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## Films

### 'Nightcleaners': political documentary as art

The images of Nightcleaners are separate from each other, every one surrounded by black space. They etch themselves into the memory with a sharpness 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 conflict.

Nightcleaners represents a genuine breakthrough in cinema, welding the tradition of the art film to that of the documentary, something I've never before seen 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 unvoiced assumptions of the conventional political filmmaker; and at the same time a demonstration to the film artist who loves 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 one's own. First the film's dark spaces and silences appear shorter—less like distractions, more like breathing points or times to reflect. The disconnectedness of the images, the absence of a smooth flow from one to the next, gradually becomes a positive feature, in that it allows an examination of each image itself.

By watching the film I discovered how much I rely on a shot's context as a determinant of its significance in the film as a whole. Here in Nightcleaners the surrounding of each shot by neutral space has the effect of taking it out of context, so that there is nothing telling the viewer that this statement is highly significant, that one less so. We are left, in the end, to decide on our own what is to be emphasized in the composite picture of working women and the societal structure within which they operate.

Over the eighty minutes that Nightcleaners runs, a highly complicated situation is presented. But each person who sees the film leaves it with a different impression of this situation, for the viewer is called on to reconstruct it from

the material given. We learn about the issues in much the same way as if we followed the events in the newspaper, spoke to the principal parties, and generally kept a sympathetic eye on what was going on. How much more there is in a truth that one discovers for oneself than in a truth spoon-fed! And what deep pleasure in a work where the spectator's mind is an active collaborator, not a passive subject!

The avant-garde film movement has been making demands of its audience for 20 years, in return for a richness of experience. Nightcleaners applies this radical style of filmmaking to political cinema, avoiding manipulation of the audience-mind, and finding a form in which this can be achieved without losing touch with its subject matter.

Grahame Weinbren

## 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. Set in the barren badlands of Alaska, it stars Cliff DeYoung who wrestles unsuccessfully with the role of Murph, an American talkathon who has split the lower forty-eight for the peace and quiet of two hundred acres of loneliness. The long, windbag sequences, at times entertaining, generally wear the audience out. That is too bad, because "Ice" has its moments. Probably the best scene in the play is between Murph, who has not had human company for months except for an occasional chat in The Family Bar, and Ray, played with difficulty by Ron Rifkin. Ray is a drunk who can do nothing but grunt while Murph unwinds an avalanche of language.

The actor's problem is more with the play than with their delivery. It is like giving a Bartok concerto with a ukelele. The actors are the Bartok, the play is the ukelele.

Britt Swanson is reasonably convincing as Sunshine, though she does little to thaw the clumsy solidity of "Ice."

The major problem is the lack of character development.

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The play is much too mechanical. No one ever communicates; they talk at one another. Though it makes a good philosophical point it is not theatre. When the unexpected happens in "Ice," as in the dance sequence when Ray does a little wild patter in the wilderness, the play has life; but such moments are all 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 winner.

Ben Pleasants

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## Letters

### Carbonated

Dear Councilmen  
and Councilwomen:

We commend you for approval of federal funding of the job training program in 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 S. Gibson.

As a public servant, we feel he has an obligation to avail himself of the facts concerning homosexuality, and we condemn him for his uninformed statements quoted by the press.

We fear that emotional outbursts such as this can only create a climate of fear and violence in the community against our loved ones.

We wish to go on record recommending that those who serve the public have an implied obligation to inform themselves before making public announcements. As it is, Mr. Gibson may have enjoyed the benefits of an emotional catharsis; however, he has done so at 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's mine.

I subscribed to the *Vanguard* because I see it as a forum for expressing opinions, (so repugnant to the leadership of this country,) that we in the left alternative culture feel are important. In one sentence I would have to summarize the viewpoint of much of the left and your publication as: "The system in this 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 goodies."

I do not disagree with this viewpoint when it is put forth as a total and complete position. When the liberal/leftist sees no need to look beyond this and still expects to get into The People's Heaven, then I have to dissent. The view goes wrong when it sees the problem as one of maldistribution of wealth within this country, and that other countries have their own, independent, unrelated problems. Believers in this are either unaware of or choose to ignore several facts:

- That almost everyone in the United States, whether a corp exec or an assembly line mechanic or an unemployed person living on county checks, is participating (myself included) in the exploitation of the non-Western world.

- That the United States is the leader in per capita consumption of natural resources and cheap energy, and to such an extent that the economically less developed countries may never be able to afford those resources needed to improve food production and develop self-sufficiency.

- That if the rest of the world's population consumed goods at the rate Americans do, the resultant pollution would probably kill the planet.

- That massive hunger in many parts of the world is not necessarily caused by a lack of food or land availability, but because of our use of potential grain producing land for fattening beef cattle, and our importation of food from countries that cannot meet their own food requirements.

- That the wealth of this country is based to a great extent on economic exploitation of less developed countries and it is backed up by the threat of war.

- That our economy thrives on the arms race and we would not want to stop it if we could.

Whew!  
What do these things have to do with the *Vanguard*? They are relevant if we believe that exploitation is wrong and equal opportunity is right. There can be no equal opportunity for much of the world now or in the future if we continue on our present path. And when I list these criticisms I am not alluding to any anonymous "thems", but to us. Not just the money hungry



This colorful character refused to tell the *Vanguard* whether she/he/it was (a) a Hayakawa volunteer, (b) a mannequin employed by the novelty shop next to Hayakawa's Santa Monica headquarters, (c) a not-so-innocent bystander or (d) all of the above.

titans of government and industry, but the liberal sipping his/her wine while absorbing groovy sounds on the quadraphonic record player; the down-to-earth, four-wheel-drive, beer can, CB radio group; the anti-system person who lives on McDonalds beefburgers, knows or cares nothing about resource conservation, and offers no positive alternatives to grab-what-you-can.

I would like to see the *Vanguard* give some permanent space to questions relating to "living so that all can survive."

Respectfully,  
Steve Schroeder  
Editor's note: We agree with everything you say, but we are a local alternative paper, and remember, exploitation, like charity, begins at home.

### On the Levil?

Dear Editor,

Whatever happened to the political cartoons by J. Louis Messina and James Rutherford?

Bring them back! How much Cobb can I take?  
Alex Leviloff

### Jack's brother?

Dear Editors,

Having discovered your publication some time ago, I now miss a particular omitted segment, that was lost in the scramble for a new format. That of which I speak is the primal sarcasm inherent in the drawings and humor of the Louis/Edward (Messina/

Rutherford) team. It would seem to me, that for this much time to pass without any representation of their stringent wit shows a certain amount of neglect and/or disrespect for such talent.

Desiring some sort of satisfaction, I would appreciate either their return to print, or an explanation for their loss. Deeply sorry and pissed,  
Howard London

### Rascals all

What are the Hayden supporters going to do? That is the question Senator John Tunney's hacks are asking these days. Are they going to support Sam Hayakawa? Probably not. Are they going to vote for Peace and Freedom? Some will. Are they going to vote with their feet? Many will.

The Tunney supporters will say, if you vote for a "minor" party you are throwing your vote away, giving it to Hayakawa, who made war against the students. In a way that is so. Hayakawa led the police into battle against the young, the blacks and the Chicanos; but while he was doing that Senator Tunney was sitting in Washington checking out his secretary. When did he stand up for the

students the way Tom Hayden did?

The Tunney supporters give you that old line about a loaf. We say shove that loaf down their throats and them gag on it. Tunney wolf in sheep's clothing. Hayakawa is just a wolf. Tunney came out against the murder of people in Vietnam who was safe to do so, not he. He is a joke in congress. Hayakawa, in his tam, will another joke. You are in same position you were in you chose between John and Goldwater—nowhere.

We say don't be fooled liberal chatter. Ask your friends how many times have been invited to testimonials for Tunney. Ask Chicano friends how many times Tunney has come to Barrio. When you have talked to the people who need in spite of the yak about socialized medicine, we feel you turn away from both Tunney and Hayakawa. Half a while the bureaucrats of champagne over at the Berkeley Wilshire is not good enough. Don't dignify rascals by giving them your vote.

Ben Pleasants  
Dave Lindorff  
Ron Ridenour  
Tom Thompson  
Andy Horwitz  
Dorothy Thompson

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Bah! Humbug! It's that time of year again! Christmas! Next thing you know, people are going to be foisting all kinds of junk on you that you don't need.

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...You don't really need to hear the rest of this song and dance. It's in every periodical around this time of year. But who wants just any periodical?

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Thompson  
When Gerald Ford, the  
first non-elected presi-  
dent of the United States,  
lost the 1976 election to  
Jimmy Carter, he was  
slim 1% in the latest  
poll. The California  
preference poll, which  
has no impact on the  
outcome of the presi-  
dential sweepstakes, took  
into account the added  
importance of the  
California's third parties, or  
"alternative" candidates, find  
themselves in a position to  
steal the Carter bandwagon  
by siphoning off enough votes  
to throw the state's 45 electoral  
votes to Ford.

Ford could slip into the  
White House as the first  
president to win without a  
majority of votes or the entire  
electoral college. He could be thrown  
into a political wilderness, where a  
majority of votes would have to be  
won from among the also  
runners, none of whom could  
win the 270 electoral college  
votes needed for a clean win.

Polsters have conceded that  
the estimated 4% of California's  
voters will choose third party  
candidates this year and that  
many as 50% may choose  
the process.

We say shove them together.  
This year the choices for  
gag on it. The alienation from the normal  
sheep's clothing of Republican rou-  
is just a wolf in a wheel brand of "tweedle-  
-dum" politics are  
out against the "tweedle-  
-dum" politics are  
people in Vietnam.

safe to do so, not including the list is write-in  
is a joke in Congress. Eugene ("Clean  
va, in his turn, wrote") McCarthy, qualified  
other joke. You are very candidates Margaret  
me position you are right and Benjamin Spock  
u chose between Justice and Freedom), Ameri-  
and Goldwater—knows an Independent Party hopefuls  
We say don't be fooled. Maddox and William  
liberal chatter. Ask your friends, and "Independents"  
friends how many times they have been invited to  
have been invited to testify before the Senate Select  
Chicano friends how many times they have been invited  
turn away from both sides and David Berglund  
Barrio. When you have a libertarian.

to the people who need to add to McCarthy there  
in spite of the yak about a total of 21 other presiden-  
tial candidates, we feel that the party write-in candidates  
turn away from both sides and David Berglund  
Barrio. When you have a libertarian.

Ben Pleasant, California campaign  
manager, Frank Mattei.  
Ron Ridenour, "Carter is sleeping better  
these days, since we are not on  
the California ballot, but  
Andy Horwitz, California ballot, but  
Dorothy Thompson, California ballot, but

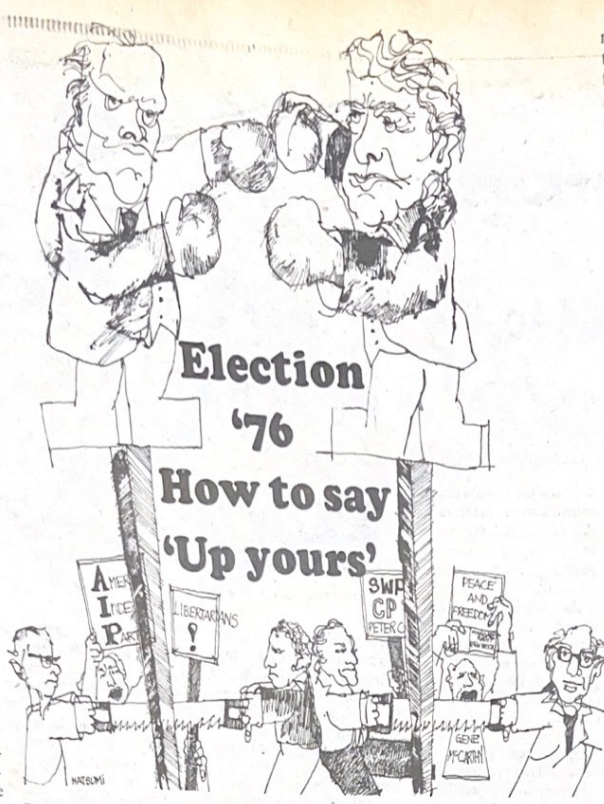
Don't dignify rascals by pulling as much as ten per  
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Peace and Freedom party presi-  
dential candidate Margaret  
Wright of Los Angeles is  
waging an open socialist-  
feminist campaign designed to  
"get people involved in demo-  
cracy."

Wright feels that the reason  
American voters are so apathetic  
is that they know they don't  
have any power when they vote  
for Democrats or Republicans.  
"You tell people they've got  
power like they would have  
under socialism and they'll be  
out. But how can you expect  
them to give up the boob-tube  
and beer when they know they  
don't have power?"

The Socialist Workers party  
is on the ballot for the first  
time in California history, and

the Communist Party made  
it this year for the first time  
in 34 years. Upton Sinclair  
ran for Senate and Governor  
in California as a socialist  
in 1922, 26, 30 and Eric Hase  
was on the Socialist Labor Party  
California ballot for president.

Bob Klonsky, speaking for  
the Communist Party candidacy  
of Gus Hall and Jarvis Tyner  
says that third parties have  
taken on enormous importance  
this year because the Demo-  
crats and Republicans have  
veered to the right.

"Carter is even attempting  
to out-Reagan Reagan and  
people, feeling the pressures of  
the economy and unemploy-  
ment, are looking for something  
else," Klonsky

said. He also feels that the  
impact of third parties hasn't  
gone unnoticed by the two party  
system. "That's why both  
political parties are fighting  
so hard to keep us off the  
ballot."

Getting on the ballot has  
been the biggest problem to  
third parties, ranking just  
ahead of a "boycott" by the  
news media. Getting a third  
party on the ballot in California  
requires more than 600,000  
signatures on petitions. Single  
candidates listed as indepen-  
dents must gather nearly  
100,000 signatures.

Media coverage (or more  
properly lack of coverage) of  
third parties is also a constant  
battle. Bruce Marcus, Califor-

nia campaign chairperson for  
the Socialist Workers Party,  
feels that the media deliber-  
ately ignores third party candi-  
dates and issues, and, in effect,  
work as "pawns for the estab-  
lished two party system."

Veteran California political  
analyst, Joe Cerrell regards  
the impact of third parties,  
especially in California, as  
particularly significant this  
year. "You do have basically  
four possibilities to vote-left  
of Carter, (McCarthy, Peace  
and Freedom, Socialist Work-  
ers and Communist Party).  
Overall, Carter gets hurt be-  
cause of that. The Republicans  
are a little more disciplined  
than Democrats so there won't  
be as many Republicans break-  
ing ranks to vote for a third  
party," Cerrell notes that  
"Many voters are convinced,  
more so this year than in the  
past, that we really do have  
tweedledee and tweedledum. In  
the past that voter might have  
held his nose and swallowed  
hard. But now he says I'm  
gonna protest."

Cerrell notes that if the  
third parties pull off enough  
protest votes it could result  
in blocking any single candidate  
from getting the 270 electoral  
college votes needed to be  
elected president and raise the  
spectre of a nation with first,  
a non-elected president and  
then a president who couldn't  
get elected by popular vote  
but had to be chosen by the  
congress.

If that happened "they  
(third parties) would be more  
viable and would prove that  
people had a legitimate ability  
to protest through third  
parties."

Should that spectre become a  
reality it will, in all probability,  
have been California's third  
parties that provided the im-  
petus and votes that would  
force the nation to  
finally realize that the two  
party system is an archaic  
system in a nation celebrating  
200 years of supposed  
democracy.

## 3rd Party Senate Campaigns



Lynn Kinsky—Libertarian



Dave Wald—P&F



Omari Musa—SWP



Jack McCoy—AIP

**Tom Thompson**  
While incumbent Senator  
John Tunney, described by  
his opponents as the light-  
weight son of a heavyweight  
boxer, and S.I. Hayakawa,  
pictured as somewhat right of  
Atilla the Hun, battle to re-  
present California in Wash-  
ington, third party candidates  
are scrambling across the state  
simply trying to deliver a  
message.

The message, whether it  
comes from the left (as in the  
case of David Wald of the Peace  
and Freedom Party of Omari  
Musa of the Socialist Workers  
Party) or the right (Jack McCoy,  
American Independent; Lynn  
Kinsky, Libertarian) is

superficially the same: The  
system doesn't work and it's  
not going to get any better as  
long as we keep electing Demo-  
crats and Republicans. It is  
time to make some changes.

The motto of the Peace and  
Freedom Party "Don't waste  
your vote by voting for the  
lesser of two evils—vote Peace  
and Freedom," could be the  
essence of all four alternative  
campaigns. You could simply  
change the party label.

But similarities stop there.  
On the left, David Wald  
and Omari Musa are openly  
campaigning to put "socialism  
on the agenda." AIP candidate  
Jack McCoy and Libertarian  
Lynn Kinsky hope to change the

geared their campaigns to  
"keeping government out of  
our lives."

David Wald contends that  
the primary issue of this  
campaign is to drive across the  
point that this economic system  
doesn't simply need reforming,  
it needs scraping. "Public  
ownership of production and  
resources is essential. This  
economic system is incapable  
of meeting the needs of people.  
It has given us inflation and  
recession at the same time.  
Neither party has meaningful  
answers to those problems.  
We do."

Wald contends that the two-  
party system has eliminated  
a competitive "free-enter-

prise" economy and replaced  
it with monopoly capitalism.  
"The result is alienation and  
apathy, not enthusiasm and  
hope." With Socialism and a  
true economic and political  
democracy Wald feels those  
feelings would be reversed.

Peace and Freedom cam-  
paign goals include free health  
care, nationalization of key  
industries such as the energy  
sector, the dismantling of  
nuclear power plants, guaran-  
teed jobs for all, drastic cuts  
in "Pentagon Welfare" and  
child care for all who want it.

Many of those goals are  
shared by Omari Musa and the  
Socialist Workers Party.

(Continued on page 7)

**LOS ANGELES VANGUARD**  
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## FIGHT BACK

Prop. 14

# Farmworkers Charge Growers Lie

Bill Neff/UFW

California farm workers and their supporters, led by United Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez, have been contributing hard-won dollars and scarce free time to urge California voters to vote Yes on Proposition 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 need 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 seriously 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 ludicrous assertion that a vote for Proposition 14 will permit strangers to walk into your backyard at will.

That argument is nothing but a distortion obviously intended to mislead and scare voters. When the farm labor board started up, it held hearings on and then passed a limited "access rule" permitting

union organizers to talk with workers at the jobsite 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 preposterous and a typical antiunion 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 courts' thus 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. Those appeals have come not only from the Yes on 14 campaign but also from such public

officials as Los Angeles City Attorney Burt 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 also is arguing—deceptively—that Proposition 14 is 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 legislator friends to release funds for the board 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 balloting.

The main reason for Proposition 14 is as valid as ever. Without its guarantee of adequate funding of the board, there's nothing to ensure that

agribusiness and the legislature won't again cut off board funding when union elections more start going on.

California voters must vote "yes" on Prop 14 to show agribusiness can't be fooled by de propaganda. And UFW supporters must commit dollars and time to help farm workers win this election. The growers make money, but the Movement people. We need your help.

For further information the Farmworkers at 381-1

FIGHTBACK is a weekly for individuals and groups actively campaigning for change, or engaged in a form of citizen action. Opinions expressed are those of the author. Persons interested in joining their views expressed in FIGHTBACK section of the guard are urged to call the editor at 473-0931 or to write in 11556 Santa Monica Blvd. W. Los Angeles, Ca. 90025.



A farmworker and her son urge a potential Prop 14 supporter to register to vote and to vote "Yes on 14."

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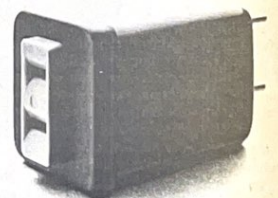
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# Prop. 13: Racing for the dogs

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 regulate: George 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 initial 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 at that time have to provide a selected site for track construction, already zoned and with an environ-

mental impact survey, a comprehensive plan for law enforcement and internal security, a traffic and parking control 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 businesspeople) 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 the voters at large, an eventuality as likely as Earl Butz 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 initiatives 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 3:25 and 3:30 AM on Easter Sunday, or require that all farmworkers' unions have memberships of at least 51% white Anglo-Saxon Protestants with annual income of over \$25,000.

The idea of writing your own rules to establish business (and to grant your monopoly to boot) could be a whole new sort of American democracy. As George Hardie himself has said, "The how things get done in this country."

## Rising high with Prop. 1

Carl Neiburger

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

Fact is nobody, not 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 the state 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:

—Make direct loans to developers of apartment projects intended for low and moderate income persons and the elderly. Such projects may be eligible for federal rent subsidies but could charge market rents of up to \$451 a month for a two-bedroom apartment, under federal guidelines.

—Loan money to cities to finance "neighborhood preservation programs" in which homeowners are given low-interest loans to improve their property. CHFA is now reviewing applications for about \$85 million for these programs including \$10.5 million sought by the city of Los Angeles.

—Finance homeowners directly who buy rehabilitated homes or who want to remodel. This program was originally given low priority by the agency but 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 voters in the cities concerned approve such projects through referendum.

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 snag to the apartment program is caused by cutbacks in the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "Section 8" rent subsidy program. Under Section 8, a tenant pays up to 25 per cent of his income in rent. The government pays the rest, up to established maximum "fair market

rentals."

In new housing projects approved for Section 8 subsidies, HUD agrees to subsidize a specific number of units for a specific number of years according to Vera Olson, HUD's Los Angeles office.

The problem, said Goeters, is that HUD wants to limit its subsidies to 20 years on apartment mortgages issued last 40 years. Thus, explained, there is no guarantee landlords will be able to find tenants who can pay rent for the second 20 years of the mortgage life.

Olson said it is HUD policy to only grant 20-year Section 8 commitments, adding it is an exception in giving some 40-year commitments this year. Goeters said he believes the federal government intends to phase out the program entirely, though he denies this, adding it is merely up to Congress.

In any case, said Goeters without Section 8, CHFA cannot provide housing for the elderly and would have to concern on "moderate-income" housing, mainly through mortgage assistance and home improvement programs.

Goeters said the agency is now considering financing \$100 million in loans for single family home mortgages. He explained, would allow families to buy houses below-market interest rates and would replace HUD program which has recently been cut back.

One ironic problem for CHFA is the question of housing for new apartment houses. Robert Joyce, director of Los Angeles City Community Analysis Bureau, said studies by his office indicate Angeles's housing supply is adequate; the only problem is many Angelenos cannot afford the rents.

Goeters said that in established cities such as Los Angeles, there is often greater need to rehabilitate existing housing than to build new structures.

Though the agency finance rehabilitation as new housing, he added can only consider proposals developers bring to it. So there have been primary for new development, explained. The only proposal received to date for a rehabilitation project in Los Angeles was rejected as unfeasible.

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Chief Davis' plans for a police-Hilton

# Propping up the cops with BBs

Ridenour  
Los Angeles taxpayers are  
being hit, but unlike other  
cities, this time the robbers  
are the police with Chief Ed  
Davis as the main holdup man,  
according to Louis McCammon,  
a person for the Peace and  
Justice party, one of the two  
organizations working against  
the police BB.  
The proposition would give  
the Los Angeles Police Depart-  
ment a tax override of \$154 mil-  
lion over seven years. If ap-  
proved Nov. 2, the Charter  
Commission would make  
the \$22 million a year  
equipment with 32 new  
vehicles including a \$54  
million, eight-story twin-tower  
police and office space  
adjacent to Parker Center, a  
\$10 million new police academy  
on Elysian Park, a \$2.5 million  
range in West Los  
Angeles, and nearly one million  
more for a parking lot  
in West Los Angeles' civic  
center.

The "holdup" would cost  
the owners and renters 20%  
more per \$100 assessed  
value for the first year down  
to 10% by the seventh year.  
The house assessed between  
\$100,000 and \$400,000, the  
annual tax increase would be  
\$11.64 and \$16.71.

There is no question the  
city council requested  
find tenants who can pay  
rent for the second year  
of the mortgage life.  
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to only grant 20-year  
commitments, adding  
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ment, plus a 15% inflationary  
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afford the rents.

Goeters said that  
lished cities such as  
Angelo, there is a  
greater need to re-  
existing housing than  
new structures.  
Through the agency  
finance rehabilitation  
as new housing, he  
can only consider  
developers bring in  
there have been  
for new develop-  
explained. The only  
received to date for a  
tation project in Los  
was rejected as un-

operating the Sheriff's academy  
at Biscailuz Center, that the  
city could save money and avoid  
conflict with citizens if city  
police, trained under a combi-  
nation Sheriff and LAPD pro-  
gram at the Sheriff's facility.

Currently over 1000 police  
from a score of city police  
departments are trained yearly  
at the county facility in addition  
to sheriff's recruits. An  
estimated \$400,000 would be  
required each year if the 300  
Los Angeles police recruits  
were to be trained there.  
As of now the city spends  
over \$3 million annually for  
the city's academy training  
staff of 200 and for repairs and  
maintenance of the site which  
does not even belong to the  
city. The private Police Athletic  
and Revolver Club owns the  
land and leases it to the city in  
exchange for upkeep of the  
club.

Grace Simons, president of  
the Citizens Committee to  
Save Elysian Park, said,  
"Besides the fact that the  
academy is unnecessary and a  
total waste of taxpayers' money,  
it is illegal for it to be there.  
That is an R-1 zone (single-  
family dwellings only) and the  
police buildings violate that  
law. Furthermore, the police  
training is incompatible with  
any Environmental Impact  
Report that would be taken.  
The shouting of obscenities, the  
urging of the trainers to the  
recruits to 'Kill, Kill,' do not  
belong in a park." Her commit-  
tee continues to fight this  
issue in the courts.

The city planning and zoning  
departments contend that the  
academy is exempt from EIR's  
under the California Environ-  
ment Quality Act since it was  
built there before the act  
(1935) was signed into law.  
However, City Planner James  
Crisp did say that the police  
department should conduct  
its own EIR since it plans to  
build a new facility thereby  
going beyond the "categorical  
exemption" granted when a  
small change is made for a  
facility built before the act  
(1946).

The police apparently have  
no such plans, according to  
Commander Pete Hagen, who  
contends that "We'd be negli-  
gent not to project building  
needs, for maximum classes  
and parking spaces" given the  
senate and is back again this  
year as the candidate "right of  
Hayakawa." Campaigning for  
increased military spending,  
the right to bear arms, and an  
end to abortion, McCoy feels  
the Democrats have both "sold  
out" the country to creeping  
socialism.

None of the alternative  
candidates on this year's ballot  
realistically feels that they will  
win. David Wald jokingly  
states that if elected, "I'd  
demand a recount." What they  
all are attempting to do is pro-  
vide a disenfranchised, apathetic  
or anti-establishment voter  
a third choice, a voice at the  
ballot box and an opportunity  
to build an opposition party to  
the reigning monarchs who  
offer them hundreds of  
thousands of other voters no  
choice.

constant need for policing of  
society.

Chief Davis answered Piper's  
report four years ago on the  
training 'issue' by saying,  
"Should these personnel  
(police recruits) be mixed in  
with recruits from other juris-  
dictions, their identity with the  
City as their employer would  
not only be weakened and their  
loyalty perhaps diluted, but  
also their confidence in the  
policies and practices of the  
City of Los Angeles and the  
Police Department could well  
be shaken ... recruit officers  
(so) exposed ... might easily ...  
arrive at an independent judg-  
ment to the effect that the  
policies and practices of the  
Sheriff's Department are  
superior to those of the Police  
Department."

Piper, at the time, character-  
ized Davis as "paranoid."

Peace and Freedom party  
spokesperson Lou McCammon  
feels that Davis is simply  
attempting to consolidate his  
power. "I think Davis wants  
a fiefdom, with the police  
academy as his indoctrination  
center, and he can pull it off  
because of his extensive  
dossiers on not only activists  
but on city officials including  
Tom Bradley, whose perform-  
ance is disgusting. He (Brad-  
ley) never stands up to the  
police."

Last year, under pressure,  
the police department allegedly  
destroyed two million dossiers  
on some 55,000 individuals  
and groups. It still maintains  
files on 2,500 persons and  
organizations.

McCammon claims that  
Davis sends a warning when-  
ever anyone balks at his empire  
building. He referred to the  
investigation Davis conducted  
on Bradley when he ran for  
mayor in 1972, the morals  
arrest of Deputy Mayor  
Maurice Weiner, and the  
investigation of Police Commis-  
sioner Sam Williams' wife for  
her affiliation with the moder-  
ate Women For group.

The police have set up the

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

Chief Administrative Analyst  
John Coombs, who helped  
write the 1972 CAO report,  
said that despite the inconsis-  
tencies in the growth projec-  
tions for the police department  
between the city council and  
police chief, the council voted  
to support the police proposal  
without any changes. (Only  
Lorenzen and Wilkenson  
voted no.) "It is non-existent  
logic; simply power politics. On  
any given day the police can  
get anything they want from the  
city council," Coombs said.

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

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