

# SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE

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VOL. 2  
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BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS  
FOR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTION · SESPA AUG. 1970

# ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Vol. II, No. 2 of *SESPA Newsletter* has taken a new form and a new title for what would have been the eighth issue of *SESPA Newsletter*. *Science for the People*, the primary slogan of the Dec. '69 AAA\$ action and Boston SESPA's alternate name is now also the title of our news-magazine. In its new format and with increased opportunity for articles having depth and substantial analytical content, *Science for the People* now becomes a bi-monthly, scheduled to be issued the second week of the even-numbered months.

*SESPA Newsletter* does not necessarily cease to have an existence independent of *Science for the People*. We hope that it can continue to serve as a mimeographed topical newsletter that keeps the various chapters of Scientists and Engineers for Social and Political Action mutually informed. Starting in 1971 editorial offices for *SESPA Newsletter* will be back at the West Coast, Box 3704 Stanford, Calif. 94305. *Science for the People* will continue to be on the East Coast, Box 59, Arlington Heights, Mass. 02175.

Material for *Science for the People* should be received (double-spaced typewritten, please!) by the third Monday of the odd-numbered months in order to be considered for the forthcoming issue.

Finally note that *Science for the People* has a price of 50 cents. This price applies to nonmembers of SESPA. We encourage you to submit bulk orders for local sales at least three weeks in advance. We hope the cost can be kept to 50 cents an issue; but this will depend on how effective local people are in obtaining wide distribution and sales.

We hope you like the new form; mostly we hope you will support us by submitting articles.

**EDITORIAL BOARD :** Rita Arditti, Larry Beeferman, Mike Fein, Britta Fischer, Herb Fox, Paolo Strigini  
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## TWO VIEWS OF THE PLEDGE

In a recent exchange of letters Charlie Schwartz, a founder of national SESPA, and Herb Fox, a principal organizer of Boston SESPA/Science for the People dealt with the following pledge circulated by SESPA at scientists' meetings, including the American Physical Society meeting held in January in Chicago.

*I pledge that I will not participate in war research on weapons production. I further pledge to counsel my students and urge my colleagues to do the same.*

Herb offered some critical comments on the political implications saying that the pledge-taking in itself is "neither radical political activity nor . . . a threat to the establishment" since (1) it is an individual act requiring no organized social or political effort (2) it removes the critical scientist from the place where resistance is needed and (3) perpetuates the myth that the scientist "has control over the work he does or what it will be used for."

Pledge-taking actually reinforces a moral elitism by

asking scientists to do what one could not reasonably expect of other workers. "Do you ask a steel worker whose product will be used as the armorplate of a tank to take a pledge that he will not participate in weapons production? Is it fair to ask him that? Is it not necessary to ask him and the physicist and the student—everyone—to organize to redirect society so that society can redirect science?"

In his response Charlie emphasized some of the positive aspects of the pledge, acknowledging that radical scientists would probably already be engaged in more forceful political action. However he feels that there are many students and professors in the sciences who have never thought about the choice between war work and work that is beneficial to humanity. For those who still believe in the neutrality of science the pledge could serve as a means to raise their consciousness and "as a recruiting device to get more scientists involved and together."

These two viewpoints are presented here as a stimulus for a discussion to which you are invited to contribute. Please write us your opinion. B. F.

# BOBBY SEALE AT COLD SPRING HARBOR

Cold Spring Harbor laboratory is *the sanctum-sanctorum* of Molecular Biology. Its annual symposium from June 4 to June 11, 1970, attracted over 300 scientists (needless to say, about 80% males) from all over the country and top scientists from abroad. In the words of its director, Nobel Prize winner James D. Watson, famous also for his literary effort *The Double Helix*, the laboratory is an "institution where graduate students are as welcome as their professors, where bad science is so labelled, and good science encouraged with every resource at our disposal." The resources involve "...100 acres of quietly beautiful shore front located near two major airports and without the distraction of good or bad films, drug stores carrying paper backs or bars with TV if not topless waitresses." (1969, C.S.H. Annual Report. Notice the male chauvinist slip, waitresses are in the same category as films, books or TV's.)

A member of Science for the People decided to distract those attending the symposium with two films from Newsreel, a radical filmmakers' organization. One rainy afternoon we showed "People's Park", a film about people building their park in Berkeley in the spring of 1969 and

the brutal repression that followed this threat to the concept of private property, and an "Interview with Bobby Seale", about the Black Panther Party, its leaders and its programs.

About a third of the symposium participants came to our session, donated money to pay for the rental of the films and stayed to talk about Dr. Curtis Powell (see p.4, "Letters from a Political Prisoner") and the group Science for the People. After we broke the ice, there was a healthy discussion covering topics as varied as the anti-war movement, what can scientists do, pollution, radical courses, etc. A friend whispered in my ear, "It's incredible to be talking like this in Cold Spring Harbor!"

What this tells us is that the idyllic vision of undistracted scientists, working peacefully in their Olympus, cut off from the social and political reality of America today, is beginning to lose its effectiveness. A sense of malaise is slowly spreading. Scientists are people and my feeling is that more and more young minds will begin to question the established order and the set of priorities that sets them so apart from the rest of the people.

R.A.

## SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE AT ANN ARBOR: ENACT CONFERENCE

Six people from Boston SESPA went to Ann Arbor to participate in the first of the spring environmental teach-ins. They wanted to inject a radical political analysis into the otherwise apolitical program of the Ann Arbor ENACT (Environmental Action) conference. Jim Shapiro (see "Heroes of our time", p 14) had been invited to speak; by adding SESPA funds to his honorarium six people were able to go.

The meetings and workshops, financed by industry money and sponsored by establishment politicians, promised no real hope for a fundamental attack on the social, political and economic basis of the ecological crisis.

Our leaflet, *The Crisis of the Environment: War, Racism, Poverty and Pollution* warned people not to be deflected from fundamental issues by all the hullabaloo about the "environmental crisis." The leaflet continued,

*The environmental crisis cannot be isolated from these problems [war, racism, poverty]. It is not a failure of technology that we soon may not have air to breathe and water to drink but rather the failure of our political and economic system with its primary concern for corporate profits. Without radical changes in our institutions our society's problems will be unsolvable and we will have polluted ourselves to death.*

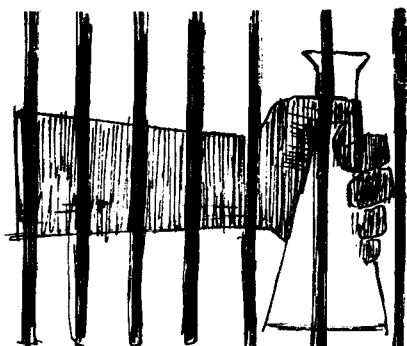
War, the perpetuation of poverty, racism and pollution were all described as having

*a common origin . . . . The people affected by political and economic decisions do not have control over those decisions . . . a small number . . . are exploiting the resources of this country and the world without regard for the consequences to the working people of the world.*

Jim elaborated that message from the speaker's platform by calling for "a socialist revolution" as the ultimately necessary solution. "For the people to take control of America's resources and industry and use them to promote human welfare, the construction of a just, democratic socialist society is our major task." The *New York Times* excerpted Jim's speech on the front page.

Many people were startled and impressed by Jim's statement; over the next few days at the conference an increasing number of those in attendance were wearing *Science for the People* buttons. Also a meeting designed to acquaint scientists and engineers with SESPA drew 40 people and resulted in lively discussions about the misuse of science, the obfuscation of ecology as a political issue, the war, repression.

The Boston group also attended several workshops and raised critical questions emphasizing that "individual actions are doomed from the outset." People have to get together and "attack the institutions responsible for destroying our environment." "Those who have profited from creating the pollution must pay for cleaning it up without benefit of price increases, tax benefits, government subsidies or layoffs." G. G. & H. F.



*Last spring the Ely Lilly Award was bestowed on Jon Beckwith a young professor at Harvard Medical School in recognition of the work of his coworkers and himself (see "Heroes of our Time", p 14). Jon turned the awarded money over to the Black Panther Party. At the 1970 meeting of the American Society of Microbiology he explained his symbolic and material gesture by stating that the Black Panther Party "is contributing in a meaningful way to the welfare of all people." Various response followed, among them these letters from a New York prison. The letters speak for themselves.*

May 3, 1970

Dear Dr. Beckwith,

I am writing to personally thank you for your donation to the Black Panther Party. I am very glad you have taken a position—we need more of the scientific world to take a position. As a fellow scientist I have been trying to get more scientists to take a position but it has been hard since I am in jail. I am Dr. Curtis Powell, PhD in Biochemistry and a member of the Black Panther Party—in fact a member of the 'NY 21'.

My alleged act in this farce is an alleged statement 'that some people in New York should be killed.' Out at my home they confiscated what they considered to be 'explosive material'—1 pint bottle of hydrochloric acid, 1 pint of aniline, 1 pint of propyl aniline, and 2 small bottles of rat urine.

I have been in jail with my compatriots for over a year now on \$100,000 bail. As scientists we both know how much this nation must be changed and how much people and we scientists are exploited. But it has been somewhat difficult to get scientists to speak out against the repression that is upon us. That is why I was so glad to hear about you . . . . We could use all the support we can get. Maybe with your help some support could be gotten in the scientific community.

There is so much that is not readily known, even some things that I have learned since being in-

carcerated. For instance, in USA law and order is white, but 90% of the prisoners are black. How we as scientists are 'specialized slaves' aiding the Free-Enterprise-super-rich-military-industrial-Wall Street-Big-Finance-Kings in their attempt to enslave mankind for their own profit under the guise of 'freedom and democracy'. The U.S. friends like the Thieu-Ky government, Greek government, Spanish government, Papa Doc Duvalier, etc.—all Fascists-Imperialists. Note how U.S. and Russia are moving closer together.

I would like to discuss your research and mine, but right now repression is upon us and I am not only fighting for my life (we are facing 150 years apiece) but for the lives of all oppressed people . . . I would like to hear from you soon.

Liberty or Death,

Dr. Curtis Powell, PhD

This letter must be sneaked out through my lawyer so if you reply would you send it to . . .

May-13, 1970

Power Jon,

Thank you for your letter. I am sorry I am just writing, but I just received your letter tonight. You see my mother, the only parent I have left, is very sick and just got out of the hospital (the doctor is not sure she will live through the trial) and my sister goes into the hospital tomorrow . . . .

I do remember you from Paris—a lot has happened since then. All of the brothers had a big laugh at seeing their comrade in some of the 'old days' flicks.

This country has become a sophisticated fourth Reich; and after Kent State the mother country people are now just beginning to ask what we blacks have been asking for years. Just how sophisticated? After 13 months in isolation, watching what this system does to poor people, how they are railroaded in jail, as Dostoevski stated in House of the Dead 'the degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons'. It's not too sophisticated—in fact it's barbaric . . . I have seen men beaten to death, men commit suicide, men become completely messed up while in jail awaiting trial for doing nothing, but just for being poor and/or black. Augusta, Ga., Cambodia, Kent State the construction workers in New York; this country is a barbaric, savage, criminal, violent, filthy, racist fourth Reich. You know I was at Columbia P and S (College of Physicians and Surgeons); D.A. Frank Hogan who indicted us on this ridiculous, incredulous indictment is on the Board of Trustees—dig that—along with members of the military industrial complex, of course.

Your Award Address must have been a mind-blower for them. I think it is great—Right On! You

# LETTERS FROM A POLITICAL PRISONER

hit on a subject which is the scientist vs. the active role in the struggle for the liberation of the oppressed. I am a scientist, I love my research, I am at home in a lab, but my people call, and I hear their call. I know how our experiments get fouled around by the military-industrial complex—I guess you know about that. I only wish that scientists in this country could understand and do something. It might help solve this dilemma, and if there were some more scientists willing to stop 'playing their passive role assigned to them . . . !' . . . maybe together, your group and (others) can get something going. You can use my letter or any part of it . . . or anything that you feel might help in rousing other scientists. I can't be in any more trouble with the prison authorities or any other authorities than I am now. And now that we are finally together they are afraid to come down on us any more than usual.

We need funds badly, especially bail funds.

Do you know that in 1/3 of the world, the whole nonwhite world just about, the life expectancy is approximately 33-36 years. What are we doing research for?

I am very interested in your group 'Science for the People'. Can you send me some more on it and what it is trying to accomplish. We of the 21 feel that the military industrial complex must be destroyed, that the exploitation of people like by the drug companies and the A.M.A. must be stopped by any means necessary. The scientific community is in a unique position for that struggle. As for anything else, 'Science for the People' may help in solving the many complex contradictions that have arisen between . . . scientists being 'specialized slaves' in academic towers versus reality and the horrible plight of the oppressed.

Hope to hear from you very soon,  
Yours in the Revolution,

Curtis

Blacks, excluded in large part even from the ranks of regular laborers speak from the depths of a dehumanizing social system. We have much to learn from the practice of their most militant leaders. Black Panthers use the two-edged sword of true servants of the people: one edge to cut away at the day by day oppression of their people—all our people, the other to cut into the yellow underbelly of the oppressors of us all.

Science for the People should also serve the people with a two-edged sword: Make our technology their servant for their needs; strike at the profit makers, militarists, home destroyers and people manipulators.

Curtis Powell is our brother, a fellow scientist, a fellow man. He stands at the forefront of our struggle. Support him and his brother revolutionaries. Write to:

Scientific & Medical Workers'  
Committee to Support the Panthers  
c/o Dr. Deb Dubnau  
Public Health Institute  
475 First Ave. N.Y.C. 10016



# THE MILITARY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX MYTH MAINSTAY OR MENACE:

## SYMPOSIUM AT VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

VMI was host April 9-11 to a broad slate of guests ranging in background from the war industry, to the Army, to academia, to the Institute for Policy Studies. I was asked along, I suppose, to represent a student point of view. My hosts nearly missed me at the airport, so intent were they in looking for someone with shoulder-length locks and bell-bottom trousers. One cadet, in fact, asked if I was "camouflaged", thinking that most Harvard students walk around wearing red-fisted T-shirts. I arrived on campus in time for a stunning cadet review, complete with military band, rifles, cannon, swords, and flags. The effect was quite impressive, and standing out there in the warm sunshine and green grass of the Virginia Hills was enough to take one back to the early pre-Civil War days when VMI was founded.

From my discussions with the cadets I soon learned that a surprising number of them were hostile to the military. Only 10% or so were planning to make it their career and others dreaded their two years obligatory service. Three cadets had been pepper-gassed in Washington. Most students I talked to could not explain why they had decided to study at VMI.

During the symposium the audience showed little hostility to my analysis of the military establishment and the university as both serving an elite ruling class tied to

corporate interests, all at the expense of most of the people in the U.S. Other participants viewed the Military-Industrial (University) Complex as arising from the relative lack of controversy over "national security" as compared to other social issues, or as resulting from the isolation and inertia of a technologically oriented bureaucratic structure. On several occasions the discussions degenerated into a consideration of the levels of military power required to maintain national security without dealing with the nature of the so-called threat and the interests which were being threatened. Also discussed was the difficulty of converting a war economy to non-military production. This problem brought to light the pervasive influence of military spending throughout the economy and demonstrated how the lack of job security and mobility for workers leads to tremendous resistance to a change in funding priorities. Throughout the symposium the imperialistic nature of American foreign policy was debated, with some participants arguing that the objective of a world-wide military posture was to stop totalitarianism (Communism) rather than to promote American expansionism. However, few were convinced by Cold War rhetoric, and most recognized the strong economic interests vested in the war machine and the politics it serves.

A.W.

### LOOKING FOR A JOB ?

The following question is taken from a question/answer column in the *Globe Magazine* of the *Boston Sunday Globe* of July 6, 1970.

Q: I am an ex-Air Force man with four years experience in Vietnam and would like to earn \$ 16,000 or \$ 17,000 a year as a paid mercenary. Where can I sign up in a foreign army? Will I lose my U.S. citizenship? — M.P., Randolph

A: Newsweek magazine reports that C.I.A. agents are recruiting Americans in Saigon to lead Meo tribesmen against the North Vietnamese in Laos. Salaries as high as \$ 1000 a week have been offered and a week's vacation in Formosa for every four weeks of fighting. You will not lose your passport.

# TAP

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

TAP is one of the ways to put the slogan "Science for the People" into practice. In response to the expressed needs of community groups and in an attempt to give technical people a chance to counteract the frustration that comes from being misused by society, Boston area SESPA set up TAP.

TAP's charter is to assist community political groups in situations where technical experience and knowledge can make their struggle more effective. TAP recognizes the truth of Huey Newton's famous statement, "The spirit of the people is greater than the man's technology." TAP proposes that one way that the spirit of the people is greater than the man's technology is in the capability of the "spirit" to move technically trained people to bring the "man's technology" to the side of the people's struggle.

TAP recently helped people in a working-class town in the Boston area. The people found themselves waging an uphill struggle against the "highway lobby". Another one of those obnoxious highways that destroy homes and are reducing our country to a mass of asphalt, rubber and steel was to go through the people's community. The Department of Public Works lied to the people by showing plans for a sunken highway, whereas they really started work on an elevated highway.

As usual, the community destroyers relied on the residents' ignorance and inaction, but a group of residents got together to inform their neighbors on what was in store for them and to rally opposition to the highway. Recordings of the sounds of elevated highways and of the sounds of sunken highways were provided by TAP; they set up sound equipment at public meetings. When bulldozers came the community was aroused; men, women and children put their bodies in front of the construction equipment. Construction is now held up as litigation proceeds against the Department of Public Works.

Local radical groups are now beginning to use TAP. Newsreel had a car fixed and the Boston chapter of the Black Panther Party received information and technical assistance. A new and free community medical clinic needed

electrical power because those inveterate servants of the people—the city fathers and the Edison Company—found some excuse for denying them power (ha!). TAP helped in obtaining, operating and maintaining an electrical generator. TAP has also assisted the Panthers in evaluating, purchasing and maintaining a truck and in setting up outdoor sound equipment and communications equipment.

Demystification of technology is one of TAP's objectives. In every instance technical helpers explain to the people receiving the help what they are doing and why. The aim is to pass on information and technique so that community people themselves can continue the technical work. So much so-called "specialized knowledge" is just jargon or knowing which catalogue to look in.

Organizing informal instruction groups is next on TAP's agenda. An automobile repair group is proposed where people will learn by doing. They hope to take on the repair of a vehicle to be used by a community group or the repair of vehicles needed by poor people.

Another project in the planning stage is the design and fabrication of carrier-current transmitters—an electronic device that permits broadcasting by using the electrical wiring of a building or housing project as an antenna.

H.F.

### Looking for a chance to use your Science for the People? SIGN UP FOR TAP

(Technical Assistance Project)

If you want to work on Sound Systems, Automobiles, Communications Equipment, Chemical Analysis, Self-Defense Mechanisms write: *Science for the People*, Box 59, Arlington Heights, Mass. 02175, or call 'Scot' 491-8725 or 491-1850 ext. 305 Theoretically trained? We'll help you learn practical skills!

# 200 SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS DESCEND UPON WASHINGTON

People who go to Washington to speak up against the war? Of course they are all unwashed long-haired hippie freaks and student types who are so affluent that they cross state lines to make panty raids.

Well, on June 4, over 200 of them from N. Y. and N. J. donned short-haired wigs, the dignified looks of the over-thirty generation and the obligatory gray flannel suits as well as IBM, General Electric Research, RCA, Xerox, Kodak, and Brookhaven badges. And in these way-out get-ups they went to Washington to visit their Congressmen.

They were obviously not recognized as hippies because they got to speak to the President's Science Advisor, Lee DuBrigge, who is apparently even straighter than his boss (if that's possible) because he was described as "a well-prepared out-and-out apologist for the President." (1) They also made it into the almost inner sanctum of the Pentagon where they spoke to Deputy Secretary of War, David Packard. He appeared to them as "an old-fashioned businessman with old-fashioned ideas" (1) but he obviously was hip enough to tell them that the administration also very much wants peace in Vietnam. They are busy working toward it, he said, through eliminating herbicides and having the defense budget cut by lower appropriations and inflation. (1) (That might be called passive action, and a DoW invention.) The group also met with some twenty

senators and forty representatives whom they urged to pass the amendment to cut off funds for the war altogether.

Since they got to meet so many dignitaries we have to reconsider. Perhaps they were not hippies after all. Perhaps they were just well-paid suburban familymen; scientists and engineers "who are deeply troubled," who "see our nation frustrated in its drive toward social justice and general economic well-being" and who "shudder at the atmosphere of hysteria and anti-intellectualism that the war and its byproducts are engendering." (2) For many of them this trip to Washington was their first involvement in politics. It is remarkable indeed that some of the country's most highly educated and emulated men are shedding their traditionally apolitical role. One of them said, "We have nothing new to say—we are merely taking our turns at the barricades." (2) Different political groups may be perceiving the barricades differently, but it is important to realize that in the arena in which blacks and students first began to struggle the spectators of yesteryear are now getting in on the act

(1) "Scientists Report on Washington Mission" by Dr. Richard Orgass in *Yorktown*, June 18, 1970

(2) "Dissent Spreads to Nobelists, Industrial Scientists" by Philip M. Boffey in *Science*, June 12, 1970

B. F.

# WORKERS AT CAMBRIDGE FIRM PUBLISH UNDERGROUND NEWSPAPER

"... No real changes can occur until people begin to talk to each other about what is wrong and about what can be done to right it." So goes the editorial comment of

*SIGNAL/NOISE* is one of a growing number of publications coming out in shops and laboratories to meet the need for working people to cut through the bullshit that management is forever spreading around. At BBN, secretaries, scientists, engineers, maintenancemen, technicians, computer programmers, etc. had been meeting off and on for over a year before they came out with their newspaper.

One article, "Evolution of the BBN Underground", tells the study group's history of "... study, reading, talk, action . . .", beginning in the winter of 1968-69. Recent study group actions, listed in the article, include action on firing of an employee, getting mechanisms installed to relieve secretaries from being glued to their phones as virtual answering devices, and participation in peace rallies.

"The Secret Salary: Separated and Unequal" refers to "An effort to eliminate unfair differences in pay . . . through a program of collection and dissemination of in-



formation on the problem." Following a discussion of inequities in wages based on sex, the article goes on to discuss the policy of "concealment of wages." "Secrecy is the key to the entire system of hiring labor as cheaply as it can be gotten, and in perpetuating wage inequalities indefinitely." The discussion leads to the conclusion, "It would seem, then, that the employer is the only party with something really to lose by disclosing salaries." The article goes on to describe a program of the underground to get people to disclose their salaries to one another.

Other articles in the paper are one that proposes "Day Care Centers at BBN" and one that discusses "Minority Hiring at BBN." "News Flash" describes some internal finagling by the management that resulted in the rapid departure of a V. P.

*SIGNAL/NOISE* is not without humor. "News Release" parodies recent shenanigans whereby the company almost completed a merger with another company. "Personal Notes" are hilarious parodies in the usual personal announcements column of company newspapers.

At laboratories and plants without underground newspapers radical workers' groups should consider the idea of a counter-newspaper to the company bullshit. If the paper is topical and relates larger issues to the specific problems at the workplace, it should be well-received. Guidelines are to be found in contradicting the usual practise of company newspapers: tell the truth, be humorous, tell about the real problems bugging people.

In the case of *SIGNAL/NOISE* there has been a strange sequel: managements publication department enviously acknowledged the superior quality of the underground newspaper and the irrelevance of its own. "Maybe we can work together . . ." *SIGNAL/NOISE's* editorial board, flattered but not fooled, is not likely to mistake management's spokesman for Little Red Riding Hood's grandmother.

H. F.



NERVE GAS  
NEXT DOOR

If you drive down Route 3 just off Route 128 in Bedford, Mass., passing some of America's most sophisticated arms factories, such as MITRE, Raytheon, and Sylvania, you can see an ugly cylindrical tank. The tank is behind The GCA corporation technology division building, on the edge of a brook with benches, trees and grass nearby. Between 1963 and 1969 this tank, called by GCA its "toxic aerosol testing facility", was used to develop methods of dispersal and detection of chemical warfare agents. The actual poison gases were used in many of the tests, including VX, the most toxic and persistent of the nerve gases. The plant is only about a mile from a local school and just over a rise from a residential district.

On May 14, a group of Harvard students and Bedford residents held a press conference in a nearby church to publicize the nature of GCA's research. Following the press conference, local television crews and newspapermen went to take pictures of the tank and the story was given good coverage in local papers, radio and television. Students and local residents passed out fact sheets giving the details of the testing program at nearby shopping centers on several days following the press conference to make sure the community knew what had happened.

This action stimulated the local peace group to ask the Bedford Board of Selectmen to create a "Committee on Industrial Safety". The Selectmen agreed and appointed members of the group to the Committee and asked them to investigate this and other similar dangerous situations and to recommend appropriate action and legislation. The State Attorney General Office and Brad Morse, the local Congressman, have agreed to help the Committee.

The facts were uncovered by students in a section of Harvard's "Biology and Social Issues" course. Searches through publicly available lists of government contract reports and technical abstracts alerted the students to the tests. Possession of GCA's technical reports (they were unclassified), a couple of on-site information gathering trips and an inside leak produced an airtight case. GCA which brags about its air pollution control work, also does half a million dollars a year worth of "technical services" for the Army's Dugway proving ground. Dugway produced the country's most spectacular CBW accident when 6,000 sheep were killed in Skull Valley when a small amount of VX, the same gas tested in Bedford, was accidentally released.

Research, agitation and propaganda activities are being continued by a group of M.I.T. and Harvard graduate students and people from Bedford.

GCA was a set-up, because everyone could understand why nerve gas endangered the local area. However the Rte. 128 complex provides the most sophisticated weapons production, notably the ABM system, production in the country, notably the ABM system, missile guidance, anti-submarine warfare and the electronic battlefield. Not only does this development activity facilitate America's murderous imperialistic foreign policy and provide spin-offs which aid domestic repression and control but the economic penetration of the area by war industry means that the continuing economic health of the area depends on continuing war.

Alerting people to the dangers they face, both immediate and long range, will require the concerted efforts of technically trained people in universities and with industrial contacts, the progressive elements in those communities where war industry goes on, and anyone who is willing to do the really important task, face-to-face discussion with those whose lives are affected. It's hard to counteract years of lies, distortion and obfuscation, but the power of the people is greater than the technology of the man.

Those interested in this type of project should contact :  
Bill Haseltine and Frank Mirer, c/o SESPA, Box 59  
Arlington Heights, Mass . 02175

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Most letters to the editors of *Science*, the regular publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS, a promotional and public relations org to keep the science establishment in bucks) have one signatory. A few have more than one—two or three occasionally. After several hundred people (members of the AAAS attending the Dec. '69 meeting) signed a resolution demanding Equality for Women in Science, and a member of the AAAS Committee on Council Affairs suggested it be sent to *Science*; the Women's Caucus of Science for the People submitted the resolution for publication. The response was indeed revealing. The editors of *Science* clearly belong to the master group—MEN, and statements that question their special position are not going to be published!

In addition to the machismo mindfuck that infects the old men of the AAAS (of course they do have a token woman as president), they are also sick with the usual elitist mindfuck prevalent in the science establishment: their rejection-form postcard had, as part of the preprinted form, "Dear Dr. \_\_\_\_".

So we decided that if these self-serving old establishment fats wouldn't publish as important a document as the resolution on Equality for Women in Science, maybe we would. To see what the response might be we ran through the voluminous correspondence on our last issue of SESPA News which had reported on the resolution with a few-line synopsis. When we saw the candid prejudice of Mr. Khanduri juxtaposed to the mealy-mouthed rejection by the editors of *Science*, we knew we'd have to publish the Equality for Women in Science Statement. After all what better answer to them both....

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Dear Sirs,

Thank you for sending me your newsletter. I wonder if you can also publish some articles that deal with "Science and Society"—I may like to contribute some.

I do not agree with you when you are raising the question of "Equality of Women in Science". Men and women are two complementary aspects of life and it is extreme stupidity to compare the two. They are like day and night; right and left. They have been made for different purposes. Women should stay at home, be mothers, housewives, etc. I can write a big article on this subject. So please withdraw this question of "Equality of Women in Science". This is extreme stupidity. I agree with your ideas under "Science for the People"—Science should serve the people.

N.C. Khanduri  
Washington, D.C.

# EQUALITY FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

The stated goals of the AAAS are:

- to further the work of scientists,
- to facilitate cooperation among them,
- to improve the effectiveness of science in the promotion of human welfare, and
- to increase public understanding and appreciation of the importance and promise of the methods of science in human progress.

None of these objectives can be realized while women in science are relegated to second class status. Female scientists do not escape the oppression faced by all women in our society. They are oppressed economically and culturally—trained for inferior roles and exploited as sex objects and consumers.

Such sexual discrimination is no accident. It serves, in a variety of ways, the interests of those who dominate the economy of this country. It provides them with a source of ideologically justified cheap labor, and as a

consequence drives all wages down. It establishes 'wives' as unpaid household workers and child raisers, as well as a body of willing consumers. At the same time, the limitations on the creative development of women deprive society of the full contributions of over one half its members.

It is important to note that sexual oppression is both pervasive and institutionalized; within the scientific community it takes many forms. Educational tracking by sex from elementary school on channels women into subordinate roles and stereotypes. While men are trained to develop 'logical' patterns of thought, women are encouraged to be 'intuitive.' Math and science are seen as male prerogatives. Vocational counselling in high schools and colleges pressure women into family roles, clerical work and, if professions are considered, into the service fields: teaching, social work, nursing, etc. Those few women who manage to transcend such socialization and choose scientific careers, encounter a vicious circle of exploitation. Quotas are placed on graduate school admissions and justified by the self-fulfilling prophecies that most women will be unable to finish because they will marry, have children, and lack the emotional stability and drive to meet the arduous initiation rites of the profession. The still fewer who complete their training continue to find themselves faced with male chauvinist ideology. They are forced to choose between family and profession, while men never make that choice.

As scientists, they are limited by being placed in subordinate positions, rarely being given their own labs or first authorship on papers, and, the most glaring inequity, being paid less than their male colleagues for equal work. They are automatically and illegally barred from certain jobs, particularly in industry and cut off from tenured and supervisory positions.

Moreover, the psychological harassment is constant and debasing. Casual remarks continually define the female scientists simply in relation to her sex, from compliments on her looks to 'you think like a man.' She is placed in the schizophrenic position of being treated as either a dehumanized worker or a feminine toy.

Universities hold a strategic position with regard to all manifestations of this problem, since they help create and transmit the ideology of male supremacy.

Moreover, the practices of sexual discrimination which permeate all institutions where AAAS members work and study are contradictory to the declared goals of the AAAS. Clearly we cannot 'further the work of scientists' while denigrating in so many ways the contributions and potential of women in the profession. Sexual discrimination makes 'cooperation among scientists' an ironic platitude. The 'effectiveness of science in the promotion of human welfare' is hardly furthered by denying half of humanity the opportunity to pursue scientific careers, or by wasting this tremendous reservoir of talent.

We therefore propose the following resolutions be

adopted at the general Council meeting of the AAAS, and be fought for by AAAS members where they work.

1. That universities and other institutions where AAAS members work be immediately required to comply with the law of the land and pay equal wages for equal work to men and women.
2. That graduate school departments and medical schools admit 1/2 women and 1/2 men, regardless of the proportion of applicants, and that they take whatever steps are necessary to recruit sufficient women to comply with this demand.
3. That vocational counselling in high schools and colleges be totally reoriented so as not to channel women into low-status, low-potential occupations.
4. That the universities and other institutions give priority to the hiring and promotion of women, increasing the proportion of women to 50% at all levels.
5. That birth control and abortion counselling be provided by university and company health services to all women.
6. That the curriculum of courses in psychology, sociology, anthropology, etc. be thoroughly revamped by women, to end the perpetuation and creation of male supremacist myths.

Further, that sex inequality be added as a topic to all courses and texts which cover social inequalities, and that new courses be created by women in their history and oppression.

7. That the universities and government sponsor programs to investigate and change the subordinate status of women in our society.
8. That it be recognized that the actual practices of hiring, promotion and tenure discriminate against women, and that institutions have not accepted their responsibility for such inequalities.

As a first step in the right direction institutions should provide:

- a) parenthood leave and family sick leave for all employees, both female and male;
- b) half-time appointments for mothers and fathers who want them must be considered (Since child-rearing is a social responsibility, it is preferable for both parents' work to be slowed down than for the mother's to be stopped entirely.);
- c) free child care centers should be open to the communities where the institutions are located, controlled by the parents, staffed equally by male and female teachers, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for infants to school age children and after school for older children.

While we realize that the ultimate liberation of both women and men in our society will only come with a total social and economic revolution, we feel that it is important for us to make steps now toward destroying false notions of superiority which do not serve science, scientists, or humanity.

## REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FROM BERKELEY ACTIVITIES FROM BERKELEY BERKELEY REPORT

*March 4 1970...* Our campus program for the Scientists./Engineers' Second-Annual-Day-of-Concern was a mostly student-run series of critical talks and panels, with very little participation by the more establishment people who joined in last year. It was interesting that by no means the ABM/MIRV issue was reduced to the level of guerilla theater—all rational discussion at the campus having been exhausted. An impressive highlight was the joining of 100 new people to the list of those who have signed the "No war research" pledge. A copy of the film on Hiroshima, just released for circulation, was shown a couple of times to overflow audiences; no rhetoric needed to accomplish this.

*Livermore...* The Lawrence Radiation Laboratory in Livermore California, 40 miles from this campus is the prime facility for research and development work on nuclear weapons. Ardent supporters of the laboratory's ABM/MIRV/??? development programs consider Livermore "the last hope of the free world." For about a year we have tried to open up some channels of communication between this very isolated place and the rest of the world (Berkeley(?)). On April 15 SESPA led a group of 500 anti-war demonstrators on an early morning picket of the lab. Tom Hayden spoke at the rally outside the fence of this mammoth installation, but he found speeches to be inadequate to deal with the problems of people vs the war machine—as represented by Livermore Lab.

Numerous attempts to arrange meetings with people inside the lab have been refused by the lab director, even when these requests came from conservative University faculty members. On one day a group of six drove out to the lab spontaneously in the hope of having lunch at the cafeteria in the unclassified area and talking to inmates (about bombs, Cambodia, students, life, etc.). Their early-warning system was excellent because a full security alert was waiting for us and we were barred from entering the grounds. We protested to University President Charles Hitch that above all the university has an obligation to promote free and open discourse. He replied by quoting lab rules that political activity is not allowed! (Make bombs but don't talk about them!)

The U. Cal. faculty is in the process of considering whether to retain its connections with the Livermore and Los Alamos laboratories. SESPA people here are in favor of increasing the connection between these weapons labs and the campuses in the hope of infusing some more humane direction into these anti-human projects. Most liberal faculty seem to prefer the choice of severance. Ultimately the choice will be up to the AEC and the University Regents (Reagan and friends). So far we have held one town meeting in Livermore and had a few personal contacts in an attempt to get the issues of "where technology is leading us" into the open. This will continue.

In late spring the AEC announced its E.O. Lawrence Awards to outstanding young scientists. One of the recipients was Michael M. May, director of the Livermore Laboratory, cited for his great contributions to advanced nuclear weaponry. We decided that Dr. May deserved greater recognition. So we announced that SESPA would award Dr. May the First Annual M.F. Strangelove Award "for outstanding contributions to the modern theory and technique of genocide and mass destruction." In response to our initiative the AEC abruptly cancelled a day long program it had planned, including speeches by distinguished politicians and scientists and educators, along with presentation of the awards.

*Free Speech at Lab...* A controversy has been brewing at the Berkeley Rad Lab (no weapons work but all funded by AEC, and a mixture of academic and non-academic staffs) since last November when an employee group was denied permission to hold a noon hour meeting in the auditorium to discuss the war. The director appointed a committee to study the free speech question and finally came out with a policy that says nothing but technical topics related to the mission of the lab can be discussed at meeting held at the lab. Many lab people were outraged at this policy but the director felt he had the backing of the silent majority. (Actually the biggest fear people up there have is that free speech at the lab will have the same effects as free speech on the campus—riots and budget cuts. It is amazing that a lab with 3000 people, sitting adjacent to the Berkeley campus physically, could be so remote in spirit.) Actually it is expected that the restrictive rules will be proven untenable and that free speech will prevail in the very near future. Similar issues have been of concern to people at many AEC and other labs across the country. One of our goals should be to start opening up all scientific laboratories; those who graduate from the campuses and "go to work" should not leave their freedoms behind them but rather take them along.

*Hiroshima/Nagasaki Days...* August 6/9 of this year marks the 25th anniversary of the first use of atomic bombs. SESPA will be working in cooperation with Asian-American groups here and with many other anti-war groups to commemorate the occasion and to raise current issues of science and war. We are calling for a nation-wide suspension of normal technology/production on August 6 so that all may ponder our collective fate. It is hoped that this may be a significant occasion to promote organization of technical people in their own labs. We intend to put special pressure on the AEC; and to encourage scientific workers all over to take a more active part in political issues. When the next atomic bomb is dropped let each of us have more to say than, "I was just doing my job."

C. S.

# BOSTON MUSEUM OF SCIENCE BUSINESS AS USUAL

The Boston Museum of Science typifies institutional misrepresentation of science and a disservice to the community it purports to serve. Where it should be a constructive and democratic instrument of science for the people, the Museum is a discriminatory mind-fucker—particularly dangerous because children are overdosed with bullshit science (new crime of Statutory Mind-Fuck). No doubt the people who run the Museum mean well. Unfortunately, their institution is the child of education, technology and capitalism in America—with the full genetic damage of such ancestors.

To see whose interests the Museum actually serves, come with us on an imaginary tour disguised as an Inner City Family of four.

The first thing you notice is that your weekly pay is now \$85.34. The second thing you notice is the commercial on a top-40 radio station urging you to bring the family to the Science Museum because it's air-conditioned. The bus and subway aren't air-conditioned, but they get you all within walking distance to the Museum for \$1.80. (Put aside two bucks for the trip back.)

On the outside, the most prominent feature of the Museum are its parking lots filled with suburbanites' cars. Must cost plenty to park here. It's free? How about that. You walk into the lobby and see a big picture of air pollution with an explanatory message. Actually, you don't need the picture since you live in the real thing all the time. (In case you did live out in the country, though, you see some of the biggest polluters from the Museum's front steps.)

On the inside, the most prominent feature of the Museum is the box office. At \$1.50 and .50 per head you shell out four bucks and gain entrance to the gift shop (sorry kids) and the rest of the Museum (except, of course, the Planetarium which is an additional .50 a head.)

See the disproportionate amount of NASA spaceshit. A whole room devoted to mock-ups of NASA hardware, exhibits on the development of missiles and rockets, one whole case of tiny Amerikkkan flags and other souvenirs that our astronaut heroes couldn't sell on the moon. Dig it kids: Buck Rogers boondoggles are Important Science

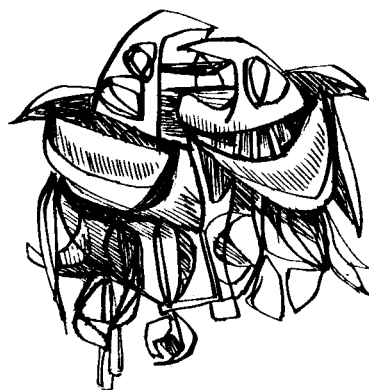
Stuff. The kids fail to discover any exhibits on:  
...what NASA costs  
...the direct support NASA provided to the military/industrial complex (of which several companies are Business Donors of the Museum)  
...what NASA has done to the economy of Cambridge  
...the front NASA provided to the CIA in Cambridge.

(Incidentally, this year the Museum gave Walter Cronkite a \$5000 science-man-of-the-year award for his educational contribution of making top bread for himself broadcasting the Apollo adventures. This money could have provided 333 free family memberships or free one-time admissions for 2500 children and a like number of adults.)

You pick up some literature, desperate now for a sign that the Museum is something besides a plastic, middle-class institution. An article in one of their members' newsletter begins, "Despite a sagging stockmarket and weeks of conflicting and confusing news about the tax bill . . ." Whaaaat? You pick up a brochure in the Museum's educational courses for your kids—tuition runs as high as \$30. By some mistake you get a copy of the Museum's annual report and you read up on the bluebloods who run the place.

Although you're all hungry you avoid the nifty cafeteria and help the kids learn some more about science. An exhibit of stuffed animals; some live birds and snakes (they're free at the zoo). A strobe light exhibit contains a plug for the manufacturer—a local defense contractor. Another exhibit shows the benefits of power steering. (For that you paid four bucks?) An exhibit by the gas industry tells your kids how much it costs to drill a gas well. Front tiers of Science. The gas people don't tell your kids how much profit they make on a well or how much *you* pay for gas, but you tell them that. The Bell System's huge exhibit has zero technical content and merely encourages people to use telephones. (You tell the kids that Bell is a big ABM

*(continued on p.18)*

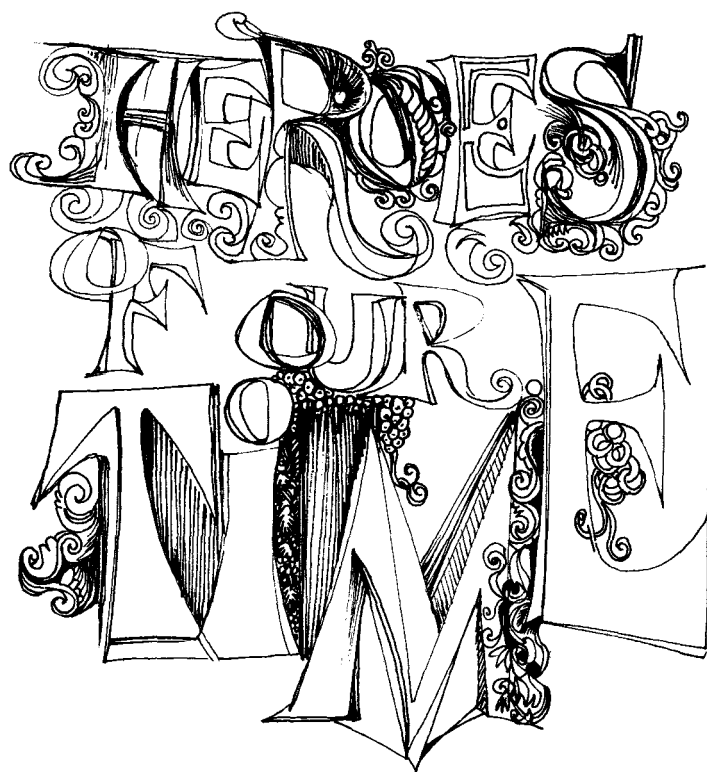


A group of scientists at Harvard Medical School—Jim Shapiro, Lorne MacHattie, Larry Eron, Garret Ihler, Karin Ippen, Jon Beckwith, Bill Reznikoff, Rita Arditti, Ronnie MacGillivray<sup>1</sup>)—succeeded last fall in isolating and photographing a fragment of the chromosome *E. coli*, corresponding to the gene which codes for the enzyme that ferments lactose. This was not in itself “a major breakthrough” nor “a significant advance in fundamental knowledge”<sup>2</sup>) (everybody agreed on this point, except of course the sensationalist press), but rather the result of many ideas and many more sophisticated techniques developed through several years by many scientists. How much in science and in all other fields of human activity is made through a process of this type rather than through absolutely original individual contributions is a matter for critical historians to find out and probably to some extent a matter of taste and rhetoric. Although some scientists raised this point “as a personal attack which degrades everybody....and the moral issue itself”<sup>3</sup>) this was not at the center of the subsequent polemics.

The Harvard group realized that the isolation of a gene was “a graphic....and easily understood example of the progress [in molecular genetics]”<sup>4</sup>) and therefore decided to use it in order to raise the issue of the misuse of science and technology before the general public and to make their own political statement. They were damn right. For more than a week the laboratory was besieged by newspaper, radio and TV people, the telephone was constantly ringing for long distance interviews, major magazines proposed stories of the protagonists to cover family life, the garden, the children, the wife cooking, full page color pictures and the rest. The heroes were trying to resist the temptation of hiding away while frantically facing the public opinion machine. They wanted to raise a problem before the public (possibly after reading some McLuhan) and there was all the machinery to manipulate public opinion ready to use them. The climax was reached when one of them—Dr. J. Shapiro—announced his intention to quit science and dedicate himself to “more relevant political work.” Now the press had not only “the frightening fact of life” and “genetic bomb” to talk about, but also a hero to play with: “scientists find secret of human heredity—and it scares them.”

It would be very instructive to analyze the way the problem of how science and technology are misused by the government and the military-industrial complex was presented by the press and even more interesting to find out how it was taken by the general public. The material available for such research, articles and letters, suggests that the public was not so sensitive to the sensationalist headlines as it was concerned about the practical possibilities and political implications of how to control science and technology. More careful planning might have permitted conveying the problem through the mass media in a more accurate way and to raise a meaningful discussion among all the people on how science affects our lives and how to control it.

While the typhoon was receding in the mass media, new headaches were preparing for our heroes. Had they just publicized their work—according to a well-established tradition—in order to “add to [their own] or Harvard’s prestige, or to make a plea for more money for basic research,”<sup>4</sup>) probably very few scientists would feel unhappy: some would find it in poor taste and wink to each other, some would sit down and hastily write a new grant application. What could not be forgiven—according to various editorials and letters to the editors of *Nature* and



*Science*—was that real scientists “who should have known better”<sup>5</sup>) would enter the public arena and join the “doomsday camp” of the enemies of science. The warning by the Harvard group against possible misuse of some kind of “genetic engineering” exemplified by their work, was ridiculed as science fiction and interpreted as a new link “in a group of interlocking heresies ... emerged in public opinion of science and technology.”<sup>6</sup>) “To tell from the woe which is sometimes lavished on this awesome prospect [of genetic manipulation], it must, to many of them, be comforting that the anti-pollutionists often promise a more immediate catastrophe. Better perhaps ... to perish from too much DDT or ... as the seas rise ... [than

to see the population converted into] a horde of unisexed morons manipulated and fiendishly exploited by a handful of determined villains, sustained by repeated transplants of heart, lungs, and even brain.”6)

Following a beautiful literary piece such as this, to mention in passing the war in Vietnam, the urban crisis and the continuing disparity between industrially advanced and backward societies can only bring the relief of reality after a nightmare and lead to the “reasonable” conclusion that science is more beneficial than harmful to society at large.



In fact there is an attempt currently supported by Nobel Prize winner J. Lederberg and other leading scientists to launch a genetic engineering project of the same scientific and financial dimension of the Manhattan project which produced the atomic bomb. But all this, besides meaning more money for scientists, is so high-level professional that it cannot be discussed by common people.

The Harvard scientists are summoned to show some professional solidarity or else “the progress of science may be interrupted or even halted by excessive fears of the consequence.”5) They refuse to worry and state that scientists “differ from other workers only in that our working conditions are generally more free ... because government and

industries realize that ... [we can work] more efficiently without stringent control.”4) They also make their own autocritique, attacking “the almost universal fiction that the only people responsible for a given piece of work are the professionals and students who sign the article.”4) Finally, they state that “society gives its awards to those who serve it” and unfortunately “those who make decisions ... equate serving society with serving the interests of that small number of people who run our government and industries.”7)

The scientific press offers the criticism of an alleged lack of public relations—so that “to assert that technology is a means ... by which the quality of life can be improved ... has become a muted sermon”—has brought us the impending menace of “reduced budget and closer marching orders”6) by the governments. This is as far as they go in their analysis because they—being “responsible biological scientists with a concern for the society in which [they] live and flourish”2) —cannot and do not want to question their boss, the government. Lists of benefits of science and technology are counterposed to the list of liabilities. But, what is important, rather than the balance, is the final invitation to all scientists to rally under the somewhat “Victorian” banner, that “science will contribute to the enlightenment and prosperity of the future, as it has helped in the past.”6) This is remarkably Victorian indeed, in not considering whose prosperity and enlightenment we are talking about and whether what happened in the past made this the best of all possible worlds, for us to “live and flourish in.”

Our heroes offer the invitation to scientists “to ally with other workers, the poor people and other oppressed groups to work together for meaningful radical political change” and the confidence that “the form of that change will emerge ... [during] a long struggle.”7) There are scientists who quit science and others who turn the money awarded from a pharmaceutical company to the Black Panther Party. They have also been attacked personally. The first has been invited to donate his inherited “proverbial wealth” to the poor, so that “he would then have to work in order to support himself.”8) The second received various personal letters of the type “you stupid idiot—I hope you are shot by one of these guns.” Hopefully they have learned through this story a good deal about the mass media and their roles as scientists, workers and human beings.

We may conclude with Brecht’s Galileo, whom a student reproaches “unlucky the country which doesn’t produce heroes” and he answers “unlucky the country which needs heroes.”

P.S.

1) *Nature*, Nov. 22, 1969: 224, 768

2) *Science*, March 23, 1970: 167, 1668

3) *Science*, June 12, 1970: 168, 1285

4) *Nature*, Dec. 27, 1969: 224, 1337

5) *Nature*, Nov. 29, 1969: 224, 834

6) *Nature*, Dec. 27, 1969: 224, 1241

7) *Lilly Award Address*, delivered at the 1970 meeting of the American Society of Microbiology

8) *Science*, March 23, 1970: 167, 1668

In recent months there has been a marked increase in the number of workers' groups formed in the Boston area. Women workers, employees in universities, computer workers, city employees, workers in industrial research firms have gotten together in their workplaces, not as a consequence of outside agitators telling them what to do but rather in response to their own conditions. People are beginning to relate the microcosm of their workplace to the structure of American society as a whole. Through study and joint action they are becoming aware of the oppressive nature of this society. This consciousness is manifest in the fact that almost all of these groups cut across traditional occupational lines, particularly those that separate manual workers from white-collar workers. Some

Corp. Two speakers from New York Local 65 told about successful organizing efforts at NYU. Eventually time ran out before we could get to the workshops. So another meeting was decided upon.

This second get-together of workers' groups was planned by the MIT group and held at MIT on June 30. About sixty people came, members of 13 different workers' groups†. The workshops dealt with (1) how to set up workers' study groups, (2) organizing across caste lines, (3) working women and (4) future actions of the workers' group coalition.

The workshop on workers' study groups brought out clearly that there is no patent recipe for getting workers together. Isolation and unfreedom of a workplace can be

# WORKERS GROUPS HOLD JOINT MEETING WITH SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE

of the groups were originated by secretaries over internal concerns; others were formed in response to the invasion of Cambodia. All of them demonstrate that working people do not categorically belong to the "silent majority" and that students are by no means the only ones pressing for radical change. Many workers are realizing that the individualistic competitive solutions prescribed by the American ideology lead nowhere and that only joint political action will make the machine break down.

On June 10 the workers' study group of BBN\* and Science for the People held a meeting to bring several workers' groups together to exchange experiences and to plan possible joint actions for the future. Some forty-five people attended despite short notice and a rain storm. The BBN group reported on their activities (for more detail see article on BBN Underground newspaper, p 8) as did the MIT employees group and computer workers from Codon

\* BBN: Bolt Beranek and Newman, a research, development and consulting firm with many offices throughout the U.S. has 440 employees in Cambridge.

a powerful obstacle to sustained workers' organizations. This is particularly true when the people are white-collar workers whose identification traditionally lies closer to management. Nonetheless the BBN experience shows that workers of very diverse occupations can achieve cohesiveness and continuity by engaging in a multiplicity of activities. Some of these activities arose from oppressive company practices which mobilized the workers to act against the management. But immediate and narrow self-interest are not the only motives that move people. Empathy and identification with other oppressed people was evident in the response to a Black Panther speaker, the invasion of Cambodia and the murder of the Kent and Jackson students. A combination of action and study projects not abstractly conceived, but rooted in an analysis

† MIT Employees' Group, MIT Secretaries Group, Rosenthal Paint, Computer Professionals for Peace, Boston State Faculty, United Electrical Workers, Emmanuel College Faculty, Harvard Observatory Employees, Harvard Medical School, BBN Study Group, Working Women's Conference, Tymshare, Honeywell, Urban Underground.



of the particular workplace, linked to a radical understanding of American society and designed to actively involve as many people as possible has the best chance for success because it responds to the real needs of the workers.

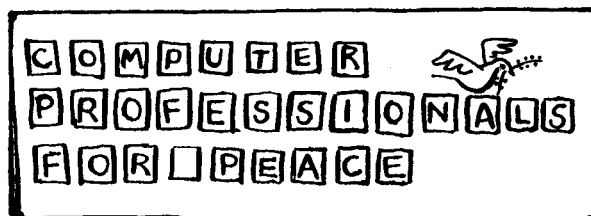
Discussion in the workshop on vertical and horizontal organization moved from the question of organizing along traditional lines or among all workers in one workplace regardless of caste to the question of whether to organize around bread and butter issues or social issues such as alienation, the war, etc. The several kinds of workers present—construction, electrical shop, technician, computer programmer, physicist—spoke from their different experiences. Many of the white-collar workers were quick to point out that traditional unionism, by emphasizing material concerns, led to company response on those very issues leaving questions such as artificial divisions among workers and alienation among white-collar workers outside the struggle.

There was consensus that vertical organizing is necessary but extremely difficult and that the BBN group was so relatively successful because of the tolerant attitude of management. However one person from a small computer firm described how company tolerance can stifle worker opposition altogether. This outfit is operated on the we-are-all-a-big-happy-family principle. How do you deal with the boss in that situation? Some recommendations were offered: Even though you may like the boss as a person it is important to recognize that his role is the antithesis of yours. Don't talk to him alone or as a friend. Always remember your labor is his profit.

Fragmentation among working people is part and parcel of the American ideology and it serves capitalism well. Whites are set against blacks, men against women, white-collar workers against blue-collar workers. Disunity in the guise of individualism is elevated to a virtue, thus quite effectively preventing concerted action of workers in their common interest.

The women's workshop was productive and helpful to its participants in pointing out the need for separate women's organizations and caucuses to deal with the real problems and oppression confronting working women.

Finally there was the workshop deliberating about the future of the coalition of workers' groups. Joint anti-war action in the fall, further meetings and a newsletter were considered. There was a general feeling that the various groups still needed to get themselves together at their respective workplaces, but that it would be useful to have continuous information about the activities of other groups and to exchange speakers. Such information will be published in a newsletter edited by David Jhirad, 289 Broadway Camb., Mass. 02139; Tel. 868-4637 or 495-3747 B. F.



Computer Professionals for Peace is a national organization of workers in the computer field. Local groups meet in New York City, Boston, Los Angeles and Philadelphia. Initially the group formed in opposition to the war in Vietnam. Presently we concern ourselves with many other issues related to the computer industry: racism and male chauvinism, mystification of computers, accreditation of computer schools, the mystique of "professionalism" in the computer industry, national data bases, computerized warfare and counterinsurgency systems and labor organizing.

Boston CPP has been meeting regularly since last March and has now about 25 active members. In addition to general meetings we have four committees which meet as often as they need to. These committees are:

*Analysis / Education Committee*

Currently working on two projects: (1) research into the use of computers in war and counterinsurgency (2) planning a conference on the general topic of the technologist and social responsibility.

*Services Committee*

Looking for other groups in the movement that need computer services for processing, mailing lists, etc.

*Action Committee*

Working on demonstrations against companies with large war contracts, notably Honeywell, the producer of anti-personnel bombs.

*Labor Committee*

Building support for five programmers at Codon in Waltham, Mass. They won a settlement before the National Labor Relations Board because Codon had fired these programmers unfairly when they attempted to organize themselves for collective bargaining. The Labor Committee is now working on establishing worker study groups in several companies in the Boston area.

*People interested further in Computer Professionals for Peace should contact John Dove, 67 Mount Vernon street, Cambridge, Mass. 02140. Telephone No. 491 1812 or 891 6250 J. D.*

<b>NEWS REEL FILMS</b>	Local 1199
	Off The Pig
	Abortion
	R O T C
	Vietnam, Land Of Fire
	May Day
	People's Park
	Columbia
	Paris In May
	Either/Or
	May Day
	Hanoi 13
	Make It Real
	Lincoln Center
Bobby Seale Strike City	
<b>BOSTON NEWSREEL</b> 595 MASS. AVE. CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 02139 617-864-2600 (full catalogues available)	

*Boston Science Museum (cont'd from p.13)*

contractor; also about how monopolies work and how much your telephone costs.) The more you see, the more obvious it is that most exhibits are nothing more than hypes for the companies contributing to them.

Worst of all there are no relevant exhibits to turn kids on about the problems—especially urban problems—that technology could solve. For example, the Museum squats over the stinking Charles River but it has no actual exhibits on pollution. A good one might be to run a spigot into the river and let kids tap and analyze the water. There are no exhibits on transportation, housing, rats, Hiroshima, MIRV, or nuclear bombs and their effects.

My favorite exhibit at the Museum says it all: a box with some coins and mirrors in it. The sign says it was donated by a bank. It's called "Space Money."  
End-of-tour.

The following program is suggested to rehabilitate this and similar institutions into People's Science Museums.

1. Free admission. The difference can be made up by direct government and university subsidy, charging for parking, and upping the rate for business donors, who now enjoy practically free publicity, tax hustles, and other privileges. According to the Museum's 1969 report, people contributed over 40% of the Museum's support through admissions and memberships. Business and Industry contributed less than 5%.

2. Unlimited scholarships to Museum courses for poor kids, including free lunches and transportation.

3. Elimination of worthless exhibits not in the public interest and replacement by relevant exhibits and programs such as those mentioned above.

4. Community representation on controlling boards.

*Science for the People !  
All Power to the People !*

M. F.

## STATISTICS FOR THE PEOPLE

Did you know that:

.....the Sunday edition of the New York Times, which consists mostly of advertising, consumes 150 acres of forest every week.

.....the population of the United States is 6 per cent of the world population and that these 6 per cent use 60 per cent of the world's resources.

.....the top ten advertisers spent \$ 1.36 billion in 1968 forcing their questionable products on the common people of the United States. The companies and the amount they spent(in millions) are listed below:

Procter & Gamble	270
General Motors	214
General Foods	154
Colgate-Palmolive	122
Ford Motor Co.	119
Sears Roebuck	115
Bristol-Myers Co.	114
American Home Products	87
Warner-Lambert	83.5
R.J.Reynolds	81.8

About 7 per cent of America's almost 10 million poor families could be fed for a year with this money, not to mention the great boon that would result if fewer cars, cigarettes and toothpaste varieties would be sold.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Sir:

I find your long-winded emotional puffery offensive. Please remove my name from your mail list. Thank you.

H.D. Turner  
Hot Springs, Ark.

Dear Brothers,

I was delighted to receive the copy of SESPA News, for I had almost totally despaired of any organization of scientists going beyond liberal positions on the present crisis in the Capitalist world order. I would very much like to speak to anyone in your group who has had some experience in attempting to organize engineers and scientists in the aerospace industry, or in MIC in general. There seems to be considerable receptivity to radical thought, at least amongst the graduate students here who are involved in industry.

George Reiter  
Physics Department  
U.C. Irvine  
Irvine, Calif.

Dear Jonathan,

I received a copy of your newsletter in the mail today. While I believe that business and military interests in this and other countries are damned wrong in their policies, it is because these policies reflect a departure from the principles of the Bible. I do not detect in your organization an attempt to return to these principles. So that you may learn for yourself how helpful they can be, I am sending you an invitation to study the Bible, which contains really our only hope of salvation from these evils.

Please do not send me any more newsletters.

Ronald Hiskes  
Dep't of Materials Science  
Stanford University  
Stanford, Calif.

Dear Mr. Spencer,

I just received a handed-down copy of the SESPA News (which has been and will be read by many more of our grad students) and am very interested and enthusiastic about its contents. Right On!

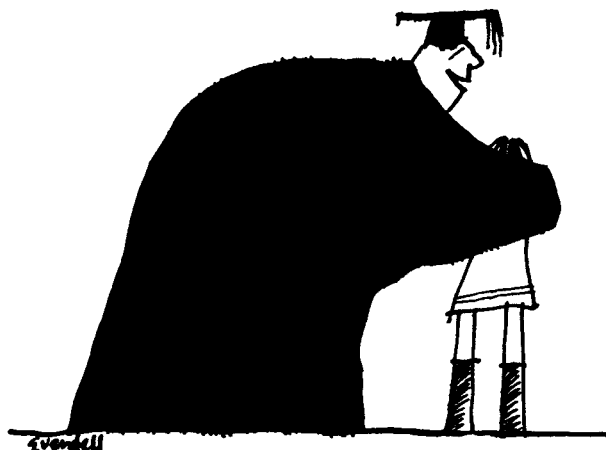
Helmut Ehrenspeck  
Geology Department,  
UCSB  
Santa Barbara, Calif.

### HOW HARVARD RULES WOMEN

A pamphlet written and produced collectively by a group of women at Harvard, affiliated with the New University Conference together with others.

It includes articles on the condition of women undergraduates and graduate students, graduate students' wives, women employees, curriculum, current research on sex differences in the field of psychology, merger, the Society of Fellows, etc.

For copies call or write : Rita Arditti, 11 Donnell Street,  
Cambridge, Mass. - (617) 491-8025



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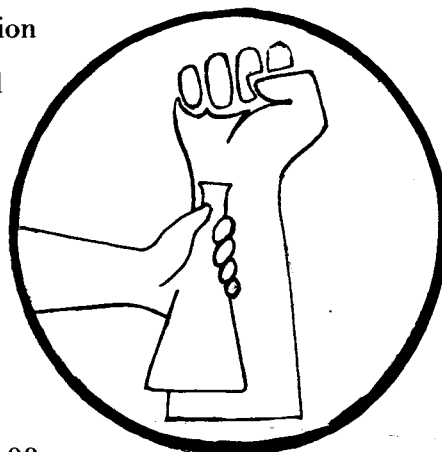
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THE PEOPLE COMPLETELY DEPENDS ON THEM.