

# GRASSROOTS

A BERKELEY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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BERKELEY, CA 94704

WALLER PRESS 192

OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 6, 1973

VOL. 2, NO. 5

25¢



New Alta Bates structures contrast sharply with adjacent residential area.

## TAX LIMITATION — REAGAN'S DOUBLETALK

In 1960, Proposition 1, the California Water Plan, passed in a statewide election, with results that are disastrous for generations of Californians. On November 6 there is a special election for another Proposition 1, Reagan's Tax Limitation Initiative, with results that could be equally disastrous. Barely any campaigning has been visible, but the election is a crucial one.

The tax initiative was placed on the ballot as an effort to resolve the fighting and bickering that has gone on in Sacramento for years over state tax reform, and as a political ploy of Governor Reagan's. Last spring, the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee killed Reagan's tax limitation proposal, so the Governor organized a campaign which collected the necessary 520,000 signatures to qualify the initiative for the ballot. In a vote which is supposed to "let the people decide," and give Reagan a boost for the presidency, very few people seem to know the issues involved.

### PROVISIONS

The initiative is an attempt to radically revamp the state tax and expenditure structure, in a conservative direction. These are the main provisions:

**Expenditure ceiling.** The most crucial part of the initiative is a formula which limits state expenditures collected from tax revenues to their present percentage of state personal income, and that this percentage will decline by one-tenth of one percent per year. Presently expenditures is about 8.3% of personal income, will be 8.2% the following year, and continue declining until the figure is 7%, when the legislature can vote to keep the level constant.

**Income tax reduction.** Starting 1974, state income taxes will be reduced by 7½%.

**Referendum for increases.** Majority vote of the people in a statewide election would be necessary to increase the overall limitation established by the initiative.

**2/3 vote requirement.** To institute a new tax or change a rate in any current tax, or for local government to enact an income tax, a 2/3 vote of the legislature is required rather than the present majority.

**Property tax limits.** Tax rate limits will be established for localities, which can be raised or lowered by vote of the people, or 4/5 of the local governing board.

—Other provisions include current credit on income taxes, provision for tax refunds, and creation of an emergency state fund, should the limitation cause severe shortages.

The proposal will make a mess out of

the few progressive measures which exist in the state. State colleges and university budgets will be severely hit, with stiff tuition making up the difference. (Tuition is one form of the "user charges" which will proliferate if the initiative passes, a form of revenue collection Reagan's conservative advisors favor.) Health, welfare spending, and spending for schools will be cutback. Local government will be impaired, since 68.5 percent of the state budget involves local assistance payments.

### LOCAL BURDEN

The result would be that local governments will have to take up the burden, through increased property taxes or user charges, with local income taxes as a possibility. Basically, that means the tax structure will become more regressive; that is, progressive state income taxes will be diminished and will be replaced by more regressive taxes. And poor communities will be even more strapped for resources than ever.

Supporters of the tax initiative include Bank of America, Standard Oil, the State Chamber of Commerce, the California Real Estate Association, and Reagan's Southern California wealthy political cronies. An advisory committee wrote the proposal, with William Niskanen, Professor of Public Policy at Cal, former Defense Department and Office of Management and Budget economist, as the primary architect. Niskanen is a traditional conservative, and his ideas have some merit, particularly his belief that the statewide referendum process be used more often (his slogan is "let the people decide," reminiscent of the early days of SDS). But the real result of the program is to benefit the wealthy at the expense of the poor.

Just about every prominent Democrat in the state opposes the initiative, as does labor, the League of Women Voters, the League of California Cities and other moderate civic groups. However, the real political background to the initiative must lie with the liberals failure to bring about real tax reform, and real changes in the government subsidy and support system to business that presently dominates state politics. If the Democrats had really fought to close tax loopholes, reform the local tax system, and end subsidies to business such as the Highway building program and the water plan, their backs wouldn't be up against the wall. So vote against the initiative, but don't blame it all on Reagan.

—Lenny Goldberg

## BATEMAN NEIGHBORHOOD VS. DOCTORS' LAND GRAB

by Sheila Daar

It was a rainy fall day back in 1966 when my neighbor, Carolyn Strauss, appeared on the doorstep with a petition for me to sign. Carolyn was spearheading an effort to get our neighborhood down-zoned to "R-1, Single Family Dwellings Only," in the hopes both of countering large-scale purchases of neighborhood houses by real estate speculators and doctors looking for a tax deduction, as well as bringing some sort of halt to the dangerous traffic which was flooding our narrow streets.

The neighborhood responded positively to the petition, and there followed the by now familiar rigamarole of appearing at innumerable city hearings, collecting letters of support and lobbying Planning Commissioners and City Council members. After many months of persistent effort we finally received the coveted "R-1" zoning for the part of our neighborhood lying south of the hospital, becoming, along with a tiny area around Sacramento Street, the only flatlands neighborhood to enjoy zoning prohibiting commercial development. (The Berkeley Hills, of course, was, and is, virtually all zoned R-1.)

Happy as we were with the down-zoning, many of us came out of the zoning fight with a real sense of foreboding. For during the course of the various hearings we had attended, it became increasingly evident that the zoning issue was just a skirmish in a larger

battle shaping up over who was going to control land use in the neighborhood. And with this realization came the knowledge that we weren't up against just any old real estate developers. We were taking on *doctors!* And together with their corporate manifestation, Alta Bates Hospital, it was clear that they were going to marshal all the moral authority of the medical profession to win their way in the neighborhood.

Sure enough, soon after the down-zoning we got wind of Alta Bates'

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plans to completely replace their existing facility with a massive new complex of buildings which would require the closing of already overburdened streets and destruction of scores of homes. These plans were, of course, drawn up without consultation with the neighborhood, and our inquiries into the specifics of the plans were met alternately with token meetings and glib reassurances by the hospital's P.R. man, and, when we weren't satisfied with that, hostile rebuffs. It became the hospital's (and later the real-estate-owning doctors') tactic to

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## go to court with BTU oct. 23

On September 1, 1970, a three-year contract between Premium Realty and Berkeley Tenant's Union #7 went into effect. Under this contract the tenants themselves took on the responsibilities of managing the properties — collecting rents, making repairs, maintaining the properties, and filling vacancies in Union houses. During this three year period the Union has never failed to meet a rent

payment (three year total — over \$100,000).

The contract expired on August 31 of this year. Richard Bachenheimer, manager of Premium Realty, has refused to negotiate a new contract with us. He would prefer to deal with each unit individually. Since we have refused to sign individual leases, Bachenheimer has

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Berkeley Tenants Union No. 7 starts cooking.

photo by Pat Goudvis

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Published twice a month; 2022 Blake Street, Berkeley, Ca. 94704; Subscription price \$5.00 per year. Send Subscription and address changes to: P.O. Box 274, Berkeley, Ca. 94701, or phone 524-1203. Second class postage paid at Berkeley, Ca.

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## tell reagan "no" november 6

Proposition 1, the Reagan tax limitation initiative, will result in cutbacks in health, education, social welfare programs, and the university system. It will bring high tuition to the universities, nice tax breaks for the wealthy, and severely strain local governments, especially in poorer communities. It's a political ploy of Governor Reagan to show the rest of the country that he can implement "reform," but he'll be off and running for president before the disastrous effects of these reforms have become clear. Good timin', Guv.

Some of the credit for this one should go to the Democrats, since they've failed to bring about the real tax reforms that could have headed off Cowboy Reagan at the Death Valley pass. But we have to join with them this time around, at least in voting down Proposition 1 overwhelmingly.

Everyone should also work to get the vote out — the special election assures a low voter turnout, and conservatives tend to turn out in greater numbers at such elections. Remember Proposition 1 in 1960: if you liked the California Water Plan, you'll love the Tax Limitation Initiative. (See article for a more complete analysis.)

## LETTERS TO THE COLLECTIVE

Dear Grassroots People,

Your paper is better than *ever*. The articles are clear (in meaning and in lay-out), they are factual, and *not* too long. It's fine to find out what is going on in the city council, Co-op, schools, parks, transit, etc. I like the reports on community events, KPFA, movies, council meetings and hope they will be in every issue. Can you please *add* something? Could you try to let us know what Dellums thinks and what his staff is doing?

Love,  
Ruth Burleigh

To the collective:

Verbal abuse of minority city council members in Berkeley and deprivation of their appointive rights and privileges recalls a similar conditions in my native city during the Russian Revolution.

The mayor and Tsarist city council of Verkelevsk on the Siberian coast had systematically refused representation on the various boards, commissions, and commissariats to the Armenians, Yakuts, and other minority groups and impoverished peasants of Slavic origins. Trotsky, aware of conditions, sent me to Verkelevsk with an elite platoon of the Siberian Rifles in civilian clothes to lodge with the peasants in the city's western flatlands. I was ordered to resist the reactionary political terrorism by any means necessary.

Avoiding unproductive violence or brainless sabotage, I openly organized and trained committees paralleling the commissions, boards, or commissariats of the Tsarist municipal government — even including an unofficial city council. We operated much like the Committees of Correspondence developed during the early months of the American Revolution by Tom Paine and Samuel Adams and the Jacobin Clubs in France prior to Napoleon. We soon developed tremendous underground support from an amorphous underground guerrilla horde controlled by the diabolical Mongolian genius, Darmi Baaloff.

The provincial governor, Prince Ronaldon Reganov, alerted to his danger, surrounded Verkelevsk with a division of Cossack cavalry and occupied the strategic city locations. Meanwhile Trotsky himself had established a personal listening post on the main avenue disguised as a street peddler. Prince Reganov never knew how the officers of his division had been supplanted by revolutionary personnel as Trotsky has described in his own *History*

Grassroots cherishes letters from the readers. Letters should be typewritten and double-spaced. Address them to: P.O. Box 274, Berkeley 94701.

*of the Russian Revolution.*

The Red Banner was raised over the Municipal Building and Reganov's soldiers either came over to Trotsky or deserted. Trotsky went to another front, taking the guerrilla leader, Baaloff as an aide, and leaving sufficient reliable troops to enable me to conduct a temporary military government.

Prince Reganov was shot attempting to escape in women's clothes but I arrested and imprisoned the counter-revolutionary Mayor, Varen Videnerion. The renegade city councilmen, Ramzoi and Vill Svnevitich, escaped into Manchuria with millions of rubles stolen from the city treasury.

The Kerensky Archives in the Hoover War Memorial Library at Stanford document the foregoing incident which is part of my forthcoming book, *Military Government During Revolution*.

Zsrls Dorski  
Former Lieutenant  
Third Siberian Rifles

Dear friends in the community,

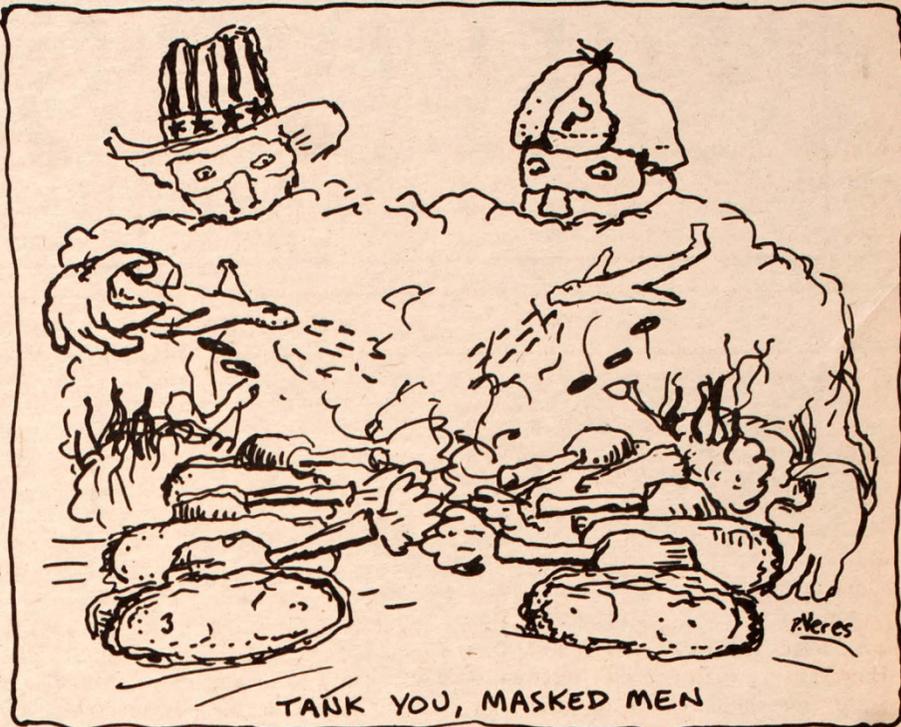
This summer, California growers, Teamster officials, and government authorities joined in an attempt to wipe out the United Farmworkers Union. Many newspapers reported the death of the union, as early as last spring. But thousands of farmworkers responded by staging the most widespread strike in farm labor history, to show that they would not let their union be destroyed.

Now, the harvest is nearly over, and the focus of the struggle shifts from the fields to the stores where struck products are being sold. From now until Thanksgiving is when most grapes come on the market. We must make sure that those products are not sold, to show the growers that they have no chance of outlasting the striking workers.

We need people to help us picket Safeway. We need people to check the stores in their neighborhoods. If you, our friends in the community, do not help to do these things, they will not get done. If you can help in any way, please call the Oakland office at 444-6008.

Also, please continue to boycott grapes, Safeway, Gallo wine (all wines in Modesto are Gallo), and Franzia Bros. and White River wines.

—the Oakland boycott staff



## KELLEY QUITS COMMITTEE

I resign from the City Council Committee on Appointments. My resignation is simply a recognition that the Council majority has excluded me from any role in appointing board and commission members. I participated fully in the meetings and interviews led by the appointments committee, but my views were ignored.

I am a member of a minority on the Council . . . in fact, a member of three minorities: I am an Asian, a woman, and my political views are not those of the Council majority. I represented a minority position on the Appointments Committee and I accepted the fact that the majority would make most of the appointments. I did not and do not accept the fact that those I represent, Asians and progressives, are now systematically excluded from participation in the City's boards and commissions. My further participation in the Appointments Committee would only legitimize a process which is not, I think,

in the interests of Berkeley's voters.

The Council increasingly relies on boards and commissions for information and recommendations because the Council needs informed and expert advice. But the process of obtaining this advice is subverted if minority points of view are not represented on the commissions. The City's advisory agencies need to present the views of a cross section of the voters, not just those of a narrow, partisan group.

I shall ask the City Council to pass legislation specifying that commissions and boards represent, proportionally, all of the Council members. If the Council refuses, then an initiative will be necessary.

I ask that Berkeley citizens who wish to see their boards and commissions reflect the entire community join with me in urging the Council majority to guarantee fair representation on appointed bodies.

Ying Lee Kelley

## TUNING IN ON KPFA

*Grassroots is featuring articles on the problems and direction of community radio station KPFA. This issue of Grassroots presents questions regarding KPFA's responsibility for Third World programming and hiring.*

Last month when Marcus Wilcher, the chairman of Community Coalition for Media Change, petitioned the FCC to deny KPFA's broadcasting license on behalf of KPFA's own volunteer Third World Communications Project, most friends of KPFA screamed treason. They argued if the Third World volunteers caused the station to shut down, everyone would lose. Third World demands could not be met by a non-existent station and the other important broadcasting provided by KPFA would cease.

### DISCRIMINATION CLAIMED

Third World Communications Project (TWCP) volunteers argue that KPFA's management has avoided its responsibility for years. They point to KPFA's "shameful record" in hiring. "KPFA has never hired a Third World person to a fulltime position and presently has only one parttime Third World person on its staff (Roland Young)." Since June of 1972, KPFA has hired 12 white staff members. None of these positions were offered to Third World people, although qualified applicants were available, including one for the position of station manager. According to TWCP, the current station manager Roger Pritchard, despite his lack of experience in radio broadcasting, a white male, was hired by Pacifica to avoid the real problems facing the station. TWCP had encouraged the hiring of Raul Torres, a KPFA volunteer with media experience.

TWCP described months of presenting suggestions and demands to the station's

management and local Advisory Board. Although encouraged to negotiate by the Advisory Board, management refused to bargain in good faith.

### TWCP DEMANDS

While TWCP recognizes that the maze of monetary and technical problems which face KPFA, plus the absence of established democratic operating procedures, create an almost impossible situation for the staff and volunteers, they maintain management is the chief obstacle to the settlement of their demands. They believe a sympathetic station manager could quickly negotiate a settlement of their demands, which are summarized in a July 1973 press release: (1) The Third World Project should become a department with three fulltime paid positions, 25 hours a week of air time and full access to all station facilities. (2) There should be active recruitment and training of Third World people with the goal of filling 5 fulltime positions (including the Third World Department positions). (3) The Third World Department should be solely responsible for the recruitment and hiring of its staff.

### KPFA CONDEMNED

TWCP says their demands are negotiable. They are surprised, angry and frustrated at the insensitivity and reactionary position of KPFA's management. After more than a year of speaking to deaf ears, they have concluded that any station which cannot meet the modest and just demands of Third World people should not receive the support of the Bay Area's left community. The inability of KPFA to meet basic Third World needs is reason enough to deny the station's right to exist.

Next issue: management responds.

—Doug Brown

# nakadegawa reports

Last issue I discussed the Transbay Terminal. Here are several more items which I believe are of interest to Grassroots readers: Affirmative action, large car purchase community relations in regards to driver security, and Dial-a-bus.

In reference to the first, Affirmative Action, I've been conferring with the staff and urging them to come up with an Affirmative Action policy in writing so that we can publicly state that we are a responsible public agency. In June when the AC Board agreed to send our community relations employee back East to a conference on civil rights and equal employment, I made an amendment motion that the staff formulate an affirmative action program within six months after this conference. This amendment failed by a close 3 to 4 vote. However, we have finally received a report from the staff with concurrence by the full board that a formal program will be presented to the next Personnel Committee, probably in November. We hope AC Transit will have an Affirmative Action Program by the end of the year.

## BIG CARS WASTE FUEL

The large car (full-size sedan) purchase was a big SNAFU. The area dealer couldn't deliver the full-size sedan with the small V-8 engine, so he delivered cars with the larger engines at the same price. They are identical to the Dodge Polaris the Highway Patrol uses on our freeways. The staff, before accepting deliver, wanted the Board's decision. As before, I voiced my objection to the purchase of such large cars because they waste fuel energy and cost more initially to operate. Further, very seldom had I seen more than the driver in these cars, and under emergency situations an intermediate size car can hold six people for a short trip. The weight of a car to the amount of fuel used in on about direct proportion, and on release the smaller car would probably be in greater demand. The vote on this was 6 to 1.

## DRIVER SECURITY

Community relations in regard to driver security was the item I brought up in the interview with Grassroots several months ago. The staff has begun to think of ways to implement its community relations program oriented to young people who have assaulted and threatened bus drivers. The 1972-3 budget contained an item, proposed by the staff, of about \$48,000 for security personnel to prevent violence. I overlooked this item when I voted to approve the budget, and perhaps was remiss. (Is there someone who could assist me in reviewing and scrutinizing the budget and such matters as they come

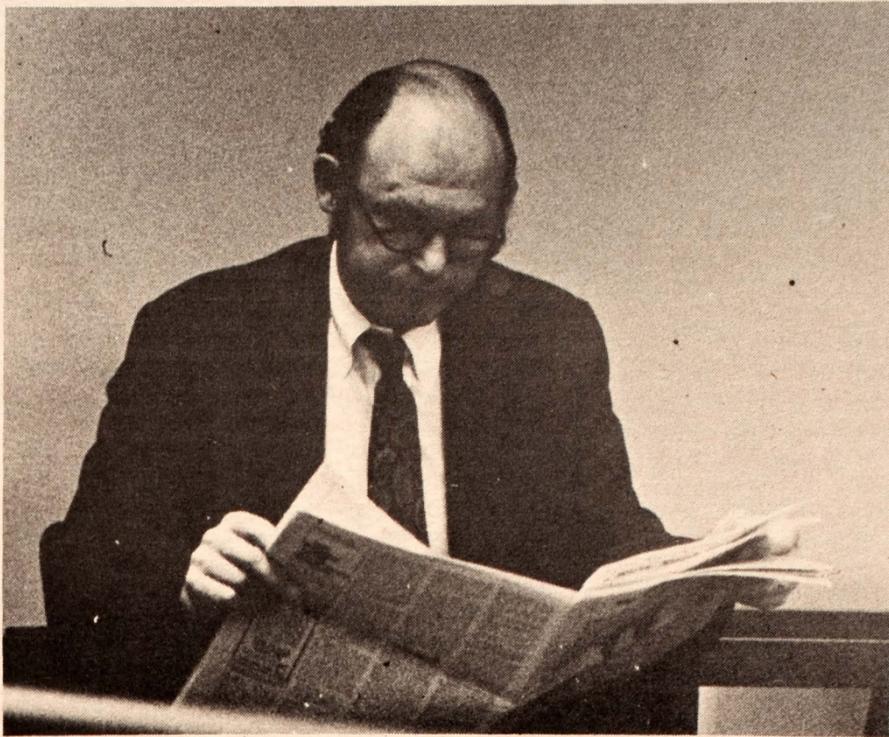
up? I will welcome such help.) In concert with the use of security officers, the staff suggests working through neighborhood improvement associations, having employees participate more in community affairs, having employees work with youth groups such as Little League teams, and training employees to respond to the public in a positive, friendly way. I feel, however, that while the program has merit and should be followed through on, most of the suggestions will not touch the people creating our problems; that is, the young adults who are down and out, against society, and take out their hostility on anyone who is at hand. My fear is that a program which is destined to fail will not only lose its funding but will result in the Board's cutting bus service on those areas where the most incidents of violence occur — the very areas where public transit is needed the most. The problem is how to transmit this awareness and knowledge to the public that public transit is there to serve the people. I suggested that our community relations program be oriented to service groups at grassroots level most likely to be in contact with the people we're trying to reach.

## DIAL-A-BUS

Dial-a-bus will be tried out in Richmond. I thought because of the high level of interest, involvement and awareness of the Berkeley communities, this city would be the better place for the test, but because of the congested streets in Berkeley the consultants recommended Richmond as their first choice. Two sites in Berkeley were chosen as alternatives. Another factor I felt should weigh heavily on the side of Berkeley was the need of campus people over most of the day as compared to peaked demand for serving a regular working community. Well anyway, rather than being overly provincial, I voted for going ahead with a dial-a-bus project for the East Bay area with hope for success and enlargement of the Berkeley area.

AC Transit staff has been aware of the poor performance of the currently used dial-a-bus vehicles. Haddenfield's equipment has experienced 30% downtime and LaHabra's more than 35% downtime. The staff recommended that a used AC Transit bus be cut down to 29 ft., and be used for our dial-a-bus. (Our present bus' downtime averages only 3%.) This last week, with the Board's approval, the first bus was cut down and is now being refurbished. Next month this bus will be test driven, and we hope the system will be in operation this coming Spring.

Roy Nakadegawa



Richard Bachenheimer during a courtroom lull.

photo by Ruth Morgan

## —btu court fight—

continued from p. 1

started eviction procedures on all the houses in the Tenants' Union, on the grounds of failure to pay rent. The Union asserts that the payment due Premium Realty is accounted for in full. If our case comes to court and we lose, over seventy people will lose their homes.

## COLLECTIVE CONTRACT

We want a collective contract because it can assure protection of tenant rights not guaranteed in an individual lease, and can offer many benefits to a community. By belonging to the union and collectively managing our properties we have been able to exercise more control over our houses and the neighborhoods they form. We have kept our rents at reasonable levels, and have not been subject to the kind of rent increases suffered by most tenants in Berkeley. By removing fences between adjoining homes we have created community gardens and play areas for our children. Collective tenancy has given us a strong sense of community and provided us access to each others' tools, resources, and support.

The old contract under which we have been operating has kept us from making all the improvements that we would like. In most respects, it has favored Bachenheimer more than it has the Tenants' Union. For instance, on the subject of repairs the contract states that Bachenheimer is responsible only for putting in new roofs and outside sewer lines, and only if they cost over \$500.

Many of our roofs leak each winter but Bachenheimer refuses to repair them. In one case, the Union asked for a new roof and submitted a commercial roofing company's estimate of over \$700. Bachenheimer's response was to find a company which said the roof could be patched for \$492.

There is extensive structural damage not only to the roofs but to the walls and foundations of almost all of the houses, caused by termites, dry rot, and old age. For the past three years Bachenheimer has not spent one penny on repairs of any kind. Much of the electrical wiring in the houses is also unsafe; this is not provided for in the contract either.

We are willing to take responsibility for the damages we incur on our houses, but are not willing to assume the burden of rehabilitating all the houses as a free service to Bachenheimer. We are asking that Bachenheimer provide the money for such extensive repairs as are needed to make our houses decently and safely habitable. Bachenheimer charges that we have not done our share of repairs. But to date we have spent approximately \$2000 on materials alone, and up to \$4000 on paid and volunteer labor.

Another aspect of the landlord-tenant

relationship which we are challenging is the composition of our rent. In the old contract we are responsible for collecting rents "in amounts that in the aggregate will pay for all expenses relating to the rental operation and use of said properties." We are demanding that we be responsible collectively for making payments on specific expenses of rental operation rather than paying Bachenheimer a lump sum and not knowing what the specific expenses are.

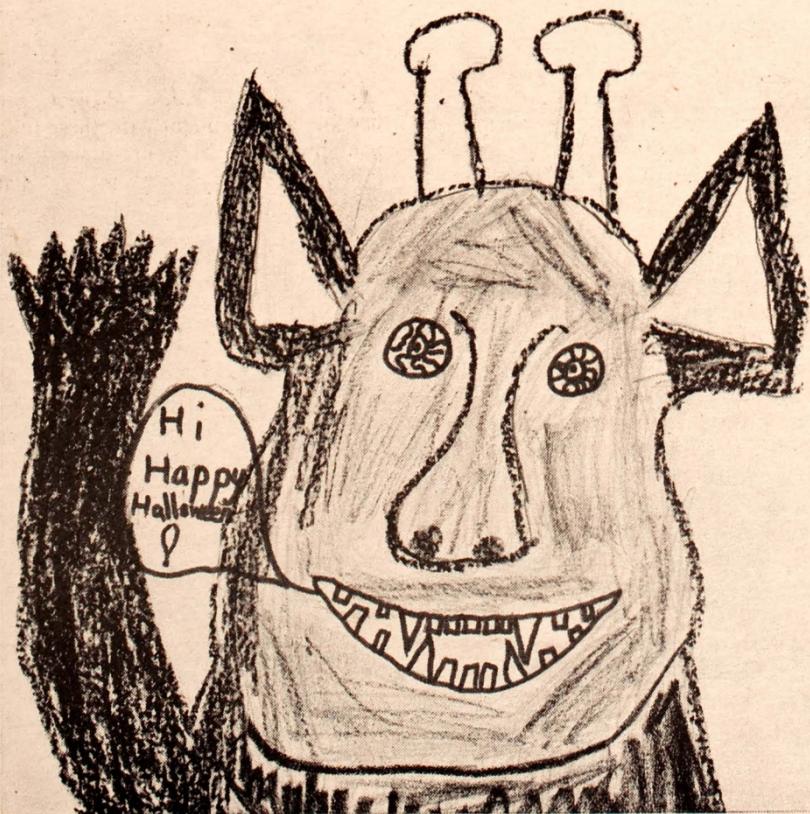
We want to know, for instance, what the mortgage payments and terms of mortgages on our houses are. We want to be the ones to decide whether or not a mortgage will be refinanced. In the past, Bachenheimer has made these decisions and then passed his payments on to us. In essence we are paying the interest on Bachenheimer's large loans, which he obtains by using our houses as collateral. Bachenheimer then can use the money he borrows to invest in new properties for more profits.

Bachenheimer's grounds for evicting us are failure to pay rent. We have only withheld from our rent the charges which we are not legally obligated to pay. By redefining our responsibilities in paying rent, we hope to change the economic system by which a landlord can exploit the basic need of housing to increase his personal capital.

## HEARING

On September 15 and 16th summons to appear for failure to vacate were delivered to all BTU houses. This followed delivery of 3 and 30-day notices of eviction (the latter delivered on Sept. 5). Through our lawyer, Jennie Rhine, we are moving to quash this service on a variety of grounds. Our next, and most important hearing, is set for October 23 in Berkeley Municipal Court. The judge for that hearing has not yet been picked. (We had the first judge disqualify himself after Bachenheimer let it slip that he had had lunch with "the judge" and that we "better watch out"). In the meantime we are mounting several projects for which we are soliciting community support. We need all sorts of skills and energy. You can contact the BTU activities committee at 843-2862 or 549-1817.

We want to negotiate a new contract in which we are represented more fairly, but Bachenheimer will not meet with us. His aim is to destroy the Union for attempting to limit his power and profits. We feel that only by forming unions will all tenants be able to protect their rights and gain some control over their housing. We hope that not only will you give us support, but that our success will encourage you to start more tenants' unions.



## OAKLAND SCHOOL STRIKE?

Oakland Public School employees will probably be out on the picket line by the time you read this. Teachers, custodians, secretaries, instructional assistants, and cafeteria workers are ready to strike Tuesday, October 16, unless last week's mediation is unexpectedly successful.

Major demands include a cost-of-living raise of 12% to 18% (raises have totaled 5% in the last five years); reduction of class sizes from 40 or more to 20-25; a preparation period for elementary teachers; adequate teaching supplies and increased custodial, secretarial, and cafeteria services; payment of unused sick leave at retirement; and better pay for classified employees, that is office workers and instructional assistants.

### \$8.5 MILLION LEFT OVER

The school administration claims that it doesn't have the money to meet employee demands. However, it said the same thing last year, when it convinced teachers to settle for a 1% raise, and then somehow managed to end the year with an 'undisturbed reserve' of \$8.5 million. In fact, the district has had leftovers of at least \$6 million every year since 1970.

This year, the administration says it can't offer more than a 6% raise because \$3.9 million of that \$8.5 million left over from last year is earmarked for this year's employee tax-sheltered annuities. But even allowing this highly irregular way of funding fringe benefits, the teachers' union maintains that the district can meet employee demands with competent budgeting and putting the classroom first.

### EMPLOYEES TOGETHER

Threats of teacher strike, of course, are nothing new in Oakland, but in the past they have come almost entirely from the teachers' union, American Federation of Teachers Local 771. Though much more militant than the Oakland Education Association, (OEA), the Union has only about 700 members to the OEA's 1800. This year, however, the two

organizations have joined in a sometimes uneasy partnership to form a Joint Strike Committee.

There is agreement on most demands, but emphasis differs. The OEA, which includes administrators as well as teachers, emphasizes salaries, benefits, and working conditions of teachers and other certificated employees, and is asking for an 18% salary increase.

The Union excludes administrators as members of management, but included instructional assistants, considered classified employees, as full members. It demands improvements not only in teachers' salaries and working conditions, but also in those of classified employees, especially instructional assistants, who are now paid only \$2.35 to \$2.90 an hour. The Union also proposes reducing class size by hiring more Black, Chicano, Asian, and Native American teachers.

Union demands for increased supportive services — custodial, secretarial and cafeteria — of other employee groups in the Confederation of Oakland Public School Employees, formed last year by the Union, the Food Service Employees Association, the Oakland School Employees Association, which represents office workers, the Cafeteria Workers Union, and the Buildings, Grounds, and Maintenance Employees Association. All these organizations are now represented on the Joint Strike Committee.

Over half the classified employees in the administration building have said they will strike if necessary, and the Custodians' and Teachers' Unions have strike sanction from the Alameda County Central Labor Council. Dissatisfaction with how they are treated is nothing new for Oakland school employees, but unity and determination to strike if necessary are new. And, as many parents are telling teachers, it's about time.

—by Sue and Art Goheen  
(Art Goheen is a member  
of AFT Local 771)

## uncle john's band

"It ain't sophisticated—just get right down to it."

—Taj Mahal

### MUSIC FROM WITHIN

Taj Mahal is down to the roots and up to the cosmos. He walks, talks, breathes, positively exudes music in everything he does. He does it in the most simple, down-home, funky, easy-going way which is both completely basic and mind-blowingly revolutionary.

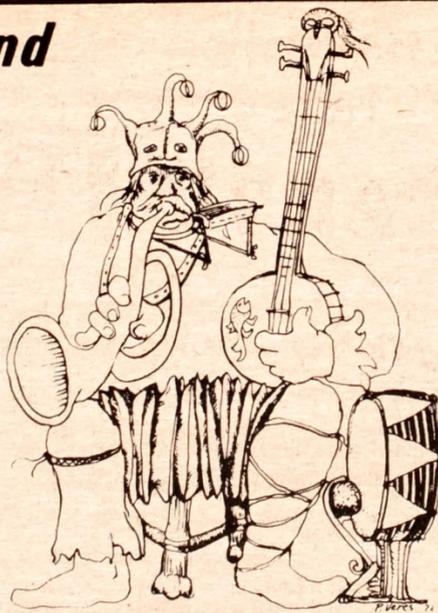
It's all very simple, says Taj. Music is all around us, everywhere. We all live in an energy field of music flowing all around, and all we need do is pluck it out of the air and push it on out. No need for fancy instruments, fancy styles, fancy arrangements, super advanced and sophisticated technique. You all can make music, and you can make it beautiful, with feeling; just look around and let it flow.

Taj never directly says this, of course. But after a two-hour late night set he had a small Boarding House audience singing in harmony, stomping, clapping, dancing, whistling tunes, playing rhythms, and listening totally to Taj's every note, and to every silent space, and to every word.

### THE INSTRUMENTS

Taj plays an old National steel guitar, banjo, a resonant steel mandolin, piano, kalimba (a simple box with tuned steel pegs, plucked with your thumbs), cowbells, an old Harmony prewar guitar with a couple of pick-ups, and mariachis. He also wiggles, sings, claps, snaps his fingers, plays slide, plays blues, finger picks old songs like "Railroad Bill," does reggae, does mellow tunes that he wrote, and does everything beautifully.

The music is all very, very simple, not overpowering the audience but entrancing it. The beauty is not in fancy technique



but in the spaces, the pauses, the silences, the very very quiet notes and twangs, the subtle rhythms and occasional perfectly placed little runs and notes. It's the kind of music which has people saying, "Hey maybe I can play that."

### PEOPLE'S MUSIC

And in some sense, they do. Taj Mahal brings music back to what it's supposed to be about: participation, music made by everyone, not just professionals. Pop and rock music at its best these days is still consumption: we sit back, or jump around, but in any case we listen and appreciate what others are doing. But Taj has everybody singing — harmonies, melodies, backup lines, clapping out rhythms, really involved in making the music. He'll just play the backup while we sing "Stealin'," or he'll sing lead as we sing "oo-oo," in three part, bluesy harmony. Or we'll clap a quiet double time while he wails on his slide. He gives us energy, and our energy picks him up as well. "You get back what you give out," he says.

## berkeley adult school course

A course open to all District employees and interested citizens. The content will acquaint students with District organization, policies, procedures and services. The goal will be to emerge from the program a better informed employee and a better informed citizen.

DATE: October 17, 1973 through June 6, 1974.

DAYS: Wednesday and Thursdays

HOURS: 4:45 to 5:45 p.m.

PLACE: Room 5B, 1950 Carleton Street

Total hours of instruction: 50

Credit: CLASSIFIED (Probationary

and Permanent) — One semester unit for every 12 hours toward Professional Growth Credit.

This is an *extension* of the course offered during the spring semester 1972. You may take the current course for credit.

CERTIFICATED — 1½ credits

INSTRUCTOR: Vicenta Moran, assisted by guest speakers

REGISTRATION FEE: \$4.00 (unless already enrolled in another Berkeley Adult School Class)

## REPORT FROM BFT

The following is a speech which I had planned to give to the School Board. I didn't because I had to leave at 10:45 so I could get some sleep so I could teach the next day.

### SUBSTITUTE POLICY

I am here tonight to protest a policy of this District which is already having a detrimental effect on the students and staff of this district and which has a potential for doing far more damage than it has already done. The policy has to do with covering for teachers who are sick.

The State of California has found it advisable to mandate that each teacher be granted 10 days sick leave per year, that the sick leave be cumulative, and even that it be transferable from district to district. Yet Berkeley has put out directives to limit sick leave this year to seven days per teacher; when pressed, the District will admit that it can't limit a teacher's sick leave, but many teachers have been intimidated into believing that it can.

To make matters worse, the District isn't even providing seven days' coverage. Each school has been given substitute coverage amounting to about 3 days per teacher. When that coverage is used up, the school is supposed to provide internal coverage.

### DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS

The effects of this policy on students are disastrous. In the elementary schools, principals are saying that they have been directed to break up the classes of absent teachers, to close down libraries, to assign skills specialists to substitute duty, and to try to get teachers to give up their prep time, among other things.

When classes are split up, the continuity of the lesson plan is destroyed, so the students don't get much teaching. Furthermore 5 or 6 other classes also have their educational programs interrupted because the teacher doesn't know the extra students and the students don't know the teacher or the program.

If students are to be able to use libraries, the libraries must be open; if

It's revolutionary to give people a sense of their own power. And that's what Taj does: he shows us that we all have much more music in us, much more ability and possibility than we know, if we would just let it loose. And we do, with his help.

Taj played a recent week at the Boarding House, and, since he lives in Berkeley, plays Bay Area concerts occasionally. His records don't do him justice — he's best late at night, at a small place. Also, take your kids if you can afford it; they'll dig him as much as the rest of us.

—C. C. Otter

students who are behind are to make it, skills specialists can't be used to sub; if teachers are to be properly prepared, they must have their prep time.

### IDLE STUDENTS

In the secondary schools, in addition to the above, the District is playing a game of double talk. On the one hand, they're telling students that they must come to school. On the other hand, they're telling them that we're not calling a substitute in many cases, so the class won't be meeting. One of my colleagues at West Campus found it necessary to take a one-month leave of absence at the start of school. The District did not call a sub during the whole month. Is this education?

And if this isn't bad enough, there are serious detrimental effects on staff too. Several teachers in the District are seriously ill with cancer and equally bad diseases. As they fight for their lives they have to be aware of the fact that they are using up their schools' sick days. The rest of us have to make a hard decision when we are sick — do we come to school when we are sick and risk giving our sickness to our students and risk further impairment of our own already-weakened health — or do we stay home and cause hardship for our colleagues.

There are other forms of damage which are more subtle, but just as insidious — such as the erosion of the spirit of a teacher who is prevented from doing his/her best.

If this Board is serious about educating our students, it will force a change in this policy NOW!

—Judy Bodenhausen

## women's union

The Berkeley-Oakland Women's Union is an autonomous socialist feminist organization which has been in existence for about ten months. It has three existing political small groups and two working project committees, "The Women and the Economy" and "The Children's Project," which meet regularly. These groups attempt to develop a socialist-feminist perspective which will integrate the struggle against sexism and the struggle against capitalism and imperialism, and which will overcome the separation of the public and private areas of our lives, perpetuated by both capitalist and the prevalent socialist ideologies.

The Women's Union has a temporary office at 2022 Blake Street, Berkeley. Anyone interested in further information on the Union should contact the New Members Committee by calling Carol at 763-3725. If you are interested in receiving our Newsletter, send your name and address, and \$6.00 for a year's subscription, to our office.

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Box 7036  
—BERKELEY



# MOVIES

Sad but true, the Pacific Film Archive has raised its prices even higher than they were before they were temporarily lowered last July 1st. Each film now costs \$1.00 for students or Archive full members and \$1.50 for the general public. There is no longer a discount for two films in one night and, as a result, a double feature at the Archive now costs more than a double feature anywhere else in Berkeley. Full Archive membership is \$15 per year and entitles the member to purchase two tickets per film at the reduced rate.

The best alternative to these higher prices would seem to be a large subsidy from the university. There is no reason why the museum should be free but the Archive so expensive. Is film, because it is so popular, really some kind of second class medium? And how about all those free (and hence subsidized) lectures on the most obscure possible topics which the university is endlessly sponsoring. Are they too so much more important than film?

### RECOMMENDED MOVIES

*Grand Hotel & Dinner at Eight*: October 17-23; Gateway Theater; 215 Jackson at Battery; San Francisco; \$2.50. Two of the finest Hollywood films of the early Thirties, both with genuine all-star casts. An opportunity to see Greta Garbo, Jean Harlow, Joan Crawford, Marie Dressler, John and Lionel Barrymore, Wallace Beery and more all at their best and all in one evening.

*Bonnie & Clyde*: October 19; 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 p.m.; Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill; FREE. One of the major films of the Sixties. Seeing it again with a

group of friends might be a nice way to have a movie party. Call 687-4445 for reservations (necessary for the evening performances).

*The Maltese Falcon, The African Queen, & Dead Reckoning*: October 19-21; *Reckoning* at 7 and 11:50, *Queen* at 8:25 and *Falcon* at 10; University YWCA, Bancroft & Bowditch, \$1.50 *The Maltese Falcon* is my favorite Bogart film and *The African Queen* is not far behind. If you still don't know why people love Bogart, this is a good way to find out.

*Lucia*: October 23; 7 and 10 p.m.; Wheeler Auditorium; \$1.25 students and full Archive members/\$1.75 general. Fresh from the San Francisco Film Festival, this fascinating Cuban film tells three love stories, all concerning women named Lucia. Almost without mentioning political events, the stories somehow seem to capture in human terms all of Cuban history from 1890 to the present. Strongly recommended.

*Dial M For Murder*: October 31; 7:30 p.m.; Live Oak Park Center; 25 cents. Ray Milland and Grace Kelley in a complex and thrilling Alfred Hitchcock classic.

### FREE MOVIES

LANEY COLLEGE: October 18, *Yojimbo*; October 25 & 26, *Seven Samurai* (only once each night at 7:30); November 1, *Throne of Blood*. All except *Seven Samurai* at 6:45 and 9:00 p.m. in the Laney College Forum. All of these are samurai films by Japan's most famous director, Akira Kurosawa. Strongly recommended.

MERRITT COLLEGE: October 18, *The Mudlark* and John Ford's *How Green Was*



fly  
on the  
wall

Given the chaotic organization of the April Coalition spring election campaign, it is not surprising that financial shenanigans escaped the campaign coordinating committee. Election campaigns are always chaotic but this one was something special.

Enormous energy was wasted on internal disputes. It is unfortunately a fact of life that much of the left would rather fight itself (which is 'safe') than take on the entrenched conservative economic interests that control this town; the '73 campaign was no exception.

Unfortunately, with energy drained and attention diverted from the day-by-day campaign activities, the coalition open process was able to be abused by the actions of free-lance operators.

As near as can be figured out, ASUC Senators Tom Accinelli and Jeff Gordon, without knowledge of the campaign coordinating committee, organized a highly baroque, round-robin debt settlement between the Students of Berkeley (SOB), ASUC, and the *Daily Cal*. SOB took care of its debt to ASUC at bargain basement rates and the campaign got \$1,500 worth of free *Daily*

*Cal* advertising. But the *Daily Cal* let the cat out of the bag last week and Senators Accinelli and Gordon abruptly resigned.

In the participatory campaigns of the new politics movement there has been a 'presumption of honesty' in accepting people to work in campaigns. The Accinelli-Gordon Affair came as a real shock and serves as a warning that open process is open to flagrant misuse. Moreover, the fact that the April Coalition organization did not last beyond the election shows the organizational structure was unsatisfactory and something people did not wish to continue.

Better organizational structure is essential for future campaigns if the Berkeley progressive community is to achieve the degree of representation in city government that is reflected in its numbers (45 to 55% of the electorate). Between kingmaking in a closed living room and a "free-for-all" there *must* be responsible open politics. When in doubt most of us would probably be on the side of openness. However, unless the groundwork is laid now for a realistic electoral organization - one that we can all really believe in - we might as well all join Rennie Davis and Maharaj Ji.

*My Valley*; October 25, *The Andromeda Strain & Silent Running*; November 1, *Marat/Sade & Walkabout*. All at 7 p.m. in the Student Center.

COLLEGE OF ALAMEDA: October 23, *Let's Talk About Women*; October 30, *King Kong* (great for the whole family on the day before Halloween); November 6,

*Sunday Bloody Sunday*. All at 7:30 p.m. in Building F.

Last but certainly not least, don't forget the *Grassroots* benefit showing of *Tupamaros!!* Sunday, October 21 at 7 & 9 p.m. in Unitas House, College and Bancroft. Tell your friends!

-Mike Fullerton

For a real Halloween treat - take a trip to the **STARS!**

Two October Shows

Chabot Science Center Planetarium Show  
"Comet of the Century"  
Fri & Sat nites - 7:30  
50¢ Adults, 25¢ children  
Tel: 531-4560  
Go early and look thru telescope

Lawrence Hall of Science Planetarium "STAR SHOW"  
Sat & Sun Shows at 11:30, 1:30, 3:30  
\$1.25 Adults, 50¢ Children  
Best for children six and older

Free Rodent Rental - if the Lindsey Jr. Museum in Walnut Creek is out of rats, try the Sulphur Creek Nature Center - 1801 "D" Street in Hayward (582-9960) where you might also get a snake or a lizard.

East Bay Model Engineers Society 40th Anniversary Annual Open House  
Oct. 26, 27, 28 & Nov 2, 3, 4  
Watch the Model Engineers operate trains (dating back to 1850) on sixty scale miles of track in the old Santa Fe Warehouse - 4075 Halleck St. Emeryville.  
Fridays - 7:30 - 10 pm  
Saturdays - 2 - 10 pm  
Sundays - 2 - 8 pm  
25¢ for children up to 13  
\$1.00 for others  
call 658-3537 for directions to the Station and 655-9471 for more info.

Lotsaluck  
sheila daas and mary millman

# 'WE ARE PEOPLE, NOT WHEELCHAIRS'



Demonstration at Old Fed. Building - S.F. - Election Eve 1972.

"Handicapped," "crippled," the "misfortunate" are some of the terms used to stereotype blind and disabled people. Madison Avenue's plasticized "Pepsi generation" does not include people who are in wheelchairs or who rely on seeing-eye dogs.

However, "Here in Berkeley people see us, and we see ourselves, as men and women, not as wheelchairs," says Don Berry, a staff member of the Center for Independent Living. Why? Instead of being shut away in nursing homes or living in restricted family situations, the blind and disabled have initiated several programs to ensure their ability to live independently. The appropriately named Center for Independent Living was created in 1972 to serve the special needs of the blind and disabled, of whom there are approximately 14,000 in N. Oakland, Emeryville, El Cerrito, Albany, Kensington and Berkeley.

## PROJECTS AND SERVICES

The fifteen staff members of C.I.L. have successfully initiated several service projects. They print a newsletter and mail it to all interested persons in the area. They send "Stigma" tapes to organizations and newspapers across the country. On these tapes, disabled individuals talk about the problems they confront in their lives. The C.I.L. offers mobility

## nursing homes need action

Citizen concern, participation, and control... these are the battle cries of community action groups in Berkeley. Yet how many of us have even a casual knowledge of the workings of an institution that has a major effect on the quality of American life — the corner nursing home? Not many. This paradoxical situation is especially relevant to the lives of the older members of our community.

Last winter, Marcy Kates of the BAY GUARDIAN, did an excellent exposé on nursing homes in the San Francisco area. Kates proclaimed for all to hear that care in the San Francisco nursing homes is "extraordinarily bad." She pointed out that nursing homes continued to get away with low standards and inadequate care because no citizen consumer groups were documenting and protesting the abuses of local nursing homes.

We lack in any organized effort to ensure the existence of humane, quality care within our community-located nursing homes. Such action is our obligation as citizens because over ¾ of nursing home industry total revenues are public funds. It is necessary because these homes lie within our community and may at any time provide care for our parents, our family, our friends, and ourselves. We have the right to a future in which institutionalization is a last resort, and not the societal response to the problems of aging.

We, as members of the community, have a moral responsibility to assure the basic human rights of others. It is imperative that we realize the far-reaching implications, when we condone, through

instruction for the blind, and welfare advocacy, medical and general referral, housing, an attendant and reader pool for all clients.

The Center put together a resolution, which the Berkeley City Council later adopted, calling for an annual expenditure of \$30,000 for the construction of wheelchair ramps. Hale Zukas has worked with the Public Works Department to ensure that the ramps meet specifications. These ramps allow persons in electric wheelchairs to move easily throughout Berkeley; the disabled travel to banks, markets, street cafes, classes and to jobs on their own. In addition, C.I.L. has helped the City Attorney with equal housing issues and building code changes involving disabled and blind people.

## PRESSURE ON THE STATE

C.I.L., along with other disabled action groups in California, is waging a serious battle with Reagan and top State Welfare Executives. "With the passage of the national bill, HR-1, California was given the opportunity to throw out an archaic welfare system," Phil Draper of C.I.L. explains. But Reagan interprets this new freedom to mean that he can implement his personal prejudices as policy through regulation rather than legislation. This has resulted in a high

non-action, this type of institution. Nursing home residents probably are the most helpless single body of people within this society. Many of them are there against their own will, stripped of basic human rights, prisoners of a system that removes older people from the mainstream of community life.

How would such an organization, centered around nursing home issues, function? This question will be explored in the next issue, along with a report on a new law that has important implications for this problem.

—Bonnye L. Fainberg

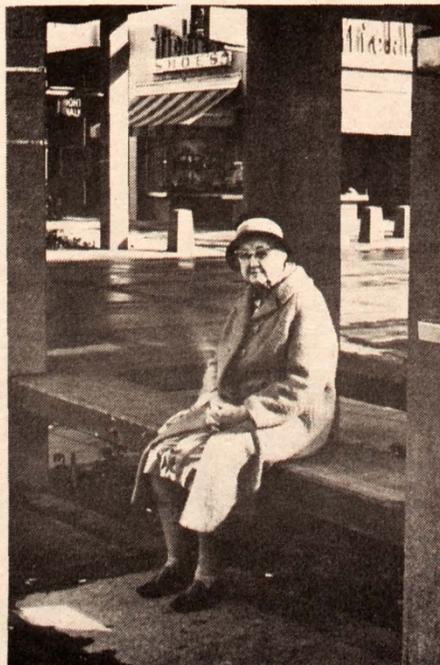


photo by Fern

level of insecurity for welfare recipients.

Dick Santos, Center Coordinator, points out that Swope, Reagan's appointee as Director of the California Department of Welfare, circulated a memorandum to welfare agencies which required that welfare recipients have attendants supplied by Homemakers, a private referral agency. The financial rationale is clear; under HR-1, the federal government pays 75% of the cost of attendant care with Homemakers Service. But Homemakers cannot provide adequate attendant care. Homemakers' attendants work only on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and may not lift over 30 pounds. Individuals may not hire or fire their own attendants. Persons needing daily attendant care would have to remain in bed evenings and weekends. The weight restrictions mean that attendants could not help persons unable to lift themselves out of bed. Most important, the work is intimate and a basis of trust is essential; each person should have the right to hire the attendant most suitable for his or her needs.

C.I.L. members, through their own efforts, found out about the memo and called for action. Representatives from C.I.L., the Physically Disabled Students Program, Disabled and Blind Action

Group, and California Association of Physically Handicapped met with Swope in early September and set forth their views. The result was a memo which granted county welfare agencies four alternatives, one of which lets welfare recipients hire their own attendants. It is an unsatisfactory and confusing arrangement, but better than the change to Homemakers.

C.I.L. has also worked to increase the living grants of welfare recipients. The average grant for blind, disabled, and elderly is now \$212, which must cover rent, food, clothing, transportation, and any other living expenses. Yet two bills to increase this grant, AB 18 and SB 100, failed to pass the Legislature. Disabled action groups appealing to the State Supreme Court to determine whether Reagan has the authority to determine grant levels for living expenses and attendant care, and to establish guidelines for hiring of attendants, an authority which affects 500,000 blind, disabled and elderly.

Anyone interested in more information or in applying for attendant work, contributing money, or anyone in need of services should call the Center office at Th 1-4776.

—by Lynn and Louis Tijerina

## ECOLOGISTICS

Will our civilization be buried under a mountain of solid waster before we destroy ourselves by other means? How can we combat the garbage problem? (I don't mean corruption in DC, that's another problem.) One way is to reuse materials instead of discarding them.

To spread information about this solution, the Berkeley Ecology Center staged a tremendous Recycling Convention October 9-11, involving 250 representatives of citizen recycling groups, industry and government. Although it was officially a California Recycling Convention, delegates attended from British Columbia, New York and Virginia.

## HACK APPOINTEE

There were two highlights at the Conference, one good and one bad. John Busterud, Acting Chairman of the national Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), managed fairly well while reading a speech obviously written for him, and heavily cribbed from the recent "Fourth Annual Report on the Council on Environmental Quality" (\$4.30 from the U.S. Gov't. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, Stock No. 4111-00020). But during his press conference, it became plain that he was just another political appointee without the presence of mind to bone up a little on the things he was supposed to know something about. In the interests of communicating with the common man, he even spoke of the necessity of conserving every possible "ounce" of energy!

He was appointed to the CEQ after last year's incident in which three chapters of the Council's third Annual Report were suppressed. Despite the fuss made over this by the media, he maintained that it hadn't occurred to him to read the suppressed material or to familiarize himself with the issues, but of course "suppressed" is the wrong word to use in connection with the non-publication of this material!

## SENSIBLE SUGGESTIONS

A refreshing contrast to his poor showing was provided by Eileen Clausen, Analyst in the Resource Recovery Division of the Washington Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). She was obviously hired because of competence, not contracts.

Source Reduction was her solution to the solid waste problem, that is, changing the ways goods are produced, as well as the types and amounts of goods produced. She made the following points:

1) We must reverse the increasing trend to production of single use products, such as non-refillable containers, paper towels and paper cups. In 1969, 46.8 billion beverage containers were used in the U.S., with an average of 1.8 fillings per container. If they had been reused 15 times, the average life of a refillable bottle, we would have used only 5.7 billion containers, for a savings of 3 million tons of raw materials and an energy savings equivalent to 3 million tons of coal. Think of how many miles of countryside were strip-mined for that coal.

## FUNCTIONAL STYLES

2) Products should be built for longer life and with fewer style changes. Cars, appliances and furniture could last longer and omit trivial, stylistic design changes. This could be detrimental in the short run due to the necessity to make heavier products for longer product life or to use scarcer materials, but it would save material in the long run.

3) Less energy-intensive materials should be substituted for more energy-intensive ones: for example, the substitution of glass for aluminum. Some products can be made with less material altogether: lighter cars take less steel. When such changes are made, any changes in durability must be taken into account in evaluating the effect of the change.

4) Consumption of non-essential goods, such as superfluous packaging, should be reduced.

Ms. Clausen concluded with the question "Can private market processes be relied upon to evolve optimum consumer practices?" She seemed to doubt it and to feel that government will have to find some way to intervene in product design: for example, by requiring that all automobiles weigh less than 3000 pounds.

Congratulations to the Berkeley Ecology Center for a well-run, interesting Conference. If you haven't checked out the Ecology Center yet, stop by at 2179 Allston Way; you might even join.

—Selina Bendix

# community announcements

## PLANTS WANTED

*Grassroots Plant Conspiracy* is growing! More people are needed to grow house plants for plant sales throughout the year. All monies raised will go to *Grassroots*. Especially needed are people who can grow cuttings of their plants, or who can donate pots (plastic or clay) and other supplies. Those interested in either growing plants or in helping this project in any way should send a postcard to *Grassroots*, Box 274, Berkeley 94704 or call Jon at 524-8010.

## NEW AMERICAN MOVEMENT

On Thursday, October 25, at 8:00 p.m., the Berkeley-Oakland chapter of the New American Movement will hold a public meeting on "The Economic Crisis and the Demise of Democracy" at 2241 Russell Street between Ellsworth and Fulton in Berkeley. Part of the program will be the beginning of a national movement to impeach Nixon - for ALL his crimes, with the war in Vietnam leading the list.

## NEWSRACK PATRONS NEEDED

Send us \$18.00 and we'll pay you back from the proceeds of our boxes (takes about 3 months). Be sure to tell us that the money is for the newsrack fund. *Grassroots*, Box 274, Berkeley, 94704.

## FARMWORKERS

"Si, SE PUEDE" ("Yes, It Can Be Done"), a film depicting the farm workers' non-violent struggle, will be shown Thursday, October 25, 8:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 192 Cedar, Berkeley. A one-dollar donation will benefit the farmworkers.

After the forty-five minute color film the Reverend Howard Natson, Unitarian Universalist Migrant Minister, will give the latest news of the farmworkers' movement and answer questions.

The program is sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee of the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians.

## MERRITT COLLEGE COURSE

Watergate, the Pentagon Papers, government ethics, the erosion of fundamental democratic principles - these and other aspects of the current "American crisis" will be explored in a Merritt College lecture series which will be presented October 16 through January 14.

A complete schedule is available at the Merritt Information Office, and enrollment information will be available from series coordinator Robert Butier at the first lecture or by mail at the college, 12500 Campus Drive, Oakland 94619. Call 531-2535 for information.

## BENEFIT FOR GRASSROOTS

# TUPAMAROS'

SUNDAY OCT. 21st.  
7 and 9 p.m.

Unitas House : 2700 Bancroft  
(not sponsored by Unitas) \$1.50

## WOMEN'S CENTER

During the month of October, the Berkeley Women's Center is hosting discussions on topics involving women. October 17, there is a discussion on "The Female Junkie" and October 31 the discussion will be "Women in Transition." The public is invited to come and join in at 7:30 p.m. each date, in the YWCA building 2134 Allston Way, Berkeley. The Berkeley Women's Center is an information and referral center for women in the community. There is always a need for new ideas and new volunteers. For further information about these discussions or about the Center please call 548-4343 or drop by between 1 and 7 p.m. Monday-Friday.

## CLASSIFIED

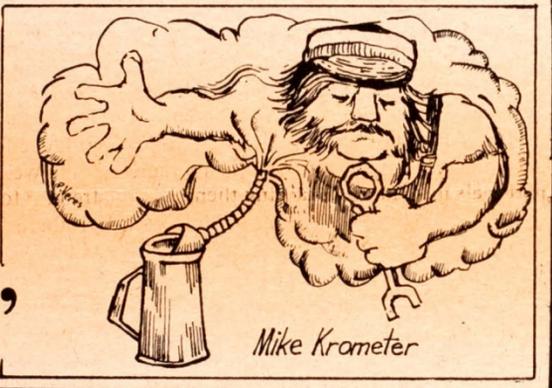
Cellist Experienced teacher, locally trained, has openings for students. 841-0708.

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5 PRESCHOOLERS OVERNIGHT  
Slumber party - cook together. Gestalt games, fireside stories. Sleeping, googlies. Intimate: green garden, licensed.  
Anna 526-4935

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS should be submitted to GRASSROOTS by Nov. 1 for next issue: P.O. Box 274, Berkeley, Ca. 94701 or 2022 Blake St. Phone 524-1203.

...keep  
on  
truckin'



Question from J. H.-Berkeley: "During the past year I have had to replace the starter motor twice on my 1964 Dodge Dart 6. Now this, the third starter motor, is beginning to make the same grinding noise when I start the car as it did preceding two starters prior to failure. The starter motor itself works but a grinding occurs about every other time I start the car and when the grinding takes place the engine does not turn over. What causes the noise and can any thing be done to remedy this situation?"

It sounds to me like you might have some broken or missing teeth on the fly wheel. When the starter motor is activated by the ignition switch a solenoid inside the motor engages a clutch whose teeth mesh with the teeth on the outside diameter of the flywheel. If some of the teeth on the flywheel gear are damaged or broken, when the starter motor gets to those teeth, it slips and the teeth momentarily disengage or worse yet, grind against the teeth on the flywheel. That is probably what's causing the sound you hear. On top of that, the teeth on the starter motor clutch are probably damaged slightly each time it happens. So those meshing parts are

slowly destroying each other.

The solution to the problem is to remove the starter, transmission, clutch and flywheel and replace or repair the defective parts. The question you'll have to decide is whether or not it's worth it to have that job done. It's a relatively big job and the reduction gear starter motor that goes with your Dart is quite expensive (about \$50). Even if you decide to do the work yourself, it's a big project and your car is nine years old. As an alternative you might consider removing the starter motor and replacing the starter clutch only. It won't cure the flywheel problem but it will last quite a while before the clutch teeth are damaged beyond their ability to function. The clutch for your starter costs about \$9.00 and is available from most auto supply parts stores.

Questions to Mike Krometer should be addressed:

c/o *Grassroots*  
Box 274  
Berkeley, Ca. 94701.

If you are looking for mechanics or other automobile related trades people please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope because their names will not be printed in the column.

## The Free Clinic Drug News

CITY	SOLD AS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	REALLY IS
Berkeley	LSD	white tab 1/4" diam.	\$1/each	no drug detected <sup>1</sup>
Berkeley	windowpane LSD	amber gel square 3/32"	\$2/each	LSD
Bay Area	cocaine	white powder	\$1,300/oz.	83% cocaine

## FEETNOTE

1. This is the second Berkeley Acid Burn in 2 weeks!! Cut dat out!!

## DEPARTMENT OF MISCELLANY

Mushroom season is coming up, along with the rain . . . so watch out for mushroom burns! We haven't seen so much as ONE REAL psilocybin mushroom in 5 months. . . . only grocery mushrooms with LSD.

GRASSROOTS, is a community-oriented newspaper, relies on *subscriptions*, on the participation and contributions of the community, and not on street sales, vendors, or advertisers. Please help. Send us your subscription today: \$5.00 per year.

I know GRASSROOTS needs help, so I want to

\_\_\_\_\_ Pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month to see GRASSROOTS grow and expand.

\_\_\_\_\_ Subscribe: enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ subscriptions to GRASSROOTS.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (list others on separate sheet) \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: GRASSROOTS, P.O. Box 274, Berkeley, Ca. 94701 or phone 524-1203



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2397 San Pablo, Berkeley (at Channing)

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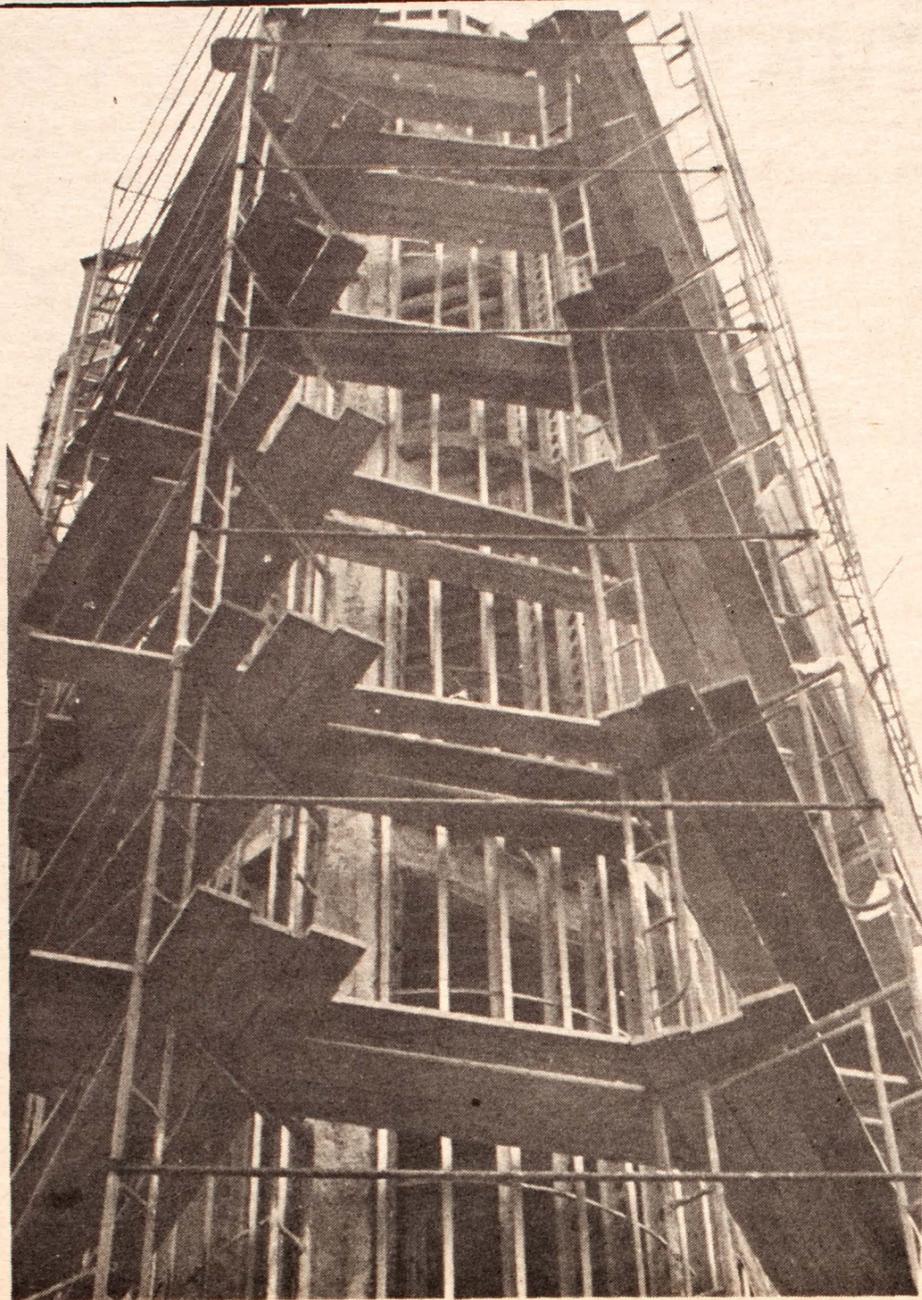
## The KITCHEN

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**—BATEMAN VS. DOCTORS—**



Highrise Alta Bates structure

photo by Fern

**DOCTORS \$\$ & BERKELEY 4**

All totaled, some 70 local doctors were contributors to the Berkeley 4 campaign, and a survey of the land-holdings in the Alta Bates area indicates that these doctors weren't just any old group of country practitioners. Some examples:

—Duane E. Spencer and Don J. Laston, dentists and both contributors to the Berkeley 4 jointly own some \$139,000 worth of property in the Alta Bates area.

—The 2915 Telegraph Corp. is listed as owning some \$512,000 worth of property mainly on Telegraph Ave. around the corner from Alta Bates. The man who in turn owns the 2915 Telegraph Corp. is Carl Goetsch, M.D., also a contributor to the Berkeley 4.

—Julius and Robert Lewis share a practice at 3011 Telegraph. Robert Lewis was a contributor to the Berkeley 4, as was Julius' wife Emma. Together the Lewis' own their office building at 3011 Telegraph (\$121,000), and also four other pieces of property near the School for the Deaf and the Blind worth another \$190,160. Total holdings in the area, \$311,160.

—Harry J. Borson, M.D., a Berkeley 4 contributor, owns a \$38,000 piece of property at 3036 Regent Street.

—Huntmont Properties owns \$769,700 worth of property next to Alta Bates including a brand new huge office building. The co-owners of the Huntmont properties, are Huntley R. Johnson, DDS, and Jerome H. Patmont, MD, both Berkeley 4 campaign contributors.

—The Colby Street Medical Center, right across the street from Alta Bates, is owned by Dr. Edward E. Waller, a Berkeley 4 contributor. The Colby Street building is worth over \$1 million.

—Title Insurance and Trust Company whose vice president, Arvid G. Erickson gave to the Berkeley 4 owns \$75,000 worth of property in the Alta Bates area.

—Finally, Mason-McDuffie Co. which owns a \$2.6 million office building on

Telegraph Ave. (right down the street from Alta Bates) and also owns another \$130,000 worth of property in the area, had no less than 11 of its partners listed as contributors to the Berkeley 4 campaign.

It seems in sum that the Alta Bates area landowners felt the need to invest a great deal of money in the Berkeley 4 slate.

One could then turn to the Board of Trustees of the Hospital itself, of which there are 16. All but 5 of them were also Berkeley 4 campaign contributors. The same was true of the Alta Bates Foundation (which handles the financing of the hospital) where 8 out of 18 members gave to the Berkeley 4. There were also 9 other Advisory Trustees to the Hospital who dumped into the Berkeley 4 campaign. Many of the same names of people who were both trustees at Alta Bates and Berkeley 4 contributors also appear on a list of the major donors to the hospital that we obtained. Harold Edenstein (Manasse Block Investment Co.), C. Norman Peterson (C. Norman Peterson Construction Co.), and William Picard (a local M.D.) were among these people.

Just what this all means is difficult to fathom. As far as we have been able to discover, Alta Bates has no new plans for further expansion, and the Bateman neighborhood Association has gotten most of the remaining residential area around Alta Bates downzoned to R1, prohibiting high-rise office buildings. All the same it would be wise to keep a close eye on Alta Bates and the Berkeley City Council in the future, as new development in the city will most likely center around the Alta Bates axis.

And just to prove that we aren't being paranoid, we'll close with an excerpt from a speech given by Robert L. Montgomery, executive vice president of Alta Bates and appointed President of the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce on May 23:

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depict themselves as paternal humanitarians with the good of the city at heart and, by contrast, the BNA as a band of petty, selfish homeowners standing in the way of the city's health and happiness. To that end they trotted up doctor after dentist to city hearings declaring that the entire fabric of health care in Berkeley would erode if this or that building didn't commence.

The BNA countered with some interesting facts and assertions of our own. We discovered, for instance, that close to 70% of Alta Bates' clients came from outside Berkeley — primarily the affluent sections of Oakland and the Orinda-Walnut Creek suburbs whose people could afford Alta Bates' expensive facilities. Our neighborhood was to lose houses and gain traffic so some Orinda stockbroker could have his appendix removed!

Close on the heels of Alta Bates' announcement of its intention to expand came the news of other plans for medical construction in the area, most notably the Huntmont Building which was to be located across Regent Street from Alta Bates. Already burdened with trying to outflank mighty Alta Bates, the BNA now had yet another monster to contend with. Ironically, this multi-storied building was to be erected by a dentist named Huntley on, among other land, the site of his childhood home — a graceful brown shingle set off by trailing wisteria, a house typical of those scheduled for demolition. In one of the few moments of humor during the grim hearings on the Huntmont building, Huntley turned beet red when one of our BNAers shouted that Huntley's mother would turn over in her grave if she could see what her son was doing to her house!

In addition to demolishing almost a city block of housing, the Huntmont building promised to put even greater stress on the neighborhood's traffic problems. Our intrepid BNAers uncovered the fact that the building was going to generate over 2,000 cars per day in the neighborhood, yet was providing parking for less than 200 cars — most of which would be reserved for employees, the remainder available only for a fee.

Faced with this program of construction overkill, the BNA countered with what we thought to be a realistic compromise. We recognized the fact that the arguments for expansion being fielded by the doctors and hospital bureaucrats

were gaining a receptive hearing by city council members and their planning department staff. Thus, it was our proposal that Alta Bates be allowed to a certain degree, but that other medical expansion be limited to a fairly small area, that it conform to existing height and set-back limits for an R-3 zone, and that an open-space buffer zone between the neighborhood and the medical area be created to insure that multi-storied office buildings weren't hulking over the backyards of the neighborhood's homes.

The city planning department came back with their version of our proposal which called for the creation of a new category called "medical center zone" which would set a boundary on medical development in our particular neighborhood, but which included no buffer zone and which mandated high-density, high-rise, multi-use building spanning the spectrum from medical schools to cafeterias. In the hands of the planning department the BNA's compromise had become a Frankenstein. I remember the despair we felt when we had to marshal our forces to attend yet another series of hearings to defeat what had originally been our own plan. In the end, Alta Bates and Huntmont got their way, and the results are on view today.

Following the defeat of the buffer zone plan, we submitted to the Planning Department a plan for a series of traffic diverters and street closings which would force hospital-related traffic to stay on the arterial streets of Ashby, Telegraph, and College, and off our neighborhood streets, many of which are too narrow for two cars to pass. Traffic was so bad that residents were unable to find parking spaces during the day. To make matters worse, ambulances were careening along the narrow neighborhood streets, ignoring those designed to service the hospital. The high point of the traffic story came one day when the whole neighborhood turned out to watch a fist fight which had broken out between two cement truck drivers, neither of whom would back up to let the other pass down the narrow street. One can only wonder at what they were doing on that street in the first place.

And so it goes. Seven years in the life of a neighborhood. But just so the story doesn't have an entirely bleak ending, I'm happy to say that what's left of our neighborhood is groovier than ever and is currently chortling over the juicy rumor that the Huntmont building is going bankrupt! I'd suggest you all drop by and laugh with us, but you'd never find a place to park.

A "major challenge" for the Berkeley business community "is to actively participate in the political process that will be used to address the business and social issues over the next two years. We must recognize that profitability and responsibility are inseparable. . . . Whether the business community is up to the challenges which face us has yet to be answered. Your Chamber Board of Directors can provide the organization and the leadership. You (the business community) must help provide the manpower and economic support necessary for us to play a more active role."

Paul Grabowicz

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