Films

'Nightcleaners': political documentary as art

The images of Nightcleaners are separate from each other, every one surrounded by black space. They stitch themselves into the memory with a keenness that burns like acid.

"Nightcleaners" is an English film about women who work in large office buildings at night, cleaning. In 1968 they began to try to achieve better wages and working conditions, precipitating a protracted struggle which attracted the attention of the English left and the Women's Movement in particular.

Produced by the Berwick Street Collective of London, the film documents this struggle. Nightcleaners represents a genuine breakthrough in cinema, welding the tradition of the art film to that of the documentary, something I've never before been successfully accomplished. The film not only raises all the old questions about the relation of art to ideology, but it also presents, coherent answers to them. It deals with a complex set of circumstances in full detail, and does so in a form that is appropriate to the subject matter. It is an extended polemic against the unyielding assumptions of the conventional political filmmakers, and at the same time a demonstration of the film art that the pure projected image that he or she can focus on issues of the conscience as well as the imagination.

But one does learn to watch Nightcleaners. The experience is akin to coming to know the syntax and grammar of a foreign language, a language more suited to what has to be said than own. First the film's dark spaces and silences appear shorter—less like distractions, more like breathing points or times to reflect. The work where the spectator's mind is an active collaborator, not a passive subject.

The avant-garde film movement has been making inroads of its audience for 20 years, and in return for a fresh process of experience, Nightcleaners applies this cinema, avoiding manipulation of the audience's mind, trimming a form in which this is achieved without losing touch with its subject and meaning.

Grahame Welburn

Theater

'Ice' a freeze out

"Ice" by Michael Cristofer, currently at the Mark Taper Forum, is a three act play that is missing the middle act of "Ice." In the barren backlands of Alaska, it stars Cliff DeYoung who waltzes successfully with the role of Murph, an American talkathoner who has split the lower forty-eight with the peace and quiet of two hundred acres of loneliness. The long, winding sequences, at times entertaining, generally wear the audience. This is too bad, because "Ice" has its moments. Probably the best scene in the play is between Murph, who has bad human company for months except for an occasional chat in The Family Bar, and Ray, played with difficulty by Ron Silver. Ray is a drunk who can do nothing but grunt while Murph unwinds a avalanche of language.

The actor's problem is more with the play than with the delivery, it is like giving a Bartok concerto with a skeletal. The actors are the Bartok, the play is the skeleton.

Brit Swanston is reasonably convincing as Sunshine, though she does show that the clamyd solidity of "Ice."

The major problem is the lack of character development.

SEARCH SERVICE

For out-of-print hardcover books
Ask large salesmen, editors
NEED A HARD BOOK FINDERS
2377 Wilshire Blvd. LA 90005
Cal-479-5215

The play is too much of a melodramatic. No one ever communicates, they talk at one another. Though it makes a good philosophical point it is not theatrical. When the unexpected happens is "Ice," as in the dialogue sequence when Ray doesn't have room for his willy-willy mouth, the play has life, but such moments are too infrequent. I felt embarrassed for the actors, all of whom are fine performers.

The major problem is that writer Cristofer must have missed half of his rewrite sessions. Too bad, "Ice" could have been a masterpiece.

Ben Pleasants

The Wine House

A WINE HOUSE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Our operation is simple. We sell wine. We select European and California wines (such as Stag’s Leap Ch. Montelena, Spring Mountain, Cerritos, etc.) with an emphasis on quality and value. Also, we keep our overhead to a minimum in order to bring you these selections at the lowest possible prices.

2320 Coter Avenue
Los Angeles, Cal. 90064
(213) 479-3721

Open Mon. - Fri. 10 AM - 7 PM
Sat. - Sun. 11 AM - 4 PM

We cordially invite you to

The Wine House

Ecolo-Haul

Offering, sorting paper recyed
"Recycling centers" Sponsorship recycling programs "Educational programs - Educational

ECOLO-HAUL
(213) 464-3845
Music: song titles and verses

Books: reviews and features
Hiking in L.A.

Carter vs Ford—some choice? California's 3rd party offers a choice and a challenge to Carter's forces (List 4 ways to forget Tanney and Hayakawa)

Davis' Prop. BB—The Chief's latest attempt to jack Los Angeles taxpayers

Prop. 13—Greyhound racing: Writing your own laws for fun and profit

Tunney—Hayakawa
A Hayden staffer swallows hard to make a choice

Prop. 14—showdown
Farmworkers charge growers with lies and deceptive advertising

Sightseeing in L.A.
Love and death on the Hollywood tour

UCLA's Faux-pas
Intelligence lack is exposed

Rip-off Comics
Follow Fat Freddy's cat from food deal to litter pan
Letters

Carbonated

Dear Councilwoman and Councilmembers:
We commend you for approval of the federal funding of the job training program to the amount of $305,250, which you have recently voted to allocate to the Gay Community Services Center.

As an active community organization, Parents and Friends of Gays, we feel your decision showed the kind of courage, integrity and foresight that is a vital ingredient in community leadership today.

We wish at the same time to express our indignation at the irresponsible remarks made by your president, John X. Gibson. As a public servant, we feel he has an obligation to refrain from participating himself in the course of double-crossing homosexuality, and we condemn him for his unchoreographed statements quoted by the press.

We feel that emotional outbursts such as this can only engender a climate of fear and violence in the community against homosexuals.

We wish to go on record voicing our concern that those who seek to make the public have an implied obligation to inform themselves before making public announcements. As Mr. Gibson may have discovered the benefits of emotional catharsis, however, we would also like to express the expense of a great many people.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Spitzer
Chairperson
Parents and Friends of Gays

Critique

Dear Editor,
I read your “Time for a Critique” article in which you reviewed the objectives of the Vanguard and invited feedback from your readers. So here it is.

I subscribed to the Vanguard because I like your opinions, not because I want to read your opinions, but because I want to read the opinions of the people who are interested in the opinion of these articles.

I have a few critical points about your latest issue:

1. The system in the country is based on exploitation of the many by the few, and the goals of our thinking and actions should be to see that all segments of our society get an equal chance at the good life.
2. I think it is a very good idea to get all of these things on paper to have a record of the views of the people who are interested in the opinion of these articles.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Rascals all

What are the Hayden supporters going to do? Is that the question Senator John Hayton’s backers are asking themselves these days? Are they going to support Jack Hayden? Probably not. Are they going to vote for Peace and Freedom? Some will. Are they going to vote with their feet? Many will.

The Hayden supporters will say, if you vote for a “minor” party, you are throwing your vote away, giving it to Hayton who is the enemy of the students. In a way that is so Hayton is just as bad as the police into battle against the young, the blacks and the Chicanos; but he was doing that for Senator Hayden who was sitting in Washington watching his secretary. When did he stand up for the students the way Ton Hayden did?

The Hayden supporters give you that old line about the kids will reap what they sow. We say that to leaf down their threats and let them go. Hayden, the wolf in sheep’s clothing, is just a wolf. To campaign against the good people of people in Vietnam was safe to do so. Not to do it is a big commitment from a man in his time, and another joke. You are in the same position you were when you chose between Johnson and Goldwater in the ’64 election. We say don’t be false liberal chatter. Ask your friends how many times they have been invited to test cards for Ton Hayden. We say don’t be false liberal chatter. Ask your friends how many times they have been invited to test cards for Ton Hayden. We say don’t be false liberal chatter. Ask your friends how many times they have been invited to test cards for Ton Hayden.
Election '76
How to say "Up yours!"

The way it was

The race...that old, old Race on.
No one can deny that.

Ever since the first time I wrote about it, in the early 1960s, the idea of a "race" to the White House has been the defining characteristic of American politics. It's a tradition that has its roots in the nation's history, and it's one that is deeply ingrained in the American psyche.

But what does it mean to "race"? Is it about who will be the next president, or is it about who will be the next great political leader? And what does it mean to "race" for the presidency, or for any other political office?

These are the questions that have been at the heart of American politics for centuries, and they are the questions that will continue to shape our political discourse for years to come.
FIGHT BACK
Prop. 14
Farmworkers Charge Growers Lie
Bill Noff/UPW

California farm workers and their supporters, led by United Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez, have been contributing hard-earned dollars and scarce free time to urge California voters to vote Yes on Proposi-
tion 14. Their effort to ensure the basic right to vote for union representation is being opposed, however, by an expensive campaign of lies and distortions funded by agribusiness and other major corporations. The farm workers had help to counter this massively funded media barrage.

Proposition 14—qualified through the initiative process last April when the United Farm Workers secured a record 728,000 signatures in 29 days—is on the ballot because agribusiness pressured the legislature into denying funds for the state's new Agricultural Labor Relations Board. That board was supposed to oversee the new agricultural labor law designed to give farm workers the right to vote in union representation elections. When the board exhausted its budget after just five months in operation (much of the money having been spent to investigate and prosecute the hundreds of unlawful acts committed by growers during elections), agribusiness and its supporters in the legislature blocked a special appropriation sought by Gov. Brown to keep the board alive through the rest of the fiscal year.

The growers said they'd agree to the additional funding only if certain amendments were made to the farm labor law, even though they'd agreed in 1975 when the law was passed that they wouldn't try to change it. The amendments would have severely eroded farm workers' rights and were sought only after the workers had overwhelmingly voted for the UFW in elections held under the state act.

Since the board's money ran out in February, there have been no elections in the fields.

The heart of the growers' campaign against Proposition 14, evidenced by advertisements that have blanketed radio and television in recent weeks, is that the proposition will permit wholesale erosion of personal property rights. This message is conveyed in one of the growers' ads by the lurid assertion that for Proposition 14 will permit strangers to walk into your backyard at will.

That argument is nothing but a distortion intentionally designed to mislead and scare voters.

When the farm labor board started up, it held hearings and then passed a limited “access rule” permitting union organizers to talk with workers at the job site during non-working hours for a limited time and in limited numbers. Growers charged that the rule violated their private property rights and appealed it to the California Supreme Court.

The court denied the appeal. The majority opinion stated, in essence, that the growers' private property arguments were prepotent and a typical union-busting ploy. The growers appealed the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, which on Oct. 4 refused to hear the case on the grounds that the growers didn't have an argument. The highest court's refusal had the effect of upholding the California court's decision.

Yet the growers have persisted in claiming that the “access rule” is unconstitutional and have ignored pleas to withdraw the misleading ads. These appeals have come not only from the Yes on 14 campaign but also from such public officials as Los Angeles City Attorney Bert Pines and San Francisco District Attorney Joseph Freitas. Last Thursday, Los Angeles County District Attorney John Van de Kamp announced that he was launching an investigation of the growers' ads.

Agribusiness is also attacking the growing campaign as unnecessary because the farm labor board has been re-funded and soon will start holding representation elections again. What they omit is that they authorized their legislators to release funds for the board for the day after the initiative was qualified. They hoped that by getting the board back in operation they could defuse the issue, much as legislators defused the Nuclear Initiative issue by passing some safeguards before the June ballot. The main reason for Proposi-
tion 14 is as valid as ever. Without its guarantee of adequate funding of the board, there's nothing to ensure that agribusiness and the growers won't again cut off bargaining when union elections more start going against the growers.

California voters must to the polls November 5 and vote "yes" on Prop 14 to show agribusiness and the growers that they can't be fooled by a few dollars and time to keep farm workers from this election. The growers need money, but the movement needs people. We need your help.

For further information the Farmworkers at 381-7547.

CO-OP OPPORTUNITIES

We Dare You To Cooperate!

Co-opportunity stocks a full line of food and non-food items at low prices.

- Cheese and dairy products
- Fresh produce
- Nutritious foods
- Harmony Farms frozen meat
- Cleaning and paper goods
- Fresh fish, fresh chicken
- Access to camping equip., tools, etc.
- Friendly people
- Herbs, spices, gourmet coffee
- AND MORE!

Anyone may join. Member-shoppers are the owners of the store. Every member has one vote in decisions made at membership meetings. All savings belong to members—there are no outside shareholders, no dividends, no salaries for the Board of Directors.

You do not have to work to be a member. Full membership information is available at the store.

CO-OP OPPORTUNITY
1530 BROADWAY SANTA MONICA, CALIF 90404 395-5692
Mon.-Fri. 12:30-7:30 Sat. 12:00-7:00 Closed Sunday

LINCOLN HARDWARE
1609 LINCOLN BLVD. VENICE
FORMED SOURCES INFORMED SOURCES

PURITY PARADISE?

Black men in Memphis, according to the New York Times, are being tortured near the city’s Blight housing project. Nationally, in the case of the Black Child, a group of violence against black children, the F.B.I. has alleged that the weapons of choice are terror, rape, and murder. As a result of the investigation, the F.B.I. has recommended a plan of attack to reduce the violence.

J. Edgar Hoover, the F.B.I. director, has acknowledged that the Secret Service, not the F.B.I., is the appropriate agency for handling cases of this nature. He has also stated that the Secret Service has established a nationwide network of informants and agents.

Police state

The F.B.I. has moved to arrest a man on charges of conspiracy to commit murder. The man, a person of influence within the F.B.I., is accused of using his position to influence the actions of the agency.

According to the F.B.I., the evidence against the man includes wiretaps, surveillance, and confidential informants.

PUA abuses to be revealed

One of the most important civil liberties concerns is the right to privacy. The right to privacy will be taken up on Tuesday, October 30th at 10:00 AM at the State Capitol, 1st and Broadway.

For three days, the Public Utilities Commission will be hearing testimony on a complaint filed by CAUSE against Utility Services Explorations, a company that provides Pacific Telephone Company regarding the confidentiality of unlimited numbers.

The complaint grew out of an exposé of the phone company’s practices and was filed on the Fourth of July, 1877. The story appeared in the Vancouver Daily Mirror on the Fourth of July, 1877. The story appeared in the November 29th edition of the Daily Mirror, where ‘a foreign state of mind’ was discussed.

Students call UCLA’s bluff

UCLA’s Native American Student Association called the administration’s bluff on Sunday, July 10th, by refusing to attend classes. The administration had given the students 24 hours to respond.

The rally, attended by more than 300 people, was organized by the University of California at Santa Cruz, and the University of California at Berkeley.

Mao Tse-Tung

Poems

$1 Hardbound 50¢ Paper

Available At

Unidos Bookstore


Mail Orders welcome. Add 6% tax 25¢ postage and handling

October 27 Los Angeles "F"arragut
Prop. 13: Racing for the Dogs

Glenn Holland

Lovers of democracy will be elated by the appearance of Proposition 13, the Greyhound Racing Initiative, on the November ballot. Proposition 13 promises to usher in a new era in the people's struggle to make the laws that govern their own actions. Every word of the proposition setting up the regulations for legalized betting on dog races was written by the very people the law will affect—G. Hardie and his Golden State Greyhound Association.

The Greyhound Association members gain several advantages by bravely writing their own law. First, they know the law was written by people who really understand the business of dog racing. Second, they gain the law's generosity to prospective track owners—it grants them a larger-than-average cut of the betting pool, no local taxes to pay, and a guaranteed county-wide racing monopoly. Thirdly, the Association's friends in Sacramento are designated to pick some of the commissioners who will oversee the industry licensing of track owners, thus saving the Association the trouble of lobbying. Lastly, and most radical of all, the provisions for granting track licenses are set up to practically assure George Hardie and his association of controlling legalized greyhound racing in California for years to come.

Proposition 13 specifies that applications for track licenses would have to be submitted to the racing commissioners between December 3 and 12 of this year. Each applicant would have to present a site for track construction, already zoned and with an environmental impact survey, a comprehensive plan for law enforcement and internal security, a traffic and parking analysis, plans for landscaping, and an estimate of tax revenue and economic benefits for the surrounding community. As Hardie knew when he wrote the proposition, these requirements are impossible to fill, except for members of the Golden State Greyhound Association. But, then, as Hardie says, "Why should other businesses have a right when they didn't lift a finger to bring it about?"

Best of all, there is no chance of a meddling legislature interfering with Hardie's handiwork. Proposition 13 can only be amended by three-fourths of the voters at large, an eventuality as likely as Bill Blevins being elected president of the NAACP.

We can only hope that other civic-minded individuals will be quick to follow the Golden State Greyhound Association's lead and get their own special interest legislation on the ballot. If the Farm Labor Initiative had been written by the growers, for instance, it might restrict unions to holding elections only between the hours of 3-3 and 3-3 Easter Sunday. And if all farmers were 51% white Angelenos, the annual payroll of over $25,000,000 could be used to help finance a whole new sort of demagogue. George Hardie himself has already played the private enterprise, how many get the country."

Carl Nohlburger

California may go into business financing high-rise projects. If Proposition 1 is approved Nov. 2, then again, it may finance home mortgages or home improvement loans instead.

Tax is not, however, even the California Housing Finance Agency (CHFA) which will be in charge of the money, knows for sure how the $500 million bond issue will be used. If it passes, thanks to a state Supreme Court decision, a new state law, and uncertain federal policies.

More certain, however, is that should the proposition fail, CHFA will be able to do little of anything—exactly what it has been doing since it was created by the California legislature created it a year ago. The theoretic goal of Proposition 1 and the finance agency is identical: to finance housing for persons of "low and moderate income." The proposition would provide the money, backed by the full faith and credit of the people of California, and the agency administers the program.

The 1975 law creating the finance agency says it may:

1. Make direct low interest loans to developers of apartment projects intended for low income persons and the elderly.

2. Make direct low interest loans to developers of rental projects which would could charge market rents of up to $651 a month for a two-bedroom apartment, under federal guidelines.

3. Money to city and counties to finance "neighborhood preservation programs" where homeowners are on loan to improve their property, CHFA is now reviewing applications for about $85 million for these programs including $30.5 million sought by the city of Los Angeles.

4. Finance homeowners directly who buy rehabilitated homes or who want to remodel. This program was originally given low priority by the agency may become its major thrust if obstacles facing the apartment development program are not overcome.

Until this summer, the agency intended to use Proposition 1 money primarily to build apartments, according to CHFA Senior Vice President Pat Goeters, but its plans hit a sharp setback when the state Supreme Court ruled that the agency cannot finance low-income housing projects unless the voters in the cities concerned approve such projects through referendums.

The court decision was based on Article 34 of the state constitution, passed two decades ago to keep cities from being forced to accept public housing projects against their will. Los Angeles voters have given referendum approval for housing only for the elderly. A handful of other California cities have passed such measures, these usually to benefit the elderly alone and not poor families.

Another problem is the apartment program is facing cutbacks in the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "Section 8" rent subsidy program. Under Section 8, the tenant pays up to 25 percent of his income in the rent. The government pays the rest, up to established maximum "fair market rentals."

Fall Forum for Health-Healing the Whole Person November 12 & 13

Friday 1 to 10 pm
Location: Saturday 9 - 9 pm
THE BEAUTIFUL CONGRESS HALL
906 Francisco Street (one block west of Figueroa)
in central Los Angeles, near freeways

The hall holds DONATION: a nominal $3rd per day.
1,000 persons Also, a valuable bicentennial gift will be given to each visitor.

18 Top Speakers on Natural Healing Films, Delicious Vegetarian Food, Entertainment, Exhibits (exhibitors welcome)

Write or phone for complete brochure: Health Education Association, Ltd.
P.O. Box 9600 - Santa Monica, CA 90405
(213) 931-7542 or 9333

Fall Forum for Health-Healing the Whole Person November 12 & 13

Friday 1 to 10 pm
Location: Saturday 9 - 9 pm
THE BEAUTIFUL CONGRESS HALL
906 Francisco Street (one block west of Figueroa)
in central Los Angeles, near freeways

The hall holds DONATION: a nominal $3rd per day.
1,000 persons Also, a valuable bicentennial gift will be given to each visitor.

18 Top Speakers on Natural Healing Films, Delicious Vegetarian Food, Entertainment, Exhibits (exhibitors welcome)

Write or phone for complete brochure: Health Education Association, Ltd.
P.O. Box 9600 - Santa Monica, CA 90405
(213) 931-7542 or 9333

Fall Forum for Health-Healing the Whole Person November 12 & 13

Friday 1 to 10 pm
Location: Saturday 9 - 9 pm
THE BEAUTIFUL CONGRESS HALL
906 Francisco Street (one block west of Figueroa)
in central Los Angeles, near freeways

The hall holds DONATION: a nominal $3rd per day.
1,000 persons Also, a valuable bicentennial gift will be given to each visitor.

18 Top Speakers on Natural Healing Films, Delicious Vegetarian Food, Entertainment, Exhibits (exhibitors welcome)

Write or phone for complete brochure: Health Education Association, Ltd.
P.O. Box 9600 - Santa Monica, CA 90405
(213) 931-7542 or 9333

Fall Forum for Health-Healing the Whole Person November 12 & 13

Friday 1 to 10 pm
Location: Saturday 9 - 9 pm
THE BEAUTIFUL CONGRESS HALL
906 Francisco Street (one block west of Figueroa)
in central Los Angeles, near freeways

The hall holds DONATION: a nominal $3rd per day.
1,000 persons Also, a valuable bicentennial gift will be given to each visitor.

18 Top Speakers on Natural Healing Films, Delicious Vegetarian Food, Entertainment, Exhibits (exhibitors welcome)

Write or phone for complete brochure: Health Education Association, Ltd.
P.O. Box 9600 - Santa Monica, CA 90405
(213) 931-7542 or 9333
Dropping up the cops with BBs

Citizens for Police Proposition BB headed by former police beatmaster Bradley and President of California Federal Savings and Loan, Robert Dockson, Davis slogan is “What every Los Angeles resident wants is a police car close to their front house.” Although the tax override would not provide officers or vehicles, the intent of the commercial is to play into the fears of Los Angeles.

Chief Administrative Analyst John Cooks, who helped write the 1972 CAM report, said that despite the inconsistencies in the growth projections for the police department between the city council and police chief, the council voted to support the police proposal without any changes. (Only Lawrence and Wilkening voted no.) “It’s non-existent logic; simple politics. On any given day the police can get anything they want from the city council,” the city hall official stated.

It remains to be seen whether they can get anything they want from the city council.

OLZGAN

PYRAMID

BOOK SHOP

Meditation Pyramids Pyramid Kits Metaphysical and Self-help books

and Free lectures on HUNA

Classes in LIFE MASTERY KALANA Training

2617 Lincoln Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90405
(213) 932-7294

SEARCH SERVICE

Free or LCD print business cards for your quality check, all price
NEEDHAM BECK FINEST

2084 Westwood Blvd. LA 90025

MALIBU LUMBER & HDWE

23419 Pacific Coast Hwy.

25th Annual CHRISTMAS CASH SALE

UP TO 50% OFF!

EMBRESS PRESS

OPERATION THURSDAY

Starting Fri. Dec. 31st

905-985-0024

FINESCALES and DRESSER

2235 Westwood Blvd.

PYRAMID OLYMPIC & PICO

473-4567 • 722-2927

25% OFF ALL CASH

WOMEN’S MENS’ SHOES, SHOES, SHOES

PRESSED TO ORDER

SUE COOK IN PERSON

473-4569

MALIBU MUSIC COMPLIMENTS OF THE MALIBU LUMBER & HDWE 23419 PACIFIC COAST HWY.