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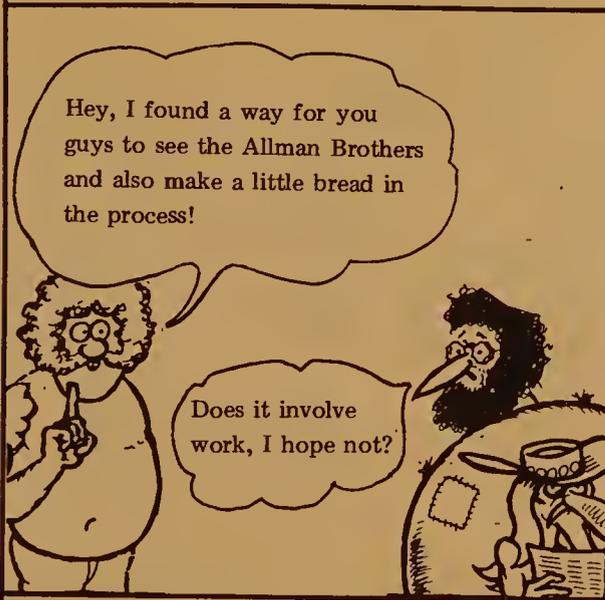
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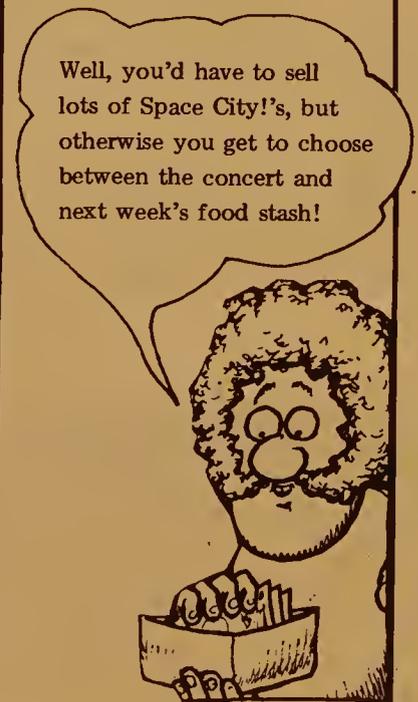
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Houston Liberal Democrat leader Billie Carr and Humphrey supporter Bill Williams, Chairman of the Harris County Democratic Party, rap with McGovern workers Barbara Duff (left) and Jer Mardis backstage at the Farenthold rally, May 30. Photo by Thorne Dreyer.

State Democratic Convention: Something for Everyone

by Martin Chapman

The caveat, "We won't be screwed by anybody," portends most closely the bitter battling that will likely take place on the floor of the Texas Democratic Party state convention June 13 in San Antonio.

Fur, feathers and hair have already begun flying as Democratic party factions representing various ideological and presidential preferences have begun preparing for the day-long convention that will select delegates to the party's national convention in Miami.

Almost all factions concede that to predict the actual course of the convention is impossible at this point because the direction the convention will take depends upon the outcome of the June 3 Texas gubernatorial runoff in the Democratic primary and the June 6 California primary.

Regardless of whether Rep. Frances Farenthold or Dolph Briscoe wins the runoff, the gubernatorial candidate will need the convention's support to win against the Republican candidate in November. Since the candidates' real problem revolves around a strategy for securing that support, politicians from both sides are sending and receiving smoke signals in order to

prevent some of the potentially damaging fireworks from cherry bombing the convention.

Billie Carr, a former national committeewoman, a McGovern delegate to the convention and a Farenthold supporter, disclosed that representatives from the Briscoe camp — among them John Brunson, head of the convention's credentials committee — have indicated that Briscoe wants nothing more than a harmonious convention. And Carr speculates that if Briscoe is the Democratic candidate, he'll do all he can to hold the liberal support, even to go so far as to pull down Roy Orr as chairman. (More about Orr later.)

Carr said, "He (Briscoe) doesn't want to piss us all off because he's afraid he won't hold the liberal support in November and that our people might skip that race or vote for the Republican. He will get the aftermath of what happens at the convention."

On the other hand, if Farenthold, who is a McGovern supporter, is the candidate, the Briscoe people are likely to lose interest and the convention will be a battle along strictly conservative-liberal lines.

Ron Steiger, a McGovern delegate who survived some local convention fisticuffs, feels that if Briscoe wins, his people will try

to hold the party together, but if he loses, they will for the most part stay home and let the other factions fight for representation in Miami.

The California primary's effect on the convention is slightly more difficult to assess. Since McGovern and Humphrey are the only major candidates on the ballot, the winner of that primary gets all the California delegates and will have a position of considerable strength at the national convention. For example, if McGovern wins California, it is likely that he will have the strength to be nominated on the first ballot. The Texas delegation would at least think twice about challenging a sure thing.

The course the state convention will take depends, then, on the ideologies of the people involved as well as their personalities and party connections. The Democratic party at local and county levels has undergone a significant change, with representation being extended in many cases to those who formerly were disenfranchised: youth, women, blacks and Chicanos. These gains were not gifts but were required because of statutory changes in national party rules and the concomitant changes in state rules.

Traditionally, the state con-

vention has been a battleground between conservative and liberal forces, with the conservative machine usually holding the upper hand. But from the union of scandal-rocked state government and righteous indignation have emerged new faces with slightly different outlooks. Old-line machine conservatives are generally represented in the uncommitted delegations, neo-conservatives in Wallace delegations, old-line liberals in Humphrey delegations and neoliberals in McGovern delegations.

However, the lines are not firmly and irrevocably drawn. The uncommitted delegation includes some few Humphrey, Wallace and McGovern backers. More important, some observers feel that the uncommitted delegation will bolt the party and support Nixon in November and will consequently seek to subvert the convention. Some McGovern people feel that Wallace backers are likely to leave the party and form a third party to elect their candidate.

One of the most controversial and important personalities in the party is Roy Orr, State Democratic Executive Committee (SDEC) chairman and the man responsible for setting up and running the state convention. To liberals, he represents the dogmatic, autocratic, winner-

Cont. on 4

take-all machine age of former years. Liberals point out that Orr has already violated both state and national rules by stacking the temporary credentials committee without regard to presidential preference or minority status. They also cite his use of railroading techniques during other meetings, including non-recognition of opposition speakers and questionable voice votes. He's even been accused of giving the opposition the worst hotel accommodations in San Antonio.

The old-line liberals, including Roy Evans, Texas AFL-CIO chief, have already begun a campaign to stop Orr by backing John White, agriculture commissioner, who does not much resemble a liberal until compared to Orr. White narrowly lost in his first bid to defeat Orr when Orr was elected SDEC chairman in October. But the neoliberals will not support White at this time, for various reasons.

"We think," Carr commented, "that Roy Evans is assuming leadership that is not rightfully his. And we're not going to lose our identity as a new reform movement by playing old politics and letting ourselves be coopted by people we're not sure who they represent."

Evans has also failed to support Farenthold.

That doesn't mean that McGovern forces favor Orr. Far from it. They plan to fight him on the floor of the convention and they have decided not to leave, no matter how blatant his violations of the rules.

According to Steiger, "He has blatantly violated the rules already with no regard for them. This is incredible. I think this is an indication that he has no respect for the Democratic party and that he doesn't care what happens to it."

"He'll be interested in turning things into a shambles so that they could go ahead and set up the Democrats for Nixon," Steiger said. "If they take a stacked delegation to Miami and we go down and challenge it and beat it, which would be likely, then he'll come back to Texas and say, 'They split the party so the heck with them. We're going to campaign for Nixon.'"

Carr thinks it would be foolish for the McGovern supporters to walk out of the convention and risk the delegates they already have. Rather, she feels, their best bet is to wait to meet until after the convention.

"We will determine at that meeting what kind of grounds we have to enter a protest or challenge at the national level," she said. "In other words, we're gonna try to give them every opportunity to give us the delegates we deserve at the national level and we're gonna stay till they absolutely refuse to do that."

Wallace delegates see Orr, who showed up at his senatorial district caucus wearing a Wallace button, differently. Hall E. Timanus, who heads the Texas Democrats for Wallace, indicated that they have no plans for a

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rump convention and expect Orr to follow the rules.

"The principle that I have followed throughout this campaign is to work along with the Democratic party leadership to the maximum extent possible," Timanus said, "and it's my understanding that the SDEC, as is its right to do, has nominated Orr for permanent chairmanship of the state convention, and unless some strong argument is presented why I shouldn't go along with that, I think I'm going to go along with the Democratic leadership."

An uncommitted delegation spokeswoman, Bettie Tinnin, refused to comment on Orr, the convention or the uncommitted delegation's plans, saying, "At this time I'm not considering anything that I'm ready to talk about."

Where in the agenda will the fighting take place? McGovern and Humphrey forces are likely to oppose any report from the credentials committee that challenges their delegates, especially from El Paso or Travis County. Normally a 10 per cent vote on the credentials panel is needed to present a minority report. But since McGovern and Humphrey supporters say they do not have representation on the committee, their opposition will probably have to come from the floor.

Dr. Robert Hauge, state McGovern co-chairman and chairman of the 15th Senatorial District delegation, said, "We expect him [Orr] to use the credentials committee in a way that would whittle down our support, and we expect him to try to throw out some of the strong senatorial districts we have."

In this way, Hauge said, Orr could "prevent our people from being involved in the temporary roll, and it's the temporary roll which will decide the makeup of the various committees. We're worried our numbers will be cut down."

"We're planning on bringing out a minority report from the credentials committee; we're also talking with other groups and looking at ways in which we can all cooperate in order to benefit everyone."

The next fight will be for the chairmanship, and here a great deal depends on Orr's methods of running the convention and the outcome of the June 6 runoff.

The at-large delegates to the national convention represent some 25 per cent of the Texas delegation, and fighting for them will be fierce later in the convention. Again, the outcome depends on who is seated.

Steiger believes that, "if Orr and his people are in control, they'll take them all (a violation of the rules). If our people are in control, we'll apportion them."

The convention promises to present a little something for everyone, with much confrontation and few concessions.

(Space City! will be at the state convention. Stay tuned for a blow-by-blow account.)

A Look At Two Candidates

by John Carroll

Although it's not over yet, it's been a good year to be a voter in Houston. Some fairly honest sounding candidates with substantial ideas have finally surfaced, mainly because the new single member legislative districts no longer require vast amounts of money for someone to run a campaign. Two examples of this new type politico are state house of representatives candidates Noblet, for District 90, and Ron Waters, District 79. (Also tied to this new phenomenon were the primary victories — sans runoff — of black activists Mickey Leland and Craig Washington in their respective races for state legislature.

Of Mike and Ron, Waters is the more experienced in terms of political background and place in the Democratic hierarchy. Noblet was not given much of a chance in the first election because of his supposed political naivete. When he forced his way into the June 3 runoff, he surprised almost everyone.

"Mike has taken our idea of door to door, non-media campaign," says Waters, "and run better with it than we have. He was totally an outsider in terms of connections within the Democratic party and thus lacking some of the funds we were able to tie into. Yet with an astonishing victory in a district I thought was much to conservative."

Noblet's showing can be traced to voters stepping across the traditional ideological lines and voting for someone who raised specific issues of direct interest rather than trying to use volatile non-issue questions that merit no real consideration, which is the problem Waters is running into in district 79. The northern end of the district takes in part of the Heights which is basically white, Anglo Saxon and elderly.

"My opponent is trying to emotionalize them," claims Waters, "with my stand on marijuana. My problem is getting them to overcome that fear so that they can see if they vote for me they will have someone in Austin who is opposed to new consumer taxes and favors lowering the automobile insurance rates."

Noblet is also starting to experience some of the non-issue treatment, specifically with bussing. Opponents of both Noblet and Waters are hitting hard at what they consider a radical threat. However, Noblet and Waters refuse to answer in kind, preferring to stick to what they consider the more concrete, meaningful issues. Their campaigns are, in Waters' words, "positive campaigns. We are trying to get people to vote for someone instead of against."

Waters, who has been admitted to law school at the University of Houston, is a confident, politically-wise candidate who knows the ropes. As he freely acknowledged, he's been in the right places, seen the right people and done the right things. The advent of the single member districts plus the general atmosphere in this year of reform helped him decide to run.

"Under the old multi-member districts it would have taken me two to eight years to work my way into the position I'm in now where it is financially feasible for me to run a campaign. So when I saw the lines of my district it all clicked. I saw that for the first time the Montrose area had a chance to be represented adequately."

"Now we will have officials," said Waters, "that will be elected closer to home. It will be impossible to get away because there will be community-minded people at home who will be very critical. A legislator will have to work."

Waters' campaign has focussed on various issues: lowering automobile insurance rates is of paramount interest in the Heights. As you move south community development problems become more prominent in the black fourth ward area and property taxes gain ascension in the Montrose. Further consumer oriented taxes are a district-wide issue.

Waters' permissive stand on marijuana and his adamant stand for women's rights give him an edge with youth; but basically, it is Waters' apparent ability to understand the needs of each distinct group within district 79 that gives him his appeal. "The people have to elect someone who understands the different types of people in this district. We have spoken to the issues they wanted to hear and put out our necks. It's the people's responsibility to come out and vote."



Mike Noblet attends to the practical side of campaigning.

"We have spoken to the issues they wanted to hear and have put out our necks. It's the people's responsibility to come out and vote."

— Ron Waters

"...I don't know what a traditional liberal is. I prefer to call it the future versus the past."

— Mike Noblet

Noblet, who freely admits to lifting his campaign style from Waters, is up against a man he describes as a know-nothing conservative. "The newspapers are trying to make it a traditional liberal-conservative split. But I don't know what a traditional liberal is. I prefer to call it the future versus the past."

Noblet block-walks the future from about 2:30 p.m. until dark. His issues cover the gauntlet of urban concerns, from better mass transit to cleaner city air. He is consumer-oriented and in this year when voters are sending messages to the power centers it seems a good thing to be. A former Earthworks activist at UH, Noblet supports strong anti-pollution legislation, and he supports use of public lands (specifically the flood control areas) for parks. He also sees a need to create a national forest out of the Big Thicket which, in his opinion, would give city dwellers a convenient, much needed outdoor recreation area.

Basically though, his appeal is to the people, in an inclusive sense. He assumes that the great percentage of his constituents are those people who are simply trying to survive and finding it all a bit puzzling when they bust their asses only to fall short. Noblet wants to be a full time legislator, living off his salary, with the needs of his constituents paramount in his mind. He is aware of the corrupting menace of power and feels that if he has enough integrity and believes in himself, he won't sell out.

In Houston, or in Texas for that matter, Noblet and Waters are people who deserve some attention. They are trying to bring government back home to the people, and that means gearing it back down to providing security for the individual but not at such a price as to limit our freedoms.

Both Noblet and Waters see a need for constitutional and legislative reform, all oriented towards the protection of individual rights. They seem to sense, (Noblet instinctively, Waters professionally) that the voters are looking for people who will look out for them. It's the year of the little man, especially in the cities, and Noblet and Waters are running with the pulse.



Ron Waters at the 15th Senatorial District Convention, May 15. Photo by Dick Wray.

Frances Jalet Cruz: Trial Comes to an End

Will They Have To Struggle On Alone?

by Karen Northcott

Half a man's life is made up of the time he devotes to labor. Whether in prison or on parole, we are compelled to work for a living. Work is the major provision of a people. If we do not work, we steal. If we steal, the

chances are we will be returned to prison. If we can not find work in a system that does not provide work for everybody, we are sometimes returned to prison on a parole violation. We, as members of the convicted working class, are twisted and mangled in the vice of a cruel system

that cares little for human life. We are the last to be hired, the first to be fired. We are compelled to dance at every turn: we dance for a parole, and we dance for a job while on parole. In the widening class struggle in America, we prisoners are the lowest of low. We are the wage slaves outside and inside . . .

We are still daily being psychologically tortured by the nebulous but spirit crushing reality of the indeterminate sentence law, we are still political pawns in the game of power, profit and political debts incurred by the governor and the director of corrections . . . We are still being paroled back to the identical poverty and degradation which has been a cycle in our lives of poverty, prison, parole and more poverty, and we are still returning to prison at the same recidivism rate as before . . .

WE ARE STILL STRUGGLING ALONE.

United Prisoners Bill of Rights

Six weeks of testimony ended Friday, May 26, in the trial of a Houston attorney who has spent the last seven years seeking to assure inmates of the Texas Department of Corrections (TDC) that they do not have to struggle alone.

Three inmates of the TDC — Robert Slayman, Donald Lock and Freddie Dreyer — originally filed a complaint against Frances Freeman Jalet Cruz under the Civil Rights Act, alleging that she conspired with some of her clients to threaten the security of the prison system by teaching revolutionary ideas, to endanger prison morale and foment revolution, thus denying them some of their rights. The inmates are seeking to bar Mrs. Cruz from the TDC and to halt her work with prisoners.

The trial has been a complicated and controversial one, the credibility of the witnesses hard to discern. U.S. District Judge Carl O. Bue took the case under advisement saying, "frankly I've never seen a case like this before. One of the problems a judge runs into is familiarizing himself with the myriad areas of the law with which he has had no contact. For the past six weeks, as a mem-

ber of the judiciary, I have felt that I have lived in another planet."

During the first three weeks of the trial, two of the plaintiffs, Donald Lock and Freddie Dreyer, testified that Mrs. Cruz, through her intermediary Fred Arispe Cruz, solicited clients and then urged them to join a conspiracy to take over the prison. The two also testified that Fred Cruz had threatened to kill them if they did not drop their suit seeking to bar Mrs. Cruz from the prison system.

Prosecution lawyers, Thomas Phillips, Donald Eckhardt and Max Jennings (See Space City! Vol.III No.47) paraded witness after witness who backed up Lock and Dreyer's allegations, that Mrs. Cruz was causing riot and revolution within the prison system.

One of the plaintiff's, 27-year-old Robert Slayman, was paroled the second day of the trial and vanished soon after, abandoning his suit.

Lock, in a tearful and emotional about face Monday, May 22, reversed his previous testimony and asked that his suit be dismissed without prejudice. In a trembling voice, Lock said, "It's a lie. Mrs. Jalet has done nothing. She's tried to help me. She's tried to help the entire prison population."

Lock further testified that he had been pressured by TDC officials, W. Dee Kutach, assistant director of the TDC; Warden C.L. McAdams; and Lloyd Hunt to file the suit. "They (prison officials) didn't come out and tell me to file it," he said. "But you just get used to the way these people talk and you know what they mean. I knew that filing the suit was my only way out."

Kutach said Lock's allegations are ridiculous and "under no circumstances has he been pressured."

Lock called Dr. George Beto, director of the TDC, a "phony" and described prison life as "pure hell." Inmate guards (building tenders) beat other prisoners at will, especially those unable to buy protection, he said. Lock said he saw inmate guards take a friend of his, Robert Oliphant, and beat him. "He

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yelled and begged and they beat him and put him in a strait-jacket and tied him to a cell."

He testified that prison officials, specifically Warden McAdams, knew of the brutality. He called McAdams a "sadistic, sick man."

Lock said most of the inmates at the Wynne Unit feel the presiding judge in the case "is fixed" and that one of the plaintiff's attorneys "was paid \$50,000 under the table."

He further testified that Dreyer told him he was "going to terrorize defense attorneys, Bill Kilgarlin, David Berg, Stuart Nelkin, Henry Rosenbloom, Fred Grossberg and Bill Kimball, when he gets out of prison in five and a half months."

Lock said he feared for his life because of his testimony and was placed in protective custody in the Galveston County Jail by Judge Bue. "If given the chance they would kill me," he said in a voice strained with emotion. "I think they would do it kind-of-legal . . . like, put me in a field, pull me out, shoot me and say I'd been trying to escape."

The inmate said the third plaintiff, Robert Slayman, "set up Mrs. Jalet to buy time." He said that Slayman had "beat the State" referring to Slayman's receiving his parole and then splitting from the suit.

Lock acknowledged he had "been living the good life" of a building tender since filing the suit. He said that after he agreed to participate in the anti-Cruz suit, he had the power to have guards fired and to get other building tenders thrown into or taken out of solitary.

Frances Jalet Cruz, who had been sitting at the defense table shuffling through files, writing notes to her attorneys sat quietly, hands clasped, eyes cast downward during Lock's emotional testimony. She then took the stand and described in a subdued voice how she first came to Texas in 1967 as a Reginald Heber-Smith Fellow to practice poverty law with the Austin Legal Defenders Society. It was while she was in Austin that she received a letter from Fred Cruz asking her assistance in appealing a 1961 robbery conviction. Mrs. Cruz was eventually fired from the Austin legal services project after the project's director, Hamilton Lowe, was informed by Beto that she had been giving assistance to inmates in the TDC. Lowe regarded this as improper since the office was not allowed to handle criminal matters, only civil. Mrs. Cruz pointed out that her assistance had been in purely civil matters. (She had written a letter to the Board of Corrections upon hearing that Fred Cruz was in solitary confinement, stating that solitary confinement was cruel and unusual punishment and violated the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution.)

Mrs. Cruz went on to testify of her subsequent jobs at the Dallas County Legal Aid Society, and the Texas Southern University Legal Aid program. It was while she was working in Dallas that she gained two more inmate clients, Bobby Brown who

Judge Sara Hughes asked her to represent and Ernest Ivy who had written asking for her assistance. Mrs. Cruz lost her job in Dallas, once again under fire from Beto.

In October, 1968, Warden McAdams informed Mrs. Cruz that she could no longer visit her clients on the Ellis Unit. This ban was in effect until March, 1969. On Oct. 15, 1971, Beto issued an order to all wardens in the TDC to prohibit Mrs. Cruz from visiting any of her clients. This ban followed Beto's testimony in a suit filed by Mrs. Cruz in federal court, challenging the practice of arbitrary removal of an inmate's good time without due process and the censorship of mail.

Mrs. Cruz denied any prior arrangement with Fred Cruz to bring adverse publicity to the Texas prison system. She also denied the allegations that Fred had solicited clients for her: "I have many more requests for assistance than I can possibly respond to."



Photo of Mrs. Frances Jalet Cruz by E. F. Shawyer, Jr.

Mrs. Cruz also denied ever tacitly encouraging or suggesting, even by her silence, that any clients of hers should create an atmosphere of violence in the prison.

She acknowledged that she had experienced a considerable drop in income upon acceptance of the Reginald Heber-Smith Fellow and her subsequent enlistment as a VISTA volunteer. She has not been able to accept any new clients since October, 1971; thus causing serious financial difficulty, she said.

But, she continued, she knew of no other source for the inmates to turn for assistance in civil matters. Mrs. Cruz described her role as an important one in assisting inmates to assert their constitutional rights, to let them

know that they had such constitutional rights. "The importance of an inmate being able to say I have a lawyer, is great," she said. "To men who are cut off from the outside world, having someone to write to who is interested in helping them is important."

Tom Phillips, during his cross-examination, hammered away at Mrs. Cruz's conception of what a prison should be, her "abnormal" relationship with her clients and her attitude towards George Beto.

Phillips described Frances' conception of a prison as a "home for broken souls." "Let's put these men somewhere," Phillips proposed, "these men who killed, raped, robbed, and call it a home for broken souls."

When Mrs. Cruz stated she felt inmates should be paid for their work, Phillips exclaimed, "I want to bring you down to common plain-talking language. Do you mean wages should be set through collective bargaining?"

Phillips questioned whether the relationship between Mrs. Cruz and her "so-called clients" was a normal lawyer-client relationship. "Isn't it true that you got advice from jailhouse lawyers rather than giving advice to them?" Phillips queried belligerently. "Are you telling this court that all you have done is exercise a normal attorney-client relationship?" (Many of Mrs. Cruz's clients have become excellent prison lawyers and have cases pending litigation in the federal courts.)

Upon being questioned about Beto's proficiency as director of the TDC Frances said, "As an administrator, he is enlightened, highly regarded and well known; as an individual with knowledge of prison rights, he is reaction-

ary."

Fred Arispe Cruz testified in a loud, clear voice (despite his recent hospitalization for pneumonitis) of continual harassment by TDC officials throughout his prison life because of his numerous suits against the TDC.

Cruz testified that Warden R.M. Cousins choked him and threatened to "knock my brains out" if he continued to remain a client of Mrs. Cruz. He said the choking incident occurred last year as he was being placed in solitary confinement for complaining he had been cursed by a guard. He said he was confined without clothes despite the fact he had the flu.

He said that Warden Cousins, trembling and shaking with anger, told him, "I'm tired of letters from that nigger loving lawyer of yours. No lawyers are going to take over my prison. If you don't stop, I'll send you home to your mother in a pine box."

Cruz testified he was placed in solitary confinement on another occasion after he was beaten by two building tenders and hospitalized for 12 days.

He once refused an assistant warden's offer of freedom from prison if he would drop his law suits against the TDC, most of which are class action suits, he said. Cruz said he believes George Beto "has a personal dislike for me because I made him look bad in all my writs."

He testified he believes Freddie Dreyer's motivation for filing the suit was an attempt to stifle Frances' efforts to dismantle the power structure of the building tender system. "He would lose his influence over the prison population," he said.

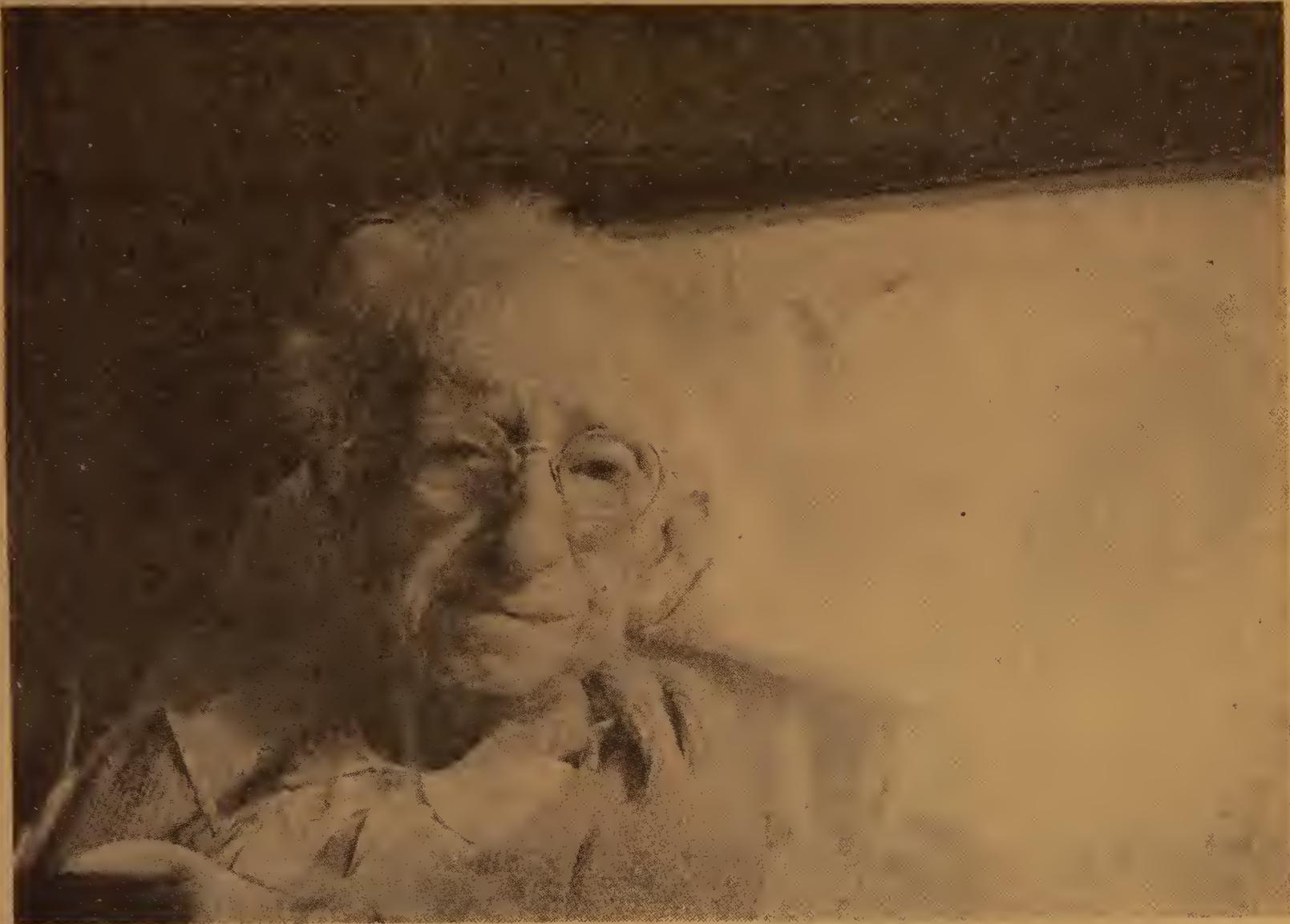
Cruz denied ever having advocated change by force or violence. "I respect the legal process, this is the best way to affect change," he said. He also denied having acted as a runner for Mrs. Cruz in a conspiracy to take over the prison.

Phillips, during cross-examination, questioned sharply a doctor's statement saying Cruz had pneumonitis or "respiratory distress." Phillips contended Cruz passed out after a long day of drinking bourbon with old prison friends.

Warden C.L. McAdams and Beto were the prosecution's rebuttal witnesses. "Warden Mac," as Phillips continually referred to him, alleged after a visit from Mrs. Cruz, the inmates were restless, edgy and tense. "After one or two visits from Mrs. Cruz," he testified again, "there was more work stoppage, more fights, more tension and more men in solitary. He brought a chart which depicted the number of men in solitary confinement month by month at the Wynne Unit. In October, 1971 there were 29 inmates in the hole; in November, 69.

The letter barring Mrs. Cruz from visiting her clients was issued in mid-October, the implication being that this caused the upsurge in the number of inmates in solitary. Defense attorney David Berg proceeded to go through the daily strength unit

Cont. on 20



Old Folks: Nixon Cares!

by Sarah Pendleton

It was billed as Senior Citizens Day in Harris County. And about 900 old people came to the Astrohall to participate.

Most came in buses or station wagons — from churches and nursing homes, from the Association of Retired People, from community centers and 20-odd neighborhood stations of the Harris County Community Action Association.

They came because they were bored and lonely, because they had accepted the urgings of their social workers or because they wanted to inform and organize themselves around issues important to old people.

The event was sponsored by the Harris County Committee on Aging and, according to organizers, was financed by about \$1,400 in contributions from unnamed businessmen.

What the old folks got (after the national anthem, pledge of allegiance, invocation and several

musical selections) was a message from Dr. Arthur Flemming.

Flemming identified himself as "a representative of the President of the United States, here to report to you developments in the field of aging."

Flemming is Richard Nixon's special consultant on aging. And he did indeed talk on developments in the field of aging — at least so far as those developments correspond with the goals and accomplishments of the Nixon administration.

He said several times, in different ways, that "Nixon does have a deep-seated concern for using the power of the presidency to protect the position of the elderly."

He outlined Nixon's plans to increase Social Security payments 5 per cent, to broaden aid to impoverished old people, to relieve the property tax burden through federal revenue sharing, to enroll more old people in the food stamp program, to involve the elderly in volunteer programs.

He pointed out that more than 25 per cent of the elderly fall below the federal poverty level and that malnutrition (which, he said, approaches starvation in many cases) is a severe problem for millions of old U.S. citizens.

What he didn't say (and what went unnoted throughout the afternoon) is that Nixon's program to help the elderly isn't universally hailed as approaching utopia on earth.

Less than two weeks before Senior Citizens Day at the Astrohall, the Senate Special Committee on Aging had issued an analysis of the President's actions in behalf of the elderly and concluded that they "fall far short" of meeting the existing need or of fulfilling recommendations of the White House Conference on Aging.

Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, chairman of the Senate committee, concluded that "the President must perceive that hopes for bipartisan action on

aging will deteriorate rapidly if the Administration plays a crafty tactical game instead of fashioning a credible action program."

In advocating other, more liberal, reforms for the elderly, The Senate Committee on Aging points out that Nixon's proposed 5 per cent Social Security increase would not even keep pace with current levels of inflation; that the Nixon administration has "persistently downgraded" the Administration on Aging which oversees distribution of aid to impoverished old people; that Nixon's proposal on property tax relief "promises little more than further study;" that few nursing homes have felt any pressure for reform under the inspection program of the Department of Health Education and Welfare; that Nixon has shown little specific concern for medical problems of the aged and has made only passing mention of the especially severe needs of minority group old persons.

But the old folks heard

generalizations and promises about Nixon's "deeply felt concern" for the elderly. They were urged several times to pick up a mimeographed summary of Richard Nixon's March 23 message to Congress on the elderly.

The opposite, critical perspective did not exist May 24 at the Astrohall.

According to the Houston Post, R.A. Brimble, a Houston businessman and chairman of the event, said after the program that he thinks the Nixon administration "has got a team that is sincerely concerned about the problems of the old people. . . He's sending out his first class lieutenant to get the word out and I don't mind putting myself at his disposal to help him reach the aging to solve their problems."

So that, apparently, is how it happened that some 900 elderly people got the word from one of Nixon's first class lieutenants on how they're really being helped by their Republican president.

Which is all fair, anyone will tell you, in an election year. Every special interest group is subject to the political pitches of political candidates.

So Flemming concluded his speech by noting that it will be "difficult to solve any of these problems unless we also strengthen the spiritual foundations of our nation . . . We must look to God for the strength he alone can give."

And the old people applauded Flemming's words and their president's programs. And they rose to walk carefully to their buses and station wagons.

It was hard to keep from wondering how God feels about taking advantage of lonely, poor, worried and frail old people.



Photos by Anne Bookman / LNS



Attica Today

Seven months have passed since 43 people died at Attica.

In these past seven months, wounds have not been treated properly, all the promises have been forgotten and New York state's legal machinery has been slowly moving towards massive indictments of the men "who stood up for their humanity and were met with an unmitigated outpouring of brutality in response," according to a newsletter published by the Attica Defense Committee (ADC), a volunteer group of lawyers and law students.

Lawyers on the defense committee have initiated law suits to prohibit alleged beatings and verbal harassment by correctional officers, to assure inmates access to the prison's law library, to remove Rockefeller's appointed special investigator and prosecutor, to challenge the conditions of "the box" and to assure adequate medical attention.

In the last two months, according to the defense committee, there have been at least six separate incidents of beatings in the prison. All of them taking place in the maximum security wing of Attica where 90 prisoners have been held in 24-hour lock up since the day of the rebellion, Sept. 13, 1971.

In December, 1971, Federal District Judge Curtin was ordered by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals to issue an injunction to prohibit State Correction employees from beating or verbally harassing prisoners.

In light of the recent beating alleged by the defense committee, lawyers have requested the court to hold the guards who had participated in the beatings and their superiors, Warden Montayne, Commissioner Dunbar and Governor Rockefeller, in contempt of court. The lawyers also asked for an action of civil contempt, petitioning for various kinds of relief: fines against the state; monitors in the prison; removal of all guards who took part in the beating; alleviations of the conditions of harassment. The court did not act on these matters for three weeks, during which time the state filed answering papers alleging that those persons beaten had assaulted guards.

The Second Circuit Court of Appeals was asked to issue a writ of *mandamus* forcing Curtin to rule on the contempt charges. The higher court was further asked to retain supervision to see that the injunction be enforced. Curtin issued an order stating

the hearings should take place inside Attica before a U.S. Magistrate, thus removing himself from responsibility for the actions and transferring it to someone who has no power to impose sanctions on the alleged perpetrators of the beatings. The judge further denied all relief on other forms of harassment and once again refused to enforce his own injunction.

A complaint is being prepared by both prisoners and legal workers on the ADC demanding access to the prison law library for all those held in the "Box," the maximum security wing of the prison. The legal material belonging to the numerous jailhouse lawyers was destroyed following the rebellion.

Numerous attempts have been made to remove Robert Fisher, Governor Rockefeller's special investigator and prosecutor of all criminal charges arising out of Sept. 9-13, alleging a conflict of interests. Fisher has previously represented state officials in earlier civil litigation, and is now in a position where, by mandate of law, he must investigate and possibly prosecute the same officers he previously protected and defended, including the man who appointed him. He has appointed Captain Williams, the man who led the attack on the yard, as head of the investigating team.

Following a show cause order, a motion was heard by Judge Carman Ball, also appointed by Rockefeller, to remove Fisher. The motion was denied on the grounds that the prisoner-petitioners have no standing under New York State law to bring actions against public officials.

A law suit has been initiated challenging the conditions of the "Box." For the months following the rebellion, 90 of Attica's inmates have been held in "protective custody." The men are in cells measuring six by eight feet, furnished with a metal slab and mattress for a bed and a one-unit combination wash basin and toilet with no cover. There is no desk, no chair, no foot locker: nothing moveable.

They are allowed 10-minutes of exercise daily in an eight by twelve foot "tiger cage" with a barred roof. Their food is served cold. Mail and reading material are arbitrarily censored.

"Protective custody amounts to a literal, psychological and emotional state of being caged 24 hours a day. This form of punishment is illegal in and of itself," ADC lawyers contend.



Abu Halik, a former Attica inmate, testifies at the People's Tribunal on Attica. LNS photo.

The pending lawsuit on the conditions in the "Box" say these conditions are in contravention of the New York state Corrections Law which states that no disparity of conditions should exist, and also stipulates a maximum duration of solitary confinement of 60 consecutive days. The suit requests that conditions be equalized: that men be allowed out of their cells for more than 10 minutes a day; that they be permitted to congregate, to see and speak with one another in a dayroom; that they be allowed to attend classes and participate in religious services; that they accorded the status of human beings in their treatment.

The ADC characterizes the abuse and neglect of sick prisoners at Attica as one of the most "blatant attempts of demoraliza-

tion." According to the committee, the men have no choice of doctors, get no explanation of what is done to them or the medication prescribed and they can be refused treatment at the whim of the doctor.

"The Attica Defense Committee has been working largely with inmates in the Box, visiting daily and trying to meet their needs, the need to remove the brutal conditions, the need to prepare legal defense against the indictments, and the tantamount need to spread the word as to what really happened in September, what it's like to live at Attica." If you would like to help or receive more information write: Attica Defense Committee, Rm. 816 Prudential Bldg., 30 Church St., Buffalo, New York, 14202.

News Analysis

Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government

by Bob Barber

Nixon is begging the American people to accept his notion of a "North Vietnamese invasion" of South Vietnam. What is he trying to hide?

He is trying to hide the fact that a functioning government exists in South Vietnam other than the Thieu regime in Saigon.

He is trying to hide the fact that this government, the Provisional Revolutionary Government, is rooted in 27 years of struggle against France and the United States.

He is trying to hide the fact that the PRG's army, the People's Liberation Armed Forces (PLAF), is directing the current offensive.

He is trying to obscure the fact that North Vietnamese troops, who are fighting in the South under PLAF command, have the right to do so, since under the 1954 Geneva Accords the DMZ was established as a "temporary dividing line."

The ability of the PLAF to mount its current offensive after years of intense U.S. military and political opposition indicates the strength of its political base. The PRG was formed in June,

1969, as a result of elections held not only in zones liberated from the control of the Thieu regime but also in zones nominally controlled by Saigon.

Organized jointly by the National Liberation Front (NLF) and an alliance of urban middle class and intellectual elements, the elections were a mass event. The French newspaper *Le Monde* reported on Dec. 19, 1968, "Everyone is talking about revolutionary committees, alliance, front, elections, at hamlet, village, district, provincial, town, and city level. Estimates vary but the importance of the movement is incontestable."

The PRG is not a classic "government in exile," representing a handful of individuals. Rather, it is a real, functioning government, the culmination of years of work by the NLF. It administers large areas of South Vietnam, providing such services as free education and health care, cultural activities, popular defense units and a tax collection system.

Under the PRG, social relations among the people are changing as the Vietnamese combat the feudal traditions and neocolonial influences of their

past and present.

An NLF woman who had come to Hanoi for medical treatment told an American journalist about her life in December, 1971: "When the area had not yet been liberated the life of women was, of course, very miserable. They were considered inferior, and it was said that women knew nothing and that all they could do was the cooking. They were oppressed and held in contempt.

"When the village came to be liberated (in 1963), women were given a new role. Together with their compatriots in the village they shared the common responsibilities . . . I was almost illiterate when the village was not yet liberated, and my thinking toward myself was that because I was a woman, a girl, I would just play the role of a girl and that I could not do anything else and that I was inferior.

"But when the village was liberated I was given the opportunity to study and reach the fourth grade. I came to realize that I must have responsibilities in the common work."

The roots of the PRG go back to the struggle against French neocolonialism in Vietnam, which ended with the Geneva Accords of 1954. After 1954, those who had fought against the French organized a mass political movement in the South aimed at preventing the U.S.-sponsored Diem regime from cancelling the scheduled 1956 reunification elections and thus illegally establishing a separate South Vietnamese state.

(The Pentagon Papers point out, "South Vietnam is essentially a creation of the United States.")

This opposition remained on a political level, even after the elections were cancelled, until massive arrests and executions by Diem in the late 1950's forced the resumption of armed resistance in 1960.

At that time, the National Liberation Front was formed. A coalition of over 20 political parties, religious groups, and mass organizations, the NLF crystallized mass resistance to Diem, giving it national co-ordination and leadership.

Among the groups in the NLF are the Revolutionary People's Party, the Association of Patriotic Buddhists, the Federation of Trade Unions for the Liberation of South Vietnam and the Cao Dai Thien Thien Sect.

Following the establishment of the NLF, a system of local people's committees was established to administer the zones liberated from the control of the U.S. and Saigon. These committees set up schools, hospitals, and travelling cultural teams.

They organized the villages to provide support for the PLAF, formed under a unified command in 1961. The PLAF, which combines local militia units and regular NLF army units, also commands all North Vietnamese units fighting in the South.

Out of these years of political struggle and administrative experience, a *de facto* government was

established in many parts of South Vietnam. This is the base on which the PRG is built. The President of the PRG's Advisory Council is Nguyen Huu Tho, a lawyer from Saigon who first organized the opposition to Diem in 1954.

Throughout these years, the crux of the U.S. effort in South Vietnam has been the attempt to destroy the social infrastructure being built by the NLF and the PRG. That this society has flourished under the most intense air war in history and a massive ground invasion by U.S. troops is testimony to its strength.

Through bombings (with extensive use of anti-personnel weapons) and military sweeps, the U.S. has attempted to force the villagers to flee the cities and "strategic hamlets" where they are more easily controlled by the Saigon regime. Through the Phoenix assassination program, it has attempted to eliminate the most politicized villagers, who provide the nucleus of the political structure in liberated areas.

Although these and other programs, collectively known as "pacification" have caused enormous suffering and destruction, they have never succeeded in their goal of destroying the NLF and the PRG. Now that the current offensive has dismantled the network of Saigon control in many areas, U.S. advisors are admitting that the many years put into "pacification" have gone down the drain.

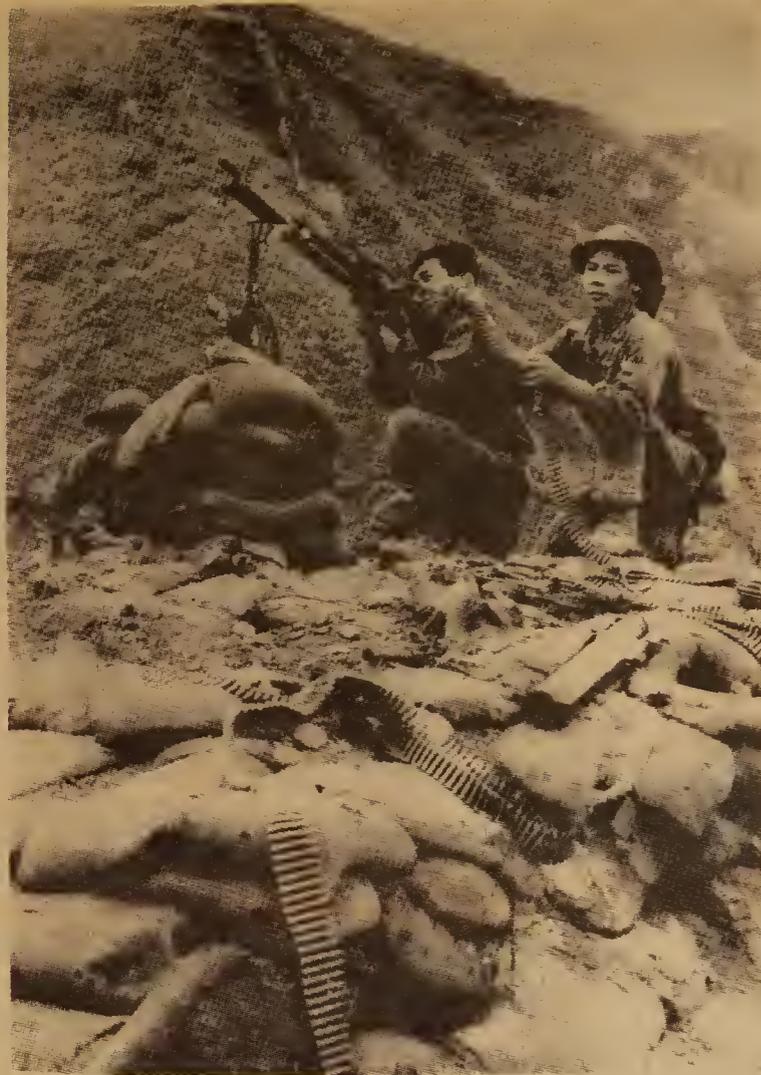
A U.S. military officer recently retreating from a town in the Central Highlands, summed up the situation: "When the Communists were here before, from 1945 to 1954, the people didn't have much to eat or good clothes on their backs, but morally they were happy because the Communists brought justice to this land, not the corruption we have here now."

With the growing military and political strength of the PRG has come increased international recognition and diplomatic success. The PRG is recognized as the legitimate government of South Vietnam by 30 nations and by thousands of people in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

The U.S. Government has been forced to negotiate in Paris with its Foreign Ministry which presented its Seven Point Peace Plan in July, 1971. This plan calls on the United States to set a date for the withdrawal of all American forces from Vietnam and to cease support for the Thieu regime.

Nixon's blockading and renewed saturation bombing of North Vietnam are predicated in large part on the assumption that the PRG and the PLAF are controlled from Hanoi. The history of the war has indicated that this is not so; even the Pentagon Papers admit it. Neither obfuscation of this issue nor desperate military measures will save Nixon from the defeat he fears so much.

— *Alternative Features Service*



Anti-aircraft guns of the PLAF in Quang Tri Province are trained on U.S. planes and helicopters, April, 1972. Photo by Vietnam News Agency / LNS

A Congressman's Response To Nixon's War

by Cong. Ronald V. Dellums

Ronald V. Dellums, Democratic Representative from California's Seventh Congressional District, has long been an uncompromising critic of U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia. He is an active member and frequently a spokesman for the Congressional Black Caucus.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In carrying out and expanding an unconstitutional, undeclared war, President Nixon is guilty of high crimes against mankind.

To make concrete my sense of outrage over the continuing escalation of U.S. war activities in Southeast Asia, I have joined with Representatives Bella S. Abzug and William F. Ryan of New York to bring impeachment proceedings against President Nixon.

Mr. Nixon thinks he can get away with anything. I don't.

The real question is whether the Congress will justify his contemptuous opinion of it, or whether Congress will start doing its job. The President fools only himself in believing his grandstanding can solve problems. Those of us in Congress must have a greater sense of reality — and a great sense of responsibility both to the Americans who are pawns in Mr. Nixon's games, and to the Vietnamese whose society we are turning into a smoking ruin.

I am amazed by the cynical and maniacal irresponsibility with which the President presumes to blackmail the American people. Is he so obsessed with his personal prestige and power, is he so removed from the human realities of his decisions, that he no longer cares how many lives he endangers through his cruelty and megalomania?

After wantonly exposing American troops and installations and the lives of American POWs, he then tries to use their endangered position — for which he alone is responsible — as a weapon to silence criticism. After flaunting *their* ability to help their allies, *their* fear of appearing a pitiful, helpless giant . . .

In the last year of the Second War, after the Germans knew they were defeated, they went on an orgy of killing that exceeded the horrors of the earlier part of the war, haunting the conscience of mankind ever since.

This is the choice that faces us now. No longer able to impose our will in Southeast Asia, will our removal be in the same frenzied manner? Or will the American people get down to the job of preventing the needless sacrifice of lives and of preserving the sense of honor that is sickened by senseless and cruel destruction?



Above, Sissy introduces Judge Andrew Jefferson to the Astrohall throngs. Photo by Thorne Dreyer.

Below, Farenthold fans freak out. Photo by Barbara Duff.

"A few months ago one of my opponents said I was only a token candidate for the governorship. Well, a funny thing happened on the way to the barbeque. That opponent heard the footsteps of Farenthold rushing up from behind. And Mr. Briscoe is hearing those same footsteps today. . ."

"The people of Texas are tired of office-seekers and office-holders who place lobbyists before the people, sick and tired of state officials who don't know the meaning of public government, who are merely puppets in a corruptive system of pay-off politics. The voters of Texas want a public government in Austin, and Mr. Briscoe doesn't even comprehend that concept."

"What can we expect from a man who's afraid to face the people in a public debate. What can we expect from a candidate who tries to hide his financial interests while seeking public office. What can we expect from someone who preaches reform with one hand while holding out the other to those same lobbyists?"

". . .while 30 of us in the state legislature stood up to that tyranny of private interests on the floor of the House, my opponent Rip Van Winkle the second of Uvalde -- Mr. Briscoe is a sunshine warrior. He leaped upon the bandwagon of reform after it was well on its way, only after the battle of legislative reform was fought. His commitment to reform is no deeper than that of the lobbyists who have endorsed him. He is their champion. . . We will build a state government where lobbyists are returned to their proper role of petitioners. . . We will unlock those closed doors in Austin and allow the people of this state to set their own destiny. . . I have news for you, Mr. Briscoe. The Texas governorship is not for sale this year."

Frances Farenthold, Houston Astrohall, May 30, 1972.



The following is part of an editorial printed in the Louisville Courier-Journal after the May 6 primary and read by Sissy Farenthold at the May 30 Astrohall rally:

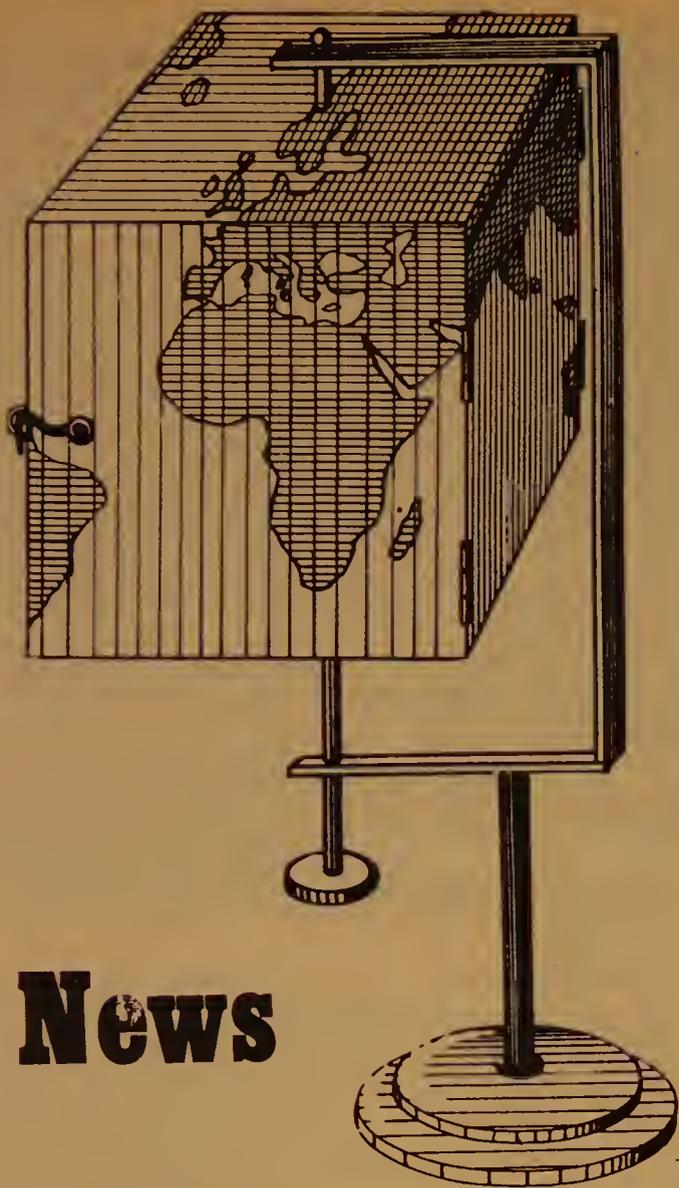
"Members of the Texas Democratic establishment are trembling in their hand-tooled boots this week. It looks as if an epidemic of democracy may have broken out in this state. . .

"But if this madness continues, if that uppity woman gets the gubernatorial nomination, if the liberals get to send more than a token number of delegates to the national convention, then the shock waves will expand beyond the Pedernales, beyond the Red and beyond the Sabine, perhaps to the Potomac itself where the establishment might also tremble. For if democracy can break out in Texas, it can break out anywhere."

Actor Rip Torn as Tricky Dick (left), La Bastille singer/prop. Toni Renee introduces Sissy, and, below, the audience gets in the swing of things.

Photos by Thorne Dreyer.





News

A Low Profile In Courage

Considering his four years of advocacy for administration war policies when in office, Hubert Humphrey makes an unconvincing dove. Still, you have to give the man credit for trying. Speaking to a college audience, Humphrey explained.

"Sometimes it takes more courage to do that which you need to do than it takes to do that which you may not have needed to do when you first decided to do it. Just think that over for a minute."

And let us know when you're finished.

— AFS

MGM — The Lion in South Africa, OR: Who's Really Getting The "Shaft"?
by John Keone Young

"Without the American money poured into South Africa in the form of investments . . . the brutal South African dictatorship could not stand for long." William J. Pomeroy, Apartheid Axis — U.S. & South Africa.

"I'm against censorship in any form." James T. Aubrey Jr., President & Chief Executive of MGM in *Today's Filmmaker*, February, 1972.

HOLLYWOOD (AFS) — With show business in an uproar about Metro-Goldwyn Mayer's collision courses with its directors and producers, and its fingers grasping into diverse areas of "entertainment" like Las Vegas hotels and \$48,000,000 cruise liners, it's a good time to take a look at another little-known MGM venture.

14 : Space City!

The company which two years ago last Christmas dumped 58 per cent of its employees on the unemployment line, has now announced the formation of a new company: MGM/Film Trust Theatres.

This new firm is the offspring of a merger between MGM's South African theater operations and Film Trust Pty. Ltd. of Johannesburg. It was developed to operate existing leaseholds and to expand them to 26 or more new first-run theaters in South Africa.

MGM has just added two new houses in Capetown and Durban, cities where Africans and people of color are not allowed in after dark, and are required at all times to carry identification passes (produced by Polaroid) or risk being fined and jailed.

Another seven theatres will open by the end of 1972. The theatres will be segregated by race, and will maintain apartheid. Apartheid is carried to such idiotic extents that, for example, white censors deleted Yul Brynner's embrace with Deborah Kerr in promotional pictures for *The King and I*, in hope of keeping the idea of segregation from the local Asian populace.

According to the Africa Research Group, 130 films have already been banned because they showed aspects of racial equality and desegregation.

MGM's new venture is a slap in the face to all black and Third World peoples and helps support apartheid and racism. MGM will help stabilize the pro-apartheid Vorster regime, by driving large amounts of American dollars into South Africa, helping its development through

tax payments, and, if MGM does nothing to alter the situation, by supporting the policies of segregation.

MGM is one among many American entertainment corporations (Warner Brothers, 20th Century Fox, United Artist) which have bases in South Africa and have the power to take a strong stand against racism.

Will MGM still have the same "liberal" attitude as when they produced *Shaft* with Gordon Parks and Isaac Hayes, and show the film in one of their South African theatres?

Will MGM President Jim Aubrey keep to the statement that he made against censorship only a few months ago and demand that *Shaft* and other black films be shown? Or will he just let the MGM Lion sleep tonight?

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Tip For Summer Travel

New Mexico now has the mildest first offense penalty in the country for possession of marijuana. You are liable to a fine of \$25 to \$50 plus a possible 15 days imprisonment for possession of an ounce or less.

State Sen. Otis Echols, who sponsored the bill in the State Legislature, said that he and his Legislative Committee on Drug Abuse were "a little disappointed with the final form of the Bill." The original version called for a \$25 to \$50 fine with no imprisonment for first or any offenses, and the Senator added, "We felt that even a one-day imprisonment was not morally right."

— AFS

Who Wants Amnesty?

The question of amnesty is now a 1972 election issue, but in Canada there remain many exiled Americans who are somewhat less than ecstatic over the possibilities of returning to the United States.

Aside from resentment at being relegated to political footballs after many years of routine condemnation or lack of concern, many draft-dodgers and deserters in Canada find as yet no suitable proposal for repatriation. Nixon absolutely says, "No". Republican Senator Robert Taft, Jr. of Ohio wants a three-year alternative service program; Mc Govern vies for general amnesty for dodgers and selective treatment in individual cases of desertion. No politician speaks of unconditional amnesty for all dodgers and deserters.

In February of this year, the Toronto Anti-Draft Programme (a politically active group of American exiles) issued a statement demanding the "withdrawal of all U.S. personnel and equipment from Indochina" before discussion of amnesty could even begin. With the acceptance of their proposal for amnesty, all resisters, dodgers, and deserters would be "allowed to return if they are abroad, allowed to sur-

face if they are underground, released if they are imprisoned, without reprisal (or) loss of civil liberties."

Even if unconditional amnesty does come, it is questionable how many of exiles in Canada will return. Toronto's underground paper, *Guerilla*, recently asked exiles to write them as to whether or not they'd immediately return to the U.S. if amnesty were granted. Only ten per cent of those who responded said they would. CBS' Mike Wallace of "Sixty Minutes" posed the same question at a Montreal Exile Thanksgiving dinner and found merely three out of the one hundred men present agreeable to the proposition.

Many deserters and dodgers find it ironically distasteful to be forgiven for actions they still consider morally correct. Others like deserter Scott Udall, son of the former U.S. Secretary of the Interior, will stay in Canada because life feels "freer." Udall seems to articulate the feelings of many U.S. exiles in Canada when he says, "I won't go back there to live again."

—Fred Setterberg/AFS

Television Is a Sickness, Not a Crime

William Burroughs would be pleased. For over a decade, the Master Addict has maintained that addiction is the fundamental characteristic of western culture. The junk may be drugs or anything else; what is crucial, according to Burroughs, is the need, any need, that will prompt people to sacrifice their humanity to obtain the next fix.



A bit heavy, you may think, as a description of everyday life. Well, consider this study by a West German group called The Society for Rational Psychology. 184 men and women were asked to renounce television for a year.

At first the subjects found they were going out more, and increasingly engaging in diversified activities — roughly what you would expect. Slowly, however, they became edgier. Husbands beat their wives; parents beat their children. Sexual activity declined, quarrels increased.

Households were on the verge of explosion until, one by one, the subjects returned to the tube, and these symptoms subsided. Things generally returned to normal except for a brief, unexplained flurry of masturbation.

This does not mean that television inhibits violence, or encourages sexuality. Rather, according to the study, "tele-

vision may mask conflicts and provide a last link between otherwise estranged people."

When taken off television, the subjects had to confront reality, and each other, more directly than they had in years. Their psychological metabolism had to make a transition from one kind of emotional balance, where tensions were drained into the tube to another emotional balance, where tensions had to be dealt with.

In short, they experienced withdrawal symptoms.

Although the subjects were well paid for every day of abstinence, not a single one held out for more than five months. The first to go caved in after two weeks.

Burroughs had it covered in 1959, when he wrote in *Naked Lunch*: "Junk is the ultimate merchandise. No sales talk necessary. The client will crawl through a sewer to beg and buy. The junk merchant does not improve and simplify his merchandise. He degrades and simplifies the client."

- Pam and Michael Rosenthal/AFS

Columbia's Gay Lounge

NEW YORK - In the spring of 1968, dormitory councils at Columbia University acquired the right to appropriate unused building space to meet student needs. Through dorm council voting processes and the Columbia administration's reluctance to veto, students soon established the first campus lounge ex-

clusively for blacks, soon followed by lounges for Asians and Puerto Ricans.

The Furnald Hall council has now allocated an unused basement storeroom to gay people at Columbia (GPC) the country's first university lounge reserved for gays.

The function of the new lounge is similar to other ethnic conclaves. Discriminatory membership qualifications are designed to create an official meeting place serving as a source of social and political rejuvenation for members.

For GPC, the lounge provides the benefit of community without the sometimes dangerous distraction of underworld sleaze, characteristic of many New York gay bars. Much gay-related literature as well as contacts with other gay groups originate within the confines of the lounge.

An estimated 75-100 people use the lounge weekly. There has been some support, in particular, Dr. Robert Liebert's article in *Change Magazine* (October, 1971) suggesting the identity-enhancing potential of the lounge.

"To have the capacity to love another human being," Dr. Liebert wrote, "requires a sense of self-worth and self-acceptance. This is not easily accomplished if one has accepted society's definition of being diseased, perverted and defective."

Campus suicides have decreased at Columbia this year, and at least one GPC member feels the creation of an outlet for formerly suppressed homosexual desires, rather than relaxed pressure from grades, is the cause.

Columbia's administration, however, prefers not to recognize the presence of GPC's lounge.

Not wishing to either condone or condemn it, they have remained calm, though perhaps a little flushed.

Opposition to the lounge comes not from the old foe, administrative rigidity, or from a student body of angry heterosexual machos, but rather from the first beneficiaries of the lounge grants, militant blacks. The Student's Afro-American Society (SAS) showed its disdain for campus gays in a recent statement to the *Columbia Spectator*:

"SAS resents the classification of itself and other Third-World groups into a make-believe grouping of oppressed minorities along with social misfits such as local campus homosexual groups . . . in a time when black people are working to create a nation of men and women, they don't have time to wallow in the mud with people who cannot decide if they are men or women."

- Fred Setterberg/AFS

Aw, Go Fly Yourself

What is it about airplanes that inspires some of the most blatant and consistent sexism in advertising and marketing?

Perhaps it's that passengers are so utterly powerless, trapped in a contraption nobody really trusts, and which nobody can do a damn thing about in case of a crash. But that's not a role which men in this society are encouraged to adopt, so the airlines thoughtfully provide us fantasies while airborne.

Take Texas' Southwest Airlines, "The Love Airline." This

local company has only been around for a year, but in that time it's been furiously out-grossing its major competitor for the Dallas-Houston shuttle, pink-painted Braniff, which is pretty gross itself.

These folks don't mess around; to train their stewardesses, they hired the woman who trained the Bunny Hostesses on Hugh Hefner's planes. Stock greeting: "Welcome to the love flight. I hope this will be a love affair to remember." And: "Y'all buckle your safety belts and don't you dare get up. We don't want anything happening to you now, because you know we love you."

Southwest doesn't serve any food, however. They figure they'll do better just on drinks, which they bill as "love potions."

"Why don't all the drinkers sit up front and we'll have a party," the stewardesses announce. Need we add that those stewardesses are wearing tangerine hotpants, tight orange sweaters and high white boots?

Although customers are victimized by this pandering insincerity, the brunt of the exploitation, of course, is borne by the stewardesses, whose jobs have been degraded by the airline companies. Only a few years ago, their union won them the right not to smile at every customer. Now, it seems, they must win the right not to appear willing to jump into bed at the drop of an attache case.

Meanwhile, stewardesses on National, the "Fly Me" airline, are beginning to wear buttons that read, "Go Fly Yourself, National."

- Pam and Michael Rosenthal/AFS

THE MAN

by LAUGHN BODE © 72



ALTERNATIVE FEATURES SERVICE

**JES' REMEMBER
SHOOTIN'
POOL
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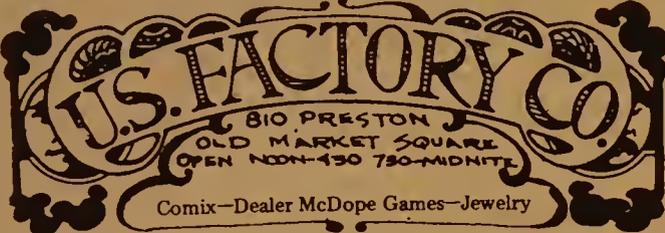
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Child's Play by Robert Marasco. Directed by Beth Sanford. Sets and costumes by Jerry Williams. Lighting by John Hagan and William Trotman. With: Timothy Casey, Woody Eney, William Hardy, William Trotman, George Edeling and John Milford. Presented by The Alley Theatre.

Violence supreme. Blood, mystery, underlying motives. . . yes, even dirty phone calls, are all now on stage at the Alley Theatre. All the supposed elements of a crowd pleaser.

I can only feel: Forget it.

In many ways it actually plagues me to have to feel this way about the show, for it does have some of the better acting I've seen at the Alley in a long, long time. The sets and lighting were fine touches to a somewhat lacking show. But there's the key. The show itself.

To begin with, the script is weak. It's not much more than a cleverly written melodrama. It would have been great as a fifties soap-opera, or a real crowd pleaser in the twenties . . . but not here, not now.

Yes, yes, I know it won a number of Tony awards (either four or five), but then again, the worst of anything wins awards nowadays. In all, the script gave no cohesive momentum to some fairly well turned roles.

Within the play, there was room for all kinds of easily recognizable characters: The saintly, loveable ol' "Prof"; the hard-ass Latin professor, the Headmaster who wishes to preserve his school; the progressive young priest; the young, energetic, former-student-now-teacher (who for some reason always teaches history and physical education); and, of course, the booze-sipping priest for comedy effect.

One can tell that Mr. Marasco watched a helluva lot of movies, taking all the would-be pleasing parts and molding them into one bore of a play.

It's hard to ascertain whether David pulled off the greatest sham in the world on Broadway, or that great acting and highly ingenious directing made the

show such a success originally. Here, it didn't quite click.

The directing seemed to be lacking most of the time. There were nice touches here and there, though. The sinister, rat-like movement of the students throughout the play was effective to a point, and a few other additions with the comedy sections, but not much more.

Bill Trotman was convincing as the seemingly paranoid Latin professor. His final climactic scene with the young teacher, played by Timothy Casey, was reasonably effective in spite of little help from Mr. Casey. Trotman's characterization carried fully through the play, not lagging in places as with some of the other players.

Though in a rather contrived part, Woody Eney was superb as the priest who liked his liquor. His comedy scene with Casey brought much relief to the dragging plot in the second act.

John Milford was the Headmaster. Period. He held his part well throughout the play, but wasn't really given much to work with from the script or the directing.

I can't say to you the show is a complete bust, because of the above mentioned actors' performances. Which is something we need to see a lot more of at our local "rep" theatre, but usually don't. We do have some good actors at the Alley; unfortunately their talent is usually hidden either in bad plays or bad directing, or both.

If you can sit through a boring play, put up with being called back to your seat by ludicrous gongs, and various other "artistic" touches, you'll see some pretty good acting in places.

But if this is the type of theater we are to receive from our professional company, I'd think twice before buying next years season tickets. If you've been saving to go see this show . . . blow it off, and go see *Cookoo's Nest* again.

It's a shame to see good acting wasted.

— Rick Johnson

Joe Pentony

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Cinema

Buck and the Preacher. With Harry Belafonte and Sidney Poitier — a hack's idea of "inspired" casting. They're alike as two Oreos in a box. Coming to the Park I, poor dears, and elsewhere around town. PG

Cabaret. A great, great movie. Intelligent and careful on the outside, the Good Taste doesn't cancel the raw, nerve-racking core — Liza Minnelli in the performance of her life. Also features Joel Grey as the malignant M.C. in a tacky Berlin cabaret, just prior to the rise of Hitler. Do not miss. Windsor, 622-2650. Reserved seats. PG (and not for children)

Chato's Land. A cipher as far as this department is concerned — and probably best left that way. With Charles Bronson and Jack Palance, under the guiding hand of director Michael Winner, this week's nominee for Movie Scourge. Memorial (465-5258), Loew's State (222-2040) and around.

The Culpepper Cattle Co. Just "The Cowboys" with a twist. A dumb and meaningless twist at that. Shamrock Four, 666-1546. PG, and much "guidance" is advised.

Fiddler on the Roof. The kosher weeper. Tower, 523-7301. Reserved seats. G for Gewish.

The French Connection. A hateful fast-ass thriller that just won a bunch of Oscars. (It's also made a ton of money, and the two are not unrelated.) Superbly directed by William Friedkin, but the excellence isn't worth the trouble. With Gene Hackman (also good). Shamrock Four (666-1546) and around. R

Fritz the Cat. The first animated feature to feature an X-rating, and Walt Disney will turn over in his grave if he's really dead. Park II and Park III (522-5632), Bellaire (664-0182), X (NOTE: To save a quarter, students can buy a ticket to the Park I and transfer. It's legal even.)

The Garden of the Finzi-Continis. Vittorio de Sica's finest film in many years, the story of an aristocratic family of Jews whose world pauses, then stops, under pressure from the Mussolini anti-Semitic laws. A sturdy, sensitive tragedy — and a must-see for everyone. Features the great Dominique Sanda. Village, 528-2384. R

The Godfather. Everything you've heard and more. Intelligent and unpatronizing, it still has the raw energy that only American films seem able to capture. Brando is magnificent; Al Pacino even better. Francis Ford Coppola directed. At all four Cinemas: Galleria, 626-4011; Meyerland, 666-0735; Northline, 692-4487; Gulfgate, 644-3806. Better try for a week-night. High prices. R

The Groundstar Conspiracy. Not a thing to recommend this turkey. Around. PG.

The Hospital. Fun trash. Still around, and George C. Scott is still chewing through the dialogue and spitting it out (more than this dialogue deserves). PG

Is There Sex After Death. And who cares? This particular answer is brought to you by the same funsters who began the society to clothe all animals a few years back. Featured put-onners include Holly Woodlawn, Buck Henry, Robert Downey, and the like. Shamrock Four, 666-1546. X



Toz, Mahlon, and Amy enjoy a quiet moment in their pad in a scene from *Eggshells*, a new film by award-winning film maker, Tobe Hooper. There will be a free screening June 8, 3 pm, at the Village Theatre. FREE

The Last Picture Show. Probably the finest American film of 1971, so see it. Peter Bogdanovich directs an exceptionally able cast, including Ellen Burstyn, Ben Johnson and Cloris Leachman. Delman, 529-1257. R

Mary, Queen of Scots. Elizabeth, Queen of England, too. Long, very long. Gaylynn Terrace, 771-1261. Reserved seats. PG

Minnie and Moskowitz. John Cassavetes' latest film, a romance of sorts between Gena Rowlands and Seymour Cassel. Well-played and occasionally charming — still, a little b-o-n-e-s-t, unless you really go for Cassavetes' style of melodrama-with-warts. At the Alabama, 522-1546.

Nicholas and Alexandria. Not a fun couple; visit Minnie and Moskowitz instead. Gaylynn, 771-1261. Reserved seats.

The Nightcomers. No movie with Marlon Brando can be completely uninteresting, although this one comes close. Multicinemmas. R

Oh! Calcutta! A filmed version of the nude revusical still playing in New York. Two shows daily, June 6-8. Park II and III, Bellaire and Memorial. High prices.

Play It Again, Sam. Woody Allen may not be the funniest man alive, but there are times in these laughless days when he seems it. The film version of his Broadway comedy. Galleria Cinema, 626-4011. PG

Skyjacked. A few new tricks, perhaps? Charlton Heston stars. Everywhere. PG

Stanley. Move over, Willard. Around town. PG

Suburban Wives. Just move over. At the River Oaks, 524-2175. R

Too Bad She's Bad. Allesandro Blasetti, founder of the review "Il mondo del cinema" and filmmaker since the silent days, joining forces with Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, neo-realist bedfellow Vittorio de Sica and others. Worth seeing for lots of reasons, not the least of which

is Loren in her days of having exactly two acting assets. They are put to good use. With yet another "Flash Gordon" at the Park III Film Festival, 522-5632. Student discounts. In Italian, with English subtitles.

What's Up Doc? Funny while it lasts, but you walk away with a sour taste in your mouth. Peter Bogdanovich directs Barbra Streisand (fair) and Ryan O'Neal (awful) and a fine crowd of bit players. Town and Country Six, 467-2476. High prices. G

The Yellow Brick Road. As we know it, we don't want to. Three shows every Saturday. Alley Theatre, 228-8421.

Music

Steve Adams. With his twenty piece band, and chorus, and Truett Tidwell synthesizing at the Arp. 8pm, June 2. Houston Room, UH. Ticket Information: 749-3132.

Allman Brothers Band. Presented by Foley's and Southwest Concerts. 8pm, June 11. Hofheinz Pavilion. Ticket Information: 223-4822.

La Bastille
716 Franklin at Old Market Square.
227-3788.

R. B. Greaves. Take A Letter Maria and all that. Three shows nightly through Saturday.

Ray Charles. With his orchestra and the World Famous Raelets. He's awfully good. 8:30pm, June 18. Jones Hall. Ticket Information: 528-7318.

Gospel Soul Train. Featuring The Mighty Clouds of Joy. 3pm, June 4. Coliseum. Ticket Information: 228-0006.

Houston Grand Opera
615 Louisiana. 222-1111.
Spring Opera Festival.

The Elixir of Love. A fine cast and excellent staging of Donizetti's light opera about a spurned lover and a patent medicine salesman. Conducted by Charles Rosekrans. Set in West Texas, of all places, by Stage Director James De Blasis, and it's a fine idea. Starring soprano Ronna Jurow as Adina, William McDonald as good-hearted cowboy Nemorino, John Fiorito (from HGO's glorious production of THE MEDIUM) as Belcore, and rubber faced powerhouse Arnold Voketaitis as Dulcamara. Sets by Peter Heyman and Lights by Robert Brand (stunning). 8:30pm, June 1. Miller Theater. Free.

More music on 18

Theater

Calamity on the Campus, or "The Pot at the End of the Rainbow." Opens at Theatre Suburbia on June 16.

Child's Play. New production of the Broadway success of a season or two ago. Dark Mondays. The Alley Theatre, 228-8421.

Doom, Destruction, White Lightning. New short plays at this fine local theatre. Not recommended for children. 9pm, Fridays and Saturdays. Playwright's Showcase, 524-3168.

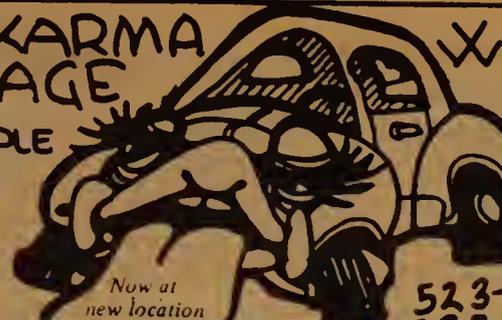
Sir Jack! Resident of Oklahoma! and friend of Dolly!, we have no doubt. World premiere engagement of this musical setting of the Falstaff cycle. August 24 thru September 2, at Theater Under the Stars summer season in Miller Theatre. (!)

Skulduggery in the Sky, or "The Gone Patrol." 9pm, Thurs-Sat. Treehouse Cabaret Theatre, 5900 Bissonnet. For reservations phone 774-8351 after 5pm. All seats \$2.

South Pacific. Miscegenation, dandruff and other pressing problems of the day. July 20-29. Miller Theatre.

Thieves' Carnival. Jean Anouilh's comedy, with some music. 8:30pm, Fridays and Saturdays; 7:30pm, Sundays. Country Playhouse, 467-4497.

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Music Cont. from 17

Postcard from Morocco. A story about some travelers in a train station or health spa with floorshows. By Dominick Argento. The production is imported wholesale from the Minneapolis Center Opera, singer, sets, instrumental soloists and all. Conducted by Phillip Brunelle. Stage Direction by H. Wesley Balk. Sets by Jon Barkla. The cast stars Sarita Roche, Barbara Brandt, Janis Hardy, Yale Marshall, Vern Sutton, Barry Busse, Edward Foreman, Jane Warsaw and Thomas Drake: the roles were written for these players. 8:30pm, June 2-3, Miller Theater. Free.

Jazz Concert. Sponsored by the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, 7:30pm, June 1. Swinney Park, 2900 Cline Street. Free.

Kerrville Folk Festival. Mance Lipscomb, Kenneth Threadgill and many others. 8pm, June 1-3. Kerrville Municipal Auditorium. \$2.50 per person per diem. Tickets at all Sears.

The Old Quarter
 Congress and Austin
 Townes Van Zant, a rare treat, don't miss him, Friday and Saturday; Frank Davis with Daddy Banjo, Sunday; Bruiser Bart and the Dry Heaves, Houston's most bizarre group, Monday. 50¢ cover, \$1.00 on weekends, Houston's funkier bar.

The Mad Dog
 Village Shopping Center (Kirby and Rice) Axis, house band, beer, wine and good vibes.

Sandee's
 South Park and OST
 Leatherwood, Friday and Saturday
 50¢ cover, beer, wine, pool, Sandee

The Gallows Lounge
 Dowling and Cleburne
 The Dynamic Changes (a great band), female impersonators, \$1.00 cover.

Miss Irene's
 Studemont, between Washington and Allen Parkway
 Rocky Hill, Thursday thru Sunday; watch this space for surprises in the future; Rocky has Houston's most exciting band; no cover, beer and wine.

Love Street
 Allen's Landing
 Could somebody from Love Street please call us at Space City! (522-0581) and let us know what's happening.

Continental Showcase
 Scott and Cleburne
 Bobby Womack; a master of soul, June 3; coming soon: Bobby Blue Band.

June 10 - Midnight - Mothers Midnight Media Mix (One hour of live rock and roll simulcast on KIOI and TV Ch.26 - stereo-quality FM - First show tentatively booking "Hack Smack & Glory")

Paintings and Plastics

Contemporary Arts Museum
 3417 Montrose, 526-3129.
TEN. See the artifacts of a dying culture. Rub your nose in nullity. Learn how a few clever incompetents are passing themselves off as artists onto a public too brow-beaten or apathetic to laugh them out of existence.

Museum of Fine Arts
 1001 Bissonnet, 526-3129.
SALUTE TO THE C.A.M. Contemporary art from the Museum's permanent collection, Cullinan Hall, **RODIN.** Sculptures and graphics from the overwrought M. Rodin, Cullinan Hall.

JASPER JOHNS. Lithographs by the man who did a lot more than almost anyone to define the Sixties. Jones, Gallery.

Rice University
 Institute for the Arts
 University at Stockton, 528-4141 ext. 246.

JOE OVERSTREET. A one-man show including 19 canvasses and watercolors. Thru July.

Galleries

ADEPT GALLERY. Luther G. Walker in a one-man show of paintings, poetry and prose. 6-9pm, weekdays; 1-5pm, Sundays. 1317 Binz.

ARTISTS OUTLET COMMUNITY CENTER. Local black artists on the black life-style. Most media, 9-5pm, Mon-Sat. 2603 Blodgett.

BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL. "In the Beginning . . . Blackness." First showing of local black artists in the renovated Deluxe Theater. 3303 Lyons.

CONTRACT GRAPHICS. Paintings by Bob Yoikas. 5116 Morningside, 524-1593.

CRAWFORD GALLERY. Landscapes and still lifes by Rodde and Savin. Sculptures by Choate. 10am-5pm, Tues-Sat., 1100 Bissonnet.

DUBOSE GALLERY. Acrylics by Lamar Briggs. 2950 Kirby, 526-2353.

FERNDALE POTTERY. Handmade stoneware and bronze. 9am-5pm, Mon-Sat. 2902 Ferndale, 528-2796.

FOLEY'S NINTH FLOOR GALLERY. "Americans in Paris" include 150 pieces from the Print Collection of National Library in Paris. Foley's Downtown. 1100 Main.

FRAME FORUM. Prints, odds and ends. Also inexpensive framing services by local artists. 1405 Waugh Dr.

GOOD EARTH GALLERY. A great new gallery featuring Houston artists. The price is right. Hours are 11am-3pm, and 7-10, daily. 508 Louisiana.

HOOKS-EPSTEIN GALLERY. Contemporary graphics by various artists. 1200 Bissonnet, 529-2343.

KIKO GALLERIES. Paintings, drawings, sculpture, etchings and lithographs by Le Corbusier. 410 Lovett, 522-3722.

LATENT IMAGE. Old and new photographs of Houston. A feast for the eye. 1122 Bissonnet, 529-2343.

MATRIX. Featuring five photographers offering a "hodge-podge" of styles. Fairview at Taft.

LONG AND COMPANY. Painting by Marc Moldawer, 1212 San Felipe, 621-7362.

PARKE-BERNET. Movie props from Warner Bros. and Columbia studios. Galleria upper level. 623-0010.

ROBINSON GALLERIES. "Olympic Art 1972." Famed international artists and their concept of the Olympic games. 3220 Louisiana, 528-7674.

All Bromeliad Flower Show. The World Bromeliad Conference: an expose of some of the world's most addicting plants, 1-6pm, June 3, 10am-6pm, June 4, Rice Hotel. Free.

Free Concert!! There will be a free concert this Sunday, June 4, from noon until dark at Hermann Park. Bands to play are Circus, Easy Boy, Deerfield, and Reb Smith. Concert compliments of Ark Rock.

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WOULD LIKE TO BUY two Rolling Stones tickets. Flew in from Oregon but tickets were all sold when I got here. Will pay up to \$10 a ticket. Please friends, help me out. I would, greatly appreciate it. Call 353-5655. Ask for Patty.

SURROUNDED by the same people everyday. This incarceration is very unbearable without communications. If you are concerned please write Carlos Lamont Manuel, 18410-101, Box 1500 El Reno, Oklahoma, 73036.

CHEAPEES & FREEBEEES SALE, Sat. June 3. Leaving for Europe & selling everything — stereos, records, pots 'n pans, furniture, clothes, etc. **VOTE** then come by for wine. 600 Bomar St. Apt. 18. Steve Mann.

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CINDY BRODIN; GINGER BRODIN or ALEX STANDISH - or anyone who knows them- please contact Mike Fleming, 19567, El Reno Federal Reformatory, Box 1500, El Reno, Ok. 73036.

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in which the names of the inmates in solitary is recorded. For the month of November, 41 of the inmates in solitary were non-Cruz clients; 12 were clients of Mrs. Cruz.

During cross-examination the warden denied allegations from a series of witnesses that he had ever kicked an inmate, ordered an inmate to be kicked, ordered an inmate to be icebagged, kept any inmate in solitary over 15 days, punished inmates caught in a homosexual act by making them stand in the hallway in front of the dining hall, holding each other's penises in their hands, or shot three inmates who attempted to escape and then placed them in front of the dining room where other inmates would have to walk through a pool of blood.

McAdams called Fred Cruz "the whole, sole cause of the trouble at the Wynne Unit. He is the instigator of the trouble, the inmates have been drilled and drilled by Fred Cruz," he said.

Beto testified for more than three hours describing Cruz as a

"non-conformist who looked at other people as being stupid." Beto said he met Fred Cruz 10 years ago when he became director of the TDC. He said Cruz had an "insolent attitude" and "refused to conform to rules."

"I tried to counsel him to avail himself of the opportunities of education. I tried to help him," Beto said. He added that Cruz ignored his advice.

Beto rejected allegations offered by numerous witnesses that building tenders exercised guard functions and carried black jacks and other weapons. "Guards themselves are not armed," he said. He vehemently denied that brutality was permitted and said that while building tenders sometimes break up fights they use only their hands.

Beto said he first became disturbed about Mrs. Cruz when she wrote him a letter Jan. 1, 1968. The letter, read during cross-examination, acknowledged cordial treatment by prison officials when Mrs. Cruz visited the women's unit at Huntsville.

The letter, read in part, "whatever I saw was pleasing (though I imagine some areas of the

prison not open to the public are not so pleasing.)"

Beto claimed no part of the Goree Unit or any other prison is not open to inspection by touring groups or individuals. (These tours were labeled "a farce" by many of the previous inmate witnesses.)

He stated Mrs. Cruz's visits to the prison were "very numerous" compared to other lawyer-client relationships, "that she spent unusual periods of time alone in a room with Cruz and that the wardens complained that she was a disturbing influence on the prisoners.

Beto, scheduled to retire as director in August, spent most of his time on the stand defending his administration. He said he has upgraded the standards for prison employes and instituted training and education programs for the inmates. "My philosophy of prison administration in Texas is three-pronged: work, discipline and education."

Defense attorney Bill Kilgarlin during cross-examination attacked Beto's attitude and manner of dealing with Mrs. Cruz, saying Beto resented her criticism of his administration and her filing

suits attacking the department's policies. When pressed, Beto could not cite any proof that Mrs. Cruz had instigated or caused any incident of violence.

Kilgarlin also implied that Beto's main function is as a lobbyist and politician with the legislature and that he carries favor with state bar officials.

The defense attorney quoted from a television program suggesting Beto has a reactionary attitude toward "liberal do-gooders." Beto has said, he testified, that "some do-gooders have criticized us for using inmates for stoop labor. I said that less than 3,000 are doing this and a good many tax payers in this state are engaged in stoop labor."

Judge Bue, before he took the case under advisement, indicated he intended to write a fairly broad opinion with an encompassing analysis of the prison system.

Defense attorneys said, after the trial, they felt good. "We found so many loop-holes, so many fallacies in the prosecution's case, that we feel optimistic," Kilgarlin said. "What we hope for is an indictment of the prison system. That is what the evidence warrants."

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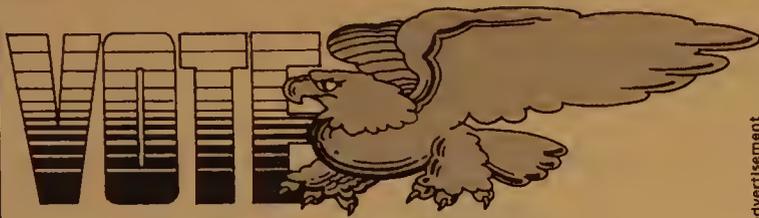
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bile dealers and garage mechanics; environmental management; and a comprehensive park plan for the Houston area.

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Letters

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Thanks From Behind the Walls

People of Space City!

Many thanks for sending me Space City! It's great to be able to read a peoples' paper instead of the bullshit you get in the establishment papers. Thanks for sending us a little freedom. They may be able to confine my body but never my mind.

I'm doing time for possession and just bein' a dirty no-good dope-takin'-hippie-troublemaker.

Thanks for your help and I hope that everyone is in the best of health and spirits.

Peace,
Kevin

Politics and Prophecy

Greetings!

It is a pleasure to keep you informed regarding fulfillment of Bible prophecy, enabling many to correctly know in advance, even to keep abreast of our times, that which Almighty God has written in His Word for our instruction, admonition, wisdom.

Until the two time periods given in Daniel 12 are understood, the Book of Daniel is sealed. "Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end." V.9. The end of the days of this present age, as well as the beginning of the age ahead, is Sept. 17, 18, 1972. "And except those days should be shortened," Mat. 24:22.

(There are two groups of people, one called the children of the Spirit, and the other the children of the flesh. The fruits of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; the works of the flesh are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, revelings, lasciviousness, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness. Without the Spirit the body is dead as one walks around in the flesh. Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.)

For many years I have written that Lyndon Baines Johnson is the abomination that maketh desolate. This declaration is charged against me on court records. We shall learn shortly just who is crazy . . . who is right . . . who is wrong. I claim I am right and that records against me shall be cleared. Just because Johnson has again been stricken ill is no reason for me to stop seeking justice.

I wrote him in June, 1955, admonishing him concerning his handling of the Texas Gulf oil situation; he suffered his first heart attack July 2, 1955, then when President his second attack, now he is hospitalized with the third. And he had just bought a new plane. Now none of the wicked shall understand what I am saying; but the wise shall understand. Be wise.

"And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days." Dan. 12:11. On May 16, 1960 I was taken away illegally on order of the late President Eisenhower. On Nov. 27, 28, 1963, Johnson was set up in the White House as President, replacing Kennedy. Johnson was replaced with Nixon Jan. 21, 1969. The following period of time ends Sept. 17, 18, 1972: "Blessed is he that waiteth and cometh to the thousand three hundred

and five and thirty days." Dan. 12:12. There are now less than five months to wait, watch and pray.

Has the question: "Is Barnes a Bastard" yet been answered? (Space City, Mar. 16-22, 1972, Letters, p.2) Johnson receives everything printed wherein his name appears. Although his money can work for him, because of his present condition he cannot work physically via public appearances supporting Barnes' candidacy for Governor of Texas May 6, 1972 Democratic Primary . . . for "his boy" whom he said could have anything he, Johnson, has.

Regarding the governorship of Texas, presently I think it wise for Smith to win the Democratic Primary in May, 1972 . . . after Sept. 18, 1972 we shall see . . . there shall be great changes before final election in Nov., 1972. It is written: "Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy." Isa. 54:16.

I told Smith some years ago it might be possible for him to become this smith. How long is it going to take Texas to wake up and examine the mind and works of Lyndon Baines Johnson and recognize the plot laid to damage the reputations of existing State officials, exception being Benjamin Barnes, in order for Johnson to regain control of Texas held previously by him . . . how Sharp was used and promised immunity . . . traps set for the unsuspecting officials, then sprung, resulting in distrust for government and officials; whereas the example that Johnson set, rising from poor boy-status as a W.P.A. employee to unestimated wealth now, seemed to be the correct course to follow in Johnson's footsteps.

Not only is Johnson the abomination that maketh desolate, but he is Lucifer in person, even the modern king of Babylon, and regarding him it is written: "The LORD hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the sceptre of the rulers." (On March 25, 1968, at the University of Texas, I prophesied via television that Johnson would not run again, and was heartily laughed at in scorn; on March 30, 1968 he startled the world by his announcement he would not run again. Of course, he traded with Nixon for certain favors, including the choice of John Connally for U.S. Treasury, putting himself in a good position to learn of future plans regarding the manipulation of the U.S. dollar, thus profiting on the market, I believe. And is Johnson's Great Society still continuing under various guises?)

(Really the Great Society was not and is not his original plan. The basis for same is traced back to Weishaupt [Spartucus] centuries ago naming six abolitions, such as: abolition of government, family ties, property ownership, religion, education, etc., for one world-government, one man over all; this is the exact opposite to God's plan that the seed of David sit on David's throne for ever, even a thousand generations being admonished to see to it that the true seed rules . . . less than 150 generations have passed since the time of David, so there are over 850 generations yet to be lived . . . we have reached the end of this age, but not the end of the last generation . . . youth will mature, bring forth offspring, have grandchildren and even great grandchildren, etc.)

"He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that

Cont. on next page



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Chatter



Platter

by John M. Lomax

NEW YORK — What exciting things have we done in the Big Apple? Well, last Saturday we headed for Greenwich Village, fabled mecca for the beat era cats who like dug it there in the late fifties madness when hip, coffeehouse, pad and pot made a strong grab for the nation's media. Or was it vice versa?

Today, the Village is a less chic address, though many clubs and fine shops dot the scene. Much of the action in the intervening years shifted to the East Village. Then, when speed, heroin and their attendant furors got the area in a choke hold, those who could, split, and dispersed themselves throughout the area.

The Soho area has become a capital for artists and has a delightful market and open air flavor to it. Soho stands for South Houston, which in this city is pronounced *Hou-ston*, as if to remind you that you are in New York. And Jersey is called Joysee.

We stopped one night at the Village Gaslight to hear Mike Seeger. The club is an Old Quarter-sized cellar — stone walls, funky tables, but without the OQ's rococco collection of bric-a-brac. Mike and wife Alice perform together on a variety of instruments, singing forgotten songs from years past. They sing real folk music, as ethnic as you'd want anyone to be (not as authentic as a black sharecropper, perhaps, but they are two very real, unpretentious folk). Tunes like "Blues in a Bottle," "Miner's Prayer," and "Sunny Side of Life" were dished out with Mike either on fiddle, guitar or autoharp, while Alice's 12-string kept a smooth drive. Mike also handles dulcimer, banjo and mandolin when he is of a mind, and he sings beautifully — the result of a performing career going back prior to even his 1962 gig with the New Lost City Ramblers.

A 1972 Arhoolie release, *Strange Creek Singers* (Box 9195, Berkeley, Calif. 94709) presents the Seegers with Hazel Dickens, Lamar Grier and Tracy Schwarz, performing 14 diverse country songs from sources like the Blue Sky Boys, George Roark, Harlan Howard and the Luvin Brothers, along with their own work. Mike also has a record called *Music From True Vine* on Mercury with a batch more things like, "Don't Let Your Deal Do Down," "Old Grey Mare," "Gambling Man" and "Black Is The Color Of My True Love's Hair." If you like traditional songs performed authentically, then Mike Seeter would bear investigation.

I was treated to lunch by Martin Last, real nice fellow with RCA who took me to the Haymarket, said to be the favorite pub of the Kinks' Ray Davies who, as legend and fact have it, has crawled through more than a few. The folks at RCA are justifiably proud of David Bowie's new album provocatively titled, *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and The Spiders From Mars*. David has had a long per-

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ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth." Isa. 14:6. What is happening to Johnson now is what has happened to others who have dared contend with me, for the promise of the LORD to me is: "for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children." Isa. 49:25. "And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh (cancer); and they shall be drunken with their own blood (heart attacks, strokes), as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I am the LORD which is thy Saviour and thy Redeemer (Jesus), the mighty One of Jacob."

When Johnson is laid down, this will happen: "The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing. Isa. 14:7-8. Read on how such a one shall be as a carcass trodden under foot, not be joined with them in burial. V.19. (Does this mean a plane explosion?) The reason given is this explanation: "because thou (John-

son) hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people (youth sent into Vietnam, etc.): the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned." Also, whole Palestina (Israeli) . . . the dissolution of same is at hand, with a mighty earthquake due to lay Jerusalem in heaps . . . the proposed temple will be built in America. Isa. 14:29-31.

Youth today are seeking the answer. Here is the answer: "What shall one then answer the messengers of the nation? That the LORD hath founded Zion, and the poor of his people shall trust in it." And Zion is a woman, a seed from David, sitting on her hill of Zion on Highway 290, Brenham, Texas, awaiting the coming of her children to learn truth that makes free!

My desire: To establish a worthy colony. "That the land, which thou esteemedst above all other, might receive a worthy colony of God's children." Wisdom of Solomon 12:7.

Truthfully,
Johnnie Mae Hackworthe
P.O. Box 1146
Brenham, Tex. 77833

forming background, including saxophone, acoustic guitar, mime troupe and now electric ax. Regular readers of these ramblings will recall a favorable review of *Hunky Dory*, David's last disc. I'll be masticating *Ziggy* for awhile, and will emit pertinent comment at a later date.

The next few months will see RCA releasing goodies like a new Kinks double with a live disc and a new studio side. John Denver and Nilsson have things ready for midsummer and Jukink Bone is working for a summer release for his own second LP.

Rumor has it that the Airplane is working on something, but no one seems to know much about it; indeed, members of the band themselves are often surprised to find a new release at the stores. Joey Covington has left, however, to drum for Peter Kaukonen, who is Jorm's brother and hard at work on his own debut album.

Lou Reed, core of the Old Velvet Underground, will be touring soon. He's in rehearsal now under the wings of Fred Heller, who also handles BS&T. *Lou Reed*, the albu, is doing well both commercially and critically. And Elvis is coming to Houston for three days, but neither Space City! nor myself had the \$120,000 needed to obtain an interview.

Got the new Stones album today. It's quite a lavish package: two records, many photos, my favorite of which is a shot of Mick and Keith in the studio laying down vocal tracks, Keith clutching a beer and Mick gently cradling an empty pint of Old Grandad. There are more pics jammed on the sleeves of the records and 12 postcards sequentially detailing a disastrous episode in the quintet's exciting lives. Bobby Key, Jim Price and N. Hopkins were around for the sessions and there are guest appearances from Shirley Goodman, Dr. John, Billy Preston, Kathi McDonald, producer Jimmy Miller and ever present Ian Stewart.

I'll have a thorough review later; after one listening, all I can say is that *Exile On Main Street* has more rock and less blues than *Sticky Fingers*. The vocals retain their muddy, murky quality and indeed, Mick's lyrics are often unintelligible. Since when has that handicapped a rock singer?

Tonight I'm sitting at a table next to the New York Times critic named — you won't believe me — John Wilson. Same name as the two John Wilsons who scribble for the Houston Chronicle. We're at Max's Kansas City listening to George Gerdes, a young single songwriter with a fine first album, *Obituary*, currently available on United Artists.

George is quite a clean cut fellow with blondish hair, long only by Army standards, and clad in jeans and pink T-shirt.

*But the present keeps coming
And the future's just past . . .*

Delivered via six steel strings and an unamplified Gibson. In a strained sweet tenor he renders his songs.

*I'm a beast
But I couldn't be cruel to ya . . .*

Plaintive, S's sizzling off his tongue in a whiney moan with lots of bent lower chords and much head turning, grimaces and humming. There were 100 or so packed into the upstairs portion of Max's, originally famous as the Velvet Underground's chosen haunt.

Mellow, small-pronged, smooth-barbed melodies flow from those choriboy features as he sings of Vietnam and other horrors in vulnerable counterpoint to the terror of the subject.

*I don't know why the world turned out this way.
Why folks like him should die,
While I just sit and play . . .*

He sang a fine new song, "Cold Catechism Blues," with a stinging rhythm and his own harp mounted to his jaw with wire, ala Dylan. We also heard about his "Aztec Two-Step," written while he awaited repair of his bus at the hands of a crazed band of Mexican guerrillas. George engaged in a minimum of audience chitchat between numbers even though the crowd, who had come primarily to hear the headlining White Cloud, was getting off to him well. He's a promising talent who I hope to interview for Space City! later this week.

Platter Chatterer John Lomax is playcationing in New York. His regular patter will return soon to these pages.

SPACE CITY!

Collective: Karen Northcott, Thorne Dreyer, Victoria Smith, Noelle Kanady. **Advertising:** John Lomax, Tary Owens, Jane Polaski, Steven Moffitt. **News:** Victoria Smith, Karen Northcott. **Arts:** Alex Stern. **Distribution:** Steven Moffitt. **Office Manager:** Ann Jorjorian. **Production:** Ernie Shawver, Noelle Kanady. **Art:** Dennis Kling. **Staff:** Pearl Chason, Eddy Reed, Trey Wilson, Gary Chason, John Goodwin, John Carroll, Jerry Sebesta, Ron Young, Ann Jorjorian, Susan Montgomery, Henry Fernandez, Clarence Kemp, Robert

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SPACE CITY! is owned and operated by the Lyman Padde Educational Project, Inc., a non-profit corporation. It is published every Thursday. Mailing address is P.O. Box 70086, Houston, Texas 77007. Member Underground Press Syndicate (UPS), subscriber to Liberation News Service (LNS), Alternative Features Service (AFS), Dispatch News Service (DNSI), and the Pacific News Service. Subscription rates are \$7.50 a year (\$5 for GIs), \$4 for six months, free to prisoners. Advertising rates on request. Single copy price 25 cents, 35 cents out of town.

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