

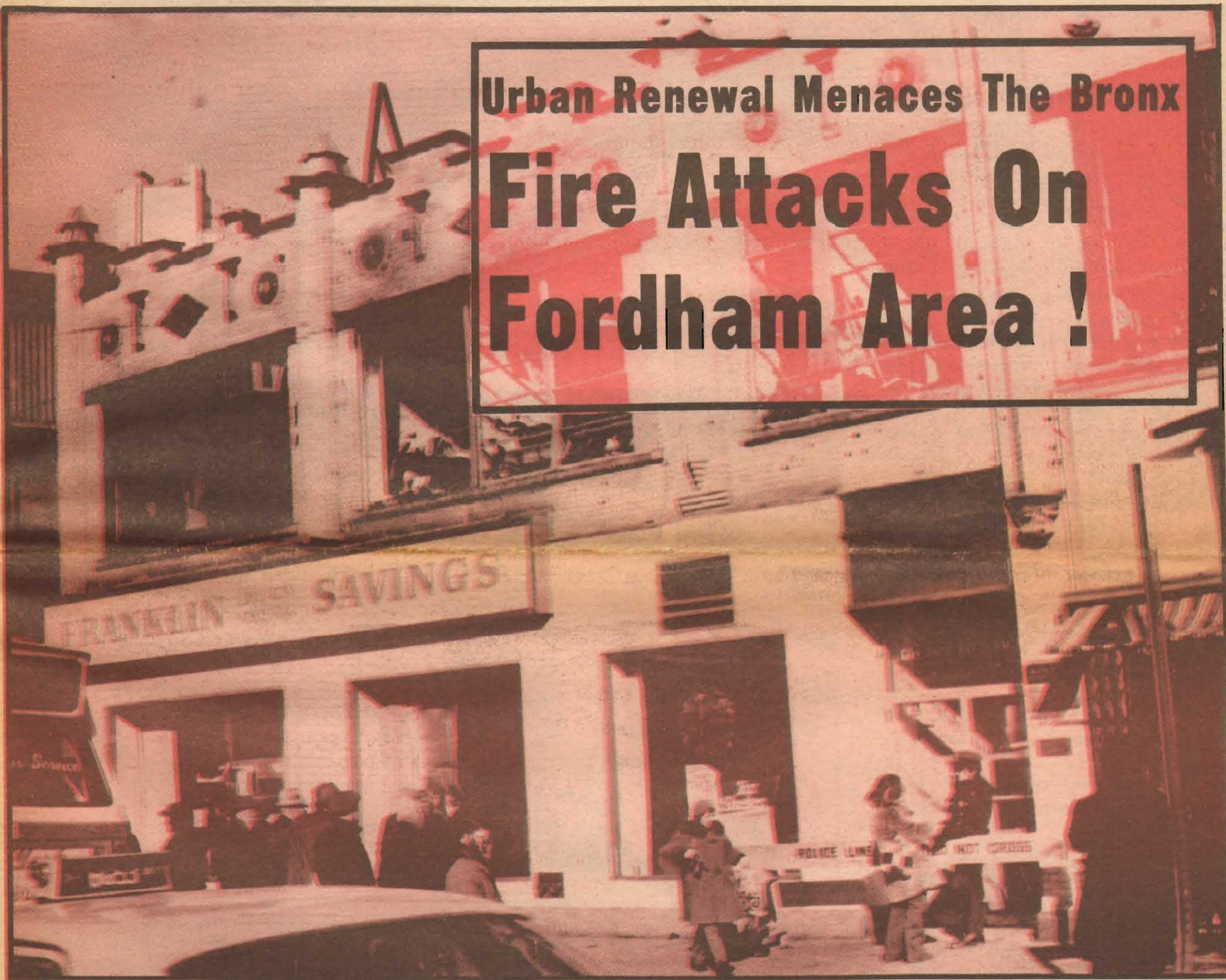
WHITE LIGHTNING

A Revolutionary Organization Dedicated To Serving The People

No. 30 March 1975

109 East 184th Street 584-5984

Urban Renewal Menaces The Bronx Fire Attacks On Fordham Area !



INSIDE:

Brutality Exposed At Women's Prison

Methadone Counselor Spills The Beans

Special 4 Page Section On Urban Renewal

Arson Attack On
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FOOD Not PROFITS

We've all seen the news photos of children with swollen stomachs, bulging eyes, and toothpick limbs; their mothers holding them up to the camera and weeping. These children are starving, and there's little hope for their survival. Many millions have died of hunger already this year.

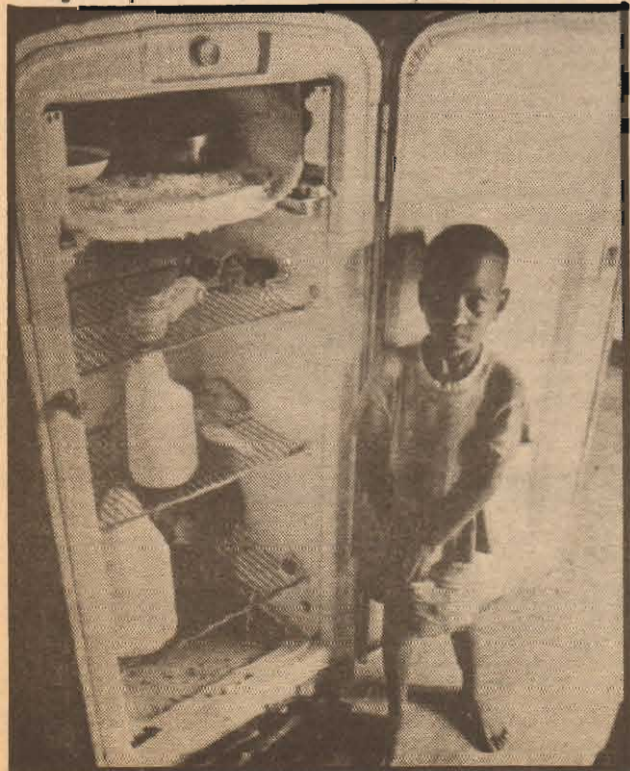
Most of us try to do what we can. We throw a few bucks into a passing hat. We wring our hands. We feel guilty.

We feel guilty because we're told that we eat too much, that we're too fat. Every where we turn, there's another supermarket and another McDonald's. Americans make up only 6% of the world's population, but we consume 40% of the world's resources. So we grow ashamed.

Starvation is real, but are American working people the ones responsible? Today, 25% of our own population lives below the poverty line. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, it takes a wage of at least \$160 a week in NYC to support a family of four at a minimum level--if the family spends no more than \$100 a month on rent! In large parts of NYC, as many as 2/3 of the families have to live on less. 18 million people--1 out of every 12 Americans--are already using food stamps. The government's own figures show that, even with the maximum food stamp allotment, a family of four would fall \$10 short of its minimum food needs each month.

But people here and abroad are starving, and somebody is responsible. How do we explain it?

We know that in this country nothing gets produced unless some corporation can make a profit out of it. The bigger the profit, the more likely it is the item will be produced. Giant food companies grab up vast amounts of land here and in the underdeveloped countries. They turn production from cheap necessities like grain to high-priced commodities like beef cattle. A large part of the grain that's left gets bought up to feed the cattle (a steer eats



"The doomsayers say we are in trouble. I say this is false, that most of the world's people eat better than any other time in history. We are not in a food crisis in this country or in the world." Sec. Butz



6 lbs. of grain to put on 1 lb. of beef). The meat ends up being sold in the richer areas of the richer countries. The poor go hungry.

In Costa Rica, for example, big U.S. corporations raised meat production 100% in the last 10 years. But Costa Ricans get to eat 25% less meat than 10 years ago! It gets shipped instead to the U.S. where it supplies the new McDonald's which opened down the block from Burger King across the street from Gino's. Starve some to feed others--that's what pays!

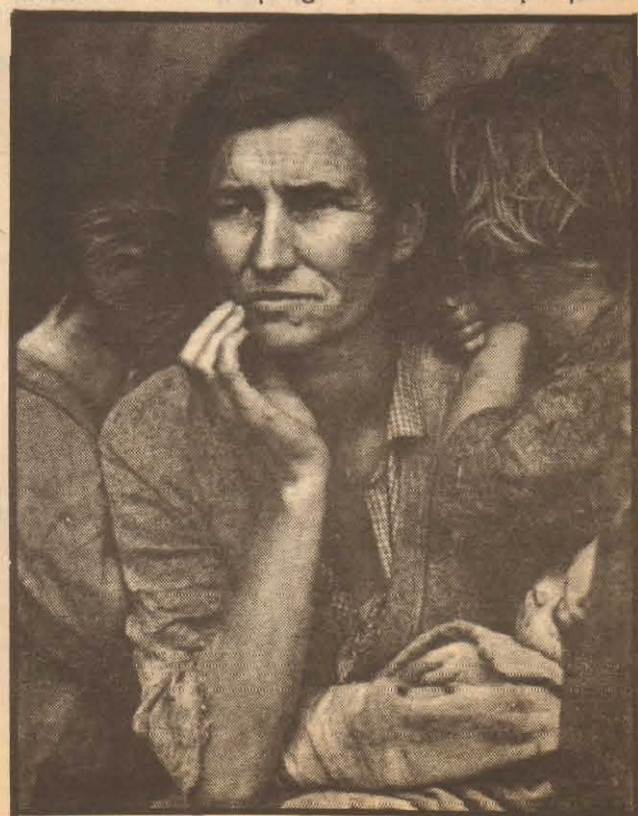
"But," you ask, "isn't it ordinary people like ourselves who demand these high-price, high-profit foods? Isn't the food industry simply giving us what we ask for?" Sure. But we've been bullied into demanding these foods as a result of the millions the food industry has spent on high pressure advertising. It is they who tell us nonstop that our greatness as a nation, our very existence,

depends on gobbling a Big Mac, french fries, and a coke. It is they who created the situation where it is easier to buy the expensive processed fast foods than the wholesome, cheaper food that makes for a balanced diet. It's gotten so, with all the additives and preservatives in the food we get, we might as well dine at the drug counter!

So the underdeveloped countries starve. Some of us starve too. The rest of us get the wrong kinds of food at sky-high prices, and the food industry cries all the way to the bank.

What can we do as first steps? We can examine the kinds of food we eat and begin altering our diets to include cheaper, more healthful foods. We can quit eating at the fast food gyp joints. We can build food co-ops, where people collectively buy and distribute food at much cheaper prices since middlemen are cut out and nobody makes a profit (call White Lightning if you want information on joining a food co-op or starting your own). This seems like the best alternative for the present.

Ultimately, food production and distribution must be in our hands, all of the people, so that everyone gets their fair share. As long as there is a profit system, starvation and malnutrition will plague the world's people.



Tavern Bombed

The January 24th bombing of Fraunces Tavern in Manhattan by the FALN resulted in the deaths of 4 executives and many serious injuries to innocent bystanders. According to the statement of the FALN, the bombing was done in response to the latest attacks on the Puerto Rican independence movement. "We did this in retaliation for the CIA ordered bomb that murdered Angel Luis Chavonner and Eddie Ramos, two innocent young workers who supported independence for Puerto Rico and the conscienceless maiming of 10 innocent persons and one beautiful Puerto Rican child, 6 years old, in a Mayaguez, Puerto Rico dining place on Saturday, January 11, 1975. . ."

Despite the FALN communique, the Jan. 24th bombing was not a clearcut attack against "reactionary executives." The bomb was placed in such a way that it was a matter of chance as to who was killed. 4 waiters could have been killed instead of 4 executives.

The Puerto Rican "government", in league with the U.S. government, has resorted to terror bombings and use of armed forces to put down recent uprisings by Puerto Rican workers. We understand the justified frustration of fighters for Puerto Rican independence. However, using the same tactics of indiscriminate terror against innocent people that are being used by the U.S. and Puerto Rican governments tends to discredit the Puerto Rican people's struggle for self-determination.

The struggle for Puerto Rican independence has been going on for many years, first against Spain and now against U.S. colonialism. The situation is unbearable for the Puerto Rican people. Wages are 50% lower than in the U.S. High unemployment and horrible working conditions have caused massive migration of Puerto Ricans to the U.S. Experimental usage of birth control devices by large drug corporations have forced the sterilization of 33% of all Puerto Rican women of child bearing age. The Puerto Rican struggle has taken many forms, ranging from passive resistance to armed actions.

We support the right of people to defend themselves in the struggle for a decent life by any means necessary, including armed struggle. An act of random terror which jeopardizes innocent lives is not necessary and only serves to confuse and divide us.

Gypsy Cab Drivers Protest Police Brutality

Last month 75 private radio-dispatched taxi drivers staged a "drive-in" protest at the 46th Precinct on Ryer Ave. in the Bronx.

The drivers were protesting the handcuff beating of Ismail Santiago during his arrest for a traffic violation by Ptl. Charles Hanly. Santiago may lose 90% of the sight of one eye. Police claim that the beating resulted when Santiago "seemed to go into a karate posture".

A spokesman for the drivers, Jose Rivera, explained that the drivers were protesting not only the brutality toward Santiago, but the fact that the cops seem to fill their arrest quotas by picking on non-medallion cabs.



Sisters from Fordham Road and Loring Place

Fire At Fordham Rd. And Loring Pl.

A fire destroyed a delicatessen on Loring Place and Fordham Rd. on Feb. 17 at 8:00 A.M. The deli is located next to two stores which have been vacant for a long time.

This was only one of a series of "accidental" and mysterious fires which have occurred in the Fordham area since Christmas. White Lightning is conducting investigations into the fires (see pages 7-10) and if you have any information relating to them, please call us at 584-5984.

STOP LAND BUYERS FROM MAKING FIRES!



Scene of fire at Fordham & Loring

Cops Harass Mother & Child

Several weeks ago, a Puerto Rican woman named Nidia waited in a car with her 2 year old son, Mathew, while her husband was making a bank withdrawal. The car was parked by a bus stop on Fordham & Jerome. They'd gone to the bank because Mathew was sick and they needed money for medicine.

Two cops from the 46th Pct. rolled up & ordered her to move the car. She said her husband would be right back and she couldn't drive the car. One cop yelled, "I don't have to wait, I'll drag you out of that car and down to the precinct!" Nidia got out with her baby and the cops followed her to the bank. More cops showed up & they really began to hassle and threaten her with arrest. She begged them just to give her a summons and leave her alone. They called her names like "psycho" and "crazy", driving her to hysterics. They finally gave her 2 summons: 1 for the parking violation and 1 for disorderly conduct. She pleaded not guilty to the disorderly conduct charge and her hearing will be next month.

This is an example of the racist contempt that some cops in the 46th Pct. have for the people in our community.

Attica Witness Exposes Torture

Charles "Flip" Crowley, prosecution witness against five Attica Brothers accused of murder and kidnap, testified in January that he gave false testimony against the brothers because he had been tortured by N.Y. State Police and prison guards. Crowley, a black former prisoner at Attica, said he had been sodomized several times with a night stick, threatened with knives and guns, shown the bloody body of a prisoner who had been killed in the Attica Massacre, and was made to crawl on the floor, kiss the feet of the guards, shouting, "White Power." During this torture, the state officials demanded he provide incriminating testimony against prisoners whom the authorities believed to be the leaders of the uprising. As a result of the torture, Crowley agreed to "back up" stories fed to him by the state officials implicating four of the five men now on trial in connection with the death of two other prisoners. The five men were indicted more than two years after the event. Crowley gave testimony against the brothers to criminal investigators and to the all white grand jury which brought back all 42 indictments against prisoners.

Crowley was an elected representative of E Block prisoners during the uprising and made a much publicized speech to the prisoners in D Yard. Flip Crowley's testimony is the clearest and most complete example in the trial so far of the lengths that the state will go to obtain testimony against the Attica Brothers.

On September 17, I gave an interview under an atmosphere of the most intense terror that I have ever known. I gave an interview, indeed, to save my life. I felt and knew within myself that had I not spoken to the two officers of the law at the hospital, that I would not have been allowed to live."



City University Students Fight Cutbacks



The NYC "budget crisis" gets lots of publicity these days, mostly around Mayor Beame's threat to fire thousands of sanitationmen, cops, and firemen. But a critical part of the crisis gets very little space, and that's its effect on the 250,000 students of City University (CUNY).

Since 1970, CUNY has had a policy of "Open Admissions". Any NYC high school graduate is guaranteed acceptance by one of the colleges that make up CUNY. For the children of most working class families, Open Admissions seems like the last hope for a decent education and a good job.

Even in the best of times, Open Admissions can work only if CUNY makes adequate financial aid available to students; only if class sizes are small; and only if remedial programs are available to compensate for the nearly complete breakdown of the elementary and high schools in working class neighborhoods. Without these things, Open Admissions is a fraud, a revolving

door you enter only to be instantly flung back on the street.

Now, at every branch of City University, the budget crisis is being used as an excuse to hack away at Open Admissions, a program the city fathers were never happy with. The CUNY budget has been slashed \$30 million. Teachers, particularly the younger ones most sensitive to the needs of Open Admission students, are being fired. Tutoring has been cut back--as much as 50% at some schools. Counseling services have been curtailed. Library hours have been shortened. Classes have grown larger and more impersonal. Bilingual programs have been cut, and 3rd World Studies in general have come under heavy attack. The new CUNY budget allocates \$2,800 for each of the many thousands of new students, but it finds almost \$1 million to buy, fix up, and furnish homes for the Chancellor and 6 college presidents.

Worst of all, the pressure to force stu-

dents to pay tuition has increased. Even members of the Board of Higher Education are now pushing for tuition in an institution that has always been free. Tuition means the death of all hope of a college education for the vast majority of NY's working people.

From all units of City University, students have gotten together in the CUNY Fightback Coalition to stop the attacks on Open Admission and free tuition. In a whole series of teach-ins and demonstrations on the campuses, at the Board of Higher Ed, and at City Hall, students are demanding:

- NO CUTS IN FINANCIAL AID OR STUDENT SERVICES.
- NO TUITION.
- NO FIRINGS OF TEACHERS OR STAFF.
- END ALL ATTACKS ON BLACK, PUERTO RICAN, AND ASIAN STUDIES.
- END ALL ATTACKS ON OPEN ADMISSIONS.

M.D. Convicted For "Illegal" Abortion

BOSTON(LNS) Dr. Kenneth Edelin was convicted on February 15 for manslaughter

of a fetus he legally aborted. The conviction was handed down by an all white, mostly male and predominantly Roman Catholic jury.



Dr. Edelin received one year's probation

"I just hope that this decision today will not throw us back where women will have to continue to put their lives and their health on the line," the 36-year-old black obstetrician said upon hearing the guilty verdict returned after a week trial in Boston.

"During illegal abortions, not only did the fetuses die, but many women died," said Edelin. "And many women suffered... And

the problem is, the women who die are poor women, and mainly black women. You can not legislate abortion out of the picture. They tried that for years. If it's going to exist, they ought to at least make it safe... I believe very strongly in a woman's right to determine what happens to her own body."

The Boston Socialist Feminists said in a recent press conference: "This trial is an attack on all women. This fight has gone on in the streets, in the courts, in the state legislatures and in the U.S. Congress. We have fought and we will continue to fight for the fundamental right to control our bodies, our lives, and the right to have children when we want them." The organization also made demands for "improved health care for everyone, and adequate income to support our families."

sabotage. It is clear that most of the women involved, including the leadership of the OEF, knew nothing about the CIA connection.

Incredible as this may sound the evidence is very clear. In a nine page article (published this month by the Fifth Estate) the details of the operations are explained. The CIA conducts operations around the world and recently has been accused of illegal activities against individuals and groups in the U.S. Yet, the press tells us very little about how this is done.

This information is especially important as this is International Women's Year. This illegal activity can not go on any longer. There must be a full public investigation, and the whole truth published. Anyone wishing further information should contact White Lightning for a copy of the longer article.

CIA Target: The Women's Movement

The women's movement has become a target for infiltration, manipulation, and possible sabotage by the CIA. The CIA is carrying out a scientifically designed plan to secretly collect valuable information through the Overseas Educational Fund, an international education arm of the League of Women Voters. The OEF holds meetings in the U.S. and women from all around the world attend. The staff collects a large amount of personal information, especially on rising women political leaders in Latin America, which is then channeled to the CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia. This information can then later be used for smear campaigns and other forms of political

Mass Transit Street Theater

Mass Transit Street Theater is a revolutionary theater group which performs for free in the parks, schools, streets and community centers of the Bronx. They also offer creative, fun, non-authoritarian classes in theater and dance and exercise. These classes are for children and adults alike. One purpose of teaching is to help support the group financially. The classes have a suggested donation. But another purpose is to share their theater skills and understanding with everyone who wants to learn, so they are always willing to work out something with brothers and sisters, who, like themselves, don't have much bread

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Manhattan

Body Awareness 6:00-7:30 Monday;

Basic exercise and simple improvisation.

Call Chris at 866-2934 for more information.

Brooklyn

Movement Awareness 7:00-9:00 Tuesday

Basic exercise and improvisation.

Call Susan at 367-7526 for more information.

Bronx

Get In Shape Class-Wed. morning or afternoon

Call 367-1266 for more information.

Street Theater-Wed. 7:00-9:00

Introduction to body movement and theater

improvisation based on street theater

experiences. Call 367-1266 for information.

Body Movement Awareness-Wed. 8:00-9:30

Body exercises and improvisation

Call Debby at 220-1937 for information

Young Peoples' Theater Workshop

Sat. 2:30-3:30; Body movement and theater

improvisation for children ages 5-13

Rank & File Teachers Fight Cutbacks

The Rank and File Caucus (RAFC) of the United Federation of Teachers has begun a series of local actions aimed at fighting cutbacks, improving education facilities, and demanding equal rights for all teachers. They stand opposed to Albert Shanker's "Unity Caucus" whose policy is to rely on politicians to meet their demands. The UFT gave \$10,000 to the Beame election campaign and even more to Governor Carey's. As soon as they got into office, both Beame and Carey announced the worst educational budget cuts since the depression.

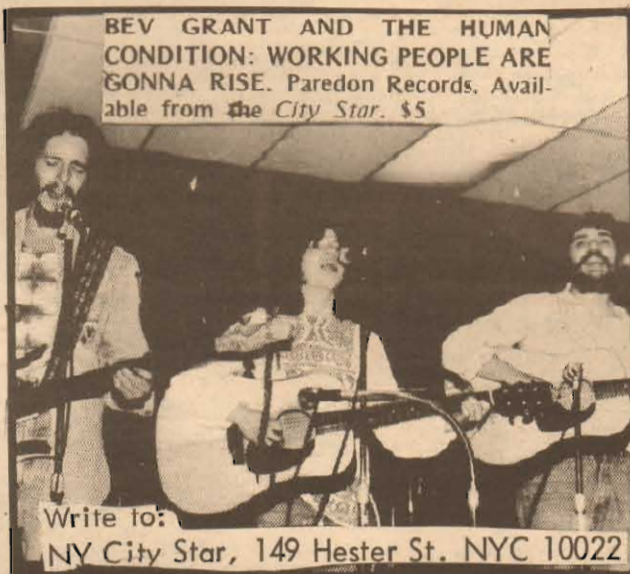
Bronx boss Mario Raimo has been equally unresponsive to RAFC demands. In Bronx district #9 fifty teachers have been laid off. Proposed cuts total over 1600 teachers and a plan not to call 875 substitutes per day for absent teachers. The effect on the quality of education will be severe: teachers and students face mounting class sizes, uncovered classes, and fewer school supplies.

Around 25 RAFC members and supporters picketed Councilman Stanley Simons office at 2 West Fordham Rd. on Feb. 4. Their demands are smaller classes (25 or less), and a full cost of living pay increase. While they were picketing, Councilman Simon snuck out of his office to avoid the demonstrating teachers.

occasionally go on extended leaves, the obvious thrust of this ruling is directed at women of child bearing age.

Support for the demands of the RAFC by parents and other concerned people in the community is essential to prevent cutbacks and deterioration of education standards in our schools.

For further information call: 796-8309 or 547-4379.



Vets Come Home To Drugs & Death

Over 55,000 Vietnam Era Veterans have died since the signing of the Paris Peace Agreements, Jan. 27, 1973. This is greater than the total number of U.S. soldiers who died in the entire ten years of the Vietnam War!

An incredible percentage of these vets have died of drug overdose.

While hundreds of thousands of veterans came home with serious drug problems, the only solution offered by "our" government is methadone maintenance. According to the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, methadone overdose deaths now outnumber heroin overdose deaths by 5-1 in NY.

This is only one example of the incredible suffering that veterans are forced to endure at the hands of the government which consistently ignores their demands for justice.

We demand drug free programs for victims of the drug plague and education on the real causes of drug addiction!



We need you to buy a sub. so that we can continue sending over 800 free subscriptions to the unemployed, prisoners, and to people in drug programs around the country.

One Year Sub (12 issues) \$5.00
Pledges Up To \$25.00

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CITY, STATE & ZIP _____

Mail to: WHITE LIGHTNING
P.O. Box 149
Jerome Avenue Station
Bronx, N.Y. 10468

People's Health Center

Q & A About Anemia

Anemia is a disease affecting over 50% of all women and children throughout the city. In the South Bronx, a group of community activists doing free testing door to door, found that 80% of the people tested suffered from anemia. The following column is written by the People's Health Center in an effort to provide our community with information concerning our health needs. If you have any suggestions, health problems or criticisms, please write to: PEOPLE'S HEALTH CENTER
438 Claremont Parkway
Bronx, N.Y. 10457
(212) 583-8010

A reply will be sent in the mail and, if possible, your question and reply will be printed in this column.

Q. What is anemia?

A. Anemia is a disease affecting the red blood cells in our body. These cells carry oxygen to the body and carbon dioxide out of the body. An anemic person lacks the proper amount of red blood cells. Anemic persons are highly susceptible to tuberculosis, pneumonia & other diseases. They also risk developing heart and lung trouble.

Q. How can I tell if I have anemia?

A. The symptoms are: feeling run down, tired, weak, or feeling dizzy when going from a lying position to a sitting or standing position. To tell for sure, a simple blood test can be done for about \$2.50 at any doctor's or health center office. The test consists of pricking your finger to get a few drops of blood. The blood is then spun around in a machine called a centrifuge. This process separates the red blood cells from the fluid they travel in. The percentage of red blood cells is called a hematocrit. A healthy hematocrit is between 40-53%.

Q. Why do so many women and children in poor communities suffer from anemia?

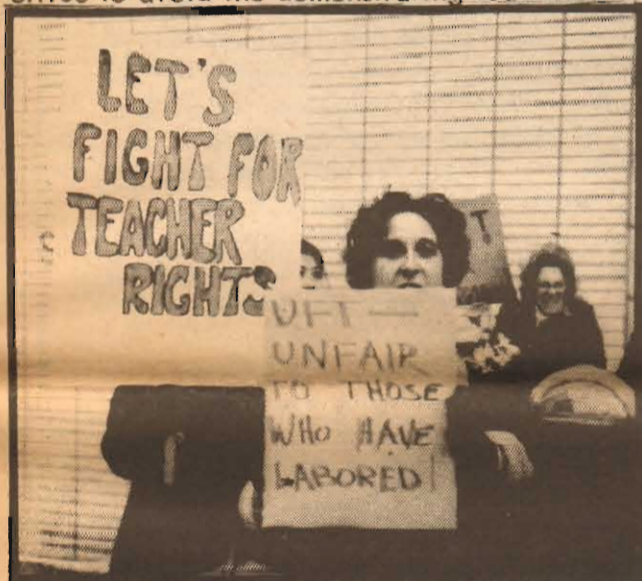
A. The main cause of anemia is an unbalanced diet lacking iron and vitamin B-12, which is important in the formation of red blood cells; and in women, a heavy menstrual flow. For people in poor and working class neighborhoods, most of the food available is of low quality and too expensive for our budgets. One of the best preventions, eating meat, is difficult for most of us to afford.

Q. How can we improve our diet to include foods rich in iron and vitamin B-12?

A. Even with a limited budget, we can improve our diet by eating healthier foods. Liver, a comparatively inexpensive meat, & vegetables like lima beans, beets, soybeans, and avacadoes are rich in iron and vitamin B-12. Many people are joining food co-ops, which enable large numbers of people to buy food at lower prices. There is now a food co-op in the Fordham area. For information about the co-op call 584-5984.

Q. If anemia is easy to detect and prevent, why are so many people suffering from it?

A. Doctors and medical school students are taught a hematocrit level below 40% is anemia. But women who loose blood during their period & poor people who can't afford a good diet are considered normal even if their hematocrit is 30-40%. This denies treatment to women and working class people who have low hematocrit levels. We all deserve the best possible health care, regardless of our sex or the amount of our paycheck!



The RAFC has also been involved in fighting against sexist discrimination by the male dominated UFT.

For example, a teacher at Walton High School was recently deprived of her seniority and denied promotion because she went on maternity leave. This was done because the UFT, not the Board of Education, has ruled that prolonged absence will result in loss of seniority. While a few male teachers

SUBSCRIBE!



"Our racism is used to keep us all down. We are encouraged to believe that we have great advantages to defend and that we must defend ourselves against poor blacks who are out to take these advantages away from us."

People have raised some serious questions about the article on busing in our last issue. We welcome the criticism. We know that we can't grow unless we discuss differences and misunderstandings openly, and unless people help us to form our ideas and improve our work. None of us can shape our lives according to our real needs unless we trust each other enough to do it together.

Your response encourages us to continue presenting our views and trying to relate to the criticisms that come out of your real experience. A people's newspaper needs the full participation of all the people.

"All Power to the People" means "All Power from the People!"

Does White Lightning Fully Support The Right Of The Black Parents To Bus Their Children?

Yes, we do. Many black people feel that the only way their children can get a decent education is by attending white schools. If this is their decision we defend their right to act on it.

Black people have given support to busing because they have noted that predominantly white schools usually have at least slightly better facilities, better teachers, and send more students on to college. Many black people have given their support to busing after fighting long and hard—although unsuccessfully—for better schools in their own neighborhoods. They've organized to improve their own schools, only to be frustrated by predominantly white school boards which cared little about what happened in the black community. These struggles led many black people to see busing as the only hope for better schools.

Who Backs Busing?

Many of those who push busing, however, are not representative of the black or the white communities involved. This is true of white liberals who represent business interests and live in the suburbs. They themselves never have to face the busing issue. They push busing as something for poor blacks and poor whites to do, not as something that will involve their own elite suburban schools. They push busing because it serves to keep poor whites and blacks fighting each other while doing nothing to give them real control over their education.

Another prime mover behind busing has been the NAACP. This organization primarily represents black liberal opinion, and has always argued for integration as the solution to black people's problems in the U.S.. Busing is usually defended by the NAACP on the grounds that it will lead to higher reading scores, more college admissions, and better jobs. Insofar as the white community is better organized and politically more active, it may be true that white schools get a better shake and white students stand a better chance. But then the question is whether integration or the development of their own political power is the road to better schooling for blacks.

In New York, for example, many blacks and other third world people have seen busing as a sham solution and instead have devoted their energies to winning community control of schools. Where community control has been successful, it has led to better schools, more third world teachers being employed, and a genuine sense of community involvement in the schools. This is precisely why it is under attack in NYC right now.

We do not see school integration as any kind of real solution to the education problem. But we fully support the right of third world communities to decide for themselves what is in the best interest of their children.

Does White Lightning See Any Difference Between Poor White And Poor Black Neighborhoods?

Yes, we do. Unemployment is twice as high among blacks as among whites. Black life expectancy is much lower, while infant mortality is much higher. And it was no accident that combat deaths among blacks in Vietnam were double those of whites. The ratio of blacks to whites in prison tells the same story, a story that extends into all areas of life. As we demonstrated in our last issue, bad as the schools in South Boston are, the schools in black Roxbury are worse. This holds true across the board: sanitation, transportation, police, and health services.

Service For The Poor

Public sanitation, which is lousy in any poor neighborhood, practically doesn't exist in black areas. The trash is allowed to collect in streets, alleys, and hallways, breeding rats, roaches and disease. Conditions became so desperate right here in NY a few years ago that residents of East Harlem were forced to battle police in the streets to get the garbage removed.

As any New Yorker knows, mass transit stinks everywhere. However, the worst equipment, the oldest vehicles, the most irregular schedules and routes are always reserved for the poorest neighborhoods, which of course turn out to be black. On top of that, poor whites at least have the option of taking a cab (which they can't really afford) in emergencies. Black people in many cases don't have this choice because cabbies often avoid the ghetto and pass up black people on the street.

Cops are brutal and arrogant in all poor neighborhoods. In fact, a few years ago, whites in South Boston rioted after a white youth was beaten to death in a paddy wagon. But in black communities like Watts, Detroit, Newark, Harlem, and Washington, where police are an occupying army, the riots were much more extensive and were put down with murderous brutality almost never experienced in white communities.

Public health services in poor black areas are a disaster. People coming in for emergency treatment are treated as if there were no emergency, as if it made no difference whether they lived or died. Equipment is outmoded, hospitals and clinics are understaffed, preventive medicine is ignored, medical histories are not taken, doctors are brutal and indifferent. The atmosphere is more like a slaughterhouse than a hospital.

The Condition Of Poor Neighborhoods

What about the communities themselves? Blacks are trapped in their own neighborhoods, not only by poverty, but even more by the hostility and fears of whites who don't want "them" moving in. Landlords and merchants exploit this condition by maximizing rents and minimizing services. It is these landlords and merchants and their greed for profits who fuel the racial fears of poor whites in order to create divisions and to blockbust. Once they create the desperate trap which is the black ghetto, landlords turn apartment houses into rooming houses, double rents and neglect repairs. Since most ghetto landlords are absentee landlords who hide behind a maze of agencies, brokers, dummy corporations, and legal technicalities, tenants find it almost impossible to confront them, much less correct substandard living conditions.

Merchants play the same game. Supermarket chains often remove stale produce and spoiled meat from wealthy neighborhoods, and place them in ghetto outlets at even higher prices. Inflated prices are charged for poor imitations of "high fashion" clothing and current model appliances. Like doctors and landlords, merchants are suspicious and arrogant when dealing with ghetto customers. Hard working blacks are treated like thieves and deadbeats by the very people who are exploiting them. The ghetto is hell for those who live in it, and a goldmine for those who own it.

White working class communities often reflect a higher degree of political and economic power. Whites belong to established churches, political clubs, unions, social and ethnic groups which have some clout when dealing with those in control. This power, no matter how small, prevents landlords, merchants and municipal services from exploiting the white community to the degree that they exploit the ghetto.

On the job, union membership and contracts with seniority clauses mean that whites are the first hired and the last fired. With very few exceptions, blacks have no such protection. In the current economic crisis, this can be a life-or-death difference.

Racism And The "Big Lie"

The basic facts are clear. Blacks are even more oppressed than poor whites: on the job, in the community, in the courts, in the army, in every aspect of their lives. This does not mean that working class whites profit from the misery of black people, even though we are taught to believe it by those who really do profit from racism. It does mean, however, that our racism is used to keep us all down and divided. Poor whites are tricked into believing that we have advantages to defend, and that we must defend ourselves against poor blacks who are out to take them away from us. This trickery which bombards us from all sides—schools, media, churches, labor organizations, politicians, local gossip inflamed by landlords—all serves as the basis for much of our racism. The very organizations that add a drop of stability and well-being to our communities end up crippling us by cutting us off from those who share our oppression and who we need to overcome our common slavery.

It is no secret that many poor whites hate and fear poor blacks. It is no secret that by this time, after years of suffering that hostility, many blacks have come to hate and fear poor whites. Whites have been brainwashed into believing that they have to protect what little they have from the "assaults" of blacks. Blacks have been led to believe that it is poor whites who stand between them and a decent life. This is the "Big Lie" which serves to weaken and enslave all working people in America. How can we overcome it? This is the basic question that we in White Lightning have been asked. This is the question that we will try to deal with in the next issue.

Fire Attacks On Our Neighborhood

A rash of fires has recently occurred in the area of Fordham Road & Jerome Avenue. Many of the fires have been extremely suspicious and White Lightning has begun investigations into the possible motives of these fire attacks on our neighborhood.

Two fires were deliberately set on the day before Christmas on E. 184th Street. The White Lightning storefront, at 109 E. 184th, was extensively burned at midnight. Six hrs. later the restaurant at 119 E. 184th St. was completely destroyed by fire. Some tenants at 2377 Creston, the house above the restaurant, were evacuated, but fortunately no one was hurt and no apartments were damaged. The storefronts are both connected to huge apartment buildings. Hundreds of people could have been seriously hurt or killed in the fires.

It was obvious to everyone involved that these fires were deliberately set. Burned garbage was piled up in front of the White Lightning door. The door itself was evenly & severely burned in a way that suggested the use of gasoline. Two men were seen outside the building setting the fire.

Gasoline cans were found inside 119 East 184th St. and a man was seen running from the premises as the restaurant burst into flames.

FIRES AT FORDHAM AND JEROME

About one week later a huge fire gutted the offices above the Franklin Savings Bank at Fordham Rd. and Jerome Ave. The bank itself was damaged and has not reopened since the fire occurred.

Suspicious fires regularly occur in working class neighborhoods. In many cases real estate speculators have been proven to set fires such as these to make it easier to drive out tenants and smaller business people. They use these tactics to prevent protests as they rip buildings down and put up luxury apartment houses and huge commercial buildings. How else could you explain two fires of the same type on the same block on the same night?

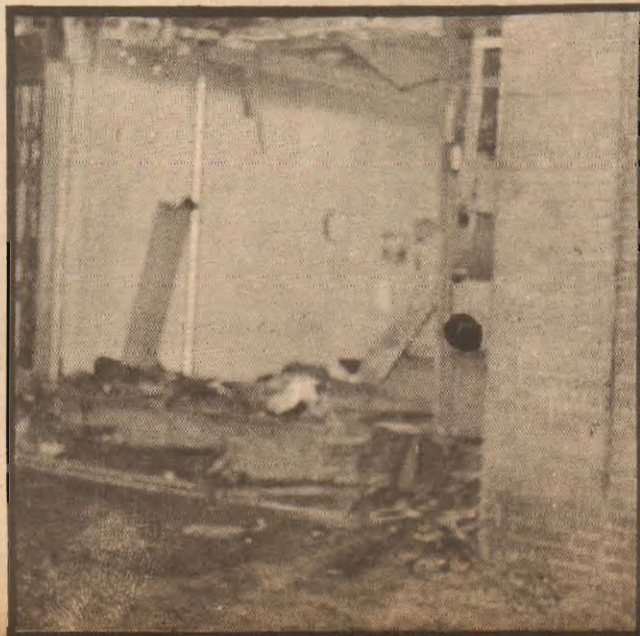
According to sources in the Bronx City Planning Office, the Fordham Rd. area has been marked for "urban renewal." For most of us who live here this would mean ripping down our homes and putting up parking lots and stores. Real estate interests make a lot of money in this kind of situation, if they can drive tenants out.

White Lightning has spoken to many people in the Fordham area about urban renewal and the fires. When we asked one person if she thought real estate speculators were responsible she said, "Real estate speculators? I wouldn't put it past them." Another person said, "Urban renewal? Over my dead body!" Many people said, "We have to protect ourselves."

Most of the people we spoke to were interested in a public investigation. White Lightning is planning a community meeting to discuss urban renewal and the fire attacks on our neighborhood, at a date and time to be announced. For further information call White Lightning, 584-5984.



The fire gutted offices and bank at Fordham Road and Jerome Avenue.



The front of the White Lightning office, at 109 E. 184th St. was destroyed by fire at midnight, December 24, 1974.



Threatening the destruction of the Bronx, unless there is an end to rent control, the president of the Bronx Reality Advisory Board burned a model of the boro while approving landlords looked on, at City Hall on Sept. 13, 1973.



184th St. bet. Morris & Creston: Real estate speculators often set fires to drive out tenants and sell property at great profits. How else could you explain two deliberately set fires of the same type on the same block on the same night?

We've Got To Protect Ourselves Because Nobody Else Is Going To!



Urban Renewal Thro

All of us have seen the results of urban renewal in other parts of the city: the glistening skyscraper apartments that go for \$100 a room; huge complexes like Lincoln Center surrounded by parking lots designed for commuters; and sprawling hospitals that examine your check book before they examine your body. All of us have seen areas of the city that are "scheduled" for urban renewal: vacant lots, burned out buildings, boarded up storefronts. What we don't see are the hundreds of thousands of poor and working people who used to live in those urban renewal areas. For people like us urban renewal means urban removal. If we are forced to leave our apartments, it is usually hard to find other inexpensive homes in the same neighborhood. Consequently long-time friendships are disrupted, our children's schooling is interrupted, and usually we are forced to pay much higher rents plus brokers' fees, and moving costs.

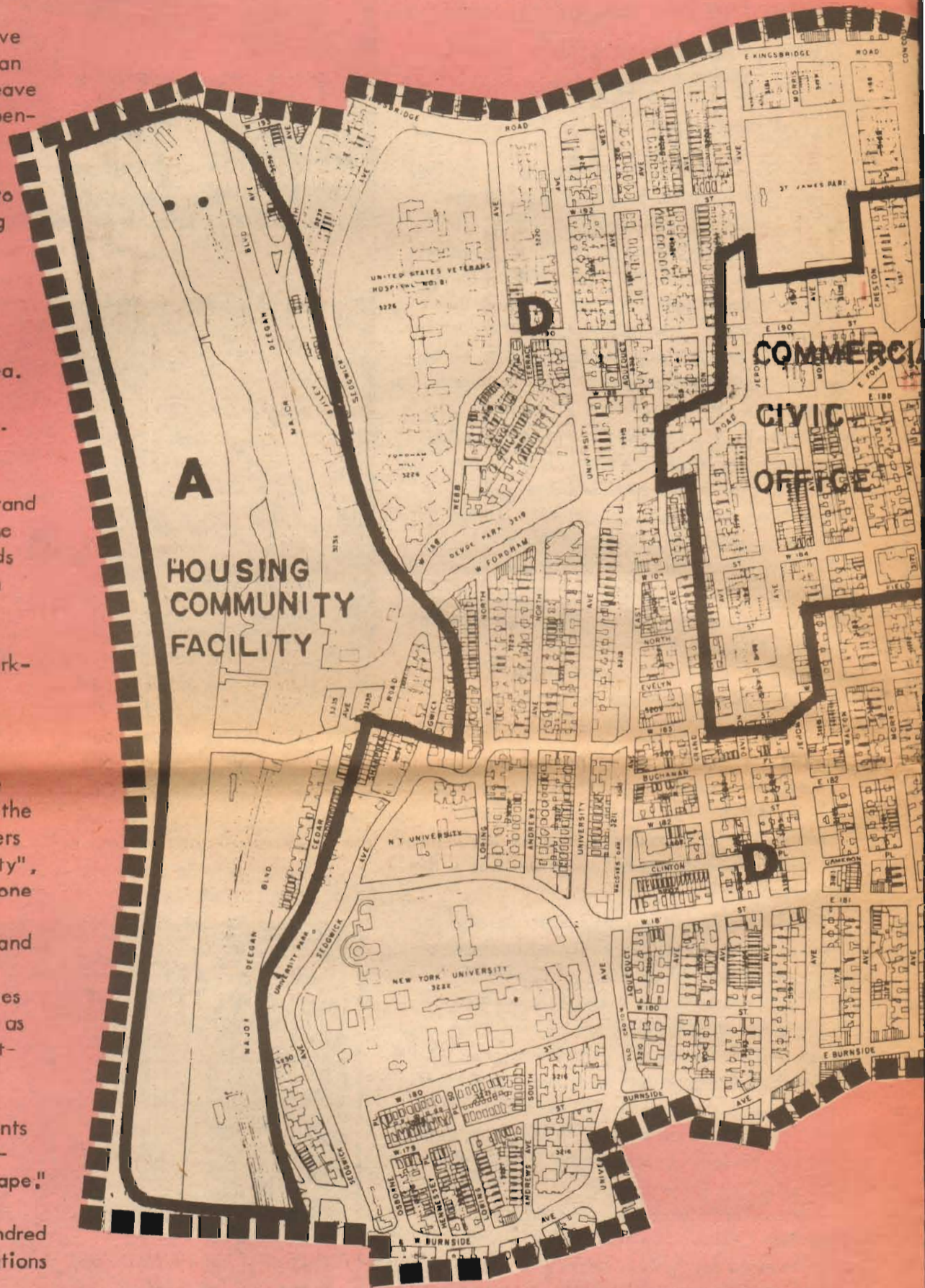
Their Plans For Us

Urban renewal is coming to the Fordham Road Area. The map on this page was created by the Bronx City Planning Office. Area B is obviously the target area. It is listed as "commercial, civic, office." Area B stretches along Fordham Road between Grand Ave. and Third Ave. and extends down Jerome and the Grand Concourse and into adjacent residential blocks. Those of us who live in Area B know that there are hundreds of large apartment buildings in this area, as well. In the 10 page summary which explains this city map, Area B is supposed to be a commercial center, transportation center, office center, civic center, parking, and community facilities" location.

Supposedly Area A will compensate for all the lost apartments in Area B. Look at the map carefully almost half of area A is the Harlem River. Fish we're not. The Major Deegan Expressway takes up most of the rest of Area A. It is all very well for the city planners to tell us that area A is a "housing community facility", but we'll have to see it to believe it. Furthermore none of the plans tell what the rentals will be for Area A apartments or what the arrangements will be for bus and subway transportation. We suspect that Area A will become high rise, high rental apartments if it becomes anything at all. Area C, the Belmont area, is listed as "Residential". According to the plan, 200-500 apartments will be constructed in this area in the "vest pocket manner." No mention is made of how money will be found for these projects or again what the rents will be. Area D is described as "characterized by residential building which are generally in excellent shape." Who is kidding who? Even according to a May 1973 community planning board report, more than one hundred buildings in Area D have more than 15 building violations each. The proposal for Area D is for "trees, lights, sitting (benches) to be developed on a block by block basis." We'll believe it when we see it.

17 Fordham parking garage site locations which were proposed by the Dept. of City Planning in Dec. 1971 have been indicated on the Fordham Study map red #'s. Nearly all of these locations require removal of apartments and small businesses for garages to be built on the sites. The city planning office hasn't said which sites have been chosen for construction yet, but you can be sure that landlord and real estate speculators are jockeying for position to see whose property will be awarded the construction funds. You can also be sure that no tenants who live on the proposed garage sites have been informed that their homes are for sale.

Boarded up storefronts, abandoned buildings, and suspicious fires--the stark reality of urban removal--are becoming more common in the Fordham area. We made a block by block survey of just what is going on in our neighborhoods and then tried to compare these facts with the proposals of the city planners.



Our Reality

Decatur & Fordham. 2 buildings at 2556-2562 Decatur are abandoned. The second floor billiard parlor on the corner is closed, as is the Metropolitan Life office on the adjacent block of E. 193rd St. A fire on the top floor occurred in the apartment building at 349 E. 193rd St. Decatur is 1 block away from the proposed Fordham shopping center. The 1971 reports say that retail and residential relocation" is a "disadvantage" of garage site P-4, on this corner. Obviously in 1975 there is less of a problem.

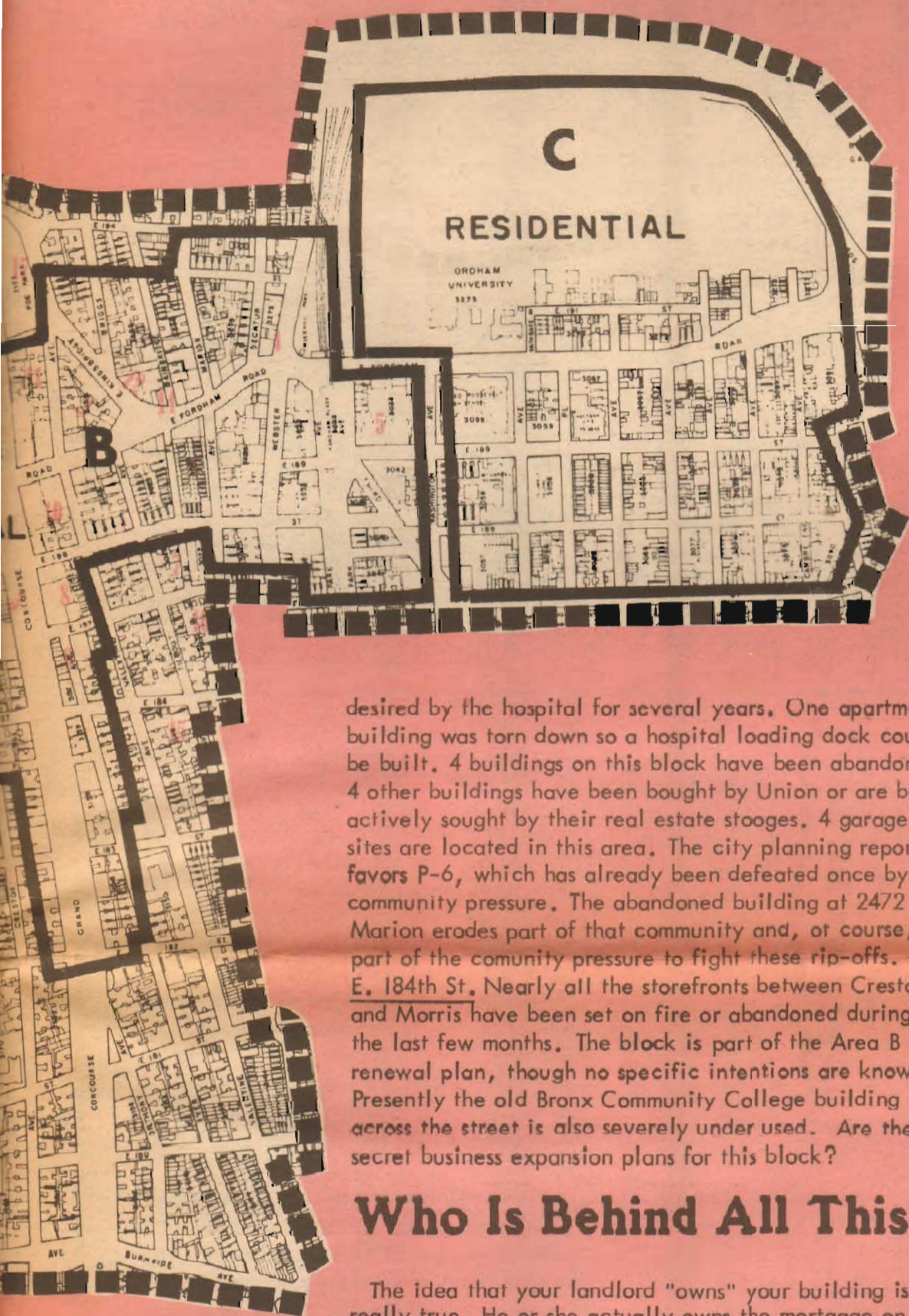
Briggs & Fordham. The building at 2548 Briggs (on the extension of Cole place) has become a vacant lot owned by the NYC Dept. of Real Estate. The building at 2556 Briggs (next to Fenian Pub) has been destroyed. Is it a coincidence that these addresses correspond to garage site P-12, which also had a "disadvantage" of "resi-

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Third Ave & Fordham. The h the abandoned building at many abandoned or unused E. 189th St. are symptoms of urban removal. The original office, but now the big mo E.J. Korvetts complex. T composed primarily of Black literally under siege by lan ings deteriorate so they can these tenants, urban renew hurt.

Union Hospital area. The b including Valentine, E. 18

atens Fordham Area



Black and Latin tenants can find apartments. Furthermore, the landlords hope that Whites, Blacks, and Latins won't be able to join in a rent strike due to the painful history of racial antagonisms in this country. Landlords make deals with individual tenants, asking them to sign "nuisance evictions" against other tenants. As a few buildings become abandoned or burned and as articles about decay and crime appear in the daily papers, other tenants and small businesses people get frightened and move and the whole process speeds up. Dollar Savings and the FRDC controls the whole process because they have a handle on most of the landlords, real estate brokers, and speculators. Specific criminal acts such as the recent fires on E. 184th St. are probably committed entirely by middle-level real estate profiteers. Dollar Savings Bank is guilty in the overall sense because they (1) set the whole gold rush stampede in motion, (2) take a percentage of almost everybody's profits, (3) and decide in the end which construction companies and shopping center developers will cash in on our misfortune.

Can Urban Renewal Be A Good Thing?

The Fordham Road area does need a lot of improvement. New low and medium cost housing, jobs brought by new businesses, and better health facilities would each be a great benefit to our neighborhood. Urban renewal should mean building more housing before tearing down original housing. Urban renewal should mean creating more low cost public health clinics open to everyone instead of sponsoring the expansion of a private hospital like Union which picks and chooses its patients. Urban renewal should mean preserving the convenient, residential character of our neighborhood instead of creating a vast parking lot complex to compete with Jersey shopping centers. We would gladly support a decent urban renewal plan. But the deadly games of neighborhood destruction must be opposed by us all.

We Have To Defend Ourselves

Many local communities in New York City have recently fought "urban renewal" to a standstill. Tenants organizations, rent strikes, squatters movements, exposes of landlords and bank criminal practices, and building by building communication networks have been the tools for dismantling giant real estate schemes. When Dollar Savings wanted to evict 102 families from 2525 & 2527 Valentine to build a parking lot, picketing was organized and the bank was forced to change its plans. The Citywide Action Coalition Against Urban Dislocation has put together an excellent pamphlet of information and action strategy summing up the experience in many parts of the city. Will the tenants organizations sponsored by the churches, political parties, and senior citizens groups join and fight against "urban removal"? As many people and organizations as possible in the Fordham area should work together to defend the community against the threat of urban renewal.

desired by the hospital for several years. One apartment building was torn down so a hospital loading dock could be built. 4 buildings on this block have been abandoned. 4 other buildings have been bought by Union or are being actively sought by their real estate stooges. 4 garage sites are located in this area. The city planning report favors P-6, which has already been defeated once by community pressure. The abandoned building at 2472 Marion erodes part of that community and, of course, part of the community pressure to fight these rip-offs. E. 184th St. Nearly all the storefronts between Creston and Morris have been set on fire or abandoned during the last few months. The block is part of the Area B renewal plan, though no specific intentions are known. Presently the old Bronx Community College building across the street is also severely under used. Are there secret business expansion plans for this block?

Who Is Behind All This?

The idea that your landlord "owns" your building is not really true. He or she actually owns the mortgage on your building. A mortgage represents the original loan required to construct a building plus all subsequent loans. The Dollar Savings Bank is the largest holder of mortgages in the Fordham area. With \$1.86 billion in deposits, it is the 6th largest mutual savings bank in the entire country. It is no accident then that Henry Waltemade, Dollar Savings president, is also chairman of the Fordham Road Development Corporation (FRDC). Waltemade is also a past president of the New York State Real Estate Board and the National Real Estate Board. He has been an advisor to the Chase Manhattan Bank since 1945 and the Manufacturers Hanover Trust since 1954. Waltemade and his cronies at Dollar Savings are the landlords of the landlords.

Dollar Savings and the FRDC obviously know all the dirty tricks of the real estate trade. They jack up interest rates in certain neighborhoods to encourage landlords to grab last minute maximum profits before the rates go higher. Maximum quick profits mean utterly no repairs are made, burned out apartments are boarded up, storefronts are closed rather than re-modelled. Fires may be set for insurance purposes. Cooperative real estate brokers suddenly become willing to rent to Black and Latin tenants that they have shut out for so many years. These newcomers to the neighborhood are willing to pay higher rents for lower quality apartments, because the housing shortage is incredibly desperate in areas where

71 report. Garage site P-2, usly been defeated by people out of an area is one h the problem.

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Urban Renewal Threatens Fordham Area

All of us have seen the results of urban renewal in other parts of the city: the gleaming skyscraper apartments that go for \$100 a month; huge complexes like Lincoln Center surrounded by parking lots designed for commuters and sprawling hospitals that require your check book before they examine your body. All of us have seen areas of the city that are "subsidized" for urban renewal: mountaintops, hillside buildings, located in storefronts. What we don't see are the hundreds of thousands of poor and working people who used to live in those urban renewal areas. For people like us urban renewal means urban renewal. If we are forced to leave our apartments, it is usually hard to find other inexpensive homes in the same neighborhood. Consequently long-time friendships are disrupted, our children's schooling is interrupted, and usually we are forced to pay much higher rents plus brokers' fees, and moving costs.

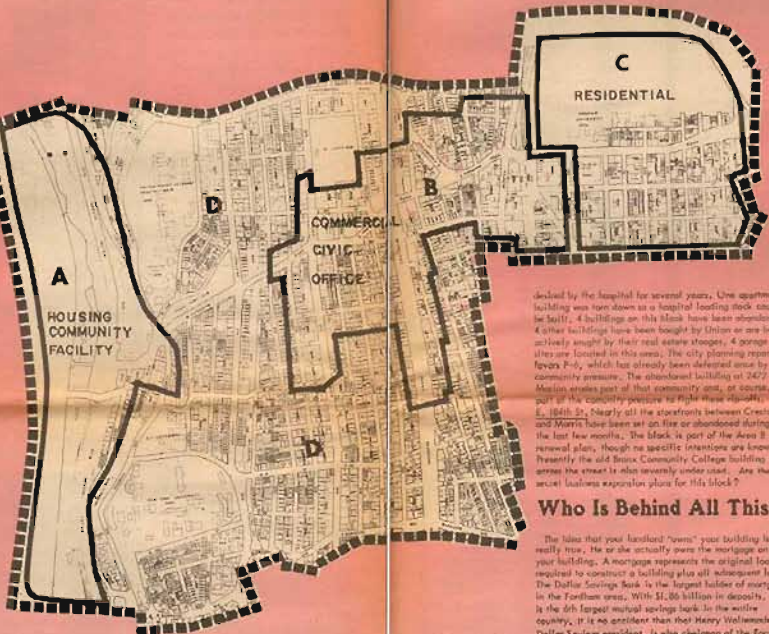
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Somewhat Area A will comprise for all the last remaining buildings in the Fordham Road area. The Mayor Deane's Executive Order says most of the rest of Area A. It is all very well for the city planners to tell us that Area A is a "housing community facility". But we'll have to see it in the future. Furthermore none of the plans tell what the results will be for Area A: apartments or what the arrangements will be for bus and subway transportation. We suspect that Area A will become high rise, high rental apartments. If it becomes anything at all, Area C, the Belmont area, is listed as "residential". According to the plan, 200-500 apartments will be constructed in this area in the "next pocket number." No mention is made of how many will be found for these projects or again what the rents will be. Area D is described as "characterized by residential buildings which are generally in excellent shape." Who is kidding who? Even according to a May 1973 community planning board report, more than one hundred buildings in Area D have more than 15 building violations each. The proposal for Area D is for "new, high, tight, tight (described) to be developed on a block by block basis." We'll believe it when we see it.

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Abandoned apartments, abandoned buildings, and hundreds of thousands of urban renewal areas are becoming more common in the Fordham area. We made a block by block survey of just what is going on in our neighborhoods and then tried to compare these facts with the proposals of the city planners.



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Deane & Fordham. 3 buildings at 2556-2563 Deane are abandoned. The second floor billiard parlor on the corner is closed, as is the Metropolitan Life office on the adjacent block at E. 193rd St. A fire on the top floor occurred in the apartment building at 248 E. 193rd St. Deane is 1 block away from the proposed Fordham shopping center. The 1971 reports say that retail and residential relocation is a "disadvantage" of garage site P-4, on this corner. Obviously in 1975 there is less of a problem.

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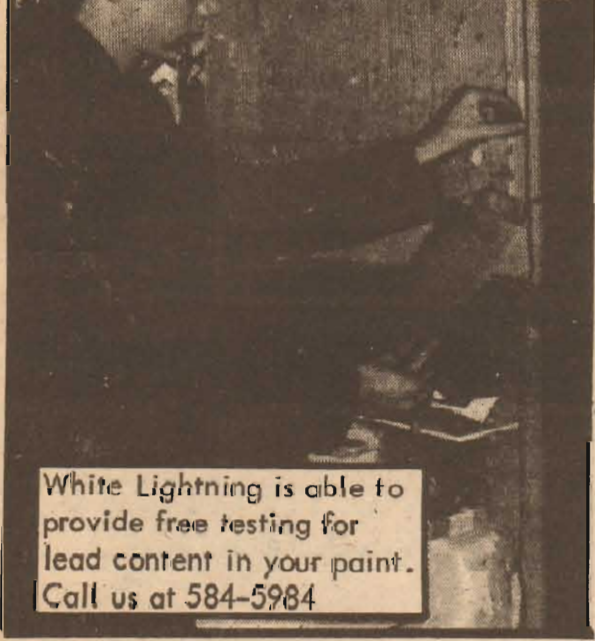
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HOUSING



Lead Poisoning- A Disease That Spreads From Landlords To Children



White Lightning is able to provide free testing for lead content in your paint. Call us at 584-5984

White Lightning Housing Project

White Lightning is a community organization dedicated to building a better life for ourselves and our neighbors. We are committed to attacking the problems that weigh us down as working people. For three years we have worked in the community fighting drug addiction, working to improve housing conditions, and sponsoring free concerts. But we have over-committed ourselves.

Our housing work is spread to thin. From here on, our housing efforts will be focused on the Fordham area.

Since most of us work and have families, our weekdays are severely limited. However, the White Lightning office will be opened 2:00-7:00, Tuesday thru Friday and from 12:00-5:00 on Saturday. Give us a call or stop by. Our address is 109 E. 184, phone # 584-5984.

We can answer questions and set up a further appointment. Week nights and Saturday and Sunday during the day, we are able to attend tenants' meetings, provide advice on tenants rights (by phone), photograph unlawful violations for evidence in court, help plan a rent strike or a tenants' meeting, test for lead poisoning, print leaflets, provide newspaper coverage and support any tenants protests.



Tenants from 86W 183rd Street got together and made a rent strike banner

White Lightning has been fighting for tenants rights and decent housing throughout the Bronx. Our newspaper has reported on rent strikes and tenant struggles from 141st Street to Gunhill Road and from University Avenue to Prospect Avenue. We have organized rent strikes in many neighborhoods—Arthur Avenue, Fordham Road, and the South Bronx, but we are not alone. Many other groups and associations have been working with tenants for many years and quite a few new groups are just starting. White Lightning has decided to focus our housing efforts on the Fordham area. If you live elsewhere we have composed the following list of groups who are able to provide tenant services.

University Heights Neighborhood Improvement Association
993-0274

Metropolitan Council on Housing
725-5430 (1:00-6:00)

South Bronx Legal Services
579 Cortlandt Ave.
993-8200

East Tremont Action Committee
1030 E. Tremont Ave.
542-0848

Monterey Community Association
613 E. Tremont Ave.
731-5430

Oppressed Peoples' Tenant Association
993-7178 (after 7pm.)
Lincoln Hospital area only

NEED Housing Program
2059 Washington Ave.
220-4500

Roor Peoples' Housing Tenants Organization
960-5476 (ask for either Roger, Victor, Winkler, Henderson, or Frank)

Landlord gets canned



Throughout the Bronx everyone you talk to has the same problem--housing. All of us pay a lot of rent and get nothing in return. Everyone that is except the landlords who collect the rent and do nothing in return. As tenants most of us feel isolated and helpless. "After all it's the landlord's building, and he can do what he wants with it," or "I can complain all I want, but without some backing all I'll get is an eviction notice," is the usual response to deteriorating conditions and high rents. But let's look at what we can do. After all, we have more of a right to a decent place to live at reasonable rents than the landlord does to his profits gained from our misery.

In the University Heights community, the tenants of one building located on University Ave. and 183rd St. got together to do something about their poor housing. At first things went slowly. A few tenants took the landlord to court but got no results from their action. Most of them became discouraged, since winter was coming on, and no one had heat.

Then one tenant fed up with the situation called a tenants meeting in the building's lobby. White Lightning and Father Mc Nally from Tollandine Church attended. Did all hell break loose! A vote was taken to go on rent strike. Although not everyone agreed, 35 out of 40 apartments participated in the strike. A tenants' committee was established and a system of collecting the rents to be deposited in the tenants' escrow account was set up.

Now five months later, the rent strike is over. Out of it came a new landlord (whatever that means), a new locked front door with a bell and buzzer, fresh paint jobs, and the beginning of major repairs.

Still there are a lot of promises yet to be fulfilled, but out of this experience there's a lesson to be learned--ORGANIZING GETS RESULTS. If you have any housing hassles, White Lightning is able to give you advice and legal references. So give us a call at 584-5984



Unemployment Office, Burke & Barnes

How Has The Recession Hit You?

Presser

I've been out of work 4 months, the longest for me in 33 years! The needle trades are in awful shape. You get less for piece work now than in the depression. The shops are running down South or overseas. At least in the '30s 50¢ or \$1 went somewhere. Now, even \$10 gets you almost nothing.

Bookkeeper

I've been out of a job for 10 months. I'm 68 and they retired me. I want to work but they always want younger people. It's hard to live on \$71 a week. I can't even save a dollar. My grandchildren ask why I never bring them presents any more. If more people remembered the '30s maybe they'd be moved to do something. The little person doesn't have a chance. Everyone wants to work. Kids wouldn't steal if they had jobs. It's desperation.



Sandhog

I've been out of work for 6 months. I've got a family to support. My wife's getting bitter. I did 4 years in the service and what have I got to show for it? Unemployment checks--when they're not late! Nixon and Ford, man, they wrecked me. It's bleak.

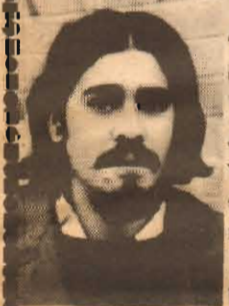
Youth Counselor

I've been out of work 8 months and I can't say I expect to get anything soon. Things are going to get a lot worse before they get any better. With so many of us out of work, you know it can't end soon.



Mechanical Technician

I've been out of work 3 months. My wife's working but she's pregnant and we're barely getting by now. It looks like I got out of the service at the wrong time. The V.A. made all kinds of promises but they never came through. People like us, we're trying to get it together, but we seem to be too small to be heard. It's going to be a long thing.



Computer Operator

You just keep coming down here and getting the turnaround. I got a wife and child to support and it's really been rough. You watch every penny and you still haven't watched enough. You can't keep your head above water. I tell you one thing: computers sure isn't the wide open field they make it out to be.

Construction Driver

Nixon and Ford should both be shot. I got 8 years to go on a mortgage and my head's an inch above water. It's murder! The way things are in construction, there won't be work soon, that's for sure.

Dental Assistant

I've been out for months. It's hard to find work. But my attitude is good. I keep hoping. I'm a single woman so I only have to take care of myself. I guess I'm pretty lucky.

Printer

I've been out 6 months. I've got a wife and a 15 month old child. There just aren't any jobs. It's rough out there, and sure isn't our fault. It's not going to get better soon either. If I didn't have a family I'd join the service. There doesn't seem to be any other way.



Shipping Clerk

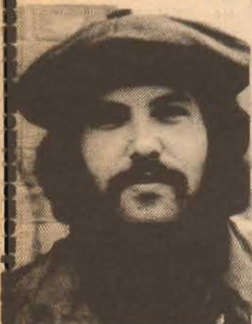


I've been out almost a year. My wife works part-time as a waitress. There's no money for clothes or to go out. We just barely pay for food and rent. I don't know what will happen when my extended benefits run out. I'm too worried about no money at all to worry that some things cost too much.

It seems like we got to have a war to have prosperity.

Cargo Handler

I been out of work only 3 weeks, but I've got a family. I'll tell you, it feels like all you can do is wait for the end to come. Like they predict in the Bible.



Factory Assembler

I've been out of work for 3 weeks. They promised to call me back. So far things haven't been too bad. But I'm a single woman, so I guess I'm lucky.

Construction Worker

I've been out of work for 10 months and I figure it'll last another year. It's always up and down. It seems like it's either war or recession.

Clothing Salesman

I've been out of work a month. It hasn't been too bad because I can pick up a little here and there off the books. But without that it would be impossible. You can't live on \$150 a week. You're making money, then all of a sudden, nothing. It's a crazy country.

Substitute Teacher

I've been out of work 9 months. You start hanging out at school at 7 in the morning, hoping some teacher won't show so you can get a day's pay. I've had to move 3 times in the last few months because the people I was staying places with got fed up with my being behind in the rent. But I'm doing OK.



I only really lose my grip about once a month. It's something else when America's crowning glory is this unemployment office!

Private Sanitationman

I've been out 7 months. I'm still looking and I'm still hopeful. But there's only me and my wife, and we've saved a few dollars over the years. The kids are married. What'll pull us out is a war. That's all that's ever done it. Everyone was so hot after Nixon, everything just went to pot.



Dispatcher

I've only been laid off one week but I'm already starting to feel it. It sure as hell hope I get called back soon. I'm used to working, having money. And advertising sure encourages you to buy. Then, "Bam!" you don't have it. It's rough.



World's Largest Dope Pusher Advertises A New Brand

Eli Lilly & Co., a huge Indiana-based corporation, produces seconal, tuinal and methadone, the biggest selling street drugs in our communities. Each one of these 3 drugs has killed and maimed more people than any other "legally" produced drug in history.

Methadone, once hailed as the miracle cure for heroin addiction has become a disease in itself. Illegal street sales are booming. Thousands of people are trapped on methadone maintenance programs for legal reasons and because methadone is much more addictive than any other known drug. The Federal Drug Enforcement Administration reports that methadone deaths now outnumber heroin deaths by 5 to 1 in New York City.

In the last 3 issues of White Lightning, we have printed detailed evidence about the connection between Lilly's methadone empire, the government and other big business interests. Now we have discovered documented evidence of 55 years of dope dealing by Lilly--from the sales of heroin in 1919 to the promotion of the "hottest drug of the century," Darvon-N in 1975.

Herion 'Cough Medicine'

In 1898 Bayer Co., the aspirin people, invented heroin, a "non-addictive" treatment for minor aches and pains. Eli Lilly & Co. jumped on the bandwagon as millions of bottles of heroin elixirs and tonics were sold.

Heroin was also touted as a miraculous cure for morphine addiction. Usually heroin was substituted for morphine. Heroin maintenance would have been an appropriate name for the treatment. By 1910 most scientists admitted that heroin was addictive and undesirable as a common home remedy. In 1914 Congress passed the tough Harrison Narcotics Act, which outlawed most narcotics use but left loopholes just as today's laws do.

Eli Lilly & Co., like most powerful businesses that are not forced to conform to health laws, continued to sell heroin in wild cherry syrup five years after the Harrison Act was passed! White Lightning has obtained a copy of a 1919 Lilly catalogue which lists 4 kinds of heroin cough medicine. The extra-strength brand is so powerful that 8 oz. would kill an average person. The catalogue never mentioned how deadly or addicting their cough medicine was. The Harrison Act caused the arrest of thousands of ordinary people in those early years, but Lilly was never touched.

Methadone 'Cough Medicine'

The growth of the methadone business has been a carbon copy of the history of heroin. For many years Lilly marketed methadone as a cough medicine in 10 and 15 mg. tablets. Dr. Stanis Grosz, who works at the Indiana Univ. Medical School and is a chief research consultant for the Indianapolis Addiction Services Agency told us in a private interview that Lilly really isn't interested

in methadone maintenance programs; it just wants to sell methadone as a "damn good cough medicine." Sure thing, doc. Four of those cough pills would kill the average person. Incidentally Dr. Grosz's work is heavily funded by the Lilly Endowment.

The tradition of Eli Lilly & Co. being above the law stretches from 1919 to the present. Lilly produces thousands of lbs. of excess methadone and literally tons of excess barbiturates each year (see prior White Lightnings for details). According to an article in the New York Post on March 3, 1973, Eli Lilly & Co. publicly admitted that they lost 12,027 methadone pills "in transit" in New York City alone during 1972. Not stolen, mind you, just "lost." The government didn't penalize them at all for this occurrence. An individual nurse can be fired if one narcotic pill is missing from the supply without cause. Under the new drug law anyone of us can receive life imprisonment for the unauthorized possession of a few dozen narcotics pills. Eli Lilly however, just deals off the top of the deck--and kills thousands of people in the process.

As street sales and deaths from methadone increase wildly, Eli Lilly has "discovered" another common home remedy--this time it's a headache pill--that just happens to be a "non-addictive" replacement for methadone.

The New 'Miracle Cure'

The new drug, Darvon-N, has already been called the "hottest drug of the century" by a free clinic doctor in San Francisco. Darvon-N is a new variation on plain old Darvon, still the second largest selling drug in the country. Lilly still keeps the exclusive patent on both products. Darvon itself is so closely related chemically to methadone that it shows up on a lot of narcotic urine tests. In 1969 Dr. H. F. Fraser and Dr. Harris Isbell tested Darvon extensively in the government narcotics prison at Lexington, Ky. Remember, methadone was found to be deadly at this same hospital in 1948. They found that people get high on more than 5 pills of Darvon. 44 Darvon deaths were reported in Oakland in 1973. Strange as it may seem, Darvon is not a good pain killer in the recommended doses (1-2 pills). The Mayo clinic reported that Darvon is no more effective than a sugar pill in controlling pain. Why, then, is Darvon sold to the tune of \$100 million every year?

The Wall Street magazines always claim that Lilly's advertising campaigns are solely responsible for Darvon's phenomenally high profits. That's just part of the medicine man's rap. Darvon is drupe, pure & deadly.

Darvon-N is less soluble in water, slower acting, and supposedly safer than Darvon. (Is arsenic in a time release capsule good for you?) Dr. Ivan Bennett, the director of medical research for Lilly, is in charge of the Darvon-N project



*Heroin, Compound.

One fluid ounce represents
Heroin Hydrochloride... 1/8 gr.
Ammonium Hypo-phosphite..... 24 grs.
Hyoscyamus..... 8 grs.
White Pine Bark..... 28 grs.
With Balsam of Tolu, Glycerin and Aromatics.

Bronchial sedative and expectorant. Dose--1 dram (4 c. c.) every two to four hours.

Supplied in pint and gallon bottles.

Regular side effects from Darvon-N include: headache, rapid pulse, feeling spaced and detached, hyperactivity, weight gain, and persistent insomnia. Five years ago Dr. Bennett was in charge of telling the public about how safe and useful methadone was.

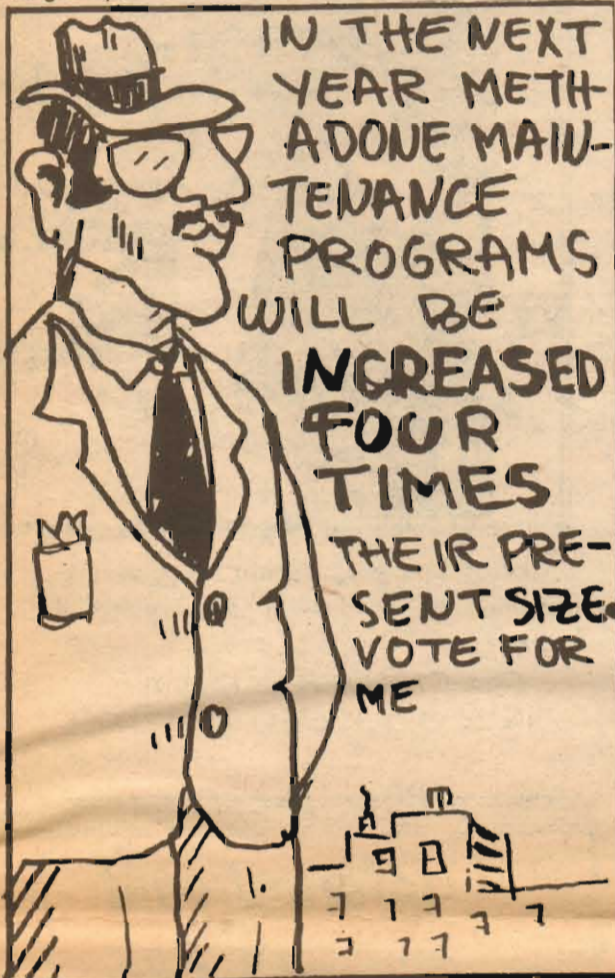
'I Got A Yen For Darvon-N'

In November, 1973 Lilly called a private conference on Darvon-N in Washington. Representatives of Nixon's special drug abuse agency (SAODAP), the National Institute of Drug Abuse, and the following private researchers were present: Dr. Forrest Tennant, who runs Central City Kick in Watts and several other clinics in Black and Chicano communities in Los Angeles, has been made the main investigator of Darvon-N by Lilly. One of his articles states that the main advantage of Darvon-N is that it "helps us treat the thousands of addicts who don't find methadone acceptable." He explains that Black drug victims in Watts and young white victims in San Francisco have heard so many bad reports about methadone that they are refusing it for treatment. Drs. Gay & Whitehead of the Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic in San Francisco submitted an article to the Lilly meeting entitled, "I got that yen for Darvon-N." It makes a lot of lame statements about being "ultra-careful" and then suggests that maintaining drug victims on Darvon-N for 4 months might be the best plan. Eli Lilly & Co. has sold deadly drugs, legally, and illegally, for 55 years or more. Like Darvon-N, most of Lilly's narcotics have been marketed for poor young people. As our struggle for freedom grows stronger, the filthy dope pushers at Eli Lilly & Co. will get exactly what they so richly deserve.

**Smash
Eli Lilly & Co.'s
Poison Factory!**

methadone counselor exposes program

Recently, two ex-addict members of White Lightning, John and Gene, interviewed Gary, a former counselor at Montefiore Hospital. John was a patient there, who is now drug free. Gary told us how he became disillusioned with his program's ideas and others like it: "The program is a waste of money and the staff does just enough to get by."



Gary, like many ex-addicts, started working in the drug program to try to put an end to the drug plague. He wanted to help those people, like himself, who had drug problems.

"Most people", he said, "like your 'hard-core' addict, are not helped by methadone. In fact, they get worse. You want to get people away from drugs of all kinds."

Patients on methadone often get multiple addictions. This means becoming addicted to another drug in addition to Methadone. "Patients in our program go in and out of alcohol detox 10 or 12 times a year." Clearly these people are not being helped.

In fact instead of discouraging this, methadone patients are given other drugs by the program. "The doctor prescribes Thorazine, Stellazine, Valium, Mellaril, and Elavil, even though they know these drugs are not to be given to methadone patients."

When a patient wants to detoxify from Methadone, it seems, "The whole concept is to keep addicted...they'd lose money if patients detoxed... (in fact) people are overdosing, right in the hospital, 3 or 4 days in a row. They should detox these people, put them in a hospital."

N.Y.C. health laws rule that a methadone patient cannot be thrown out of a program without being detoxified first. A high dosage patient could die without the methadone, and it's a certainty any patient will begin a desperate attempt to get illegal methadone or other drugs in order to stay well. Program officials, however, found ways to punish methadone addicts they didn't like by throwing them off the program.

One incident involved a grudge a program security guard had against a patient. The security guard said truthfully or untruthfully, that the patient was selling his methadone. The decision was made to get rid of the patient.

"The guy resigned without making a stink. There's a procedure where if you're terminated you can make a half-assed appeal... Barnes (the Director) said he would talk to his parole

officer and have him thrown in jail if he didn't leave voluntarily. The guy was terrified of his P.O. so now he's back in the street shooting dope."

In a drug program, medical information is supposed to be kept confidential, as between doctor and patient. A patient's conduct in a program could be cause to keep him from getting a job, or have him thrown in jail, Gary told of an example of a patient who was trying to get custody of his children through the courts. With the administration's O.K., a copy of the patient's urine reports were sent to the Bureau of Child Welfare. The reports showed some heroin abuse. "Now that's taboo," says Gary, "A breach of confidentiality." "The man lost custody of his children."

Another farce is the urine testing. All programs ask patients to give urine samples, either regularly or periodically, to see if a patient is taking drugs. Montefiore, however, did not supervise its urine taking. "Who knows what people are putting in their urine bottles", Gary said. Since narcotic drugs only stay in urine 3 days, and the program never varied its policy of taking samples on Tues., it was easy for a patient to take drugs on the sly.

In addition, they didn't test for many drugs people take. Says Gary, "Standard City urine reports tested only for quinine, cocaine, morphine, codeine, amphetamines, and barbiturates. But it was a joke because everyone was taking quaaludes. It was unreal, the staff couldn't even tell all these patients were high all the time. So



we got a private lab to test, because the city said it was too expensive. Sure enough, we found that something like 40% of the people were taking quaaludes...now the same thing is happening with valiums..."

One of the most outrageous things Montefiore does is to put non-addicted people, who've used methadone or heroin infrequently, on methadone maintenance. Programs like Montefiore lose money when the patient count gets too low, since the city allows a certain amount of money for each patient in "treatment".

"They're at the point where they're taking people off the streets who they know don't even have habits. Barnes says to me, 'Gary, you screen this girl'. Now I know people in the neighborhood. I hear she's not an addict. She's living with a guy on the program. Never taken heroin, maybe methadone once or twice."

"So I say, 'No, I'm not going to screen her, she's not even an addict and you know it!' So they had someone else screen her. Then they wanted to accept her on the program. I made a big stink. I said 'You can't do this thing! It ain't right!'"

So she went to Bronx State and got on the program there. A week later she got on Montefiore."

When first started the program was "badly administered, but staff people really had concern for helping the patients. Now the program has great administration, but nobody gives a damn about the patients...the staff does just enough to get by..."

The staff used to meet twice a week to evaluate patients' progress. "In the last year and a half, I think, we had maybe 2 or 3 meetings".

The man responsible for these changes is Barnes, who seems to have no qualifications for the job. In fact he is scared to death of the patients. "I think he has a B.A. in Garden Planning, or something", says Gary.

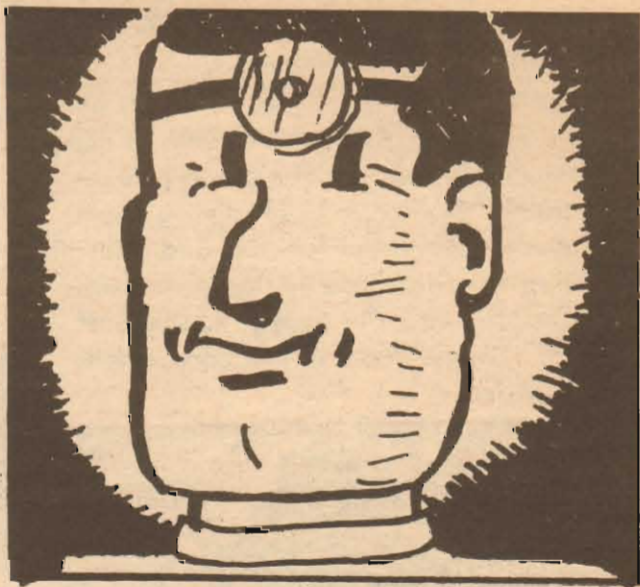
Competitiveness and backstabbing among the staff was encouraged by the new administration. Everyone got bogged down in bureaucratic hassles and hierarchical struggles. "Rumors run like crazy in a situation like that." Instead of directing their energies toward helping the patients, many of the staff spent their time plotting to get other workers' jobs.

Gary's protests against the program's bad policies made him unpopular with his co-workers. A staff member asked patients Gary counseled if he was selling guns and marijuana. Such a ridiculous charge causes more rumors. More importantly, it undermined Gary's work with his patients, and his job status.

Another reason Gary wasn't popular was his support of the hospital strike. "I was the union delegate, when we had our strike. This guy was scabbing, working in the clinic. So we went to get this guy out and he locked himself in his room. He never forgave me for that. The problem was, he was my supervisor's best friend."

All these things helped to destroy Gary's once abundant enthusiasm. "For the last couple of months I was just going through the motions, doing bullshit paperwork...Why should I want to go back to that?"

Gary was finally told he was going to be fired for "breach of confidentiality", the very thing he protested. Charges were never made more specific. Afraid to fight it, for if he lost he would have a bad employment record, Gary took the deal they offered. "The terms of the deal were 6 weeks severance pay, unemployment compensation, and a clean employment record. To this day I don't know



SPEAKING FOR THE MEDICAL PROFESSION..... WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE LONG RANGE EFFECTS OF METHADONE USAGE... THAT WILL BE THIRTY DOLLARS...

why I was fired. But they gave me a clean employment record.

These abuses at Montefiore are not isolated incidents. We know that incidents just as bad or worse occur in almost every methadone program in or outside N.Y.C. What is needed is more brave people like Gary to step forward and tell their stories.

State Attacks Women Prisoners

A large number of women prisoners were recently transferred to the Matteawan prison mental hospital on very flimsy grounds. This action clearly seems to be a response to the recent stand of resistance by Bedford women prisoners (see P. 15) Four of the women are being threatened with long term commitment to the infamous prison hospital.

A packed courtroom in Manhattan on Feb. 18, heard 2 women, Daisy Garcia and Margaret Leak, testify about brutal conditions and excessive administration of drugs such as thiorazine and prolixin at Matteawan.

The strength and intelligence of these women was obvious proof of the ridiculousness of the State's diagnosis of mental disorder. Federal Judge Knapp escaped making a ruling in this case by means of a legal technicality.

Thousands of people are railroaded into mental hospitals in New York each year. For them there is no escape. The 4 women soon will have mental commitment hearings in Poughkeepsie.

Unending resistance is the only way a poor person can survive.

CBS' "Kojak" Slanders El Comite

El Comite is a revolutionary Puerto Rican organization founded 5 years ago with the joint objectives of national liberation for Puerto Rico and the building of socialism in both Puerto Rico and the U.S.

Since its founding, El Comite has worked hard and successfully not only for Puerto Rican independence, but also around the issues that dominate our lives as working people: housing, the schools, the job, etc. One negative result has been that El Comite has been targeted by the government and its friends for constant harassment.

On Nov. 10, 1974, CBS broadcast an episode of "Kojak" which showed the cops battling a terrorist Puerto Rican organization called "El Comite". El Comite was portrayed as a band of lunatics and assassins who didn't hesitate to kill their own relatives for "the cause". Former members of the NYC Police Dept. act as consultants for the series.



The real El Comite is composed of neither lunatics nor terrorists. The cops and CBS, however, would like us to believe that revolutionaries are irresponsible "crazies" who only add to the suffering of the people. They slander not only El Comite but all revolutionary organizations dedicated to serving the people.

We should be aware that this episode of "Kojak" is just another example of efforts to use the media to warp our thinking and to encourage suspicion of those ideas and organizations that speak to our real needs.

Carlos Feliciano Jailed In Frame-Up

Carlos Feliciano has been active in the struggle for Puerto Rican independence for many years. He has worked in a furniture shop in the Bronx and recently was an assistant director for the Lincoln Detox drug program. He is 46 years old and has 6 children.

Last December Carlos was sentenced to 4 years in prison on one of the most obvious frame-up cases in New York history. Carlos has just been sent to Clinton Prison, in Dannemora, N.Y. Clinton is a vicious place and it has a large behavior modification section where another political prisoner, Martin Sostre, was sent last year.

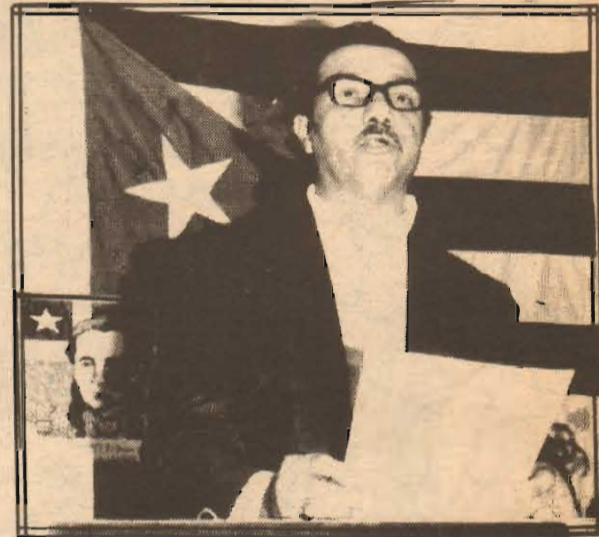
Since the bombing at Fraunces Tavern (see p.3), Lydia Feliciano, Carlos' wife, has been harassed 3 times by federal agents. The whole block is under surveillance. The agents have been threatening and trying to bribe people on the block.

Legal action is still continuing in Carlos' case. He served 17 months on 50,000 bail in Bronx County while awaiting trial. Due to a legal technicality this time cannot be applied to Carlos' sentence until he has served a year in upstate prison. Att. Wm. Kunstler is appealing the case on the grounds that a rich person, who could have paid the bail would have done 14 months less time in prison overall than Carlos will.

The details of the police frame-up of Carlos Feliciano are strikingly clear. Det. Gutierrez was assigned to follow Carlos for reasons that have never been explained. On May 16, 1970, Gutierrez says he saw Carlos put a bomb in the trunk of his car. Carlos

was arrested for supposedly trying to bomb an Air Force recruiting station in the Bronx. Newspaper headlines later accused him of 41 bombings in the Bronx and Manhattan on no additional evidence. Bail was originally set at \$300,000.

In secret Police Dept. hearings that were revealed during Carlos' first trial, Phillip Zimmerman, the actual arresting officer, stated that he saw Det. Gutierrez plant bombs on Carlos. A Bronx jury acquitted Carlos on all charges. A Manhattan jury convicted him only for possession of materials which could be used to make bombs.



Carlos' bravery, during the 4 year battle has been an inspiration to everyone who knows him.

FREE CARLOS FELICIANO!
¡QUE VIVA PUERTO RICO LIBRE!

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

*Break De Chains' Posters \$1.50



*Copies of this poster, done by Black artist Cliff Joseph, are available at the White Lightning storefront for \$1.50. Full color 24"x32" prints of Cliff's painting on Black education are also available for \$5.00

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Prisoner Fights Brainwashing

Eddie Sanchez, leader of protests against the infamous START and CARE (behavior modification) programs goes to trial this month on charges stemming from the May 1974 rebellion at Leavenworth Prison (Kansas). He faces a possible 4 life sentences plus 20 years if convicted.

Eddie has already spent 15 of his 25 years in prison. The successful public struggle against the START program in Springfield Missouri was covered in prior White Lightnings. The authorities are determined to do everything in their power to see that Eddie doesn't leave prison alive. These trials are tied in with past attempts to silence Eddie such as: (1) putting bits of razor blades in his food; (2) an attempted lobotomy.

PLEASE help now before it is too late. Contact: Free Eddie Sanchez Committee P.O. Box 124 W. Somerville, Mass. 02144 Your money, labor and support are badly needed.

International Women's Day

On March 8, 1857, women garment and textile workers marched to protest their working conditions, on the lower East Side of New York. On March 8, 1908, women workers in NYC marched again, to protest sweat shops and child labor and to demand the vote.

At the International Socialist Congress in Denmark, Clara Zetkin presented a resolution on March 8, 1910, to have March 8 declared International Working Women's Day to be celebrated yearly.



This year women in NYC will again be marching. Once again demanding social justice and freedom from the oppression we suffer today as women. We will meet at 41st St. & 6th Ave. and march to Union Sq. for a rally at 2:00.

Brutality Exposed At Women's Prison

"The actions that were taken against us for trying to save a life was the offer of an unmerciful death. We too were beaten, cut, punched, bones were broken, stomachs, faces and hands were lacerated, heads were clubbed, blood was severely shed, yes, this was done to 43 women by 300 men. This was only the beginning of the slow torture.

On Thursday, August 20, 1974, forty three women at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, the main women's prison in New York State, rebelled against the administration. Why did this happen?

Carol Crooks, a very strong and popular black woman, stands 5'3" tall and weighs 137 pounds. Because Carol demands to be treated with respect, as a woman, she is deeply hated by the administration. On Wednesday, August 28, an inmate went to the prison officials and "made an accusation against Carol that was trimmed in lies, dipped in lies, and filled with lies". That afternoon she was ordered into segregation. Following the previous advice of her lawyer she refused to go unless formally presented with charges against her. As is the customary practice of abusing constitutional rights this request was refused.

"At 10:00 that evening all the women were locked into their cells. Six male guards came armed with teargas and other weapons to remove Carol from her 6' by 12' matchbox. Carol barricaded her door and started to water down bedding in an obvious attempt to protect herself. After repeated efforts they broke through her barricades and beat her brutally with their fists and feet repeatedly in the stomach, chests, and legs. She was thrown down a half flight of stairs in full view of 28 other women whose screams and pleas for the guards not to hit her anymore echoed throughout the prison. She was thrown into a station wagon filled with male guards who continued to beat and taunt her and was then thrown into strip cell segregation.

This means being in a cell 23 and a half hours a day, often sleeping on the bare floor with rats, the windows deliberately left open, no blankets, no clothes, no showers. The food, which is filthy, is shoved under the door. Just previous to this Carol had been in "Seg" for 6 and a half months.

By law, when an inmate has charges brought against her, they are supposed to be written up on a 'charge sheet' which states what the specific charges are and given to her at least 24 hours before a hearing. What is most important is that there is to be no punishment until after the hearing. The reality is totally different.

"They told me they were holding me for investigation. I was not told charges and was not shown anything in writing".

"I was accused of calling the doctor a witch doctor. I have bleeding ulcers and was throwing up blood. He told me to lie down and I'd get better."

It is this kind of inhuman and illegal treatment, which is so common in prisons, that Carol was fighting against.

On Thursday morning a group of inmates went to the prison superintendent, Ms. Janice Warne, asking that Carol be released from segregation on the grounds that the other inmate had lied and Carol had in fact done nothing to deserve such treatment. (A third inmate later admitted having hit the woman that supposedly Carol had hit). She promised an answer by 6 P.M. that evening. At 7 P.M. all women were ordered into their cells for lock-up, three hours earlier than usual. Many of the women refused to go. Instead,



43 women, Black, White and Puerto Rican, assembled in the recreation yard and began banging wooden and metal objects together to attract the attention of the prison authorities.

"We could be killed and our bodies disposed of with the explanation that we committed suicide or escaped, no one ever knowing the difference. If these episodes of brute force happened to Carol seven times, then I could be subjected to them twenty seven times. I became determined that I would make all efforts to enlighten the world as to our whereabouts and conditions".

They voiced one demand. To meet with the superintendent with a representative of the news media present. The response of the administration was to call in hundreds of armed guards from Sing Sing.

"The actions that were taken against us for trying to save a life was the offer of an unmerciful death. We too were beaten, cut, punched, bones were broken, stomachs, faces, and hands were lacerated. Noses were broken, heads were clubbed, blood was severely shed, yes this was done to 43 women by three hundred men. But this was only the beginning of their slow torture. We were put in cages, within cages with wounds that needed immediate medical attention. We were left in tombs, to be so near death, only surviving through "strength" and "unity" We were totally isolated, letters of pleas were never mailed, food was deliberately left to be contaminated and indigestible, no water was given, no beds, no heat. Sisters and brothers this was done for ninety days, but our goal was to pull through—we became stronger. Although we are recovering slowly from the physical attack, we rapidly find strength to tell you of these tortures.

As a result of their determination and constant struggle, 28 of the women have filed a civil suit citing violations of their rights and denial of due process of law. Several days of hearings were held in New York City in December of 1974. In these hearing not only several of the women testified, but also a former guard and a former volunteer. The women are united in their determination that the events of August will not go unnoticed. To do this our sisters need help. They are still being harassed and attacked and this is why it is important for them to get as much support as possible from those of us who are on the outside. Please write a letter to one or more of the following people to protest this brutal action and demanding a full investigation.

Mr. Peter Preiser, Comm. of Corrections
Building #2, State Campus
Albany, N.Y. 12226

Ms. Janice Warne, Supt.
Bedford Hills Prison
247 Harris Road
Bedford Hills, N.Y. 10507

State Senator John Dunne
Committee on Corrections
State Senate Office Building
Albany, N.Y.

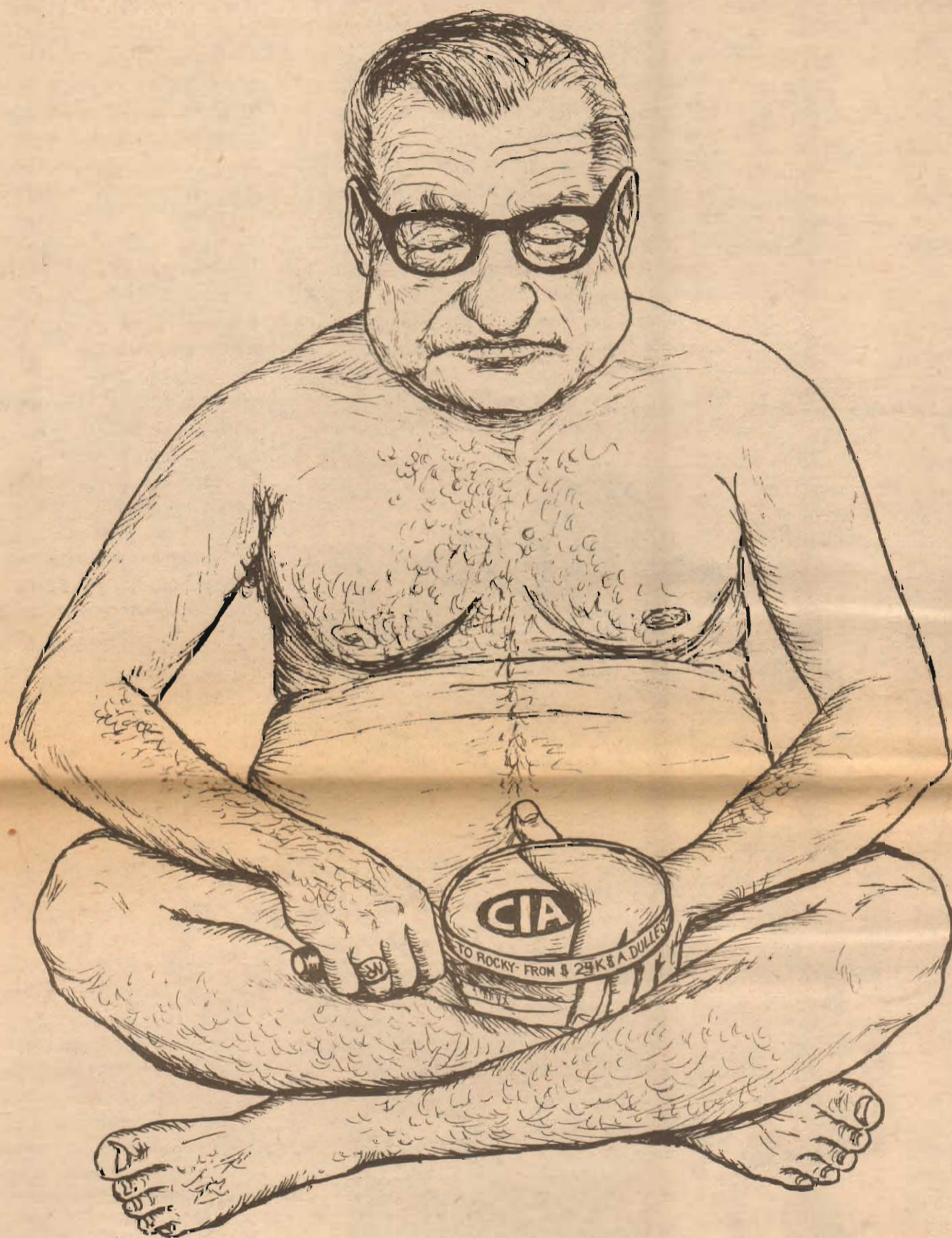
Senator Jacob Javits and
Senator James Buckley
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

**FREE OUR
SISTERS**

FREE OURSELVES



At Last! A Real Investigation Of The CIA!



Things Ain't Like They Used To Be

You know, things ain't like they used to be. We've got a president and a vice president and neither one of them was elected or anything. The president was chosen by Nixon, a mass murderer, and the vice president is a mass murderer in his own right. They don't act like they give a damn about the people, but after all, why should they? Things sure ain't like they used to be.

And they've got all kinds of cops running around—they've got secret cops, auxiliary cops, traffic cops, transit cops, housing cops, narcos cops, cop-out cops. Congress is investigating the FBI, the CIA is investigating everybody and Rockefeller is investigating the CIA!

They sent Carlos Feliciano to prison because they found a fingerprint on a piece of newspaper. Meanwhile Nixon retires at \$96,000 a year, the Waterbuggers ain't about to go to jail and Spiro Agnew (the extortionist, tax evading ex-vice president) is wheeling and dealing in real estate.

It used to be they jailed extortionists, murderers and tax evaders. Now they make them presidents and ambassadors and stuff.

Ford wants \$95 billion to build a better bomb, meanwhile the working people in this country ain't even got enough money to buy food with. He wants another half billion to support dope dealing dictators, Pres. Thieu of South Viet Nam and Lon Nol of Cambodia, and we've got half the heroin addicts in the world living right here in New York.

Kissinger wants to declare war on the Middle East, but it's not like he's gonna go and fight, or Ford, or Rockefeller or the rest of those guys. We hope the people learned something from the Vietnam War—50,000 dead, over one million wounded, 700,000 strung out on death drugs—we ain't about to go and fight and die in another rich man's war, 'cause things just ain't like they used to be.