

Busting The Underground

25¢

LOS ANGELES VANGUARD

(Special Edition)

Los Angeles Vanguard

March 5, 1976

DWP Rates

Whose Bill Did You Pay This Month

Tom Hayden

... a plan for all reasons

Dead Man Lives

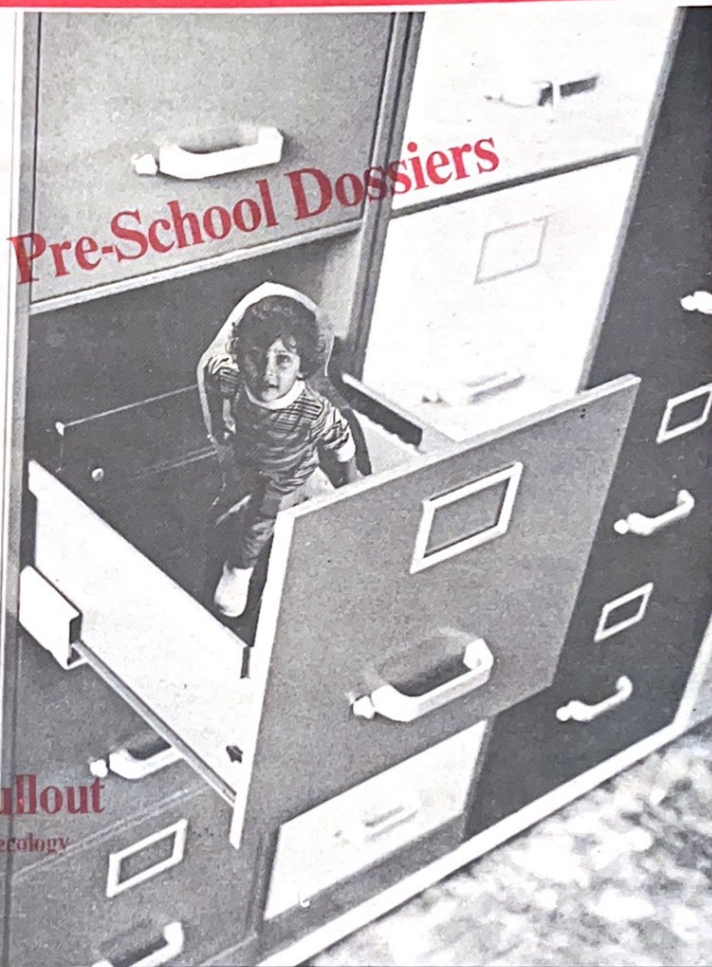
LA TV Media Watch

Helen Reddy

Community Guide Pullout

plus Food, Herbs, consumers beware, ecology

Pre-School Dossiers



Vanguard Editorial UNITY

The Los Angeles Vanguard is a weekly newspaper which informs and communicates with people who seek control of their lives through alternative means of political, economic, social and personal survival.

We recognize that this community is greatly fragmented today. We hope to provide a channel for unification through a dialogue bringing us in closer touch with one another. Vanguard readers will have new information enabling them to make intelligent decisions for their own actions and commitments.

The Vanguard will expose the propaganda that the arrogance of power uses to trample on the rights of people. We will probe consumer ripoffs, environmental degradations, unfair labor practices, attempts to limit personal and social freedoms, mass media and cultural brainwashing, and offer solutions.

We will provide extensive coverage of people's activities in a four-page pullout resources section. This calendar will be a compilation of places to go, things to do, and information on: social services, crises centers, free clinics, food conspiracies, child-care cooperatives, theater productions, multi-media performances, classes, seminars, meetings...

The Vanguard entertainment pages will be filled with reviews of both large and small productions. Our reviewers will be analytical not presumptuous. Quality features will be an integral part of the newspaper.

We will hold politicians and bureaucrats accountable for their conduct, reminding them that they are public servants. We will closely watch the actions of large corporations, utility companies, transportation and communication lines, the Los Angeles moguls and others in positions of economic power. To this end, we will engage in advocacy journalism and some good old-fashioned muckraking, launching our own investigative reports and carefully following up our readers' complaints. We will examine all forms of repression, from the blatant to the subtle. We won't be afraid to take stands when necessary.

The Vanguard is more than a newspaper, it is an organizing tool for community groups and individuals to fight back through citizen action. FIGHT BACK will be a regular feature of such efforts.

We also encourage communication from our readers. We will print responses and select readers' opinions for our editorial pages.

Recognizing that this is a cooperative effort, we will strive for the maximum degree of ownership and control by the people whose energies go into making it happen. Finally, we hope to return a measure of our success to the community by sponsoring cultural and community projects.

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Don't Watch What We Say

City Councilman Marvin Braude gave a splendid illustration recently of Nixon's old adage, "Don't watch what we say, watch what we do."

After inviting himself to a meeting of the Pacific Palisades Community Council to speak about what he was doing to solve the area's traffic problems, he gave a detailed list of little actions like Traffic and Off-Street Parking Commission had approved things like the installation of a parking sign or a walk light—but he failed to mention one matter residents would have considered controversial, a major change in the parking ordinance.

Under present rules, the city of Los Angeles is divided into 40 parking districts. Funds collected from meters and lots in a district may only be used for parking construction within that district. Braude's committee voted to reduce that number to 15 larger districts, coterminous with the councilmanic districts.

Thinking they could use the revenue to create more much-needed parking space, the Pacific Palisades recently got Braude's committee to approve a parking meter rate hike. Unknown to them though, the district change ordinance was going through the committee simultaneously, which will permit their increased revenues to be used in another part of town.

Not surprisingly, Braude made no mention of the very recent decision by his committee at the community council meeting.

We're watching though.

DL

Each week the Vanguard will try to bring you an example of hypocrisy, double-dealing or political huckstering on the part of elected or appointed officials. If readers have any tips, we invite you to send them in for the "Don't Watch What We Say" Column.

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Campaign 76:

Will Ted Kennedy Take The Plunge?



People and Power in Los Angeles

Whose Utility Bill Did You Pay This Month

By Tim Brick

from the direct control of the City Council in order to eliminate the influence of corrupt politicians. Decades of decreasing prices, however, shielded their operations from the public view and allowed the empire-builders, who have always played such an important role in the development of our city, to establish firm control of the DWP.

In recent years environmental concerns and the impact of rate hikes have finally lifted the veil on the DWP's activities. The Department has emerged as a key social and political force in the city with a billion dollar budget — bigger than the rest of the city departments combined. The commission now considers itself not as a regulatory agency but as the board of directors of the utility. Deprived of the staff necessary to independently analyze DWP

should be guaranteed to everyone at affordable prices. Above the Lifeline, prices would increase to meet the legitimate revenue requirements of the utility. The Lifeline would immediately alleviate the effect of spiraling increases on those least able to afford them or to cut back, but it would also write conservation into the rates by making the major users pay a fair share and giving them a clear signal to cut back.

Lifeline rates would help anyone who uses small amounts of utility service. Those who use more than the Lifeline amount would still benefit from the more progressive rate structure because it would diminish the need to expand expensive generating facilities and to consume irreplaceable resources. Everyone would pay the low

another water increase was turned back by consumer pressure and the vote of the City Council. Out of the struggle a consumer coalition called CAUSE — the Campaign Against Utility Service Exploitation — has formed to unite the efforts of 28 Southland organizations. The General Manager of the DWP resigned due to frustrations about the operations of the DWP and the charged atmosphere in which it now has to work. The president of the Board of Water & Power Commissioners also resigned, "for business reasons," after it was revealed he was working for a law firm representing Arco, a major DWP fuel supplier. A committee of the Commissioners held twelve meetings on conservation and rate structure. Three city agencies compiled a 100-plus page study on the effects of Lifeline rates. DWP

least, to make the DWP recognize its social responsibility and to implement the Lifeline resolutions they passed with such show. The Department's presentations raised the spectre of New York defaults if it didn't obtain the revenues necessary to meet bonding requirements. After two recent setbacks the commissioners undertook a systematic lobbying effort.

Mayor Bradley bought the DWP claims but tried to allay criticism by establishing a Blue Ribbon Committee to study the rate reform which had already been the subject of extensive study and Council resolutions. CAUSE activists tagged that plan the "Red Tape Committee." We were particularly upset by two recent appointments made by Bradley with no public input. One of the new Commissioners was the leader of the San Fernando Valley Industrial Association. It was for denouncing these appointments that an overzealous policeman dragged me from the Council Chambers before TV cameras on the day the increases passed.

Most Councilpeople criticized the rate structure and lamented the burden of inflation, but few spoke out against the increases this time. David Cunningham insisted on a Lifeline for all poor people and charged the Council with failing to implement its own decisions and exercise its responsibility to run the DWP for the benefit of all Los Angeles residents. Ernardi Bernardi raised substantial and unanswered objections to the DWP electric growth projections and to the extent and financing of the capital program which will amount to over a billion dollars in the next few years.

DWP Buys Votes

The DWP's budget obviously gives them enormous ability to influence Councilpeople, but few expected the crassness of the deal Peggy Stevenson made that day on the Council floor. Her husband had framed the first Lifeline resolution before he died and had been known as a strong critic of the DWP. Now Councilperson Stevenson asked whether the Lifeline resolutions had been framed for all residential consumers or just for the indigent. A Councilperson who began his political career by sweeping floors for the DWP, Gilbert Lindsay, rose to claim that they had been designed for aiding only poor people and senior citizens. Ernardi Bernardi exposed Lindsay's lie by reading the three resolutions. Stevenson, apparently accustomed to such tactics, again took the floor to ask whether the water increase would cover the funds necessary to complete the Silverlake dam, a sensitive issue in her district. When she was assured by DWP officials that it would, she cast her vote for the increases.

It was Joel Wachs, the new head of the Water & Power Committee of the Council, who engineered the compromise that led to the passage of the increases. Wachs has spoken for years of the need for rate overhaul and reform of the DWP. Two months previously he had publicly called for a moratorium on rate increases until the rate structure was reversed. He claimed to the end that he

Look for a "Fight Back" column in this space each week.



programs, it serves as a rubber stamp for the DWP management. The DWP officers in turn are the highest paid city officials with 10 executives making more than the governor of this state. The City Council which passes on only rate increases and appointments lacks a basic understanding of its operations and implications. The DWP's pattern of bureaucratic ineptitude and pro-big business mechanisms are finally being uncovered.

A storm of protest has prompted these revelations. That movement first emerged as a public force in December of 1974 when an unusual assortment of senior citizens and consumer groups came before the City Council to denounce a DWP water rate hike. The Council at that time turned back the DWP 10% increase and instead instructed it to construct a Lifeline plan to reform the rate structure.

Lifeline, Yes or No

The Lifeline is a proposal developed by consumer groups all over the country. It is based on the need for conservation and the belief that in an urban society, basic utility service is a right that

Lifeline price for the basic amounts they use and somewhat higher rates for extra use. Most people's bills would go down.

Utilities have traditionally used what they call the declining block schedule for pricing. This system charges the most for the small blocks of basic consumption and less per unit for the bigger blocks of use. Arco Towers, for instance, consumes as much energy as 6,500 single family homes housing some 25,000 people in our city, yet it obtains its electricity at less than half the price the residents pay. The utilities have justified this approach by saying that it was based on their cost of providing service to and within various classes of consumers, but the truth is that this schedule was designed to foster growth by offering cheap prices to big users. The Lifeline aims at turning the blocks around and ending the subsidies on growth.

Since the sharp confrontations of more than a year ago, a growing number of public officials, concerned residents and organizations have turned their attention to the DWP. The Council has passed two other Lifeline resolutions. In June

and City Council meetings became dramatic confrontations with a wide range of consumers attacking the declining block pricing system. In November the DWP finally obtained the whopping increases it sought — 15% for water and up to 38% for electricity in the next year.

So, despite all this activity two years after the Energy Crisis which threatened to strangle this city, we are still stuck with a pricing structure that penalizes conservation and small users and rewards growth and massive consumption. The large blocks for big users are so low-priced that major commercial and industrial users have no financial incentives to reorganize for greater energy efficiency. And a city administration that came to power because it claimed to represent the interests of ordinary people has failed to check the DWP's pro-big business mentality and to right this gross injustice.

The political maneuvering behind the most recent increases indicates clearly the power of the DWP. Since the approval of rate increases is the Council's basic check on the DWP, everyone realized that this was probably the only opportunity for a year, at

The Herrera family lives in a simple home in the Harbor area. Last winter they hit on particularly hard times. First they couldn't afford to pay their Department of Water & Power bill so their service was cut off. Then Ms. Herrera was asked up by the police for supplying the medicine necessary to treat her child's diaper rash. One evening shortly thereafter Manuel Herrera put the two children to sleep. Since he had to go to the store for a few minutes he left a candle burning in order not to frighten the children if they awoke while he was gone. When he returned 20 minutes later the house was on fire. The two children died. Today Manuel Herrera is being treated with the charge of manslaughter. But it was the Department of Water & Power that killed the plug.

Utilities are a necessity for urban living. Who can get by without water, power, and gas in their home, yet the soaring prices of recent years threaten to make it impossible for thousands of Angelenos to obtain these basic needs.

It is not just the Herrera family who knows this. It is thousands of seniors who have cut back their savings as far as possible only to watch their bills climb still farther. It is poor people who are now paying 15%, and more, of their income for the price of energy. It is fixed income residents who have to find the money for utility hikes from some other area of the already overstretched budget. It is working families caught in the same trap.

The soaring water and power bills of the last few years are no secret. Every two months we receive shocking reminders in the mail. In Los Angeles the average residential user's electric bill climbed from \$7.40 per month in 1970 to \$17.58 by the end of 1975 — a 138% increase. And yet in the last three years use has fallen back. So throughout our city and our country, angry consumers are asking: "Why are our bills soaring when we've cut back in consumption?" The point was driven home especially during the Emergency Energy Curtailment period of late 1973 and early 1974. Residential users during that time cut back 17%, and yet the DWP increased its bills to household users by 18%. In the last year despite another overall reduction, electric revenues in Los Angeles were up 7% more.

The cause of this dilemma is just as shocking as the bills: 1) Utilities — like the DWP — charge higher rates for the small, basic units of usage, and 2) Utilities have to expand their revenues regardless of cuts in consumption if they are to pay for the mammoth projects they have planned for the future. In our city the problem is compounded by the heavy reliance of our Department of Water and Power on expensive, polluting fuel oil.

Here in Los Angeles the strained logic of utilities becomes all the more bewildering because the Department of Water & Power is directly owned by the residents of this city. The LADWP was established in 1925, in an era of progressive reform, to remove utility service from the hands of the "predatory" profit-oriented or investor-owned utilities. A sense of social responsibility was written into the charter and profits were taken out of the business. The utilities commission was removed

PRE-SCHOOL DOSSIERS IN LOS ANGELES

By Dave Lindorff

Government spying on Americans has not ended despite Watergate exposes and official promises, in fact, it may have just begun on all Los Angeles kindergarten kids.

The first batch of medical and psychological dossiers on the pre-school children in Los Angeles is on file in Sacramento, and plenty more are on the way. By next September, the state will have potentially damaging files on every child entering first grade, not only in Los Angeles but throughout the state.

The program under which these files are being compiled is innocently called the Child Health and Disabilities Prevention Act — California's version of a Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) mandated program called Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT).

The goal of the program, both nationally and statewide, is to develop medical and psychological profiles on every child, ostensibly to make sure that potential medical and emotional problems are detected early and treated.

Perhaps the best indication of the motives of the program, which despite its name makes no provision for treatment of detected problems, is that it is one of the few "Great Society" programs to survive the Nixon administration. The Nixon crew, of course, while not known for its desire to help the poor, did have a fondness for collecting intelligence files on as many people as possible. Not surprisingly, EPSDT grew in scope under Nixon.

The target population of EPSDT and its California version, CHDP, is the poor, and it is estimated that there are now three-million files on pre-schoolers from poverty families in HEW and state data banks.

Dr. Edward Opton, chairman of the American Psychological Association, has termed the EPSDT program "a blueprint for the wholesale invasion of privacy and sociopolitical control of welfare families." And in California, the program is being extended to include all children, rich or poor.

The American Civil Liberties Union is investigating the program for possible violations of the right to privacy based on information provided by the *Los Angeles Vanguard*.

Fred Okrand, legal director for the ACLU of Southern California, said, "My personal feeling is that if you start gathering this kind of emotional data on children and putting it in files, it can get into the wrong hands and become a self-fulfilling prophecy. There is a danger any time you start gathering information for the sake of gathering information."

Okrand said it appeared to him that the screening program was not doing an adequate job of informing parents of their and their children's rights to privacy. He noted that the program does not inform parents of their right to review the files and make corrections. It doesn't even inform them that they don't have to give their social security number. Okrand said this was a clear violation of federal law.

"There is a heavy burden on the agency to demonstrate any need for these files," Okrand said. "If the only justification is to keep track of the kids, they shouldn't be compiling them."

Just as the FBI uses local police departments for much of its intelligence work, HEW is running the EPSDT program mainly through state agencies. Each state has been required to set up its own program for implementing EPSDT, but the basic pattern has been the same everywhere. Children from Medicaid families — or in states like California, from families with incomes of less than 200 percent of the poverty income level — are lured into the program by the offer of "free medical screening programs." They are not informed about the intelligence and psychological screening portions. Frequently, as in California, they are told incorrectly that the screening is mandatory, and are not advised that in most cases treatment will be their own responsibility.

There are two ways the screening and data collection are conducted in California. One is by private physicians, who are generously reimbursed by the state. The other is by local health department staffs.

Data on each child, obtained through tests, a physical, and interviews with parents or guardian, is placed on file with the local health department unit, the state health department, and sometimes HEW itself. In some states, the information can also find its way into state departments of education and welfare. As one member of the CHDP program in California said, "Once you have data in a computer, it can wind up anywhere."

CHDP is administered by the State Department of Health in the local school districts. It took until May of last year to get the program going, but nearly 40,000 pre-schoolers statewide were screened and put on files by the end of last June. The program has been picking up speed steadily since then, and the figure is now in the hundreds of thousands.

There are several ways the screening can result in potentially damaging information on children getting into the public domain.

Most serious of these is the "developmental" test. California elected to use the Denver Developmental Screening Test. Here is what Michael Bastone, a test



Photo by MARK JONES

evaluator at UCLA's Center for the Study of Evaluation had to say about it:

"The Denver test is intended for children between the ages of two and six. It has four sections: two are for coordination, one for intelligence, and one for behavior and emotional condition. Basically, the younger a child is, the less accurate the test, since children are so changeable."

"It is an individually administered test. That is, one person, say the doctor, administers it to one child at a time. There are many kinds of personality tests, and they all have the same problems. They can all be criticized for lack of reliability and general validity."

"That is, the same child might test differently on two different days, and two children with different cultural backgrounds might test differently for that reason alone. Besides, there is the ethical question of whether it is even right to label a person."

"Finally, I always understood that this kind of testing was supposed to be done on an anonymous basis. I don't think anything but gross statistics on groups should be required by any agency. The government should not have such information on individuals. It is definitely a civil liberties-privacy question."

The state and HEW don't see it that way. Apparently California children are relatively "lucky." The Michigan Free Press in Ann Arbor reports that files in that state on day-care age children are sent directly to HEW in Washington, D.C. At least in California, the health department purports to be jealous about its right to exclusive use of and control over such personal data — they won't even let the state department of education see the reports, despite considerable pressure. They rightly fear that the files would be used to "track" students into certain programs based upon their supposed "intelligence." Nor does the CHDP office give identifiable records to HEW at this point. HEW only gets general statistics, according to Ralph Taylor, administrator of the L.A. County CHDP office.

But the current protection of records is only secure because of the views of individuals in power. A future Reagan might have different ideas about privacy.

Even now, Taylor expressed some concern about the health department's files. He said that already some identifiable data on Medi-Cal children gets in the hands of welfare officials "so Medi-Cal officials will know how much to reimburse private physicians for." That already makes two sets of files.

Taylor said, "Anytime you've got large amounts of data on large numbers of people, you have to worry about what will happen to it. Right now, the data supposedly cannot be released from the health department without parental consent, and there are other state laws on confidentiality, but that isn't enough. Anytime you have someone identified like this, information can be used to his detriment. I personally think identifying information shouldn't be included, but then, HEW doesn't want my advice!"

Taylor said that protests against the Denver Test by the Network Against Psychiatric Assault (NAPA), a San Francisco organization, and some other groups, "will probably bring a halt soon to use of the Denver Test itself." But he added, "I've heard that the developmental testing will be continued but in a less formal fashion. It could just be included by the examining physician in the history and physical portion of the test." This could even be worse, since each physician regardless of qualifications would use his or her own criteria to judge a patient's state of "development." There would be no standard at all.

Sheila Cadman, CHDP administrator for the Los Angeles region, confirmed this. "We are in the process of temporarily removing the developmental test from the program this year," she said, "so we can study it. In the meantime, the examiners are being told to look for evidence of emotional status on their own."

Taylor said the developmental test itself was not the only way damaging psychological information becomes part of a child's permanent record.

Is Big Brother Becoming Big Daddy?

NEW TARGET — The latest target of information gathering by government is pre-school children. Dossiers on thousands of Los Angeles five year olds are now in state Health and Welfare Department file drawers in Sacramento.

The federal EPSDT guidelines say to screen for "emotional and physical status," he said, "and these come up in the history part of the screening process too."

"For instance, say a child was overly aggressive or something, and his parents had him treated by a psychiatrist at age four. Then, when he is screened at age 5, the doctor or nurse might ask about that and include it in the child's medical history." They might also be predisposed to look for signs of the alleged disorder in the child, even if they aren't trained as psychologists.

As of now, because of lack of funds, trained staff, and private physicians asking to be certified to participate in the state-funded program, the screening process in California is primarily done at the first grade entry level.

The state has ruled that all children must be screened and turn in a "Certification for School Entry," or present a signed waiver from parent or guardian before they may enter first grade, after July 1 of this year.

Parents of middle class children, who probably have had their children checked up regularly (minus the developmental testing) might well sign the waiver to save time, but poorer families are likely to "take advantage" of the program.

In many cases, it is the first physical children have had, according to state statistics.

After all, the idea of free screening isn't bad in itself. It includes a dental exam, eye and ear tests, blood tests including syphilis, T.B., anemia and lead poisoning where called for, inoculations, etc. What parent would turn that down? And on top of every page the parent sees written the word "CONFIDENTIAL."

Reassuring, but how many parents look down to the little space that says "behavior, emotional status" on the "Confidential Screening/Billing Report" that goes to medical files? And how many read the fine print at the bottom of the carbon copies. These read, "Community CHDP Program Copy," and "Send completed form to State Department of Health."

If that medical history were "confidential," why would it need such identifying information as name, Medi-Cal I.D. number, CHDP I.D. number (!), sex, patient's address, patient's social security number, ethnic origin, name of parent or guardian, address of parent or guardian, and wage earner's social security number?

If the Los Angeles CHDP program is any example, parents are being encouraged to have their children screened and yet are not being told about the fate of the forms and the existence of the developmental test.

A letter sent to all parents of kindergarten children in the city says, "Dear Parents, a new California law requires that all children prior to entry into first grade must have had a health screening within the past year. The check-up consists of a health history, physical examination, including vision and hearing screening, necessary immunizations, a test for anemia, a urine test and tuberculosis skin test." No mention of the developmental test.

It goes on, "Parents may sign a written waiver if they do not want their child to receive these health screening services from either their personal physician or school health services staff. However, we strongly encourage all parents to have their children examined." The "must have" at the start of the letter is obviously misleading.

The parents are then asked to sign a consent form to "authorize the release of the results of the screening to the California State Health Department and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services."

In case the developmental test results and the history are not bad enough, CHDP has decided it needs specific information about problems which show up in screening. Three lines are provided for describing "Referred Problems." Enough to write a lot of damaging information.

The stated reason for this is that the state and county CHDP offices want to make sure the parents take the child to the referral for further diagnosis and treatment if necessary. Why the information has to go automatically to the state level is not explained. Even if this were just to provide continuity in case a family moves, why couldn't the local CHDP office just forward those specific files to the family's new local school district?

Some local officials in childhood education express concern about the state files. Doshia Monroe, in charge of the L.A. Unified School District's pre-kindergarten program, said, "I am concerned about files being kept at the state level. In my position, I wouldn't know why they need them at

the state level, but I don't like it."

She said that her program also tests children's developmental status, using a different test, called the Betty Caldwell Test. "But that stays with us. It is not sent to the state except in the form of unidentifiable group statistics," she said.

"If the state came to me and asked for the individual tests, I'd complain about it and would not just let them have them."

Additional forms are provided for the doctor(s) a child is referred to. The referral doctors or "shrinks" also get three lines to describe their diagnosis, and an additional space to check whether the "effect of the diagnosed condition" is considered to be "insignificant, mild, moderate, moderately severe, or severe."

Considerable space is also provided for the new examiner to describe "any conditions revealed in your examination not suspected as a result of screening." All this is added to state files.

Since state funds are lacking, and poor people have to wait so long to get service in county medical facilities, it can be assumed (and the state assumes this by its very argument for keeping the files) that many poor parents only learn about their children's alleged "problems," but do not get treatment. Treatment is not provided by EPSDT, even though that is what the last initial stands for. So in many cases the record stands blemished in the state computer banks.

And there is no provision to erase the file, even if treatment is provided and the problem solved.

Caroline Emanuel is in charge of the CHDP files at the state health department in Sacramento. She is the department's claims analyst.

Emanuel said the health department gets all copies of the screening forms and keeps several in different files. "We haven't computerized them yet," she said, "but we will eventually."

She said the files were needed both as a check on bills submitted by private physicians and "to make sure parents

are taking their children to referrals."

She had no explanation of why names and complete reports had to be submitted just for billing verification.

Most significantly, she said she had no knowledge of any guidelines for destroying the files after a specified length of time. "I do know we'd have to keep them for a number of years," she said. She said the lack of such guidelines was "because we've only been in operation for a little while."

Emanuel did insist that HEW "cannot get any of our files." "No other department or agency gets any copies of the screening results," she asserted.

When more funds are forthcoming, the first priority is not to provide much-needed free treatment. Rather, it is to expand the screening process to cover children in poverty families "from birth to age 21." And after that, it is to provide free screening to all children, rich and poor, from birth to 21.

Bigger files is the name of the game.

Moreover, HEW has an interest in gaining copies of the individual records. After all, the same argument can be used by HEW that the state uses for maintaining files. What if the child's family moves to another state? In the interest of maintaining continuity, his or her records should be retained at the federal level, right?

The intelligence addict's credo is "If there is information available, put it in dossiers."

The workers in the CHDP and the parent EPSDT programs that many children in America's forty-million poverty families are being helped by these programs.

(In California alone, 70 percent of children screened from poverty families had one referral. Thirty percent had two or more. Of course, only a fraction of these received treatment, but for them it was a blessing. Instead of winding up in "special education classes", many just got their glasses, or had their ears cleaned, and were able to do fine in school.)

But the sacrifice of the confidentiality of medical records for this small gain is not worth it. The potential damage is too great.



Photo by MURR JONES