

EARTH



*"The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes
of others only a green thing which stands in the way.
Some see nature as all deformity, and by these I
shall not regulate my proportions; and some scarce
see nature at all, but to the eyes of imagination
nature is imagination itself.*

AS MAN IS .. SO HE SEES."

William Blake

ecoviews

Cowboys of Flat Earth

By Thomas R. Smith

"You can't be serious about the environment without being a revolutionary. You have to be willing to restructure society."

There are two opposing schools of thought regarding the seemingly simple matter of this planet's shape. There are the Flat Earth people who believe that we exist on an infinite plane with limitless natural resources and room for expansion. Then there are the Round Earth people who claim that in fact we inhabit an obviously finite sphere whose existence is now threatened by the mindless and ecologically barbarous overkill of industry, consumerism, militarism, and population, to name but a few.

Economist Kenneth Boulding has called the traditional Western expansion and exploitation of this land and its resources a "cowboy economy." The forefathers of our country spent a lot of time talking about "manifest destiny," i.e., the eventual human occupation and exploitation of the entire North American continent. Sadly, this prophecy has fulfilled itself. The tree has borne its diseased fruit, and now that the great wilderness has been "conquered," man, in the historical fulfillment of his greedy power play over Nature, is finding that he cannot live peacefully or comfortably with his fellow conquerors.

Boulding warns that it is time for us to reject the romantic but obsolete "cowboy economy" of the past and move into a "spaceman economy" which takes into account the full reality of our present situation. That reality being: The earth is round, finite, a closed system which is maintained only by a delicate natural balance. Flat Earthers and cowboys disregard this balance and do their best to upset it. There is no place for them on the Spaceship Earth.

A small minority are now aware of their place on the Spaceship. They are making preparations. It is no semantic accident that the psychedelic subculture uses the term "spaced-out" to describe a high which removes the individual from his "normal" frame of reference and substitutes what amounts to a more cosmic overview of man's position in the universe. Some of those who are currently active in the ecology movement have at some time in the past tried the social and political disengagement of the drug culture; yet for many, dropping out has been only a transitional stage, a period in which values are radically rethought and reoriented toward the total vision of the Spaceship Earth.

Man's place in the web of life is not one of domination, but one of cooperation. Nature does not exist simply to serve man. Western tradition does not concur with the above statements. Our forefathers were cowboys, not spacemen. And despite Columbus, they believed that the world was flat. Slowly, now, it is dawning on us that the system has closed.

There are diverse paths to awareness. Scientists, for example, have been aware of the impending ecological crisis long before most of the new ecoactivists, but many of them have prostituted themselves to industry and private concerns, and have not made the dangers publicly known. Others still linger fearfully in the shadow of the McCarthy era, in which all dissent was labeled treason. So scientific awareness of the ecological situation has proven by itself no guarantee of positive action.

Some of the most outspoken ecological activists have emerged from the ranks of what has been loosely termed the cultural revolution (including the hippie movement of the late 60's, the New Left, Yippies, antiwar and minority rights movements, and just about every other front which has challenged the guiding myths and presuppositions of the established society in America). This should come as no surprise. Ecology action is by nature a radical activity, because it negates the exploitative, capitalistic philosophy which is destroying us and our environment. Pollution is the predictable end product of uncontrolled capitalism. It

is easier to see this once one has removed himself from the philosophic and political framework of the Western cowboy mentality.

Ecology is known as 'the subversive science,' and subversive it is, to the extent that it must remain immune to the sort of bribery, pressure, and chicanery which transform scientific realities into political "truths" easily employed as propaganda by the administration in power. Ecological activists cannot be bought. Ecological consciousness is planetary consciousness. It does not respect small nationalistic governments; its patriotism is a higher patriotism, a loyalty to all life on the Spaceship Earth. The ecological activist also fights what Gary Snyder has called 'human chauvinism'; that is, he sees man not as a superstar in the pageant of evolution, but rather, like every other species, an interdependent creature who must work out his karma within the ecological balance.

So in this respect, ecology action is an ultimately conservative movement. It supports the oldest values of terrestrial existence. It advocates a return to the earth as provider, a refusal to participate in the wasteful plastic consumer economy of the twentieth century. And almost paradoxically, ecology action successfully carried out will result in a totally radical restructuring of our society.

The paradox is part of the Establishment's own fantasy. It is a manifestation of the destructive and irresponsible dream of the cowboy corporation heads who watched Tom Mix when they were kids and grew up to be magnates of frightening wealth and power, cowboy entrepreneurs who act out their grandiose daydreams on the battlefield of the dying American



landscape, the decaying American soul. The cowboys have named their uncontrolled delusion "progress." If progress is in its truest sense an insane, runaway cancer which feeds on the life tissues of this planet's biosphere, then ecology is without a doubt anti-progress.

But to measure progress strictly in terms of material production is to dismiss a more important dimension of progress: the improvement of man himself, the progress toward a free and peaceful world in which there is food, room, and clean air for all, a small (by current standards) and stable population, complete equality for everyone (irrespective of sex, color, creed, or political beliefs), vast areas of wilderness in which man can rediscover solitude, and an end to wars between small, dangerous nation-states. As far as this sort of progress goes, we have not scratched the surface.

Two alternatives remain. Either the cowboys are going to push further, ram-paging over their "infinite" plane until they bring us all to the edge of oblivion, or the spacemen are going to take control of their vessel and steer it off into a different direction.

Either way, the cowboy's ride is almost over.



L N S

Politics of Survival

Lenfestey

Three premises:

1) It is no good having perfectly pure air to breathe and water to drink and food to eat if everyone is killing everyone else.

2) It is no good having everyone joyfully relating to one another if there is no air to breathe or water to drink or food to eat.

3) It is no good to compromise.

The "Pollution of the Environment" has become a bandwagon political issue, everyone's safe issue of the 1970's, and all kinds of wierdos are climbing on. Which is not necessarily evil, but allows for opportunists and obscurantists to use the environmental issue to avoid dealing with other critical problems. Thus we have the Nixon administration doling out pious rhetoric (but no money) about the "quality of life," while we move into a time of "benign neglect" in race relations, and Nixon publicly treats the war as if it were over while privately he is enlarging it.

The real issue, for America and the world, is SURVIVAL. Man must learn how to live in partnership with animals and grasses, and with other human beings, or there is no future - for anything.

This means that certain fundamental assumptions and practices of America must be altered or abolished. "Quality of life" is precisely the right phrase, if one is willing to recognize that quality has nothing to do with quantity ("standard of living") but with an individual's certain sense of a right relation with the universe. All he needs for this is enough food and shelter to exist.

Quantity is killing America, and America is killing the world. America contains 6% of the world's population, but consumes 50% of the world's resources. This statistic is becoming a commonplace, but its implications are appalling. Resources are finite and we are madly squandering them, using them up. And we are drowning in our own offal.

"Quality of life" - What are we doing killing human beings (and a countryside) in Vietnam? What are we doing sealing off portions of cities as pockets of poverty in America? Why is it that some Americans must live with the fear of rats, and with police who are enemies? Why must some Americans live without the opportunity of hearing the silence of a forest, the high and narrow hush telling them, as it told Darwin, that perhaps there is something unnatural about man? Why must people not have time to care? What to do? Below are some of the necessary changes to be made if we want to look on our children with hope.

1) First - the essential first, we must STOP THE WAR, and dismantle the military-industrial complex. These institutions are both immediate and long range

sinkholes for money and brains. They are taking it all (look at Nixon's budget, although he tried to hide the facts). This money and talent - now devoted to a technology of destruction and a continual escalation of political tensions among human beings - an escalation toward Apocalypse - must immediately be focused on saving the air, water, trees, cities, people.

2) Power to the Powerless. America's inner cities are environmental disaster areas (not the people, but the places). We must give political power, through local control of the community, to the pockets of poverty in America. They must have this, for they lack the economic power of the suburbs. For example, to get people from the suburbs to downtown, new freeways invariably cut through the "cheapest" land: Black communities, parks, etc. (Highway 94 through St. Paul is a local example). We must maintain massive aid to these people for them to rehabilitate their communities. (It is one of America's major disgraces that people should have to organize against Urban Renewal of their communities because of the bureaucracy's fundamental inability to see and deal with the real needs of the community).

2b) Power to unused land - through an Unused Land Board - that considers the best uses for land, including leaving it unexploited.

3) Industry must pay the total cost of the production of its products, including especially the costs it does not pay today: disruption of the environment. Air and water must be completely clean. Wastes must be recycled.

4) We must have a Fully Recycling Economy. Waste cannot exist - it is an enormous strain on resources, space, the quality and aesthetics of the environment. Waste must be considered a resource.

5) We must cut down our personal and industrial Consumption radically (obviously the poor are not guilty here). We must need less things because things are destructive, both of the environment and of human relations.

6) We must control population. In absolute numbers, the earth and its resources are finite, and will sustain happily few more people than we have now. In personal terms, we must turn on to the experience of children, not the number of them. We must experience each other, everyone, in love the way a mother does her new child, an unspoken organic connection, the consuming tenderness which springs from the recognition of the fantastic gift of life.

Are all of those of the bandwagon willing to fight for these changes? Doubtful. But the issue is real - it is survival.

Continued on page 7.

ZPG Warns Prepare Now

It has been estimated that the human population of 6000 B.C. was about five million people, taking about one million years to get there from two and one-half million. By 1930 the population had reached two billion. At the present rate of reproduction of our species, it is estimated that by 1975 our population will reach four billion. Based on these statistics the doubling time for the world's population is now placed at about once every 37 years. If the growth rate for our species continues at its present rate for the next 900 years, there will be sixty million-billion people on this planet. This is about 100 persons for each square yard of the Earth's surface, land and sea.

However, we should not preoccupy ourselves with the grim possibilities of some 900 years hence. There are enough realities with which we will have to deal in the next ten years if we are to survive as a race.

Since most of us are aware of the problems of underdeveloped countries (such as India), it seems reasonable to stress the problems the developed countries will face; it is appropriate to concentrate on our own country, the United States.

The doubling time for the United States of America is presently estimated at about once every 67 years (our next doubling will be in less than 10 years). It is important that we stress that this does not simply mean that we will have twice as many people; it means that in addition, we will require twice as many schools, highways, hospitals, housing facilities, jails, factories, automobiles, public transportation facilities, parking lots; and have at least twice as much pollution. It is conceivable that the greatest portion of our country could be covered with concrete and asphalt. Simultaneously, this means that we will have fewer "open spaces," parks, and forests, and we will have less land set aside for agriculture. Paradoxically, we will have a far greater need for all of these than we presently have. The demands for food will certainly be greater (and it is estimated that in the United States alone, ten million people are now starving each year), and the means will be constantly diminishing. In 1966, while the population of the world increased by some 70 million people, there was no compensatory increase in food production. During that year, each person had 2% less food to eat, the reduction of course, not being uniformly distributed.

If the present trend continues, it is not conceivable that the United States could escape unscathed. Assuming that we were able to take care of our own multitudes (we do not presently do so), what would our position in a starving world be?

Would we not, as the fat cats of the world, be subject to invasion from starving nations?

There are some rather popular myths being circulated concerning food production. One of these myths deals with the fact that we presently have plenty of open space that will lend itself to food cultivation. The facts are simply that nearly all of the land in this country that would lend itself to food production is presently under cultivation. Vast land masses not under cultivation have not been developed for a variety of reasons: bad soil, lack of water, unsuitable climate, or a combination of these. But the point is moot. With a continued increase in population, open spaces would quickly succumb to the needs for housing, highways, etc., and all of the things necessary to our society

Another myth currently touted is "food from the sea." At the present time, we have no methods for "harvesting" the sea; we hunt the sea, and because of this our food supply from the sea is on the decline, just as our population is on the upswing. It is not expected that we will be able to increase our yield from the sea for at least another decade, if even then, and this will require much research, a good deal of money, and international cooperation to avoid pollution and over-fishing.

Prof. Kingsley Davis ("Science," November 10, 1967) points out that family planning does not serve the cause of population control: "The things that make family planning acceptable are the very things that make it ineffective for population control. By stressing the right of parents to have the number of children they want, it evades the basic question of population policy, which is

Minn. Environmental Control Citizens Assoc.

People Call for Action

A group of citizens and neighbors fighting against the depletion of our natural resources and the pollution of the air, water, and soil we depend on for survival.

Having witnessed the many assaults on our natural resources . . . our lakes and streams being fouled and degraded, the Mississippi River becoming an open sewer, Lake Superior being polluted by pesticides and taconite waste, the foreboding threat of radioactive poisoning from the "peaceful atom," the thin envelope of life-supporting air that clings to the earth's surface being contaminated beyond

belief . . . MECCA has committed itself and its resources to a defense of the environment. We represent you. We are fighting for your protection and that of your children and grandchildren. This is a monumental struggle that cannot be undertaken without your help.

Man has passed the point where he can exploit his natural resources and move on. He has reached the point where his environment -- the only air, water, and soil he has -- must not be further sacrificed to false notions of progress nor to short term economic goals.

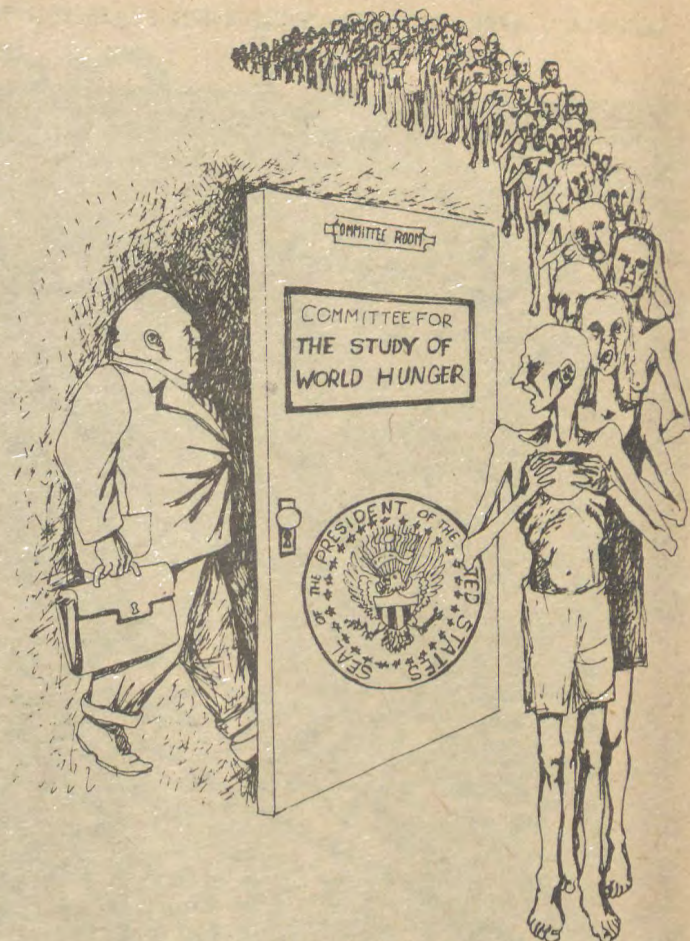
We believe that clear air and water and earth are natural rights of all men -- and that contamination of the environment by man-made garbage and wastes represents a crime of violence against humanity.

WHO MECCA IS:

A Minneapolis reporter described MECCA as a "loose coalition of politicians and conservationists." He should have included lawyers and writers, clergymen and farmers, artists and scientists, teachers and photographers, housewives and engineers, and many, many more. MECCA is all of these: people of diverse occupations, backgrounds, and beliefs pooling their talents and abilities in a fight to save our natural resources.

HOW MECCA WORKS:

MECCA is an action group. We evaluate pollution problems and act to solve them. Solutions, of course, seldom come easily as they collide head on with the profit motives of a polluter, or the tax problems of a community, or the vested interests of related groups, or conflicts of interest in places where support might nor-



HOW LONG CAN WE WAIT?

how to give societies the number of children they need. By offering only the means of couples to control fertility, it neglects the means for societies to do so." This is primarily a middle-class problem; one couple may want three children, another may want seven. Since all too often people want too many children, they plan to have more than society can care for, and in essence these parents are causing the population explosion.

We are summarizing the problems of overpopulation and we won't even attempt to cover some of the related problems

that are a cause of deep concern to all of us. They are vast and complicated. The question of pesticide use is dizzying -- the threat to our ecological balance terrifying. The sociological problems are becoming more obvious each day. But the common denominator is over-population -- and this is where we should begin.

We realize that many questions remain unanswered. Anyone desiring a more comprehensive study of overpopulation and related problems is referred to "The Population Bomb," by Dr. Paul R. Ehrlich, a Ballantine-Sierra Club book available in paper back.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

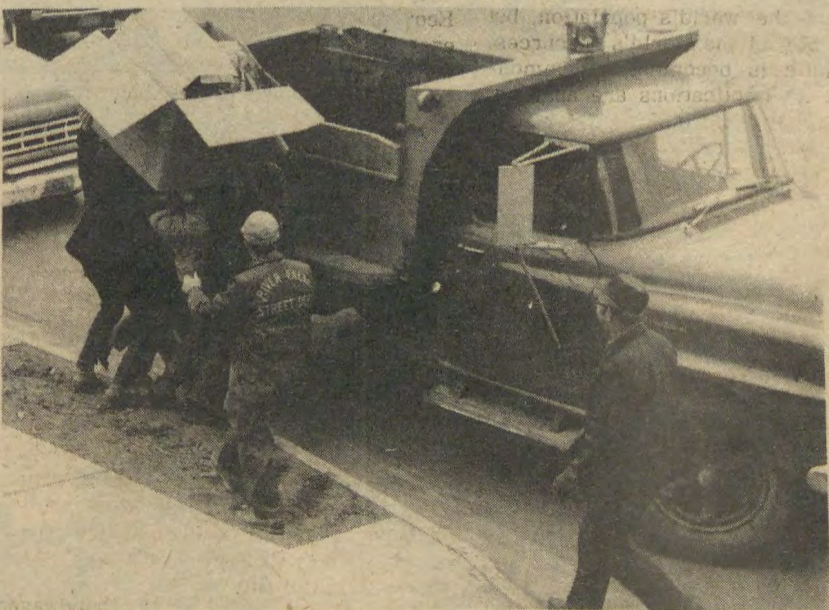
Individual action will be the most powerful weapon against overpopulation. It is important that couples planning their families today, limit themselves to having only two natural children; if larger families are desired, adopt after two. Write letters to your legislators expressing concern over the problem; write letters to newspapers, magazines, and television stations to stress the need for national attention.

JOIN ZERO POPULATION GROWTH, INC.

The value of joining such an organization as ZPG is that together we can accomplish something -- separately, however concerned, no one will hear our concern. If ten million citizens are deeply concerned about overpopulation or any other problem, if they remain separated from each other and therefore silent, who pays any attention? But, if those same ten million people join forces, make noise, and command attention, it is a sure thing that our elected officials, along with our mass media, will take us seriously.

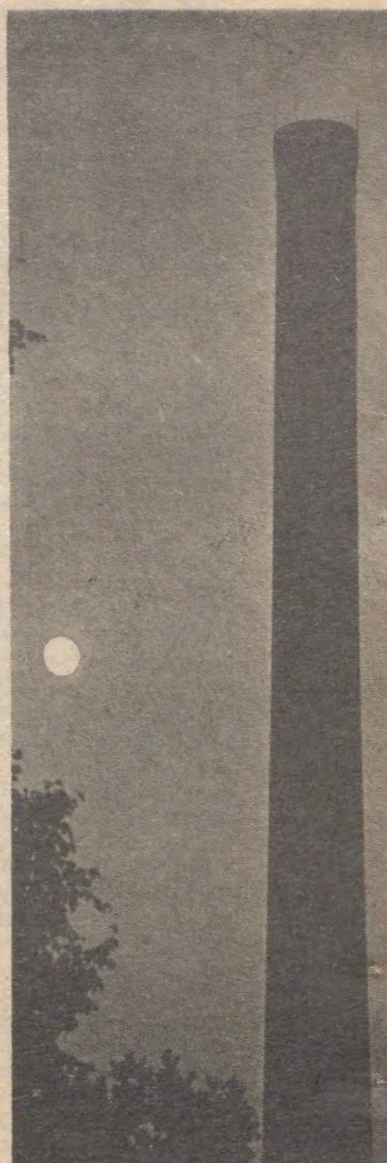
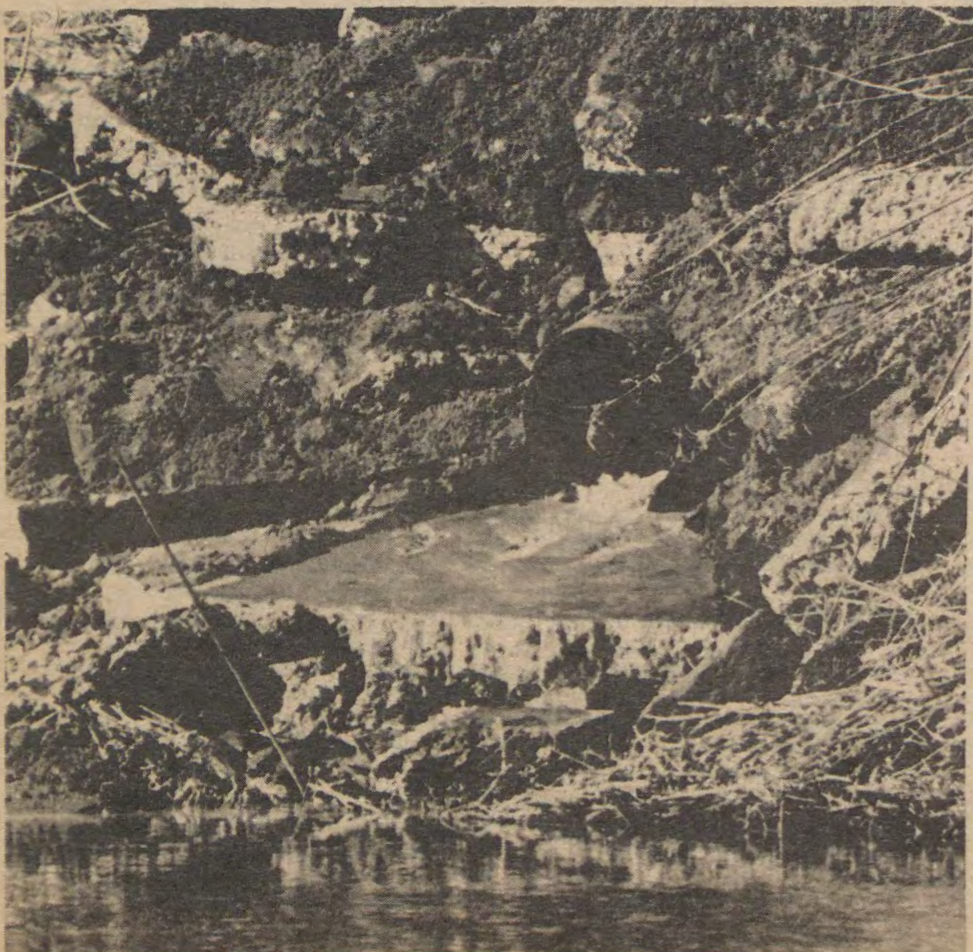
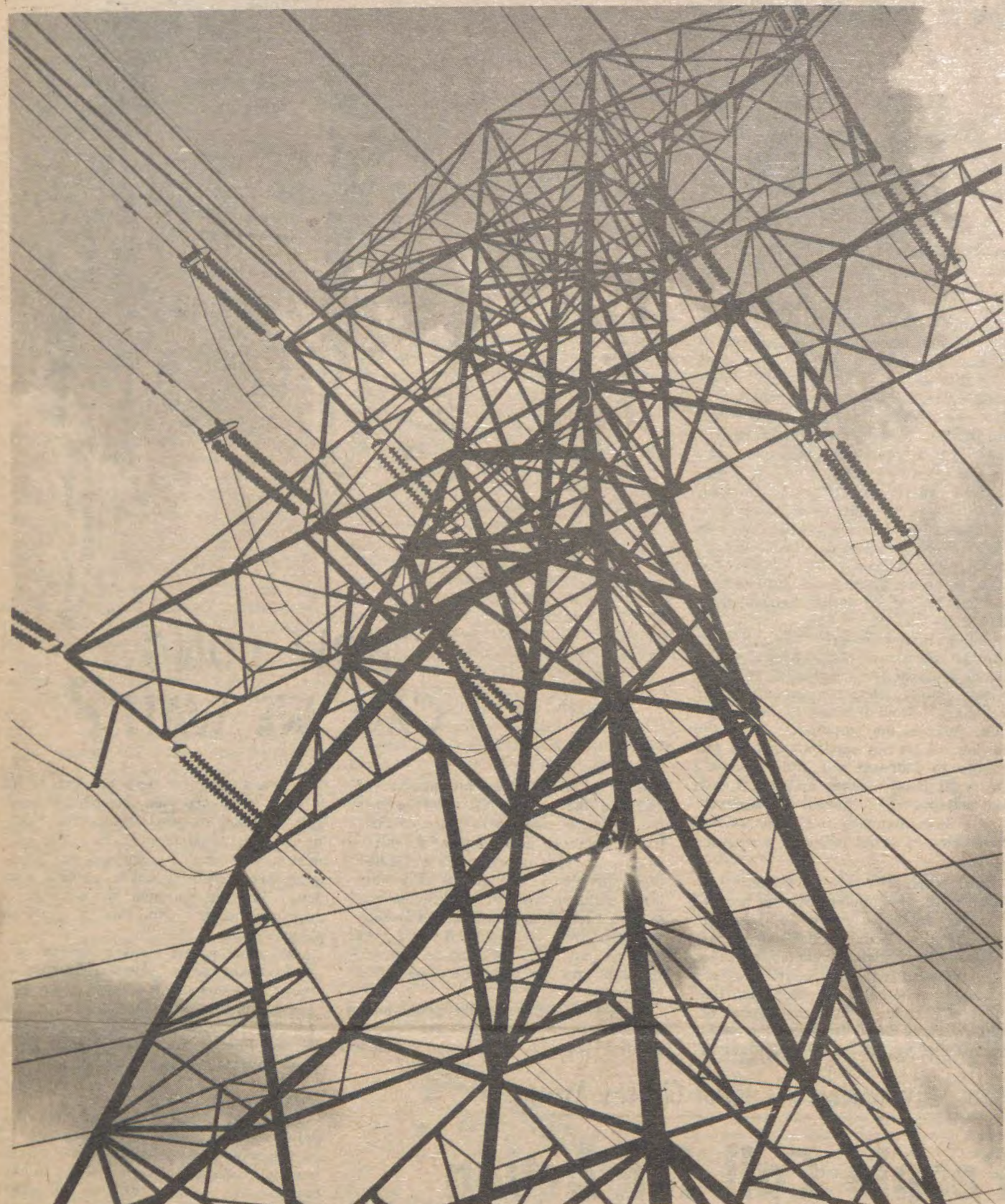
ZPG is an organization which has purposely avoided acquiring a "non-profit" or "tax-exempt" status. The reason for this is that one of the ultimate goals of this organization is to form a Lobby Group that will lobby in both State and Federal legislatures for better family-life education in our schools, repeal of archaic laws that run counter to reasonable birth-control programs, allocations of funds for more research into population problems and more research for better contraception (according to Morris Udall, the amount of money allocated by the Federal government for population research in 1968 would have run the Pentagon for THREE HOURS), tax structures to discourage rather than encourage additional births, public assistance designed to discourage rather than encourage additional births, and the establishment of a Department of Population.

Other plans for ZPG, Inc., include a massive "campaign" to educate the general public on the dangers of overpopulation, using all forms of advertising presently available.



Ecology action was a culmination of people working together as students were assisted by the River Falls Street Department on Saturday, April 18.

Continued on page 6.



THIS



OR THIS



ecology action is

- ... a movement emphasizing individual action and personal ethics, not a formal organization.
- ... creating new life styles to reduce the waste and destruction of our environment. Since Americans consume more, per capita, than any other country, we have the worst impact on the planet's life support system.
- ... using biodegradable soaps and cleaners or none at all.
- ... not taking a bath every day (unless you are dirty or stink).
- ... putting bricks in your toilet tank to conserve water when flushing.
- ... not using DDT and other pesticides with long residual effects.
- ... using natural predators -- not pesticides.
- ... recycling wastes -- paper, glass, aluminum (contact Tom Regan c/o Ecology Action Education Institute).
- ... refusing to buy products in non-returnable/reusable containers.
- ... growing your own.
- ... keeping a compost heap of grass and garden clippings and biodegradable garbage in your yard. No need to buy fertilizers.
- ... to begin or tend a park.
- ... requesting a free tree from the city for your yard.
- ... being vocal about waste and pollution. Write or phone those responsible and those charged with our protection. And keep informed.
- ... sponsoring neighborhood cleanups.
- ... fighting those individuals and companies which profit by the sale, use, or manufacture of products which are harmful to the ecological system or deplete natural resources. The earth is finite -- greed is infinite; profit is theft.
- ... voluntary birth control, abortions, and incentive programs for family limitation and planning.
- ... grass roots survival education.
- ... not driving a car (use and improve

public transportation and smog free locomotion).
 ... finding a project related to our survival and doing it; working alone or with others.
 ... supporting the Ecology Action Education Institute which exists totally by donations of your time and/or money.
 For more ideas and information on specific projects contact
 River Falls Ecology Action
 c/o James Lenfestey
 409 South Winter Street
 River Falls, Wis. 54022

BUT WHAT CAN I DO?

There are Ecology Action groups in many areas, and it would be great if they were everywhere. We are glad to connect you with individuals in your area who are on to the ecological scene. If something isn't happening, it will rest on you to start things. We can help with materials and references, as much as possible. Most of our material is not copyrighted. We have no desire to be exclusive, so if you can print and distribute the material, we appreciate your aid.

WHAT TO DO: Demonstrate against heavy polluters. Get publicity and a reputation for being a level-headed, reasonable, and uncompromisingly honest, unmonetary organization. Transcend class and generation. Avoid zealous movement rhetoric. Advise of alternate life styles which will reduce the American impact (the worst in the world) upon the planet's life support system. Reduce your own impact. Sponsor creek cleanups, waste recycling programs and co-ordinated efforts to convert cars to electricity or gas instead of gasoline. Encourage voluntary birth control, abortion, and incentive programs for family limitation.

Send representatives to all conferences to expound on the ecological point of view. If you don't belong to a group, go alone and find others there to start one. Don't let the big picture of the crisis get lost in the particular interests of the conferees. Insist on telling them what has to be done when they finish reporting on past efforts. Remind them that unless political change is accompanied by a new attitude toward the earth, we will still be in trouble twenty years from today. The problems of the world are not exclusively those of distribution. There is literally not enough food and resources for the current world population. The resource supply is finite and diminishing.

PROJECTS: Many events have taken place and they may be of some help to you as ideas. We held a "Smog-Free Locomotion Day," with a march through Berkeley via foot, bicycle, wagon, steam car, etc., to demonstrate non-polluting transportation. The event was centered around the burial of an internal combustion engine. There have been ecology teach-ins and an ecology fair.

Street theater is invaluable in gaining public awareness. On "Damn DDT Day," people paraded in a rally, dressed as grim reapers. Give thought in your projects to the image they present, not to be manipulative, but to present clear pictures to people, including the media, of what you think is wrong and what positive alternatives people should adopt.

OUR SERVICES: Ecology Action attempts to educate, inform, and help all interested people get organized into a movement aimed at the growing ecological problems of our culture. We have been functioning on three levels to date. We assist fledgling groups and individuals with printed information concerning ecological realities and attitudes. We set up exhibits and organize workshops in the community. Via public demonstrations, we try to involve the public, and to suggest thoughtfully, sound ecological solutions. We work from our office here in Berkeley, with a handful of volunteer workers, some of whom are conscientious objectors doing alternate service work. We are supported totally by donations. We are preparing a text called What's Ecology? for public schools, to be revised and published in January along with a teacher's aid.

FINALLY It is all up to you, either working alone or with others... talk to people, distribute information, organize specific projects, work with other groups or start your own. We can put you in touch with people near you. **JOIN US IN THE MOVEMENT FOR ECOLOGICAL SANITY.**



do it!



Back to the Earth

by Margel R. Johnson

Are you worried about the damage being perpetrated on us by pesticides and food additives? Maybe you should investigate the possibility of having a small garden plot and organically growing your vegetables. Not only will you enjoy eating healthier foods but great satisfaction can be derived from food you have grown yourself. Besides, it's the only way to get "that old-time flavor."

People usually think of a garden plot as being half an acre or larger in size. Actually, one needs very little space to grow a variety of vegetables and herbs. To provide year-round enjoyment an investment of some time and a few dollars for jars can mean canned vegetables for the winter months. Sometimes jars can be purchased from older, country folk selling out and moving to town. If a freezer is available that fresh-from-the-garden taste is always nice.

Once the decision has been made as to what you want to grow -- which, incidentally, can be a very pleasant way to spend an evening in March -- and after the garden plot has been worked up and organic fertilizers added to enrich the soil (I'll list some later), the actual planting can even be fun. Who says a garden has to be planted in straight rows? I plant mine in curved rows, almost horseshoe shape. To keep down the weeds and help fertilize at the same time mulches such as straw, hay, grass clippings and sawdust can be used. Some people even use old carpet and newspapers.

A few tips on controlling plant and insect diseases might be helpful.

1. Ladybugs and praying mantis egg cases, important insect predators, may be ordered from Bio-Control Company, Rt. 2, Auburn, California.

2. Toads, shrews and birds are also valuable in controlling pests.

3. Put coffee grounds in your planting row with root vegetables to keep away worms.

4. Set saucers of beer out nightly to kill off slugs.

5. Any of the following planted here and there in the garden will help repel insects: mint, savory, basil, parsley, onions, leeks, chives, garlic, dill, rosemary, sage, marigolds and geraniums.

6. A non-poisonous spray which can be used as a general spray can be made by buying a jar of the hottest pickled peppers you can find. Mash them or put them in the blender and liquify as much as possible. Strain through a piece of cloth. When ready to use dilute with water at the rate of about 4 parts water to 1 of liquid.

Some of the following organic fertilizers

can be obtained from Equity Co-op and others can be ordered through them: ground phosphate, granite, limestone, basalt rock, potash rock, cottonseed meal, blood meal, bone meal.

Do make your own compost pile. Use grass clippings, fallen leaves, deadtwigs, weeds from the garden, and all the organic garbage a household accumulates. Build it in layers - a layer of refuse, a layer of dirt, and a layer of any of the above organic fertilizers to help speed up decomposition, if desired, another layer of refuse, etc. Sprinkle each layer with water.

Hopefully, the city will in the future, as some cities are already doing, have sewage sludge and compost available to the public.

A must for the organic gardener is **ORGANIC GARDENING** magazine, published by Rodale Press, Inc., 33 East Minor Street, Emmaus, Pa. 18049. A one-year subscription costs \$5.85.

If gardening is out of the question for you I strongly recommend that you purchase a copy of **Euell Gibbons STALKING THE WILD ASPARAGUS**, published by David McKay Company and now available in paperback for \$2.95. This is a delightful book on the recognition, gathering, preparation and use of the natural foods that grow wild all about us. Even if you do garden this book will help you acquire some new tastes and experiences.

The new **GUIDE TO ORGANIC FOOD SHOPPING AND ORGANIC LIVING**, compiled by the editors of **ORGANIC GARDENING**, will be in print soon - by May. If you want to reserve your copy send \$1 to "Organic Guide," Emmaus, Pa. 18049.

Packed into one handy volume are the up-to-the-minute facts and findings about "Where to Buy Organic Foods" - complete with a list that specifies products, deliveries, etc. Along with it will go articles on shopping for better foods, organic merchandising groups and club purchasing. "Who Sells Organic Fertilizers" represents another latest-listing feature, as does "Who Grows Organic Foods," "The Organic Gardening Clubs of America," plus a new list of safe products - everything from household cleaners to gasoline.

A pinpointed feature on "How to Live Ecologically" will be followed by full listings of the Ecology Action groups throughout the nation - along with the programs and projects at schools and colleges everywhere in the U.S. "Environment in Education" will detail the many new dynamic courses in survival ecology, gardening, compost-making, etc.



Opinion The Human Revolution

by Phil Paulson

There is without question the fact that the most significant cause of pollution comes directly and indirectly from industry. How long can we survive?

The late President Dwight Eisenhower coined the contemporary slogan: "Military-Industrial Complex." It is the military-Industrial Complex that controls America economically and politically. So, will this present political-economic order in the country perpetuate its power at the cruel price of destroying our environment?

Poisonous abiotic substances are polluting the air we breathe, water we drink, and land we reside on. You little polluter. Yes, we can sense you, smell you, taste you, touch you and hear you. Alas, we know where you came from.

President Richard Nixon in his State of the Union message said, "The automobile is our worst polluter of the air." Do you think for one moment that his administration will demand automobile manufacturers to stop production and the public to stop driving? No. Never. From combustion engines to industrial furnaces, manufacturers are more concerned in making a profit than to intensify research into non-polluting energy sources. Government has failed in like manner to set increasingly strict standards and strengthen enforcement proceeding against manufacturers.

The luxury of packaging has aided in our affluence at the expense of declaring war with nature. Our homes, places of work and streets have been damned by the careless manufacturers. Have the

manufacturers cared about our environment? Why don't the paper mills take a moral position about their contribution to pollution? It is about time to point our finger at the military-industrial complex not just the "litterbug." Right on!

Pesticides (especially DDT) have provided the luxury to kill off bugs and insects that destroy crops and that cause discomfort to people. Yet, it has proven harmful to people, burned the soil, and killed fish and birds. This chemical warfare has caused severe damage to nature. The government's token stand against chemical manufacturers should not be surprising.

The water we drink is increasingly becoming unsafe for human consumption in many parts of the country. Lake Erie is an example among many bodies of water that lies in an aquatic cemetery. The remaining rivers, streams and lakes are waiting on industry to let up on its strangle hold. Industrial sewer pipes have been dumping raw chemical wastes into our water resting on the land. Yes, does government dare to turn its key on those rich industrialists who finance their campaigns?

America is insane over profits, properties and luxuries. So, it is a foregone conclusion that we are plagued with pollution under their power structure. In order to grapple with the problem of pollution, America must be free to evaluate its old values and respond to new values.

America must give primary consideration to staying alive. We must agree that it is better to be alive than dead. Are profits so dear and property so sweet as to purchase at the price of biospheric destruction? We should not doubt the motives of the military-industrial complex. Industry will fight to keep its profit and its military hacks --- pollution shall continue under their power structure.

What can I do?

As Jerry Rubin, author of "Do It" said, "Politics is not voting -- politics is a lifestyle." We have laws on the books to fight industries and municipalities from contributing to pollution. Yet, the economic vested interest groups have repudiated the laws and government hasn't pressed charges. Time is running out, human beings. Should we destroy that system that aims to destroy us? The industrial revolution must end to make way for the human revolution!

Politics of Survival

Cont. from page 2.

Barry Commoner says that "the war in Viet Nam represents the first ecological warfare conducted by the United States since the attacks on the American Indians." (Sat. Rev., Apr. 4, 1970, p. 52.) What about that? Is it true that: "We have made Viet Nam an ecological catastrophe. Viet Nam was once capable of producing a marketable surplus of grains and rice. Now America must feed her. We have left more than 500,000 acres barren. American bombs have pock marked the country with more than 2.5 million craters as much as 30 feet deep. We have destroyed a quarter of the country's mangrove forest, which shelter protein-rich fish and shellfish; in their place grow rat-infested forests of bamboo. ('Crop destruction,' says Dr. Jean Mayer, Professor of Nutrition at Harvard, 'constitutes a war measure primarily, if not exclusively directed at children, the elderly and pregnant and lactating women.' Liberation, Vietnam Supplement)

"The destruction of the environment of Vietnam is not simply a by-product of the war. We are guilty of a direct, devastating, and inexcusable assault on that nation's ecosystem. The United States spent 73 million on defoliation in Vietnam in the last fiscal year alone. Much of the money went for the purchase of Agent Orange, a powerful herbicide containing 2,4,5T, which has been shown to produce birth defects in laboratory animals. ('The application of 2,4,5T has

been at an average concentration of 13 times that recommended for use in this country; competent scientists have calculated that some Vietnamese civilians could well be absorbing 600 times the amount of 2,4,5T considered safe for Americans.' -- Minn. Trib.) We have dumped defoliants on Vietnam at the rate of some 10,000 pounds a month, blackening in a single year 6,600 square miles -- an area about the size of the state of Connecticut." (from a statement by Denis Hayes, National Coordinator of the Environmental Teach-In, before the House Subcommittee on Conservation and Natural Resources, Mar. 13, 1970).

** See, for example, I.F. Stone's dismantling of Nixon's budget.

"The budget presentation is shot through with deceit. 'For the first time in two full decades,' Nixon boasted in the message, 'the Federal Government will spend more money on human resource programs than on national defense.' This was illustrated with a pie chart showing 41 cents of the budget dollar going to human resources and only 36 cents to the national defense.

"If the government's huge social security and other trust fund receipts are deducted, we can see that the military spends 53 cents of every dollar of the general revenues. If the huge social security payments and other trust funds are deducted from the 'human resources' account, then we see that these get only 7 cents of every dollar. . . Even so, 'human resources' are padded by including in them 8.5 billion in veteran's bene-

fits, although up to now these have been on the national defense side of the budget as part of the cost of fighting past wars. As for the fight against pollution, this is buried in 'natural resources' which altogether get one and two-tenths of every dollar in the consolidated budget, one tenth of a cent less than last year. The total appropriations asked to fight pollution of the air (106 million) and water (465 million) next year total 571 million. In a budget in which 53 cents of every general revenue dollar goes to the military, only four tenths of a cent will go to save the air we breathe and the water we drink though it soon be too late to save them. Nixon's anti-pollution rhetoric is miles from his budgetary realities." (I. F. Stone's Bi-Weekly, Feb. 23, 1970)

This Ecology Supplement has been brought to you through the combined efforts of Helen Alexander, Gene D'Orsogna, Margel Johnson, Karen Kleibacker, Jim Lenfestey, Patsy Lonie, Robert F. Nelson, David Olson, Russ Parker, Bill Paterek, Phil Paulson, Pat Rusch, David Sharp, Thomas R. Smith, Richard Souigny, Peggy Syzkitka, Cuggs Milligan, Kitty Williams and Ian, all of whom had something to do with it. In some cases, omissions were made because we had enough good material for 16 pages instead of 8. We thank all who contributed. We would also like to thank the VOICE staff for their cooperation.

SMOKEY THE BEAR SUTRA

By Gary Snyder

Once in the Jurassic, about 150 million years ago, the Great Sun Buddha in this corner of the Infinite Void gave a great Discourse to all the assembled elements and energies: to the standing beings, the walking beings, the flying beings, and the sitting beings--even grasses, to the number of thirteen billion, each one born from a seed, were assembled there: a Discourse concerning Enlightenment on the planet Earth.

"In some future time, there will be a continent called America. It will have great centers of power called such as Pyramid Lake, Walden Pond, Mt. Rainier, Big Sur, Everglades, and so forth; and powerful nerves and channels such as Columbia River, Mississippi River, and Grand Canyon. The human race in that era will get into troubles all over its head, and practically wreck everything in spite of its own strong intelligent Buddha-nature."

"The twisting strata of the great mountains and the pulsings of great volcanoes are my love burning deep in the earth. My obstinate compassion is schist and basalt and granite, to be mountains, to bring down the rain. In that future American Era I shall enter a new form: to cure the world of loveless knowledge that seeks with blind hunger; and mindless rage eating food that will not fill it."

And he showed himself in his true form of SMOKEY THE BEAR.

A handsome smokey-colored brown bear standing on his hind legs, showing that he is aroused and watchful.

Bearing in his right paw the Shovel that digs to the truth beneath appearances; cuts the roots of useless attachments, and flings damp sand on the fires of greed and war.

His left paw in the Mudra of Comradely Display--indicating that all creatures have the full right to live to their limits and that deer, rabbits, chipmunks, snakes, dandelions, and lizards all grow in the realm of the Dharma;

Wearing the blue work overalls symbolic of slaves and laborers, the countless men oppressed by a civilization that claims to save but only destroys;

Wearing the broad-brimmed hat of the West, symbolic of the forces that guard the Wilderness, which is the Natural State of the Dharma and the True Path of man on earth; all true paths lead through mountains--

With a halo of smoke and flame behind, the forest fires of the kali-yuga, fires caused by the stupidity of those who think things can be gained and lost whereas in truth all is contained vast and free in the Blue Sky and Green Earth of One Mind;

Round-bellied to show his kind nature and that the great earth has food enough for everyone who loves her and trusts her;

Trampling underfoot wasteful freeways and needless suburbs; smashing the worms of capitalism and totalitarianism;

Indicating the Task: his followers, becoming free of cars, houses, canned food, universities, and shoes, master the Three Mysteries of their own Body, Speech, and Mind; and fearlessly chop down the rotten trees and prune out the sick limbs of this country America and then burn the leftover trash.

Wrathful but Calm, Austere but Comic, Smokey the Bear will illuminate those who would help him; but for those who would hinder or slander him,

HE WILL PUT THEM OUT.

FERTILITY

Blue lands yawn about the hard lips of a mouth encircling the sky In a silence left by the last car who rushed flaming over the hill and out of the ear's mind layers of bird beast & insect sound emerge like stereophonic strata of spring

Thomas R. Smith

Thus his great Mantra:
Namah samanta vajranam chanda maharoshana
Sphataya hum traka ham mam

"I DEDICATE MYSELF TO THE UNIVERSAL DIAMOND BE THIS RAGING FURY DESTROYED"

And he will protect those who love woods and rivers, Gods and animals, hobos and madmen, prisoners and sick people, musicians, playful women, and hopeful children;

And if anyone is threatened by advertising, air pollution, or the police, they should chant SMOKEY THE BEAR'S WAR SPELL:
DROWN THEIR BUTTS
CRUSH THEIR BUTTS
DROWN THEIR BUTTS
CRUSH THEIR BUTTS

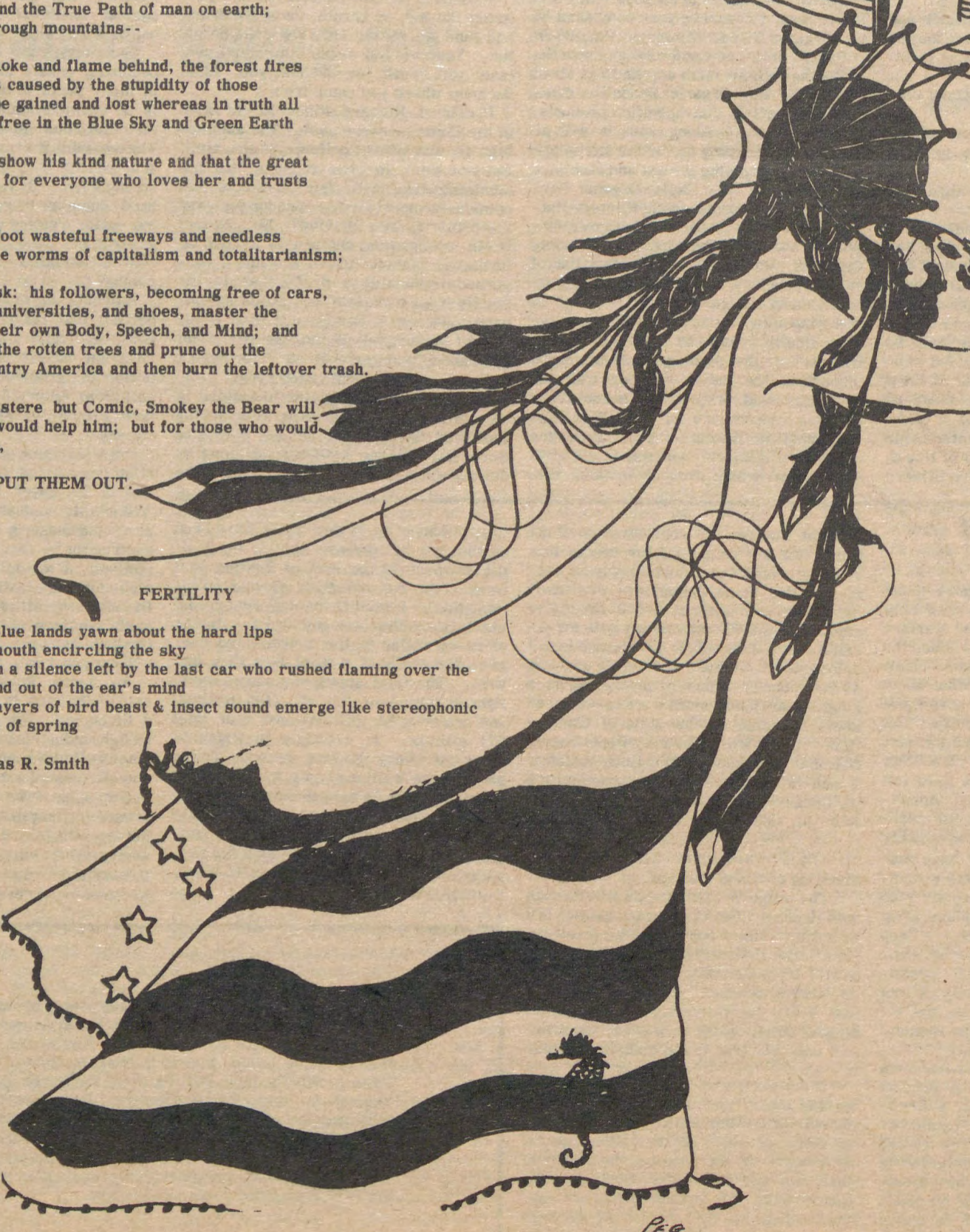
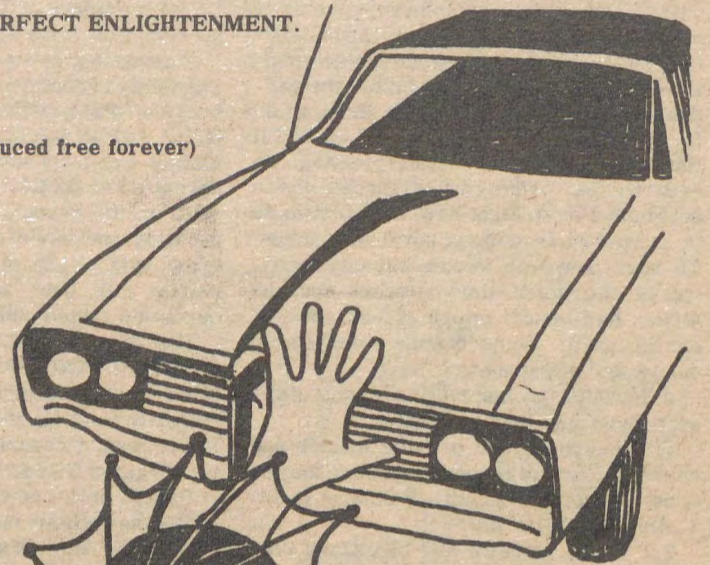
And SMOKEY THE BEAR will surely appear to put the enemy out with his vajra-shovel.

Now those who recite this Sutra and then try to put it in practice will accumulate merit as countless as the sands of Arizona and Nevada, Will help save the planet Earth from total oil slick, Will enter the age of harmony of man and nature, Will win the tender love and caresses of men, women, and beasts Will always have ripe blackberries to eat and a sunny spot under a pine tree to sit at,

AND IN THE END WILL WIN HIGHEST PERFECT ENLIGHTENMENT.

thus have we heard.

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DAY DREAM PSYCHOSIS

I sit in my swivel chair In my office. I sit with The sun on my left Shoulder, a calculator at My side, files behind me And a quiet typewriter.

Business is slow today There are long silent Moments interrupted By soft office noises And traffic outside.

I sit in my swivel chair In my office and close My eyes. The sun fully Shining on me, my wife At my side, memories behind Me and I quietly write.

I sit in my swivel chair In my office. I sit with The sun blotted out by a Shade. I swing to my Wife at my side, punch Her keys and add columns Of figures. I swivel to My memories behind me And under "B" find the Specifications I need, Then shift to my quiet Writing and beat out A "demand payment" note.

I love those quiet moments My office has, when I Can think of my beautiful Calculator and her long Beautiful hair; When My files flash before Me and I recall my youth, And the things I used to quietly typewriter.

David L. Sharp