage problem. Some experts inferred from testimony that Wolf Creek would, at least temporarily, hold nuclear waste from plants in other areas that have overcrowded their own waste storage areas.

The hearings graphically illustrated results of poorly coordinated utility growth in Kansas. The results are less efficient and more costly electrical service for Kansas electric customers.

The huge amounts of money needed for building these new plants require statewide public supervision. The KCC will become more active as a result of these hearings. Whether the public's future financial, safety, and energy interests are protected still remains to be seen.



written by Steve Treaster

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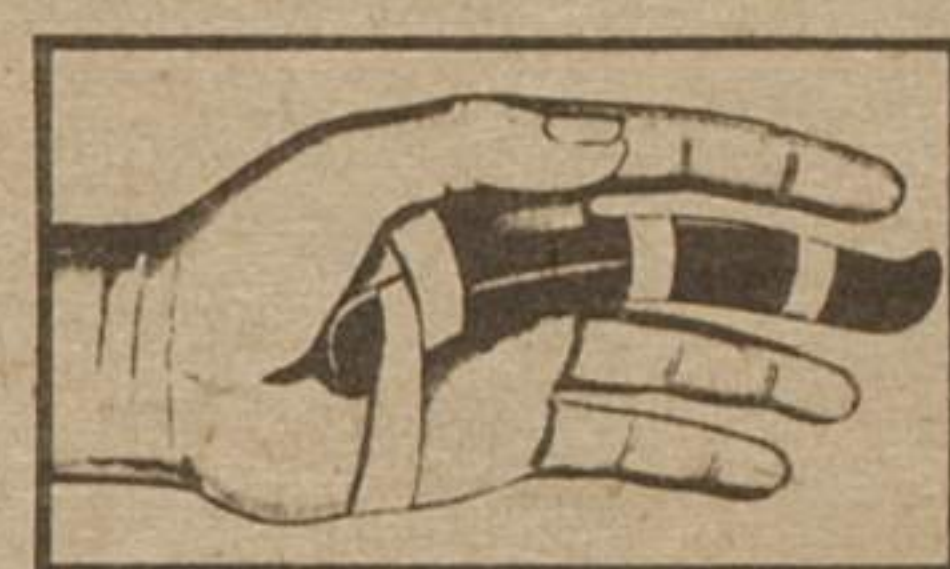
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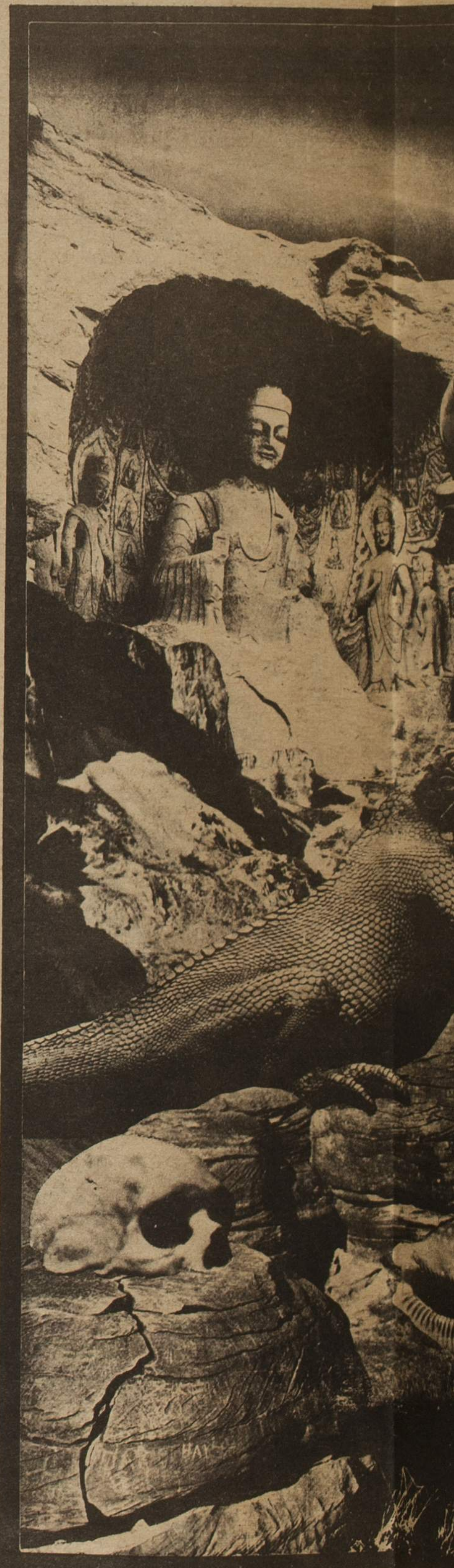
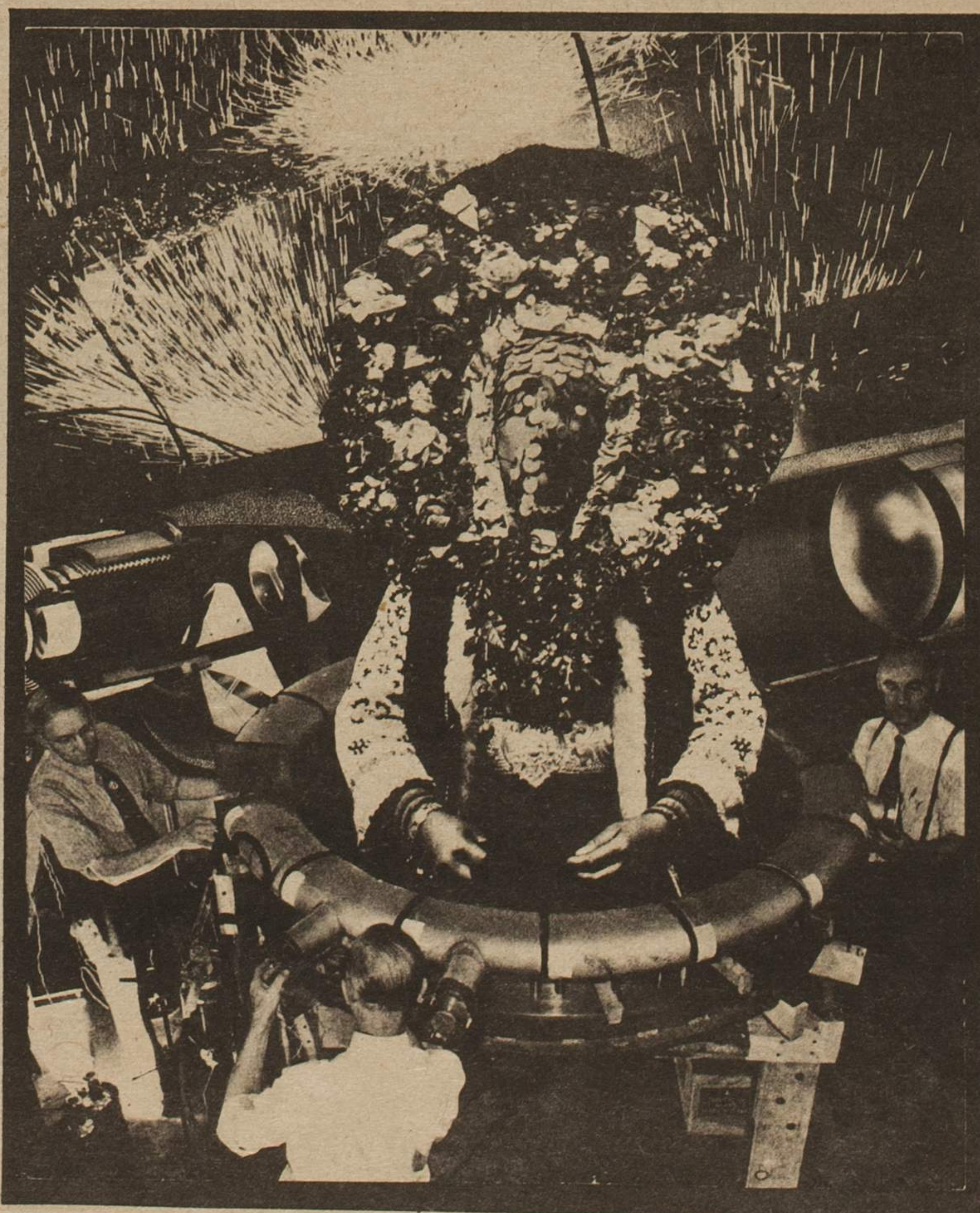
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(left-right, top)
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Virgin Spark
Vagrants of Slug Alley
unnatural acts
Baby Nevermind and the
Swine Swing Band
(bottom)
BACK TO THE LAND!
the Powerhouse
Rotorcoasting thru devoid
The dream of a young girl
who wished to enter the
convent.
rendered with pastepot and
razor in 2D by Joe Schwind

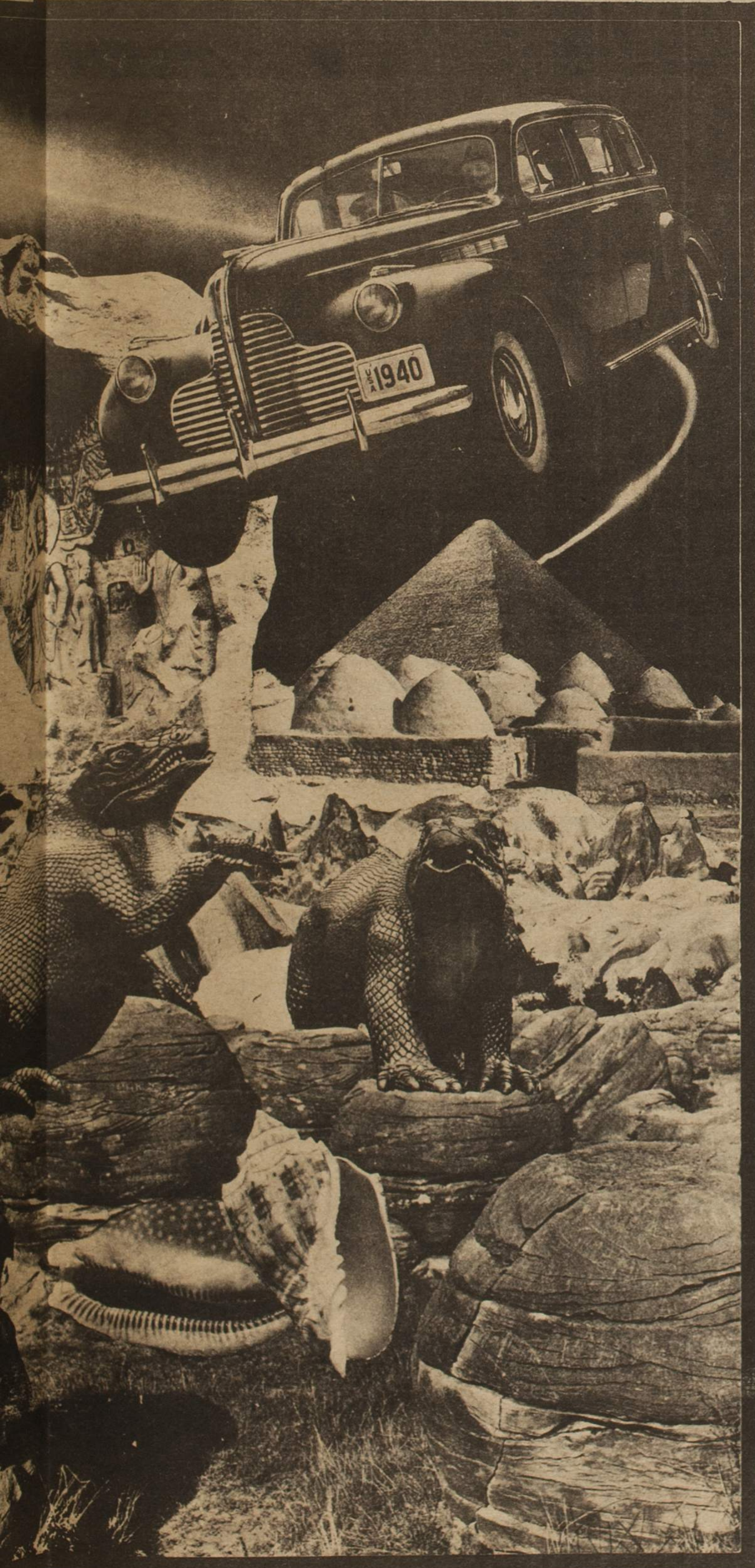
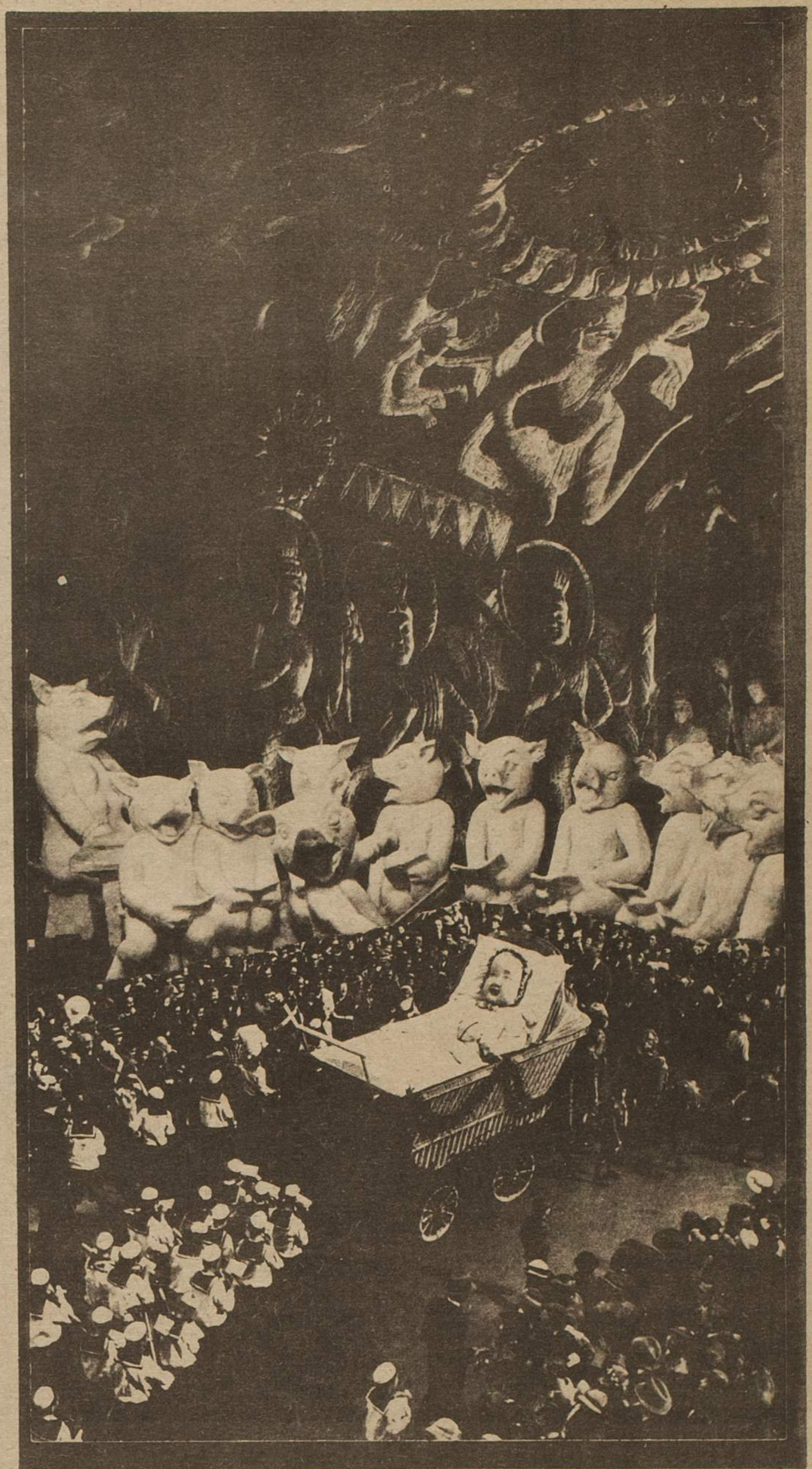
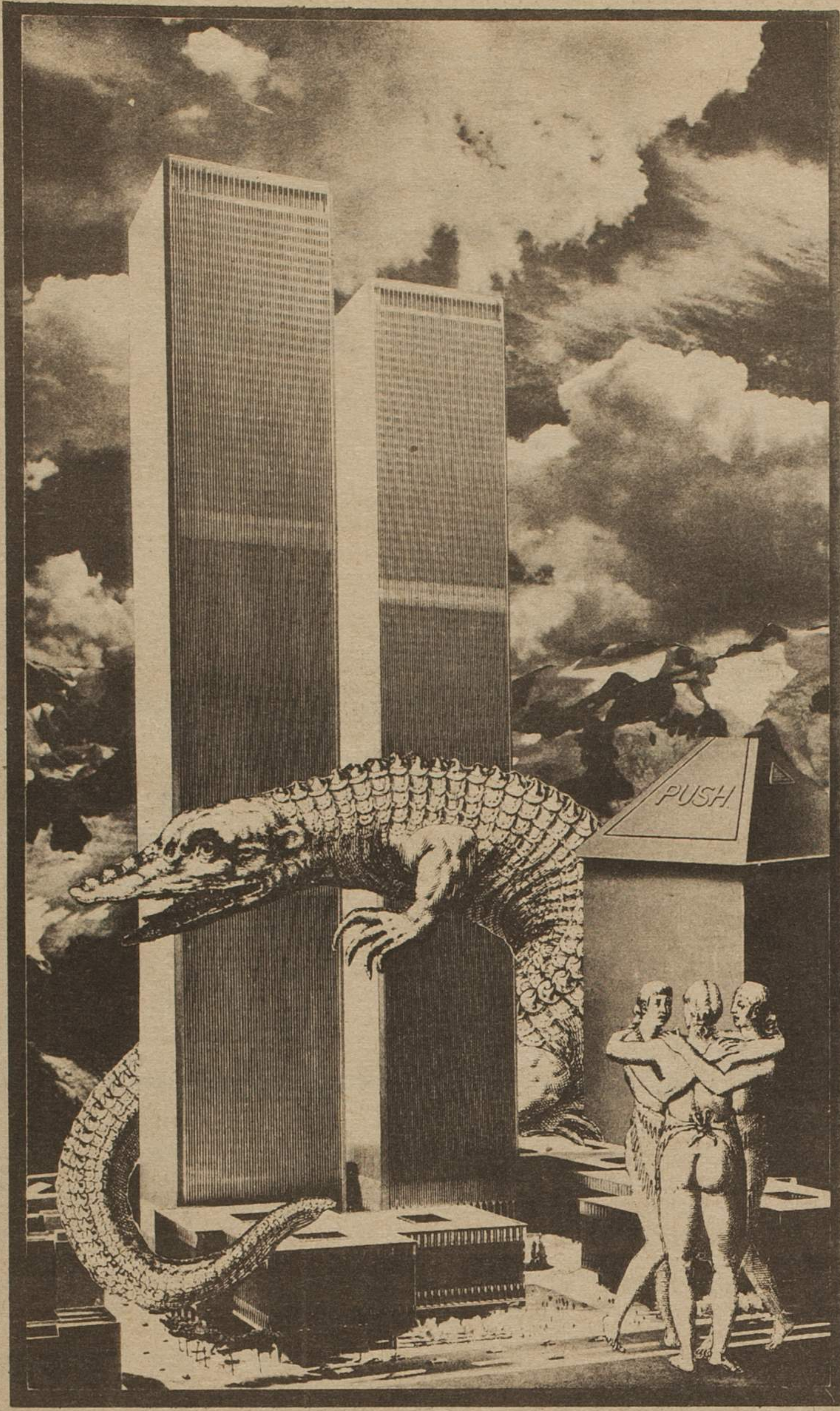


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COOP NEWS

Where Were You in 1915?

You'll never see the co-op store considered in those magazines of supermarketing.

The face is aged, but not quite graceful. There are sags and droops in some funny places. And it's pulled together with as many add-ons as a thrift shop fashion model.

But there's an old-fashioned, noble character through it all; in fact, it's downright historic. This store has been selling groceries since 1915, sixty-three years. That's an uncontested record for a town flip-flopping through changes as fast as Lawrence.

William Messenheimer, a German immigrant, built this store in 1915. He'd already run a grocery in East Lawrence for twelve or thirteen years before moving to the west edge of town on Maine St. Seventh street was known as Winthrop back then. More importantly, it was known as the road to the countryside and towns west, soon to be 40 highway.

There was a neighborhood character to Lawrence, and the groceries were well located to serve everyone. When Messenheimer's opened, forty-five groceries dotted the town. Different ethnic and racial neighborhoods supported their own store which would stock foods of cultural flavor. Germans, Swedes, Blacks, and Chicanos patronized their neighborhood stores in East Lawrence. Massachusetts Street hosted a handful of groceries, some humorously "spacious and modern." And there was even a co-operative grocery downtown too.

But shortly after World War I the signs of a change appeared. National chains of grocery stores were buying into towns and displacing neighborhood businessmen.

This co-op store has also seen days as the grocery of William Messenheimer, and two generations of the Turner family. The oldest continuous grocery in Lawrence.

First to Lawrence was the Piggly-Wiggly Company with a store at 933 Massachusetts in 1923. The stage was set for other giants to follow, Safeway, Dillon's, A&P, and Kroger.

The style of food marketing was changed from trusting the character and integrity of the neighborhood grocer to trusting the advertising image of national brand names. And as cars boomed Lawrence's mobility, corner stores were passed by in favor of nationally advertised specials.

Changes were slow enough in the early years, and Messenheimer kept at his grocery until old age began to catch up. In 1933 he sold the store to Guy and Anna Turner.

The Turners worked several changes into the building, adding on to the south, digging out a basement,

and opening up the north wall with plate glass windows facing the street. Their business was good and the Turners were respected by their neighbors and customers

Guy later left the business to his son, Glen. Glen and Rena Turner ran the store for many years, and as the pinch of supermarket competition got worse, Glen's fondness for biology invented new twists to the grocery business. Worm farming and a bait shop filled the garage where the delivery vans once parked. Aquariums full of tropical fish began replacing grocery aisles. And plants, spurred by grow-lights, filled surplus coolers and meat cases.

For all its diversity, the store was still a struggling business and Glen had talked of the possibility of selling out and retiring. But nobody seemed too eager to take on the business.

Then, in February of 1977 Glen suffered a series of paralyzing strokes. With Glen in the hospital for half a year, Mrs. Turner had to assume full operation of the business. As the burden of running the store wore on, Rena decided it was the time to sell.

The co-op was in the market for a new location, and after several weeks of bargaining, agreed to buy the store, adjacent house, bait shop, and parking lot from the Turners. Glen returned from the hospital to their new home on the northwest corner of 7th and Maine.

Food sales have now reclaimed the floor space in the old store and business is brisk. The traditional flavor of the natural foods would probably be familiar to old William Messenheimer. And there is a certain pride in maintaining the last neighborhood grocery, recognizing the value of our community's history.



Fasting for Pure Delight

by Penny Davies

Although there haven't been many scientific studies on fasting, many people have reported their experiences with fasting, and this article reports these experiences.

More and more people are discovering that fasting is one of the most powerful methods for cleansing the body. Most of us take in preservatives, insecticides and other toxic substances as part of our diet as well as medication. These substances tend to collect in the body along with waste products from badly combined food and from excessive eating. During fasting the body is able to release many of these toxic substances. The vital force which is usually used for physical activity and for digestion and assimilation of food is redirected into cleansing and healing the body.

What exactly is fasting? Fasting is voluntary abstinence from food. All of us fast for six to eight hours every night when we sleep, returning to eating with breakfast. The digestive system gets a needed rest during this time. There is a difference between fasting and starvation, and it lies in the voluntary nature of fasting. A person consciously chooses to fast, and correspondingly he or she is aware of what reactions to expect and has a positive mental attitude toward the process. However, when a person is denied access to food through factors beyond his or her control, one is not usually aware of proper methods to facilitate the removal of wastes from the body. Add to these factors an attitude of fear and panic, and starvation will eventually result if the person is denied food for a long enough period.

There are various reasons why people decide to fast. One reason is to be one's health by cleaning out the toxins in one's system. Others fast for political reasons in order to draw attention to a political injustice such as Dick Gregory did to protest the war in Vietnam or Gandhi to free India from colonization. Other people fast for spiritual or religious reasons in order to heighten spiritual awareness and to feel a greater connection with God. Many others fast to lose weight and to try and control their food desires.

It is good for cleaning the body to undergo a twenty-four hour

or thirty-six hour fast once a week. For the twenty-four hour fast this would mean abstaining from food from dinner to dinner or perhaps from lunch to lunch, for twenty-four hours. A thirty-six hour fast would be from dinner to breakfast thirty-six hours later, or whatever one chooses. During this period one can fast on pure water or else use fruit juices. It is advisable to obtain the purest, freshest juices if possible to facilitate the cleansing process. One can also drink tea with a little honey if one desires. It is helpful to break the fast with a raw vegetable salad that will act as a broom to sweep the intestines and colon.

Persons in good health should have no trouble fasting one day a week or for three days. For longer fasts it is advisable to seek out a physician or person experienced in fasting methods. Those with chronic illnesses or unusual medical problems should seek the advice of a physician before attempting a fast.

The results of a short fast are usually clearheadedness and a sense of lightness and well-being. However, at times cleansing symptoms will occur in the form of irritability, fatigue, headaches, or muscular pains. Often people are surprised to find that hunger during a short fast is not as troublesome as one might expect. In fact, one's food addictions and the ritualistic aspects of eating often prove to be much more troublesome than hunger. One

can find oneself breaking a short fast just because the desire for a certain food is very strong at the time. However, attempting to fast one day a week or even one day every two weeks can be very effective in breaking down one's conditioning to certain types of food. Thus fasting can be very helpful if one is trying to eat more sanely but has trouble with binges or addiction to harmful foods.

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TAHLEQUAH - where business is a pleasure

The sun had just gone down and the threat of rain hung over our heads as we boarded the van for the trip to the quarterly co-op federation meeting on April 7. Six-plus hours later we found ourselves outside of Tahlequah (40 miles northeast of "Muskogee Oklahoma, U.S.A.") at the top of a rocky lane we didn't think the van could get back up if it ever got down. So we pitched a tent and bedded down and woke early the next morning to spring in Oklahoma. The dogwood, redbud, and wildflowers were in bloom in the valley where we met with representatives from co-ops in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, and Missouri.



The meeting opened with a report from the trucking collective which picks up food for the federation warehouse and delivers food to member co-ops. The women of the collective felt they needed the trust, support, and constructive criticism of an exclusively women's group and so the trucking collective has become a women's collective for the time being. The decision-making process

was difficult and painful but everyone directly involved now seems to be satisfied with the outcome. Although a few dissenting opinions were heard, those present at the meeting endorsed the trucking collective's decision.

Up until now, the truckers collected \$.05/# from individual co-ops upon delivery of their orders. A new proposal approved at this meeting will now include the cost of freight in the cost charged by the warehouse and the warehouse will pay the trucking collective for freight in one lump sum. The new proposal will also change the basis of the freight charge. As mentioned above, in the past freight has been figured as a cost per pound delivered. Under the new proposal, freight will be figured as a percentage of the value of the item delivered. As a result, low-priced staple foods will see a slight decrease in cost while higher priced luxury items (like nuts and dried fruits) will increase in price slightly. Other wholesale food distributors use this method of freight charge. A consequence of the warehouse not using this method was that co-ops would order staple food items from commercial distributors because they could get them cheaper while relying on the warehouse for luxury items. Hopefully this new proposal will allow co-ops to stop "shopping around" and to put their money where their interest truly lies.

Everytime a member co-op receives an order from the warehouse, it pays a 5% surcharge. This surcharge becomes a loan from that co-op to the warehouse so that the warehouse can grow along with its member co-ops. The warehouse can stock more food as the co-ops' orders increase. Once the amount accumulated in a co-op's surcharge account equals its average monthly order, the co-op can stop paying the surcharge. It was proposed that the surcharge be eliminated, that the warehouse begin to pay back the surcharge loans to member co-ops, and that



a 2% capitalization charge be included in the cost of warehouse items to take the place of the surcharge and give the warehouse money to grow on. Such a proposal would raise the price of warehouse food and eliminate co-ops' direct monetary interest in and commitment to the warehouse. While many co-ops favored the idea, more discussion was obviously necessary. So the surcharge will be discussed more at the regional meetings in July and a decision will be made at the next federation meeting in October.

The warehouse collective requested that a steering committee be formed to help formulate long term goals for the warehouse and the federation. It was proposed that each region select a representative at the next regional meeting who would meet in Fayetteville with the warehouse collective and other regional representatives prior to the next federation meeting. This steering committee would at its first meeting establish its responsibilities, prepare the agenda for

the federation meeting, and begin to discuss the potential of our federation.

The weekend wasn't all business, however. The food provided by the folks of Tahlequah was delicious and filling. Wandering around the wooded hills and shallow streams was restful and invigorating. Music and conversation abounded. Two films were shown on Saturday night - "Microbes to Man: The Story of a Prairie Farm" and "Farming is Farming"-- which reminded us why we continue to struggle to provide low-cost, nutritious, ecologically grown food, that we are not alone in this struggle, and that progress is being made. And we all tried to make sure that the valley had a few less ticks when we left than it had when we arrived.

It will be fall before we all meet again. In the meantime, Kansas co-ops will hold a hot regional meeting in Manhattan in July. Y'all come!

CO-OP HERB GARDEN

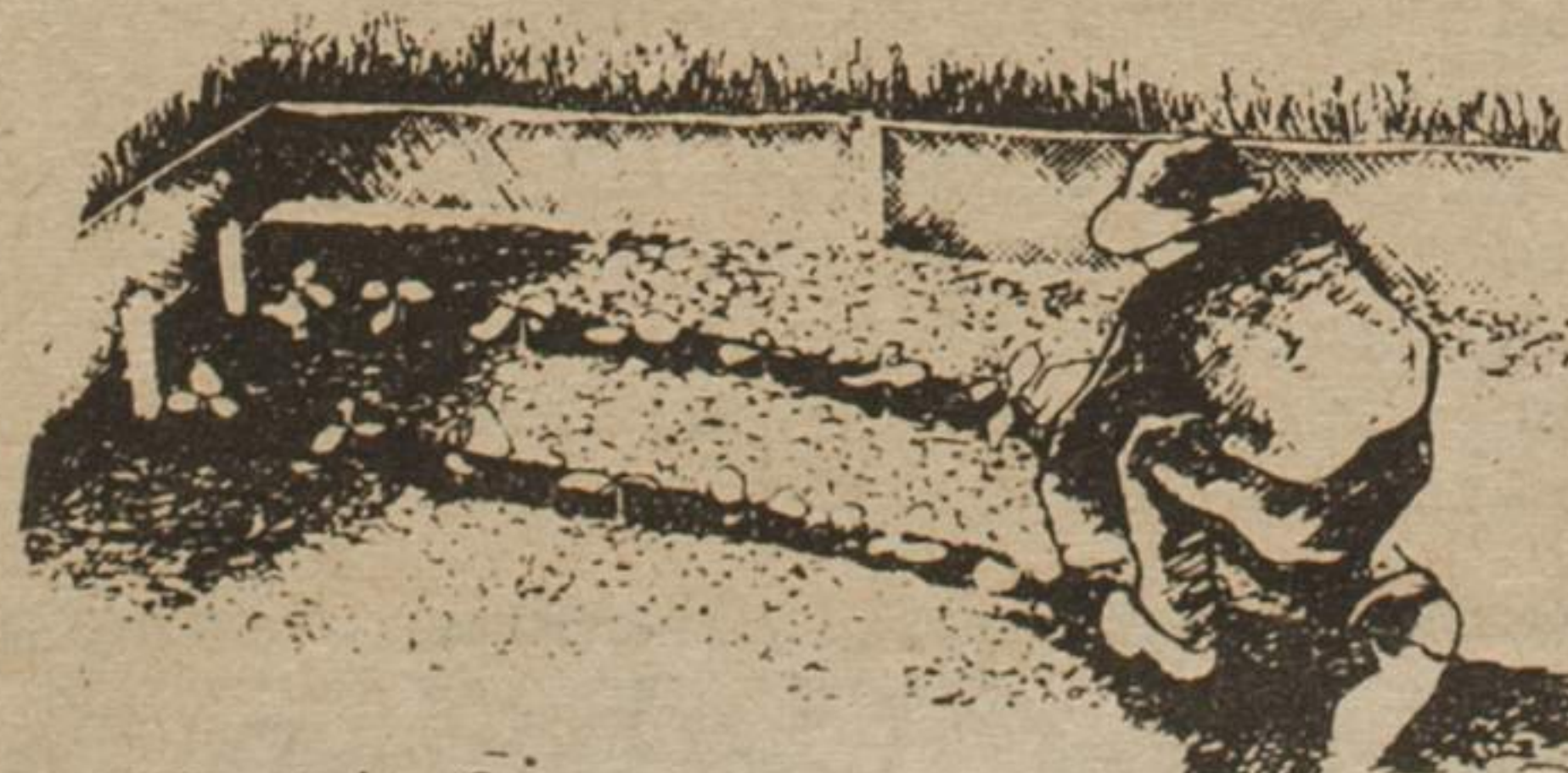
By Barbara Bowerman



The Herb Garden Committee has been formed to develop the land behind Verbena Bakery and will need all the work-power we can muster. An herb garden will not only supply the Co-op with teas and spices grown on home territory, but will also exist as a realm of esthetic delight for those who pause to linger and enjoy.

Previously the land was the site of raised worm beds and a tomato garden. Today it houses two compost piles along with assorted debris. The rubble will be scavenged and cleared given a good clean-up turn-out on May 13 and 14. The worm bed structures will be used for raised beds in which the garden will be planted in symmetrical design. The compost piles will, in the near future, provide dark humus to enrich the

depleted sub-soil now bared to the surface. Non-conforming zoning regulations restrict the co-op from building structural additions and from land use deviating from its past history. An herb garden will conform to zoning restrictions.



Workbook/cpf

The most intense work effort will be required within the next month. The committee is making a plea for its cause. We need bricks, stones, shovels, wheelbarrels, and trucks. We also need a good source of manure and plenty of shoulder muscle. Check the work team bulletin board for time of the next garden committee meeting or call Mary Pat Scheurich at 841-6286 or 841-5343.



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ROOTS IN THE EARTH

The small farmer-- often thought of as backward and inefficient-- seems an unlikely savior for a hungry world.

But as the dream of the Green Revolution fades, the small independent farm-- with its strong ties between farmer and land-- may now offer the breakthrough in the world food crisis.

Contrary to popular assumption, studies show that the so-called little guy who farms less than 12 acres and makes up to 80 percent of the world's rural producers, consistently outproduces large mechanized farming operations. And recent World Bank studies in Malaysia, Malawi, Nigeria, Taiwan, and Korea demonstrate that the productivity of small farms can be significantly advanced.



Another World Bank analysis of farm production in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Guatemala showed that small farms are three to fourteen times more productive per acre than large farms.

In Thailand plots of two to four acres produce almost 60 percent more rice per acre than farms of 140 acres or more. In India, the value of output per acre is more than one-third higher on the smallest farms.

Such comparisons are significant in explaining the low productivity of underdeveloped nations. A

World Bank study of 83 countries revealed that persons owning 124 acres or more make up only three percent of the landholders but control 80 percent of the land.

Thus while the largest landholders control most of the farmland, and receive most of the development aid, studies from all over the world show they are the least productive. Even in the U.S., the biggest farms realized a net income per acre greater than the family farm in only two of the 14 years from 1960-1973.

One need not romanticize the peasant to explain the greater productivity of the small farmer. The peasant farmer plants more closely than a machine would, mixes and rotates complementary crops, chooses a combination of cultivation and livestock that is labor-intensive, and above all works perceptibly limited resources to the fullest.

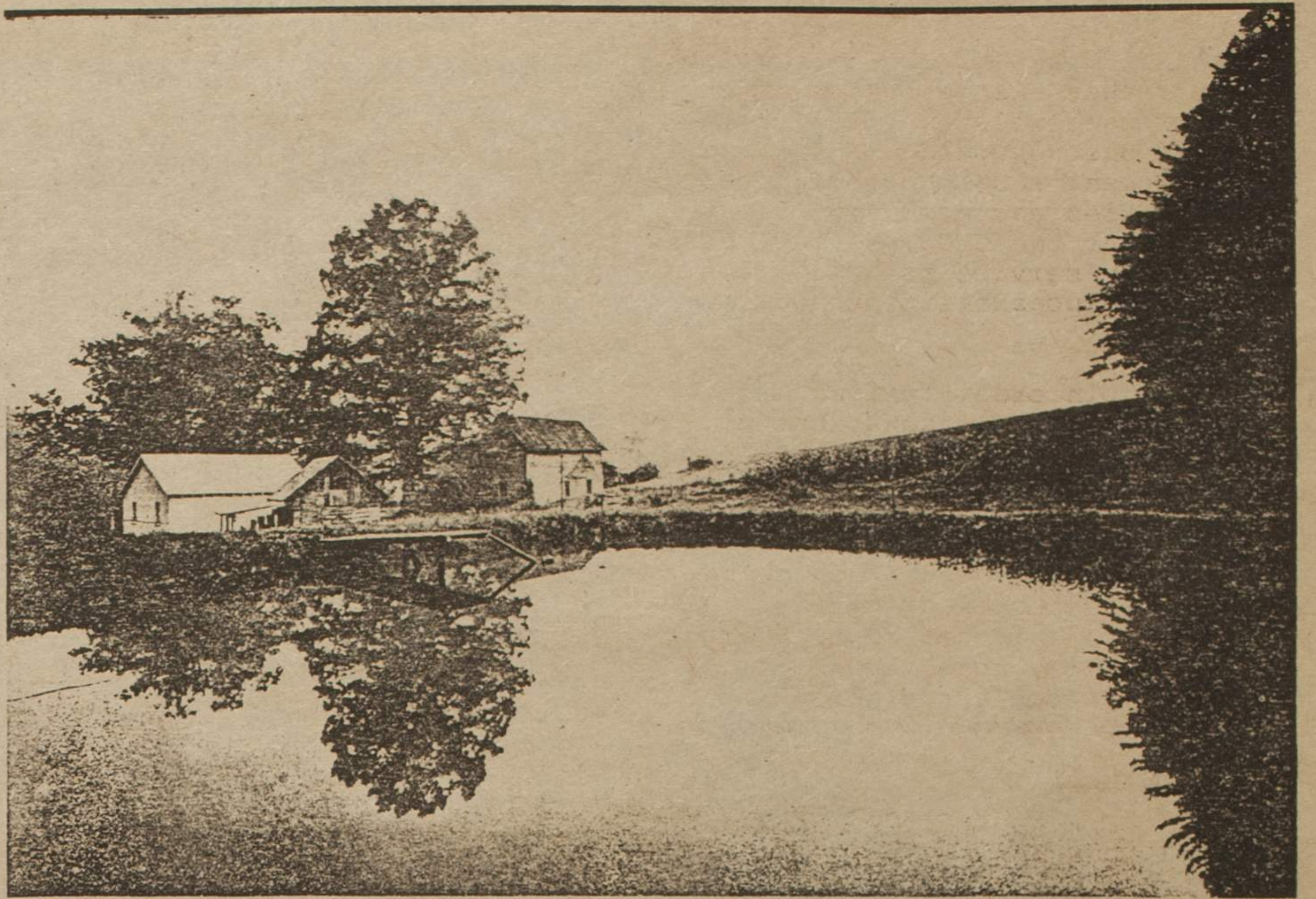
While small farmers generally reinvest profits, however meager, into their operation, large landowners tend to diversify their investment into other business ventures and luxury goods.

But the crucial factor in farm productivity is land use, and large landholding interests often waste valuable land. The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization reports that in Central America, for example, farmers who own up to 10 acres cultivate 72 percent of their land, but farmers who own over 86 acres cultivate only 14 percent, using 49 percent for pasture and leaving 37 percent idle.

"I have a lot of respect for the small farmer," says Green Revolution pioneer Norman Borlaug. "Almost invariably when you look at what he's doing with his land, you find he's producing the maximum under the situation he has to work with. The thing is that he usually doesn't have much to work with."

Compared to the large landowners, small peasant producers do not have equal access to credit for important agricultural inputs such as water, fertilizer and tools. Quite often loans from government agencies stipulate a minimum holding that cuts out the family farmer.

In Pakistan, for example, to get a loan for a well from the Agricultural Development Bank a peasant must own at least 12.5



Farm pond, North Carolina, 1966. BURN UZZLE

acres, a stipulation that excludes over 80 percent of Pakistan's farmers.

In Africa, The World Bank estimates that only about five percent of the continent's farmers have access to institutional credit.

Sudhir Sen, an Indian commentator on the Green Revolution, estimates that roughly one-half of India's small farmers lack any recorded right to the land, without which they are unable to obtain crop loans.

While research has shown that small farmers working under extreme handicaps often outproduce the large holders, development experts warn against concluding that the small farm is inherently more productive than the large.

As studies by demographer Helen Ware show, the size of a parcel of land matters less than the relationship of people to it.

Small farms can be very productive, as in Japan and Taiwan, where the farmer benefits directly from the productivity; or small farms can have low productivity, as in Bangladesh and parts of the Philippines, where debt and tenancy patterns erode the farmers' motivation.

The same is true for large landholdings-- size doesn't necessarily govern success. In Mexico, for example, while the large, independent produce growers of Sonora were raking in profits in the early 1970's, 80 percent of the large farm operations on the Hermosillo coast, also privately owned, were operating in the red despite heavy government subsidies.

And while disappointing farm production figures were reported from the Soviet state-owned farms in the mid-70's, China's communal farms were producing close to 2,000 pounds of grain per acre, double the pre-Revolution yield.

Unlike farmers in the Soviet Union's heavily bureaucratic farming system, those who work the fields in China's decentralized system directly control both the land and the necessary inputs. Food production has climbed consistently, and there has been no famine in China since the early 1960's.

Text from PNS adapted from *Food First* by Frances Moore Lappe and Joseph Collins.

Pictures from *The American Farm: A Photographic History* by Maisie Conrat and Richard Conrat.



Oklahoma farmer, 1946. HAROLD CORSINI

Without institutional credit, small holders are left to the mercy of private moneylenders and merchants who often charge usurious rates of interest. Agricultural economist Keith Griffin reports that in one area of the Philippines 15 percent of the borrowers had to pay an interest rate of 200 percent.

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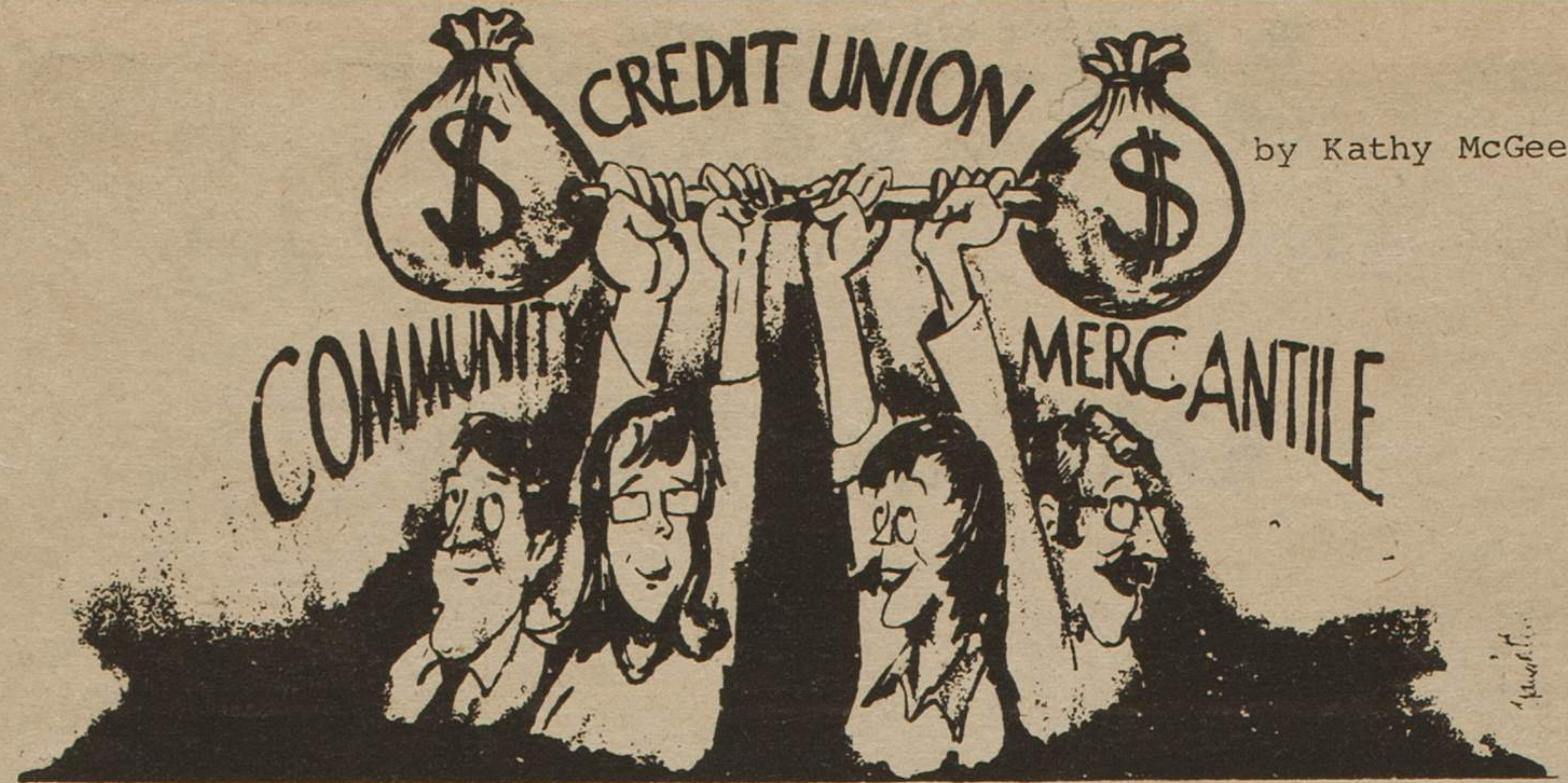


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Since its beginnings several years ago, the Community Mercantile Credit Union has evolved philosophically as well as financially. For the most part, credit unions exist to provide savings accounts and loans for their members. Relatively few credit unions look beyond these immediate goals to larger ones related to the role credit unions could play in the development and support of local communities and community services. At the CMCU, we feel that community service is a major part of our responsibility to our members.

People join credit unions for many different reasons, but a common one seems to be frustration and anger with banks and savings and loan associations. These institutions have developed a life of their own governed by abstract economic principles that don't appear to have much to do with everyday human concerns. Most of us don't understand or



by Kathy McGee

trust banks and suspect that they are not as important as they want people to think, but we don't know how to untangle ourselves. To begin untangling ourselves, we need to understand how money and credit work in our society.

At the credit union, we're working to educate ourselves about this in two ways. First, we're becoming active in the credit union movement by taking part in lobbying and legislative campaigns to promote credit unions in Kansas and the country. Second, we're attending workshops for credit union operation and management and we're taking part in the classes offered by The New School for Democratic Management, based in San Francisco.

We're planning local workshops in these areas for our members and the community at large. We're also encouraging our membership

to be as active as possible in the credit union. Since a major difference between banks and credit unions is that credit unions are owned by their members, all members can vote their choice for issues and officers.

In the past year and a half, the credit union has helped finance a number of small business ventures. Several food co-ops dealt with the credit union for necessary capital for improvements. Kansas organic farmers have sought us out for equipment loans. A couple of restaurants, tofu and miso shops, a T-shirt business, and some musicians are benefiting from our loan program also. We're committed to making more loans of this sort, particularly to worker-owned businesses which provide important products or services in our community. The businesses provide not only needed services, they also give the people who operate

them a stake in, and a strong sense of control over their own lives and the future of the community in which they live.

Another area in which we hope to become more involved is home ownership and home improvement loans. We do not now have the capital or the expertise to do home mortgages, but we will be offering this service within the next year and a half. We can assist people with down payments and home improvements. In fact we offer special interest rates to promote usage of alternative sources of energy in homes and shops, energy and resource conservation, and innovative and non-standard designs for homes and shops.

If you have other ideas or would like more details on our services, we hope you'll stop by the credit union and talk to us. We welcome your comments and criticisms, and we hope you'll help out in whatever way you can.

Credit Union	Hours
Mon.	9-1 2-6
Tues.	9-1 2-6
Wed.	9-1 2-6
Thur.	9-1 2-6
Fri.	9-1 2-6
Sat.	10-4 (at Coop)

This summer ...

The Sister Kettle Cafe will once again host the special Credit Union meeting. Monday, June 5th is the calendar date for the evening potluck, following in the tradition of last fall's Thanksgiving meeting. A movie and special features will spice the business issues. Mark the date!

Everyone is worried about food additives. It seems there is nothing you can buy that doesn't have some chemical concoction added to it; color, thickeners, preservatives, salt. BUT not all additives are harmful to you and it is helpful to know which ones are safe just as it is helpful to know the most dangerous ones which have proven to be carcinogenic or otherwise dangerous to your health but are still found in the foods we buy.

The additive that is highest on everyone's list to ban is sodium nitrite. Many tests have shown that nitrites can form into potent cancer-causing chemicals called nitrosamines. Sodium nitrate breaks down into sodium nitrite and should also be avoided. The American Cancer Society is planning a campaign to urge people to cut out cancer-causing foods from their diet just as they now urge people to quit smoking. One of their first targets is said to be the ham and bacon nitrite-preserved food group. I hate to give up bacon and corned beef because this also means no

Food Talk

By Laurie Schwarm

wilted spinach, no german potato salad and no reuben sandwiches but until manufacturers come up with an alternative to preserve these meats (there are several safer methods), it seems we have no choice.

The next most serious offender is the group of artificial colors. Four food colorings have been outlawed by the government since 1966 and it seems only a matter of time and testing before the others follow suit. Artificial colors have been found to cause cancer and also hyperactivity in some children. They should also be avoided because they are generally found in foods of low nutritional value such as candy, cookies, or soda pop.

Other dangerous additives are BHT, BVO, saccharin and sugar (sucrose) syrups. All these have been linked to some health problem and safer alternatives are available. Or in the case of sugars, none should have been added in the first place.

On the bright side however, the following additives are safe. Alginate and carageenan are derived from seaweeds and are used to thicken foods. Propylene glycol alginate is a chemically modified seaweed product which is also safe and is used for the same purpose.

Calcium propionate is used to prevent mold growth on breads. The calcium is actually good for you

and the propionate has appeared to be safe in all tests.

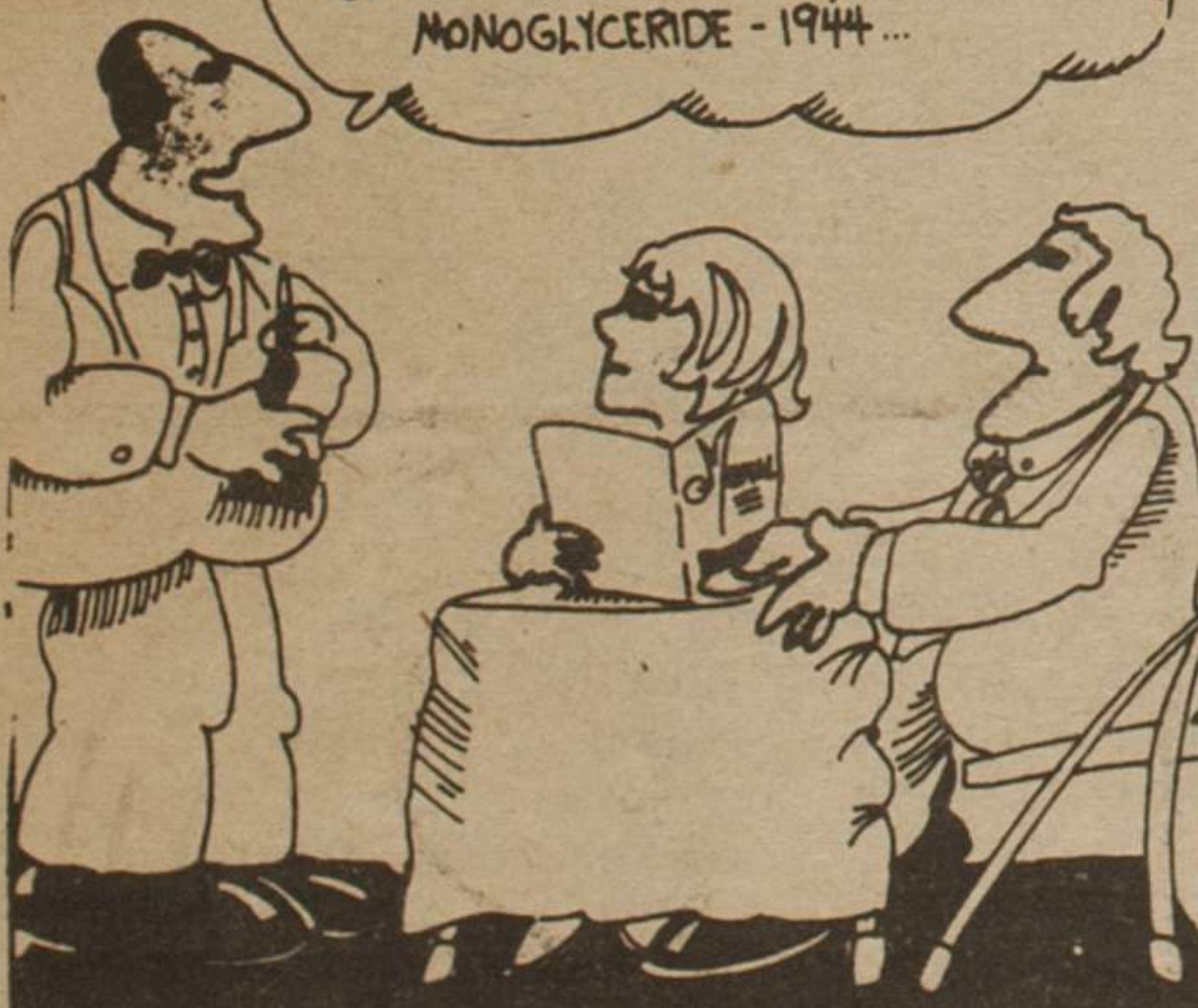
Mono- and diglycerides are used to keep oils and solids from separating and to keep bread soft. They are safe although most foods that use them are high in refined flour, sugar, and fats.

Sodium Benzoate has been used for over 70 years with no ill effects to prevent the growth of bacteria in acidic foods like fruit juices and pickles.

Gum arabic and tragacanth are natural gums derived from bushes, trees, or seaweeds and haven't been tested much but are probably safe. They are used to emulsify foods and to thicken them.

More detailed information about food additives can be obtained by writing to the Center for Science in the Public Interest. This group is a consumer oriented organization interested in nutrition and health. They have, among other publications, a poster entitled Chemical Cuisine listing food additives. You may receive it by sending \$1.75 to the Center for Science in the Public Interest at 1755 S Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

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Jan. 5, 1978 6 pm

We are 58 kilometers south of Mexico City, at the Pyramids of the Sun and Moon at Teotihuacan. The breeze chills at sunset. My wife and I dip snuff as our friends, approaching us from a tomb too distant for us, in our weariness, to walk to, gradually enlarge. We four hurry to our bus stop.

Smiling heavily at us as we wait is a red-lipped conchita. A cab driver approaches us. We insist that we want to take the bus back to Mexico City and ask him when it will come. It may be along, he says, in thirty to forty-five minutes. We believe him since we were told in Mexico City that buses leave the Pyramids for the City every hour until 7 P.M. But the sky is darkening.

A Spanish family stands near us. The daughters tease and kiss the father, who passes a loving arm around his wife. But in a moment they are gone, taken off by a car that arrives for them. We alone are left to wait for the bus which still hasn't come. When the family leaves, it is as if a sweet dream is fading and a nightmare has begun, because it is dark now, no bus, and we are stuck 58 kilometers south of the City, no way home.

We decide to walk to the highway. As we leave, I glance back. The conchita and cab driver, formerly standing apart and apparently strangers to each other, now walk away from the bus stop, together. It begins to seem like some plan unfolding.

We near the highway to Mexico City, but we don't know the direction. We stop a bicycling Mexican. We can't understand his directions -- our Spanish is too feeble. Deciding to return to the bus stop, we see the electrically-lit tombs in the distance, where night tourists are being guided, lectured to about Aztec priests who literally tore the hearts from the chests of the sacrificed. These tourists will soon ride buses back to the City. We want to be on one of those buses. As we walk we hear the voices of Charleton Heston and Vincent Price, amplified to an audibility range of more than a mile, telling the stories of the Pyramids in English.

A car stops ahead of us on the road. The engine is turned off and the car just sits, its taillights red ovals. There is no one else around. I suddenly remember another time on another night road when a car stopped ahead of me; I got in, and was later beaten in an isolated corral. We turn and walk back toward the highway.

Some minutes later another Mexican on a bicycle takes us to the exact spot on the highway where we can flag a bus back to Mexico City.

A lot of what happened in Mexico upset me, though not in the usual way. Rudeness, misunderstandings, and seeming lies become exotic and inexplicable in a foreign country, mediated by an alien language. Experience portions itself out as a sequence of tales, a mesh of patterns to decipher rather than judge. I hold that attitude now. At the time of the Mexican journey, I reviled the continual aggressiveness of casual strangers towards us.

After all, I would tell myself, I only wanted a chance to gawk at Mexico's novelties without being stared at myself as a human novelty. But as I would gaze into shops whose faces opened onto sidewalks, I found myself gazed at for my beard and baldness, neither feature Mexican. Only once was it fun. In the Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City, pausing among stone monkeys and mute calendars, I am approached: a Museum of Anthropology guard tells me in a carefully-wrought sentence: "You looook like Maxi-Millian." (He was an Austrian duke who ruled Mexico for five years at the invitation of certain Mexican aristocrats, described by one historian as having a long beard and a weak but handsome face. Eventually his government was overthrown and he was shot.)

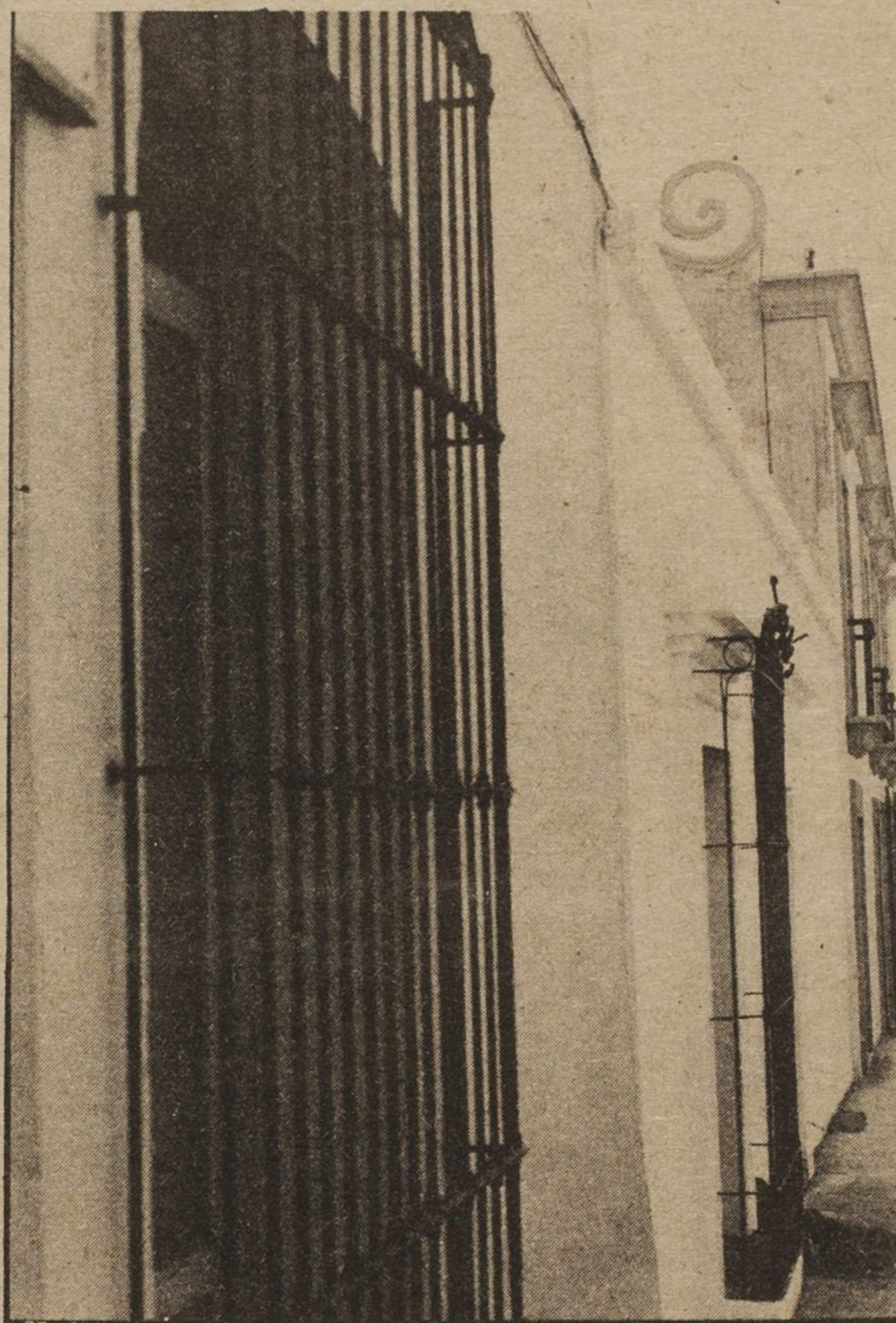
Jan. 7, 1978 8:10 am

Two minutes after we enter the train station cafe in Oaxaca (WAH-HA-KA), armed soldiers enter. We pay the five pesos for our coffee and catch a bus to the town square, the zocalo. We spot the Hotel Plaza, the four-star Oaxacan inn according to Mexico on \$10 to \$15 a Day, the bible for apostles of the Cheap Mexican Adventure. A bonded gentleman runs this place, and we feel lucky to get a room.

One daughter is busied with squeezing orange juice; another will deliver it to our room, along with coffee and sweetbreads, in the morning; a son letters a sign in English warning of market pickpockets. The price of this attention? \$6.50 a night.

MEXICO: on a few hitches a day

BY JACOB FLAKE



The rooms are arranged around a central square. One son waters the plants that decorate its borders. Sunlight showers the stones that are the floor of the square.

My wife and I go out for breakfast, then retreat to the hotel. There, I bury money in my shoe, slip it in my wallet, tuck it in my underwear. In Mexico, I always keep money in three places on my body. We are hording it to loot the market tomorrow of rugs, shirts and cheap beauty.

Again on the street. Military trucks slice around the square on deep-tread tires. Soldiers slouch on corners everywhere since demonstrations by the student communists last week. Another tension source: Oaxaca is a dope town to American hippies. Mountain Indians near Oaxaca sell them pot in the mountain dark. The dealers are sometimes shot. One was found with a knife twisted in his pectoral muscles and bullets peppering his back.

In this ambience, I practice the art of sitting still. Then I feel vulnerable only in the 180 degree area in front of me and to my sides, rather than feeling exposed in a full 360 degree circle, as is the case when I walk.

Jan. 7, 1978 7 pm

We stroll to drink Margaritas someplace in the dark blocks that maze outward from the zocalo. A Mexican striding past us looks back. He waves at us to follow him to the cafe down the street where he and others will tonight perform regional Mexican folk dances. He asks, "Kansas?" Our group members look at each other; how does he know we're from Kansas? Or have we mistaken a Spanish word for the name of the state of our origin? We

lag behind. Eventually, though, we arrive at the same cafe. We sit at a table and wait for twenty minutes as an eight-year-old boy tries to concoct Margaritas. He finally brings us glasses of what we guess is iced triple sec. We don't wish to see the dances, so we return to the zocalo.

Sitting at a corner-of-the-square cafe, we once again order drinks. We taste them. These contain no liquor at all. Margarita mix, we protest to the waiter, doesn't make a drink. He shrugs his shoulders in denial.

An American woman, gesturing to the waiter, commands him to bring the drink to her table. We're aghast as she sips from our glass and declares, indifferently, that the drink contains no liquor. It is returned to our table. A couple of our group finally barter their "drinks" for beers, inside the bar.

A few days later, when an order of bread we request several times never arrives at our table, I will deliberately pour coffee on the floor of an airport cafe. It is a belated tantrum -- a slap at the Oaxacan rudeness. I am so fettered in my politeness self-image that instant anger is difficult. And so I, too, become perverse.

We decide to buy a few cans of beer at the grocery next to the cafe and take them to our room to drink. When I exit from the store, our group is listening to a story told by a blond and buckskinned Canadian kid.

He's been 200 miles out of Oaxaca on a motorcycle. A carload of six men drove up beside him and ordered him to pull over. They said they were federales. The kid noticed the car had no plates. He was led into a field, tied, beaten, thrown in a ditch, money taken, cards, motorcycle. "I hitched back to Oaxaca," he said. "Got rides from wonderful Mexican people the whole way. The thing is, I've been having a great time down here. A family took me in for Christmas. I even speak a little Spanish. I want to stay in Mexico, that's the thing. I don't know where I'd get money to get back to Canada." We suggest he try the Canadian embassy; they would phone his parents anyway.

We hand him a few pesos. It is as if he is telling us about a wierd thing his teacher tried to do to him one day when he was kept after school. We are astonished and frightened. The whole scene might be a chapter from an imaginary adolescent novel, Nancy and Johnny's Adventures in Old Mexico. We retreat to our rooms, sit slumped in chairs, our relish for this trip gone. I drink mescal and suck limes, swearing I'm going to leave Mexico five days ahead of schedule. I'm sick of shit stories.

Jan. 8, 1978

Today we go to two markets. The small, Indian market is the more aggressive. Men hang rugs in front of me and ask, in English, "What is your price?" I say "No thanks" ten times, then lapse into a fruitless English language defense of my inability to name a price. I explain courteously (so liberal of me!) that I don't buy impulsively and I don't know the price scale in Oaxaca yet. The hawker, eyes worried, repeats, "What is your price?" I tug on my wife's arm to leave.

In the other market we stroll through narrow aisles, beneath tent flaps. We stare at rugs on which two birds peck the head and tail of a fish; lay our heads back to stare up at rising columns of embroidered shirts; boggle at piles of fish breaded in rock salt, pickling in the spiky sunlight; eye handkerchiefs of red, gold, chocolate and orange spread on countertops. Oaxacan black pottery hides in the shadows of unattended shops. And we know that much here is unseen to us.

A man beneath an arched doorway beckons to me. I stand beside him, and he points to words in a little book, American words, asking me to pronounce one particularly useless one, "fulsome," and pronouncing it after I do. He thanks me and we walk on.

To my side I notice smiling Indian women dropping their hands beneath their chins, indicating my beard's length to each other. One boy draws me over to his booth. He tries to explain something to me in Spanish. Giving up on me, he holds a piece of woven material sewn on his shirt cuff up beside my beard, communicating a resemblance he sees between the two.

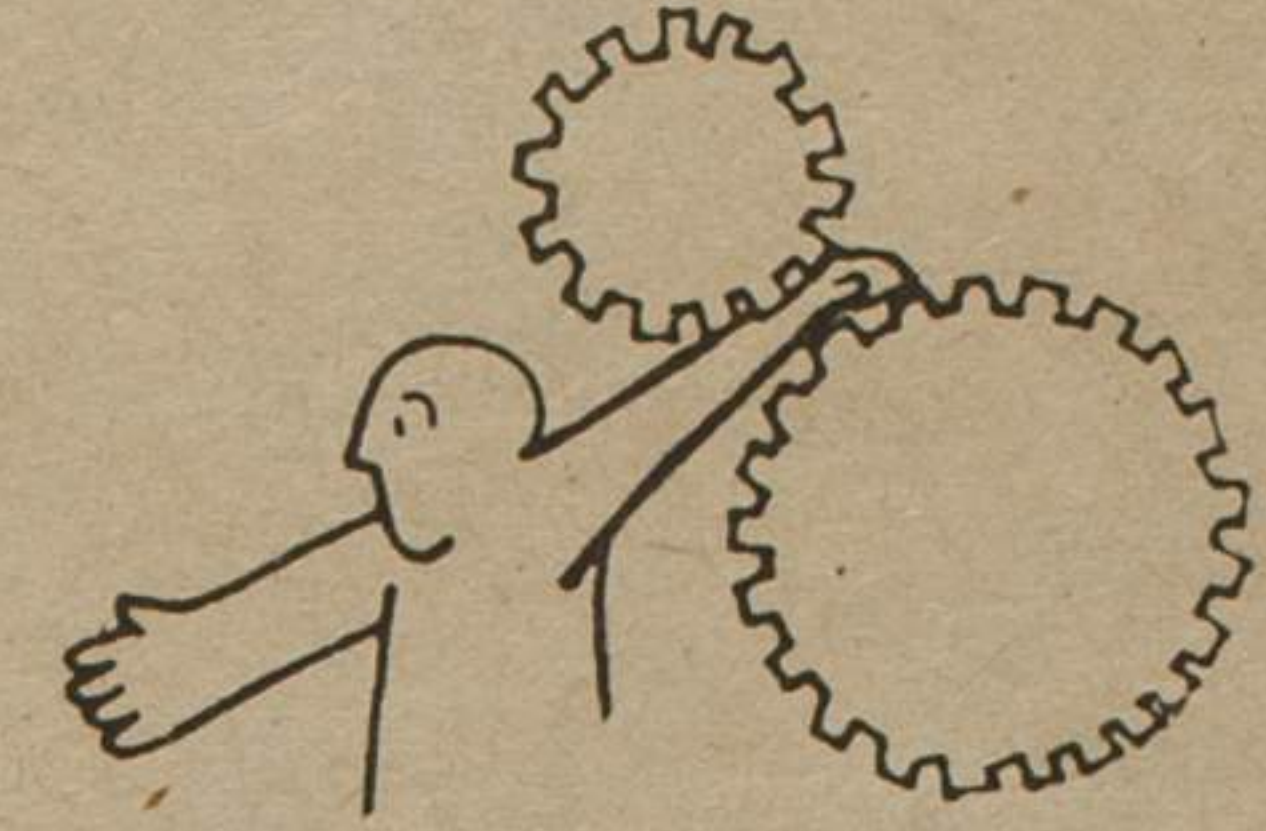
I feel a tap on my shoulder. I turn around and face a kid. He makes a sawing beneath his chin with an imaginary knife, indicating his idea of what I should do with my beard. He laughs. I laugh. He signals a friend. The friend is carrying a long knife. I make

Consumers Support Stevens Workers

BY BARRY SHALINSKY

Workers at J.P. Stevens Textile Factories are still fighting for economic justice. Stevens has been found guilty of fifteen violations of the National Labor Relations Act and was convicted of "systematic racial discrimination" by a U.S. District Court.

Stevens employees labor under hazardous working conditions, subjected to unsafe machinery and cotton dust levels which cause a disease called brown lung. Disabled Stevens workers receive no compensation for lost fingers or diseased lungs.

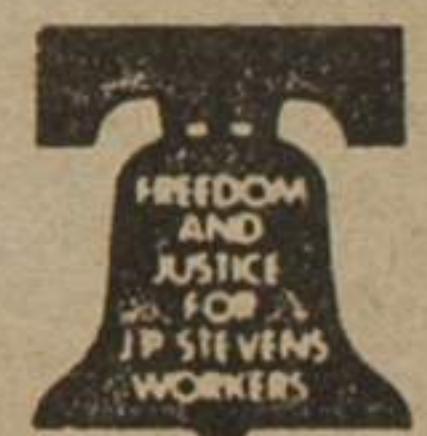


Efforts of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers to unionize are being supported by a nationwide boycott of J.P. Stevens products. Stevens' profits for the last quarter of 1977 were down 27 per cent from the previous year. In an effort to counteract the pressures of the boycott, Stevens has mounted a public relations campaign, including attempts to solicit the support of state legislators. Rep. Norman Justice, a black Kansas City Democrat, sent a stinging reply to Stevens, advising that they not peddle their lies to Kansas legislators. Justice is a powerful member of the House Labor and Industry Committee.

The consumer boycott of J.P. Stevens is a difficult project because the products are marketed under various labels. The latest information from the K.C. boycott office is that J.C. Penney's markets Stevens products under the following labels: Baghdad, Deerfield, Forest Fantasy, Glenwood, and Strawberry Field. Wards and Sears sell Stevens products under their own labels. These products carry the following identification numbers assigned by the FTC: 14905, 14907, 14909, 14911, 14913, 14917, 14921, 14923, 14925, 14927, 14929, 14931, 14933, 14935.

Other Lawrence department stores sell Stevens products under the following brand names: Beauti-Blend, Beauticale Fine Arts, Peanuts, Tastemaker, Utica, Utica & Mohawk, Forstmann, Contender, Gulistan, Merryweather, Simtex, Finesse, Hip-Lets, Spirit, and designer labels: Yves St. Laurent, Angelo Donghia, Suzanne Pleshette, Dinah Shore.

Boycott J.P. STEVENS PRODUCTS



Lawrence consumers can help J.P. Stevens workers by refusing to buy the above products and by asking department stores to remove them. Films, information, boycott bumper stickers and t-shirts are available from the ACTWU office in K.C. Contact Katherine Papa, 1605 Baltimore #211 or in Lawrence, call 841-0816.



"In this ambience I practice the art of sitting still"

a smiling scowl to let them know we're friendly but I want no part of that knife. I turn away. The kid calls. I turn back. He is holding a lit match like a candle between our faces. He throws his free hand up, makes a whooshing noise with his lips, and giggles over the image he has described in the air: my beard igniting. My smile straightens and I just stare. I walk away.

Jan. 9, 1978 11:45 am

We sit drinking cafe negro at a sidewalk cafe on the zocalo. My wife picks up her camera whimsically whenever she sees something she wants a picture of and snaps it.

A van stops in front of us at a red light. A crude black cat and the name EVEREADY are painted on its side. My wife clicks her camera. The driver jumps out of his truck and charges our table. The angry mouth fires a burst of Spanish words at us. I defend us against this raging: "It was perfectly harmless. She just admired the logo on your van and wanted a picture." His attack, in Spanish, continues.

Two federales see his truck blocking traffic and advise his moving the van across the intersection. The three of them talk, the frowns of the officers gradually erased by his words. Smiles appear. But the exchange is lost to us.

The van driver walks to our table. He says, "You are interested in my cat logo?" His tone is polite, his mouth is smiling, his language is English. "That which you see will soon be replaced by our fifth such logo, a new cat in a different design. I would be happy to send you copies if you give me your address. May I sit?" The transformation is stunning. He isn't the same man. But my hospitality is quick to respond to the English he now speaks.

I've been greedy for a meeting with an English-speaking Mexican. Apologizing for his receiving a ticket, we invite him to sit. He says, "It is nothing," and sweeping the air with his hand, "I have tickets all over Mexico." He is bragging in the way an American might brag of having both a country house and a town house.

He settles in the chair and talks, blowing cigarette smoke out from a grimacing face. We invent remarks about the heaviness of the

traffic around the square. He says the traffic problem is a result of a population boom -- he has personally seen Oaxaca grow from a town of 35,000 to one of 200,000. We ask politely about the position of Oaxaca in the state of Oaxaca. It is a capital, he tells us, located in the center of an arid region. Its needs are supplied largely from the state's borders. During this talk we are puzzling about who this man we are talking to really is.

As population has risen, so has crime. He remembers some papers he has in his van. He hurries to his truck, grabs a briefcase, and hurries back. My wife says, meanwhile, "Do you think he's going to try to sell us dope?" I have no answer. His lingering presence at our table is mysterious. His mood shift is mysterious. His desire to know our home address is scary -- he could be either a federales or a dope dealer mistakenly assuming we could do business.

At our table again, he lifts the lid of his Samsonite and, to our relief, takes out a bundle of pamphlets and brochures. These are materials sent him by the Puerto Rican Kiwanis Club (he is a honcho in the Oaxacan Kiwanis, he says). He laments the rise of crime that has followed the upward sweep of the population curve.

But the Puerto Ricans have supplied the Oaxacan Chapter with a packet of crime-prevention ideas. One scam: stickers which gave the phone number of the police station were posted on every phone booth in Puerto Rico. Another: ten thousand crime whistles were distributed. "Unfortunately, on the day they were given out, the children all blew them. Imagine the noise of 10,000 whistles!"

Perhaps, I suppose, his piercing stares between sentences are warnings to me to add not a particle more to the Oaxacan crime rate. Perhaps he is CIA. I decide I can't read anyone in Mexico, that the good or evil of any Mexican or Mexican experience will remain ambiguous.

We must go. We've promised to meet friends at 12:15. "You're late," he says, checking his watch. He wants our address very much, so he can forward a cardboard copy of the new cat logo. Reluctantly, I give him the address of my workplace. We shake hands.

The cat logos never arrive.

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