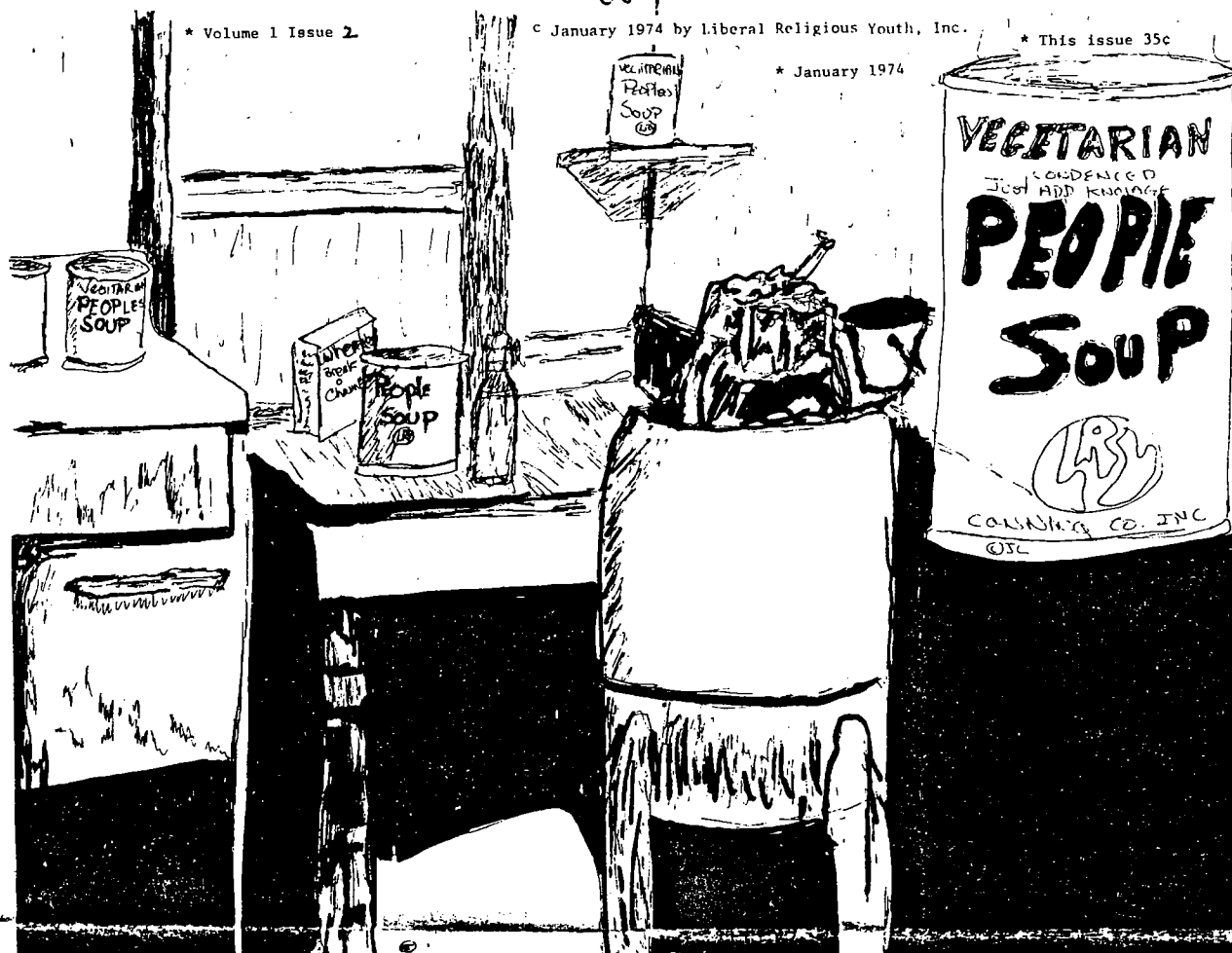


* January 1974



BOARD FOLLIES

By Margaret Blattman

Last Summer, in the dear dead warm days beyond recall, someone mentioned to me that my name was going to be submitted to the UUA Board as a possible appointee to the Youth Adult Committee. I was to become the "unaffiliated, uncommitted" adult on the YAC. Well, let me tell you, had I but known (as we say on the soaps) what trouble token adulthood was going to bring me, I'd have left town immediately!!!

Actually, I am certifiably insane. There is no other possible explanation for the fact that I permitted myself to be persuaded that a trip to Chicago by van (with me driving) in the midst of winter with about a zillion assorted LRY freaks would be fun. I mean, can you think of another explanation?

So anyhow, we left Boston. It rained and it fogged. It was warm and it was yucky. We crept along in heavy traffic, stopping at every open gas station for our three bucks worth and p-call. We drank coffee and we were late picking up people through Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. We got lost in lovely downtown Calumet, Illinois, but we arrived— little realizing that our troubles had only begun. The van that Peter had rented broke. That should have given us our first omen of better things to come, but ever optimistic, we threw ourselves into the joy and fellowship of Winter Boards. There was little for me to do but dine on peanut butter and cucumber sandwiches, so I arranged to be the driver for the daily trip to O'Hare Airport, a mere fifty-five miles away from the meeting site. I figure that I missed more plane departures in one three day period than George McGovern missed boats in his whole campaign (a new record for ineptitude). It got cold. The passenger van got flooded every time we tried to start it. I ran out of gas at O'Hare on Sunday morning. I slept a lot on Sunday afternoon.

Then we started back. Our friendly neighborhood Oriental philosopher, Adam, threw the I Ching and informed us that he had thrown INCREASE, changing to DIFFICULTY AT THE BEGINNING. We cheered. Peter and I picked up the new van to replace the broken one, I set my hair on fire trying to start the other van, we waited in the cold until the tow truck came to fix us. We got to Chicago Heights again, after filling up at the last open gas station in Chicago. We left Chicago Heights, all 17 of us in two vans.

It was New Year's Eve. We sang jolly songs... "They Call Me the Space Cowboy"... hum... hum... as the snow began to fall and the road disappeared in front of us... "I'm a joker... I'm a smoker"... hum... hum. After stopping for coffee and the usual in Bridgeman, Michigan, we started on our way, the snow thicker and more beautiful. After some miles, we noticed that Peter's van was not following. We went slow so it could catch up. We stopped so it could catch up, we crawled so it could catch up. We called the state police--the van was broken. We returned to Bridgeman, Michigan, where we celebrated the New Year by checking into 2 motel rooms so that all 17 of us could loll around in luxury.

We called the rental company on New Year's Day. They were apologetic. They found Peter a Tonka toy for his New Year's present. We left Bridgeman with 14 people in my van—three people in Peter's truck. We travelled another 20 miles before disaster struck again. This time, my van had a blowout. The tire was in shreds--no new tires to be had on New Year's Day. We persuaded oriental philosopher not to throw sticks. We didn't want to know the future. Good thing.

Now, some of you may have heard that there is a gas shortage--no open stations, etc. So, we stopped many times seeing beautiful Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, etc. making the snow yellow where necessary, except in Ypsilanti where we found a friendly homeowner, who loaned us her john. In Dearborn Michigan, we had our first lucky break. The truck ran out of gas about two car-lengths from the gas pump. All hands cheerfully piled out and pushed the truck into position.

(continued page two)

There were no further mishaps as we crossed the border into Canada. We made sure all of us faced the rigors of the Canadian trip in clean and perfect condition and we arrived at Paula Rose's home, only 4 hours late for our turkey sandwiches (for carnivores). After a too brief hour by a cheerful crackling fire, we were off again in the unheated van and the over heated truck to new adventures.

On the Queen Elizabeth Way, nearly into St. Catharines, Ontario, I again noticed that the truck was lost. Heaving a sigh of resignation, I turned back, mentally packing 3 more people into the van and cursing the inventor of the internal combustion engine. This time, we were in luck. The truck hadn't broken at all. The drivers had only been stopped by the Ontario Provincial Police for drunken driving! What a relief! We managed to convince the police that we were, indeed, a traveling church group and just overtired weavers, and made our way to "see" Niagara Falls, which looks much like anything else at 3 a.m. On through customs at Niagara Falls, New York, with only a slight delay for the customary search and we were practically home. We had already covered 500 miles of our 1000 mile trip in only 36 hours.

All our troubles were over as we sped down the New York Thruway at 50 m.p.h. We arrived in Boston at 6 o'clock in the evening—50 hours after leaving the Winter Boards of '73.

So here are my wishes for a Happy New Year, and when you all get together in Chicago next year—think of me, safe and comfortable at home!



LR Y Board Meets

The LRY Board of Trustees met last December in Chicago Heights, Ill. The Board is made up of one representative (often the president) from every LRY federation and regional council and the LRY executive committee. At this meeting, 26 federations and regions were represented.

In addition to the Board members, many interested LRY-ers came to the five day meeting to observe and to participate. The policy towards non Board members, called "munchkins", was liberalized last fall to allow a more open Board meeting. The Munchkins were involved in this meeting almost as much as the Board members themselves—to the point where the munchkins had to be reminded that only Board members, and not munchkins, are supposed to vote.

Among the many agenda items were: federation reports, Continental Conference, a "Traveling Circus" of LRY, People Soup, Youth-Adult relations and funding ideas. Also of interest was a presentation given by Joanne Henry of the United Methodist Council to Youth Ministries, exploring the possibility of future collaboration between LRY and UMCYM.

Some of the more significant resolutions passed by the Board at this meeting include:

Structure Resolution - Urging feds and locals to redesign their "LRY structure" to be in closer sympathy with the ideals of LRY.

Advisor Resolution - Tentatively defining the role of the LRY advisor and establishing a process to draw up an advisor policy.

Membership Resolution - Dealing with the questions of who is and who is not a member of the Board of Trustees in terms of defining what is an LRY federation.

Constitutional Committee Resolution - Saying that any interpretations made by the LRY Constitutional Committee effective until and unless the Board of Trustees over rules the Committee.

In addition, the Board voted to change the site of Continental Conference from its tentative spot in the Dakotas to the South Eastern United States.

The Board also heard several speeches from the executive committee criticizing the lack of commitment on the part of federations and, more specifically, fed representatives, in the whole of LRY. Although many thoughts were left unresolved, the general feeling was to try and use future Board meetings to greater potential. The next scheduled meeting of the Board is in late August right after Continental Conference.

Complete minutes of the meeting, including federation reports, resolutions and a summary of discussion, are available from LRY in Boston. Please include some money (about 25¢) to help cover paper, printing and postage costs.

BOARDS waste of time? point of view

Boards, oh god, I thought that I was all done with that. I really have a lot of strange feelings about them. I hated the meetings and felt very isolated and frustrated, and yet when we were out of the meetings I felt very good about the people.

I went to boards hoping to get an idea of what was going on in the rest of LRY, and how people were doing it. I was hoping that contact with others that were involved in running this thing (whatever it is) would give me a feeling like that which I got when LRY was a new thing to me; a feeling of invigoration and of energy. I got what I wanted but not from the meetings. I got what I wanted from just about everything else that went on.

The meetings, however were one of the most intense exercises in frustration I have been at. I don't understand how people can go somewhere and talk so much and do so god damn little. Just about everytime an issue came up it would be put off for study by somebody, which meant that this board didn't have to deal with it. We could have done something with the Methodists, but instead instead we worried about "affiliation" vs "collaboration", and whether or not the term "brother" was racist. We talked about the correct procedure and then we interrupted each other. The traveling circus, the one point in the meeting that anybody got honest with their feelings, was forgotten after after everyone agreed that it would be a good idea. Money, well sure continental needs some butt... On the van to Chicago I had to give people a pen and paper so that they could write a fed report. This was despite my repeated reminders and the continental board packet. I didn't have a constitution report ready, and slowed up the meeting trying to improvise.

Boards are where the direction for LRY is set and it is not going to go anywhere if we don't go there better prepared, and ready to listen to each other instead of ourselves. We should start to plan for them two or three months in advance, think of what we would like to see happen and prepare written resolutions to present to the board. We should write to other people and see what they're doing and tell them what we're doing. That way the wording and meaning of a motion will already be thought of and board members would have an idea of what the other board members were going to propose. We should go into the board meeting with the idea that everybody has got something to share and that it is important that this sharing take place. We've got to be honest and straight forward with each other or else communications breaks down. We must remember that the reason that we are there is to conduct business not to talk.

Bob Del - NERO

Apricot Rice Pudding

1/2 cup dried apricots (cut small)
1 cup brown rice (raw)
3 cups dry milk
1 cup raw sugar or brown sugar or white sugar
1 quart water
1 cup coconut or coconut meal
1/4 cup raisins
1/2 t. vanilla

Mix well in a 2 quart casserole dish and bake at 250 for 3-4 hours, until rice is done, stirring every half hour. If mixture is thin after 3 1/2 hours, add 1 well beaten egg to thicken. This pudding is best when eaten warm with milk and can be reheated in a double boiler. Serves 6-8.

by Linda MacDonald

LETTERS

Dear People Soup,

I was impressed with the Social Actions Packet. I wasn't especially inspired at first, being wrapped up in a lot of my own worries, but now, after really reading the packet (and going to Continental Boards) I see continental LRY, especially things like People Soup and the SAEC, as something I can really get into (keep me from feeling useless) and as sources for resource people, ideas, and possible new directions for my rapidly growing fed.

Thanks for helping me and giving me a chance to help. Keep up the good work.

Love, Kyle K. Knapp -VT.

Person(s) at "People Soup"

This is a thank you. From all sides I have been thrown other kid's religious papers, which attempt to convert me to a religion I feel is based upon a fairy tale. I have noticed a certain reaction upon those peoples' parts when I wave "People Soup" in their faces. Complete confusion. "People Soup"?!! they squeal. And when I attempt to describe UU-ism to them they chalk me up as a heathen. But "P.S." is my banner! Now I finally have proof that there are other people who are as crazy and undefined as me!

...Please do not let "P.S." die off. This is what I need. I also need a concise description of U.U.-ism to rattle off to well-meaning persons who decide that there is something wrong with me. They can not comprehend how I can be as devout as I say I am unless I am heaven forbid---worshipping the devil! Eek!...Anyway, thank you and please keep it up.

Smile (God loves you) Dana - MI.

Dear People,

What I would really like to see in People Soup are ideas people have for improving locals or just interesting things about them. Like my LRY is going to buy a scrapbook and anyone can do whatever they want with it. It is a good place to write down feelings, gripes, quotations and interesting sayings that you like. You can also write stories, draw pictures, paste in pictures, tell someone what you think of them, and most of all give hints to future LRYers on the problems you had and how you tackled them. (overcame them, whatever) I think this scrapbook will help future LRYers understand us a little better and besides they would get a kick out of reading it.

Love, Susan - Arizona

CLASSIFIED

I am looking for Ideas for Conference Workshops and Activities. I am on the planning committee for the Summer Tri-Fed Conference of SAM, LSD and Sunco. Anyone who wants to send me their ideas or would like to know more about the conference write: Craig Goodwin 555 NE 7th Avenue, Gainesville, Florida 32601.

Starr King Federation of LRY is just coming alive after at least four years of death. We have had about five conferences this year including an LT. Not too long ago we chose officers and a board. We would like to hear from other feds about how you are run and how you keep active, fundraising (we have very little funds), conferences and other activities. It would be really great if you could write and tell us what you have been doing. Thank You. Jim Munroe and Ellen Popenoe. Please write to Ellen at 96 Dellbrook Ave, San Francisco, CA 94131.

TO: Eve, Silvia & Lea-- Send me a GARBAGE PIZZA-JohnLustig

Dear Quadruple Christmas Visitations [and Incarnations] at the Taco Apt. Who are you- and why? Thanx for cleaning our floors. We like your poetry. Send some drawings for the paper. Love to all, hows Vermont? Joe&Suzzy

This paper needs your support. Become a successful reporter or businessman, practice in the Soup, sell subscriptions for fun. mayyounevergetwriterscramp matthew.

Biking partner wanted- I am looking for someone to pedal anywhere with me. Possibly to Continental Conference this summer. Please write to Arthur Spivack at 925 Belvidere Ave., Plainfield, N.J. 07060.

Nina: The gig is up! -Seymour

Dear Barbara, The ring is coming. Love, Peter

Mark Dohner: Where's my article you promised?

THE SOUP

Layni Martin: Where are my photographs?

Julie Houston, It was a long bus ride, Blossom.

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Thai Students Revolt

BANGKOK, Thailand (LNS)-On January 9, thousands of students demonstrated in the streets of Bangkok to protest continued U.S. presence in their country. The action was sparked by the revelation that a CIA agent had sent a phoney letter to Thai Premier Sayna. The letter purported to be an offer from "Communist" insurgents for a cease-fire in exchange for insurgent autonomy.

The January 9 demonstration had more than the usual impact because only months before, on October 15, larger-but ominously similar- student demonstrations toppled the government then in power, that of Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn.

Hundreds of thousands of students participated in the October demonstrations, some travelling from outlying districts to gather in Bangkok the week preceeding October 15. The government tried to suppress the unarmed demonstrators, using U.S.-supplied tanks, teargas, helicopter gunships and machine guns. It is estimated that between 200-400 students were killed during the demonstrations. Thousands were wounded.

In October, the student movement-which represents a coalition of political sentiments ranging from extreme right to leftist- were primarily concerned with the issues of restoration of a civilian government, inflation, and unemployment. Many of them, about to graduate from the university, found that they were "overeducated" for the Thai job market and faced almost certain unemployment upon graduation.

The recent demonstrations against U.S. presence, however, brought into focus the role of the U.S. in Thailand's economy and political structure.

The Phoney CIA letter, intended to encourage desertion from the ranks of the insurgents, was detected when an office boy registered the letter using the CIA's Bangkok office as it's return address. It's revelation strengthened the position of the more progressive students who were attempting to make the U.S. presence in Thailand a primary issue.

The U.S. presence, both military and economic, in Thailand is considerable. At present, the U.S. has more than 40,000 troops based in Thailand. During the height of the air war against Cambodia, Laos and North Vietnam, Thailand served as the primary base of operations for the Air Force.

For example, during the period from 1965-1969, the U.S. government spent more than \$2 billion, primarily for base construction, employment of Thai personnel, and supplies. The London Financial Times estimated, in 1969, that this investment meant a \$2 million plus for Thailand's balance of payments each year of peak military activity. Without that plus, Thailand would almost surely run a balance of payments deficit of more than \$300 million yearly. (It is just this problem that is at least partly responsible for the current inflation.)

In addition, the Times pointed out that more than 20,000 Thais earned their living on U.S. bases at the height of the air war.

As that phase of the war wound down, however, the U.S. cut down on military construction in Thailand, and reduced somewhat the number of GIs stationed there.

But as U.S. military investments declined, U.S. corporate interests zoomed. And conditions were ripe. Under various military regimes, Thailand had acquired a series of laws designed to profit foreign investors and their Thai representatives. For example, labor unions (and political parties) were outlawed in 1958; there is a partial duty and tax exemption on imported raw materials; there is no tax on imported machinery; 100 foreign-owned enterprises are permitted.

If the new governments civilian character does prove less enthusiastic about repressing the insurgents in the north and far south, then the U.S.'s interests would be directly affected. A report from the Economic Research Division of the Chase Manhattan Bank put it in this way: "Thailand promises to be an excellent investment and sales area for Americans if the rebel insurgencies can be contained."

Boston is Really Great

Well um uh like dig-it man like um you know uh wierd man ah um is like you know well um sorta like you know um really you know for sure like I don't know um ah oh well you know what I mean great man like dig-it. Well um that is um uh all ah I um uh-uh want to ah um say um ah uh you know.

Joe (uh) Taco

Hydrogen Avenue- The Stillness of Social Change

A bomb

dropped today
Water scratched through the pavement
broke the windows as well as the
Concrete foundations
water fold
Told the green sky hold your hands
over your eyes
I tried

But I had to look-
Broken shoulders jump into space
Old woman white scarf
picks the glass;
without once hitting me;
Snaps
Them into the rigid gutterhole. This time
laughter is frightening because
it's just an everyday day

Two scrapbook men
vaguely connected at top
of an upsidedown ladder
They allow their hands to be pushed inside
a mouth of
half-wit bulbs
and tendon glass

I can't help thinking that they talking up
The bloody neon sign didn't know
about the explosion

All the unborn but never to be born
Chickens slipped into their silent
paper wombs
Lovers changed places
attitude
memory

Boundries have shifted and
everyone is living in different houses

And every moment someone is trying
to wash the always newly given
aftermath dust
from their clothes.

I see it smiling
"Have a Nice Day"
on my car

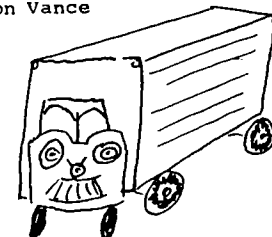
The only problem is
I know where it came from
So I'm running

Ain't no bomb
gonna put me
in somebody's
Fashionable Original



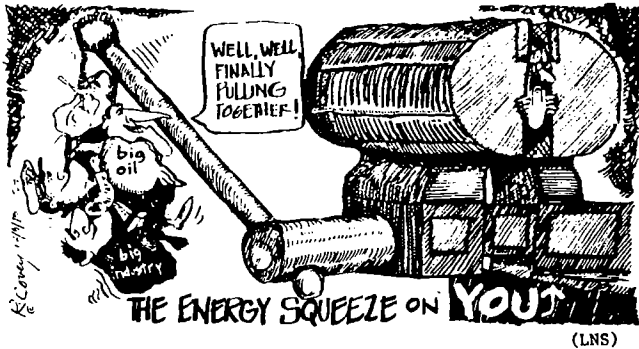
-Shannon Vance

YOU TOO
CAN BE A TRACTOR-TRAILER



The soup staff is asking you to please edit your own article. This newspaper is really hard enough to put out without having to edit every article that walks into this office. By editing your article we mean taking out any repetition and misspelled words. Unimportant words and phrases have to be left out. We love getting articles from you but remember that it is awfully hard to type articles that have misspelled words and little to no sentence structure. Thanx.

Love, Emily Blattman



Did you ever notice how initial concious we are in this organization? I don't know whether this is good or bad, or if it makes any difference, but it is an interesting facet of information. Take our name for example: LRY. All initials. And then, some of us have a fun time jostling around the meanings behind those initials. Here are a few examples:

Legless Racehorses from Y-oming
Leftover Rancid Yams
Lesbian Refugees from Yugoslavia
Leftist Radical Yuppies.....Hmmm.....
Light Reddish-Yellow
Lucious Raspberry Yogurt
Lousey Rotten Yankees
Loquacious Rowdy Youngsters

It is nice to know that we don't take ourselves so seriously that we can't have a bit of fun with what we call ourselves. The initials don't stop there. That is only the beginning, the initial part of it, you might say. All of the federations I have run into have initials for names. Examples of these are: JAF, MAF, CVF, DVF, and GMAF. Then we get into regional organizations, and that's where I think we have the most fun with initials, and where really creative anagrams come up. There was EGO, once, which stood for Eastcoast's Greatest Organization, and that was changed to MARC and almost MARS. There is also NERO, and I don't see why any LRY group would want to name itself after such an infamous, tyrannical despot. Other examples of imaginative names have been GLURC, SLUT, TOAK, SEAFOAM, LSD, and GODARFUL. There are also many committees within federations, locals, and regional organizations where many other initials can be found.

Andrew Velonis (JAF)

Advisor's Conflict

Linda Brown

I have complete sympathy with LRY advisors who find it hard not to be "one of the kids". It is hard to step away from a group of people you enjoy because you are expected to act as a responsible advisor. (or just as a responsible adult) In September I struggled with a situation of this type and ended up writing out my feelings to help me clarify my decision and also to just "wind down" from my struggle. Let me share it with you.

September 23, 1973 Midnight

I have just spent two hours deciding to change a decision I made in two minutes tonight at our LRY meeting. Tonight our group shared its reactions to smoking pot. I was among those who had never smoked pot. When asked if I had a reason for not doing so I responded that I felt no necessity to get involved. I feel I am a happy person. Also this could create a real legal hassle with regards to my profession as a pharmacist. I added that I am quite sure that I would have tried smoking marijuana if it had been available to me in high school or college. I have always had a curiosity about the effects of drugs. Once I took a nitroglycerine tablet so that I would know about the headache caused by this vasodilator. During my five years in school I probably used dextedrine five or six times for those rare all-night study sessions.

I listened to the others share experiences and found somewhat to my surprise that I was rapidly developing my curiosity about marijuana. Suddenly I was inviting LRY'ers to educate me. I really wanted to see what a joint looked like. I wanted to have a comfortable knowledge about the terms such as "roach" and "number". And yes, I was curious to know what it would feel like to get mildly stoned. The group was overwhelmingly enthusiastic about becoming my teacher. Our meeting time was nearly over. Quickly we agreed on a 35 cent joint, limited my mentors to a group of three and set a date. Andy congratulated me for making the decision. Then he said something to the effect that he always thought of me as cautious Linda with an answer for all possible problems. From that moment on I became increasingly uncomfortable about the decision. By the time I got to the car I realized that it is not too smart to set a time and place for your crime. As we drove out of the parking lot I asked Allan, "What do you think?" He replied, "Would it make any difference?" By the time we got home, I knew he was unhappy about the whole thing, and did not want it to take place in our home and did not plan to be there if it did. At this point I dialed the church number to tell my mentors I thought we had been unwise to announce the date. I also added that Allen was unhappy and that I was not sure I thought it was worth it. We tentatively set another date. We discussed the possibility of them just telling me what there was to tell and then letting me smoke in private but we all rather wanted to share the experience. I kept feeling uncomfortable. I began to see that this was not the way to get my education. I felt like I was corrupting the LRY'ers even though if anything, it was more the other way around. I could see this simple thing getting blown all out of proportion. I consulted with another church member who offered an alternate means of getting my education without risking getting kids involved. This person pointed out that if one joint is found in a family car, the car can be impounded.

In conclusion I also must add that now that I know how uncomfortable I have become thinking about our plan, I doubt if smoking under these circumstances could possibly be a positive pleasant experience. (maybe some night with just Allan and me in our bedroom---!) It has taken two hours of thought for me to decide this is not the way to get my education. I feel somewhat cheated to not be able to share this experience. However, I am again at peace with myself knowing that I have made a decision I am comfortable with. P.S. Just as I expected, my mentors did not hassle me about my decision to cancel the party. I'm glad they could respect the fact that I did not feel any obligation to go ahead after I had decided that method of education was not for me.

november 21, 1973

by wind creek

every time someone asks what lry is, the question is met by numerous jokes, groans, and anything but a serious attempt to find an answer. i feel it is time to stop avoiding the issue and realistically decide where we are and where we are going. lry is an organization with vast potential energy, yet this energy lacks focus and thus much of it is wasted. the time has come to utilize that energy for some constructive ends.

last night, a revolutionary discussion with two other lryers created a number of inner conflicts concerning my involvement in the peoples' struggle against oppression in the united states. i don't have to reiterate all of the ways that the establishment causes strife in america, nor do i feel it necessary to remind anyone of the specific things in this nation that are worth preserving. if any new system we create is to be better than the present one, we must eliminate the bad without destroying the good. i offer some of my own conclusions here in hopes that they may help some of my lry sisters and brothers to cope with similar conflicts within themselves.

long an advocate of non-violence, i had a question placed before me which shook my composure a little. what if a violent revolution were to come about? at present, no such revolt could occur, much less succeed. however, with the energy shortage just beginning, prices skyrocketing, and depression seeming more and more inevitable, in two or three years the already suffering poor people of this country will have increased enough in number, anger, and a sense of purpose to make a violent revolution a very real possibility. if it happens, how could i stand by and let my brothers and sisters be shot down by government troops? by not taking a stand, i would be contributing to their defeat. still, how could i morally take part in such violence.

i took my problem to another lry friend and we came to the conclusion that there had to be a third side. a side which is the rejection of all forms of violent revolution, and which would dedicate all of its energies to bringing about peaceful and constructive changes before a violent revolution became inevitable.

(continued on page 7)

PROGRAM

This column is based on the same philosophy as the rest of the paper which is, this is your page and not mine. In other words I am going to use the programs that you send into me to fill up this space. My job is to add things to tie your programs together and to design the page. So it is up to you to make this column educational and useful.

OUR COMMUNITY

(FOR LACK OF A BETTER NAME)

On this page I have tried to figure out the different facets of a community and present new and old programs to help you explore those facets. It is written in the form of an on-going program.

Although I have put parts down in a special order, you may want to switch them around to fit your groups needs. There are probably some aspects of a community that I have left out, so you are going to have to fill in the gaps. I hope that you will also use other resources, such as the people in your group, to make this program complete. You will most probably find it necessary to have people outside of your group facilitate some of these programs.

The first type of program I would do to start my new community would be communications programs. If your group has communications problems they will detract from everything else you do. These activities will not solve your problems but they may make them easier to understand.

Things to do:

Get the book "Reality Games" and play them at your meetings. Reality games try to teach you how to communicate with each other. I highly recommend them.

Study your group dynamics- Who are your leasers? How do they lead? Who dominates the conversation? Who speaks less than the average person? Why? Etc...

Read R. D. Laing's books, "Knots" and "Sanity, Madness, and the Family" and discuss them at your meeting.

Find someone who is experienced and is qualified to lead sensitivity exercises.

Condense your life stories into two paragraphs.

A completely different kind of communication that effects your society is the media.

Things to do:

Go to a newspaper office and tour the press.

Put out a newsletter for the group or maybe do your church's newsletter for a few weeks.

Learn to do sign language. (the kind deaf people us)

Learn to speak gibberish, Op, or pig latin.

Write an article or a letter to the editor for "People Soup".

The most important thing about a society is the roles people play in it. Some of the roles are good while other roles are suppressive and harmful.

Things to do:

Discussion- Have a brainstorm session in which you think of all the roles society gives you and that you can see yourself playing.

Do some role plays.- Take a given interchange between people and act it out.

Sexual roles- Break the group into two different groups according to sex. The females go into one room and fill in the blanks to the sentences; As a female I am expected to _____. As a female I am not suppose to _____. Think of as many things as you can and write them down on a big piece of paper with a magic marker. Each statement should have a separate piece of paper. Males do the same replacing the word female to male. When both groups are finished come together and tape the papers to the wall. Compare the answers and take the discussion from there. You might want to change one of the females statements to; Males are suppose to _____. And do the inverse for the males.

014
All people need shelter, food, and water in order to survive. Although most LRYers already have these essentials it is fun to do programs that pretend to fulfill these needs.

Things to do:

Build a shelter out of cardboard boxes. Go to stores that sell refrigerators and other large appliances and ask them for the boxes that they come in. Get paint, tape, knives, string, and whatever else you think you might need and build a house. Let your imagination run free. (Don't forget the inside and the furniture)

Build a teepee or if the weather is right a snow house.

Food- Find someone who knows how to forage for wild food or get a book that tells you how and learn through experience. (be careful)

Find someone who knows how to scavage in the city. (Does not mean going through garbage cans)

Have a day of cooking. Bake bread, make butter, and cook some exotic recipes. Then have a banquet that night.

Water- Get out your divining rods. If you can, find a dowser who actually knows what he/she is doing. If you can't, use your cosmic sense to find the water. Really get into this program and it will be alot of fun. I have done something similiar to this.

Government plays a key role in most societies.

The question is how do we govern ourselves?

Things to do:

Figure out the perfect government for your group; concensus, democracy, dictatorship, etc...

Figure out your goals as a group.

Write a pact, constitution, or agreement.

Talk about how you are going to deal with people who feel left out or just people's feelings in general.

Take a hypothetical problem and figure out how the different types of governments would deal with it.

Most societies have a way of educating their young. Through education their culture is either passed on or changed.

Things to do:

Have everyone teach the group a skill or knowledge of his/her own.

Start a free school.

Discuss the different aspects of learning and education.

Get involved in a nursery school. Watch how children learn.

Religion- What do you believe?

Things to do:

Have a meeting that is just for the purpose of worship. Have several people present worship services.

Invite the minister to come to a meeting and tell you about UUism.

Invite a Guru Maharaj Ji person, a Jesus freak, and a Process person to a meeting and watch them interact.

Make up a group ritual.

Baptise yourselves into the group.

If you can, develop your own religion.

Do something really religious, go and do something to improve the world for someone other than yourselves. i.e. Visit people at a nursing home, work for a cause, start a recycling center, etc etc...

The Arts

Things to do:

Find or make a conducive atmosphere and create.

Creative doodling- Take a piece of paper and make a doodle on it and pass it to someone else who will then make their own doodle on it. Meanwhile everyone else has their own piece of paper on which they are doodling. At the end of the meeting put your works of art and the one the group did collectively on display.

Invite an artist to a meeting to talk and teach.

Visit a museum.

Go to the kitchen and get a potato and some carrots and a knife and bring them to the meeting. When everyone is equipped start your vegetable sculptures.

Have a meeting at which everyone brings in instruments and makes music.

Make your own instruments.

Playing- The hardest thing about being grown up is remembering the child within you. Go out and play. Do what your heart desires.



(LNS)

Thai students demonstrating in Bangkok

Social Actions Notes

LNS- The Liberation news Service is an alternative press syndicate which supplies information to underground newspapers and movement groups nationwide. LRY subscribes, so you are entitled to plug in to this resource. There is a problem with availability of LNS packets, which come 7 times monthly. If you are interested in seeing LNS packets, contact us and we will try to work something out.

THE SOCIAL ACTIONS ENABLING COMMITTEE is continuing with a new catalogue of resources. The catalog lists all members

(Continued from page 5)

no matter who wins a violent confrontation, there will be mass persecution of those who are sympathetic with the losers. the result could only be either a police state or total anarchy. I cannot see a violent revolution in america having a non-violent or peaceful aftermath. therefore, this third side must be actively involved in the raising of consciousness to a level which would circumvent the necessity of violence; which provides a force stronger than anger, greed, and hate; a non-violent revolution of giving instead of taking.

we in lry seem content to believe that we are already involved in such a revolution. I contend that too many of us are not. to be part of such a revolution, we must live it. we must provide an example that is a viable alternative to violence. each of us must strive to relate better and to overcome spiritual, mental, and emotional violence as well as physical violence. we must become open-minded enough in our dealings with one another that we can be peaceful even in disagreement. most important, we must be real and stop playing games which rip each other off.

collectively, lry has the potential to be a major part of a non-violent, consciousness raising revolution. presently there is a great deal of controversy surrounding whether lry is supposed to be concentrating its energies toward such a collective effort, or whether it is to be a place where people just have a good time and grow. i think we can do both, but i also feel that it is time that we established some priorities. when we cease to have a collective purpose, we cease to have collective energy. now more than ever before, our collective energy can help bring changes, and our energy will be needed more and more in the months and years to come. i feel we must all work together to become an example of a non-violent, consciousness raising, love-based community which will provide an alternative attitude to life, and hopefully an alternative lifestyle altogether. let us work together to become one.

peace — love — community
keep in touch*****to exchange ideas

write Wind Creek
5951 Little Sugar Creek
Dayton, OH 45440



THAI STUDENTS Continued

The Royal Thai forces are using troops trained by the U.S. military, and equipment from nearby U.S. bases. All of the counterinsurgency techniques employed in Vietnam are being used in Thailand: population dispersal, free fire zones, assassination, napalm, anti-personnel weapons, etc.

However, if the student movement continues to pressure Premier Sayna to eliminate the U.S. presence in Thailand, his relationship with the U.S. could be severely undermined.

Admiral Thomas Moorer, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs earlier this year, justifying the more than \$120 million in U.S. aid to Thailand. He explained:

"Politically, Thailand has a leading position among Southeast Asian nations... it's armed forces and geography contribute greatly to it's stability in that unhappy part of the world... The Thai government has permitted us to maintain on her soil bases to support U.S. interests in Indochina. The internal stability has been threatened by a Communist inspired and supported insurgency. Countering this insurgency is the responsibility of the Thai government, but they cannot fully discharge this responsibility without technical and material assistance from the U.S."

For those reasons, many in the press and diplomatic corps predict that a new military coup -headed by Thanom and backed by the U.S.- is not at all unlikely.

of SAEC as of January and also resource groups. A supplement to the list is a list of LNS subscribers. The February catalogue will stand unrevised for a longer period. If you want to be listed send a description of yourself and what you are into regarding social actions. February is the deadline for listings.

ENERGY PACKET- will be available very shortly. It will be a collection of factual information about the 'energy crisis' the politics of oil and the pros and cons of atomic power. The depth of this packet and programming ideas depends almost entirely on input from outside sources. This packet of article from LNS and FPS can best be augmented by you. Personal experiences, odd bits of information, implementation ideas are needed.

THE POST-WAR WAR, a slide show by the National Action/Research on the Military Industrial Complex (NARMIC) project of the American Friends Service Committee is being bought by LRY. It is an excellent educational tool, concise, informative and easy to understand. This slide show is about the current 'post-peace' involvement of the U.S. in Vietnam. It documents the U.S. support of the Thieu regime in a 40 minute presentation. The show is easy to use, it consists of a set of slides, a script, and a follow up packet. If you are interested in showing this, you may rent it from continental LRY right now for ten dollars or from the nearest regional office of the American Friends Service Committee.

MORE SAEC - There will soon be a short flier introducing and explaining the Social Actions Enabling Committee. There will also be a slightly revised questionnaire and a newsletter. The newsletter will be out by the end of February, the flier will be printed up by the middle of the month, and the new question sheet will be available as soon as we run out of old ones.

SKINNER AWARD - Clarence R. Skinner was a Universalist minister deeply involved in a philosophy of Social Mysticism. The UUA offers an award of \$250 "to stimulate meritorious preaching concerned with the social implications of religion." If interested in trying for this award which will also include publication and distribution of the winning sermon, send six legible copies of your manuscript to the Department of Education and Social Concern, 25 Beacon St. Boston MA. 02108, between March 1 and April 1.

Underground Newspapers? If you are interested in publishing an LRY affiliated newspaper, get into the SAEC and talk to other LRYers about it too.

WHOLE EARTH RETURNS- Rumor: a New Whole Earth Catalog will soon be published, edited by the man who did the last six, Stewart Brand. The new one will deal with the energy crisis. Does anybody know anything about it? Write us!

IMPEACHMENT DEMONSTRATIONS- 60 people in the Eastern US have formed the National Campaign to Impeach Nixon. Their tentative program is: Feb 1-15 Local action, teach-ins, letter writing drives. Feb 18 (Washington's birthday) "Day of Truth" a climax to the previous actions. Mar 1-3 local impeachment groups will send representatives to a meeting in the Midwest to plan the thrust of impeachment demonstrations. Apr or May whenever the House Judiciary Committee gives its report, marches and rallies in the district of Columbia urging the House to impeach the president. For more information at 1404 M St NW/ Washington DC

FINALLY, SAEC - If you are interested, confused or none of the above, write to us.

Paper Going Broke

It is our intention that PEOPLE SOUP become a self supporting program and publication of Liberal Religious Youth. In order for this to happen it is necessary that we continue receiving subscriptions. With the money we have collected and the money we are owed by subscribers, we could put out another eight page issue without dipping into our budget.

We are asking you please, if you find this paper valuable, to sell subscriptions. Local group subscriptions will not carry us, we need many more individuals buying our paper. It only takes a moment to fill out the form on the right, turn on your friends and the people in your church. If you use up the forms, or don't want to damage your paper, just send the necessary information on a plain sheet of paper. For \$2.50 the subscriber will receive eight issues of PEOPLE SOUP. If the paper should fold/he/she will be reimbursed 31¢ per issue not delivered. Also available bulk rate on a per issue basis: 25¢ per copy for thirty or more, up to forty-nine copies, 20¢ per copy for over fifty. SEND SUBSCRIPTIONS AND MONEY TO: PEOPLE SOUP C/O LRY, 25 Beacon street, Boston, MA. 02108. Checks payable to LIBERAL RELIGIOUS YOUTH.

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| BILL ME (I WILL PAY WITHIN 2 MOS.) | | BILL ME (I WILL PAY WITHIN 2 MOS.) | |



The General Assembly (G.A.) is a general meeting held annually for the Unitarian Universalist Association (U.U.A.) and the congregations across the continent. The G.A. is held in various parts of the continent from year to year moving from the east to the west and back. This year it is in New York City.

The General Assembly elects officers to the U.U.A. Board of Trustees. Business is conducted during the week long meeting with delegates from churches and fellowships voting on resolutions from the Board of Trustees and the floor that they would like the U.U.A. to act on. General Resolutions if passed by the General Assembly are endorsed by the G.A. delegates and recommended to the Board of Trustees for action.

The General Assembly is not just a business meeting but is a chance for the delegates to meet and discuss with the departments and affiliates of the U.U.A. about their ideas, programs and the further development of the UU movement.

Continental L.R.Y. would like to get as many youth as possible at the G. A. who are interested in seeing what the U.U. movement is all about and who as U.U. youth are interested in getting involved in General Assembly politics. L.R.Y. is putting on a couple of practica sessions (workshops) and worship services for the G.A. If anyone is interested in attending get in touch with your church or fellowship or the Continental Executive Committee in Boston.

People Soup the last page

Rowe Reunion

Every year, the Rowe Camp Sr. High community elects 12 campers to come back the next year as sort of unpaid staff. These people are called spirits. This year, the 12 spirits are planning a 4-day Rowe Camp reunion in late February.

The reunion will be from Thursday night, Feb. 21, to Sunday, February 24, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Hartford, Ct. Registration is expected to be under 10.00\$ for the weekend.

Rowe Camp is a 50 year old Unitarian Universalist summer camp located in the Berkshire Mountains of Mass. Registration is open to the campers, staff and spirits of both sessions of last years camp, as well as to anyone interested in finding out more about Rowe Sr. High.

Publicity for the reunion will be mailed to everyone who was at Sr. High last year. For more info., contact Bev Yaeger, 25 Beacon St., Boston, Ma. 02108.

LRY meets UMCYM

I made my first contact with the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministries in November while at Arlington High School in Arlington Texas. I went there as a visitor with Layni Martin when I was fieldtripping to her federation (TOAKtm).

During her lunch hour Layni introduced me to Clint Stanovsky, the Chairperson of the Council. We began comparing notes about our respective organisations and immediately both of us became interested in the possibility that each group could be useful to the other. The session ended with an exchange of addresses. Sometime thereafter, I wrote to the staff in Nashville and suggested that it might be possible for LRYers and UMCYMers to benefit from contact with each other, collaborating on projects or in exchanging ideas and thoughts concerning mutual problems. As a result we at Eliot House (the LRY Continental Executive Committee) were called by the staff of UMCYM, with whom we made plans for each of us to send a staff person to the other's midwinter business meeting.

Joanne Henry came to our meetings in Chicago on the evening of the 28th of December. LRYers on the Board of Trustees talked with her about the structures of LRY and UMCYM, about the interests and problems of LRYers and of UMCYMers. Joanne's initial reaction to the board was something to the effect of, 'there's only one brother on your board', which seemed to me to provoke a lot of uncalled for paranoia.

I left LRY boards for Atlanta where the UMCYM held its meeting, on the 30th of December. My first impression of the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministries concerned the fact that adults serve on it along with the youth. The adults tended to dominate the discussion and decision making, not because they were particularly dominant individuals so much as they were adults and grasped the structure of the council more actively than the youth.

I noticed that there was a tendency toward repetition and talking around subjects, much as there was at LRY midwinter boards. There was much discussion of organisational problems, many of them having to do with 'continuity' and general organisational effectiveness, others with reaching the grassroots.

The continuity problems concerned the fact that each year about half of the council consists of new people, a situation which exists in LRY to an even greater degree. In regards to the difficulty in reaching the local level Methodist youth, it was mentioned that one conference was expressing displeasure with the activities and programs of the council by not contributing to the Youth Service Fund. The YSF is the youth raised money which entirely supports the operation of the UMCYM. This withdrawal of support and the possibility of similar activity on the part of other conferences concerns some of the council members because it may indicate that UMCYM is not meeting the needs of or providing a direction compatible with the often more conservative members of local church groups.

The council is considered to be the "cutting edge" in the United Methodist Church, responsible for some valuable work concerning racism and presently getting involved in reforming the rules and attitudes in the church which serve to extend prejudice against or ostracize gay people. The UMCYM also provides funding for the United Farmworkers Union and projects for 'third world empowerment'.

However some people at the meeting mentioned that the council members are much less radical than in the past, a comment which is reminiscent of the feelings expressed by some LRYers about "back in the Nameless Newsprint days."

On the whole I was rather impressed with the council and its aims. I see that at least on the Continental level, LRY and UMCYM have a great deal in common which could lead to the sharing of solutions to mutual problems and a sharing of good ideas.