

SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE

50¢

VOL. V NO. 5



... FORGE SIMPLE WORDS
THAT EVEN THE CHILDREN CAN
UNDERSTAND
WORDS WHICH WILL ENTER
EVERY HOUSE
LIKE THE WIND
AND FALL,
LIKE RED HOT EMBERS
ON OUR PEOPLE'S SOULS.

JORGE REBELO
FRELIMO

BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS
FOR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTION · SESPA · SEPT. 1973

... FORGE BETTER WORDS

SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE

With this issue *Science for the People* (*SftP*) begins its fourth year of publication. It is fitting at this time to review our progress over the past several years, to report on reorganizational efforts under way, and to look to possibilities for the future.

While the last couple years have witnessed an apparent decline in political activism and a near standstill within various segments of the movement, SESPA/*SftP* has remained quite healthy. Our organization has grown in numbers; but much more importantly, there has been a positive shift in its political orientation, a shift from a predominantly anti-war orientation to a more long-term anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist one. The magazine has been an important element in this shift. Its articles have brought out the systemic nature of the misuse of science and technology and have sought to challenge the dominant ideology of science and of our society.

Since its inception in August in 1970, *SftP* has appeared regularly and dependably every two months. The time and energy required for this effort has come from the members of the editorial collectives that have been responsible for the different issues of the magazine. In the process of putting out a magazine, the editorial collectives have not only learned the technical skills involved, but have increased their own political understanding and their ability to work collectively.

During the past few years, *SftP* has been the main voice of dissidence within the scientific and technical work force. For those who have felt isolated and estranged from the established practice of science and technology, it has provided a voice for their alienation and an organ for their political development. The magazine has in turn benefitted from their support, in the form of articles, criticisms, and help in distribution.

In spite of its successes (or because of them), many people feel that *SftP* has not realized its full potential. It reaches only a minute fraction of the million and a half scientists and engineers in this country (add in the technicians, students, and teachers who are not counted). Many articles lack high-quality analysis and the contents vary sporadically. Also, its unclear relationship to SESPA/*SftP* has cost it much in needed political support.

Last spring, discussion of these problems began within the Bagholders.* The growth of the magazine (to a regular 48 pages) had made the task of coordinating the

production and distribution of the magazine more difficult. To help alleviate this problem, Boston Area SESPA/*SftP*, upon request of the Bagholders, decided to hire a coordinator to help the Bagholders carry out their responsibilities. The coordinator was guaranteed movement salary (subsistence), to be paid out of general funds** for six months (by which time increased sales and subscriptions of the magazine were to provide the money).

But more importantly, a critical assessment was begun of the whole mechanism involved in the production of the magazine. The existing structure, in which an editorial collective takes the responsibility for editing and putting out an issue of the magazine and then becomes part of the Bagholders for a year, had certain advantages: it encouraged new people's creativity and freshness, provided the opportunity for many people to learn the political and production aspects of creating a magazine, prevented the over-centralization of editorial responsibility, and spread the task of producing the magazine over a large number of people in, say, the course of a year. But it had shortcomings, too. It was difficult for new people to participate in and learn about the magazine without first joining an editorial collective, the editorial collective had too few resources to draw on, considering the magnitude of its job, and the Bagholders had not provided sufficient support, coordination, and guidance.

The Bagholders thought it important to preserve the positive aspects of continually changing the editorial collectives while attempting to open up activities relating to the magazine to a wider constituency. We looked for a process which could provide support to the editorial collectives, enable people to learn about and participate in the magazine on a less than full basis, delineate better the responsibilities for overall coordination, and planning for the magazine's development, and help in the integration of new people into the organization through their contribution to and discussion of the magazine.

What has grown out of these considerations is a reorganizational plan which eliminates the Bagholders as such and replaces it with a combination of two new groups:

Magazine Support Group(s)—composed of all those who wish to learn about and contribute to the production of the magazine. The group(s) will help to 1) generate or solicit new articles and open up new areas of discussion, 2) contribute to regular magazine features, 3) pro-

*The group composed of the past year's editorial collectives and responsible for choosing editorial collectives, maintaining continuity, and making major political decisions about the magazine.

** General funds include money from *SftP* subscriptions, magazine sales (book stores, meetings, distributors), other literature sales, and donations to the organization.

vide help in production and distribution of the magazine, and 4) introduce new people to the magazine and the organization.

Magazine Coordinating Committee (mc²)—a more energetic coordinating committee (than the Bagholders) composed of those people who have served on editorial collectives who are willing to take responsibility for 1) long range planning and direction of the magazine, 2) coordination and continuity of production, 3) coordination of efforts to increase distribution of the magazine, and 4) selection of editorial collectives from the magazine support group(s).

Thus the mc², with the help of the paid coordinator, has primary responsibility for the magazine. It will set up magazine support groups which are easy for new people to join and from which it will ultimately select editorial collectives. Each editorial collective, in turn, will draw on the work of the long-standing magazine support groups.

The Bagholders, in instituting this reorganizational plan, has taken the initiative to make a better magazine by involving more people in the process. This is a political decision. It is based on our perception of the changing needs of SESP/SA/SftP and motivated by our conviction that to be most effective as a political instrument the magazine must be directly accountable to the entire organization. However, since no mechanism exists for such accountability at the present time, we are trying to take these initiatives in a responsive way.

We find ourselves now in a transitional period between the old and the new structures. We are trying to establish the mc² on a firm footing as we set up the magazine support group(s). The latter provides us with the opportunity to plan future issues of *SftP* by specifying a theme and working to write or solicit material for it long in advance. Several topical areas have been proposed; they include among them professionalism, the response to alienation by scientific and technical workers, a forum on strategy for political actions at scientific meetings, the philosophy and methodology of science, and the energy problem [see pages 30 and 31].

This reorganization will also facilitate a more active role for groups or chapters outside of Boston. We hope they will form and participate in support groups, i.e., in providing or organizing material for the magazine, and eventually will be able to take on editorial and production responsibilities.

Editorial Policies and Principles

The first task undertaken by the new mc² has been to outline the editorial policies of *SftP*. These are a clarification and reaffirmation of past editorial practice:

1. The magazine coordinating committee should be accountable to the organization as a whole, responsible for making the magazine an instrument for the development of political understanding and the articulation of political positions by the organization. While we realize that there now exists no national structure of the kind necessary

for this to be a reality, we want to organize the magazine in such a way as to encourage the formation of such and be compatible with it.

2. It is important that editorial collectives review and criticize articles. Therefore, the editorial collectives should represent a diversity of background and experience, assuring a comprehensive critical perspective; and editorial collectives should not write their own articles, either as individuals or as a whole. It has been found in the past that open political criticism is difficult when collectives or individuals on the collectives contribute articles for the issue they are editing. Under exceptional circumstances, however, exceptions to this general policy could be decided upon by the mc².



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3. It is important to encourage groups to produce, solicit, or otherwise generate articles or materials for the magazine. In this regard, we must provide a situation in which people can expect their work to be taken seriously, i.e., discussed and published without heavy-handed editing or censorship (but not necessarily without commentary). For this to be the case, a close working relationship must be established between such groups and those who are responsible for the magazine. This would take the form of requesting outlines for proposed articles, the early circulation of first drafts, etc.

Focus and Direction of SftP

Another task taken on by the newly-constituted mc² is that of coming up with a proposal for the magazine's objectives and orientation over the next year or so. To do this, of course, will require the contribution of everyone in SESPA/SftP.

What should be the overall political purpose and function of *SftP*?

To whom should the magazine be directed?

These questions have no answer except within the framework of a more comprehensive political perspective. If we don't know what our organization should be doing, and why, on the basis of some broad political strategy—a strategy that takes into account our function as a scientific and technical work force—then our actions will at best be random, at worst counterproductive.

The need for the formulation of a clearer political perspective has been expressed several times by many people in the last several issues of *SftP*. We feel this expression has been the result of our organization's political development: we now understand the systemic nature of oppression, repression, and exploitation, and the thorough role that science and technology play, materially and ideologically. The question now is, what can we do about it?

For some, this is the most pressing problem of our organization—the development of an analysis that includes a strategic conception of how revolutionary change can come about, and what our unique tasks in that struggle are. Should the development of that analysis be taken as an urgent task of the magazine?

Others agree with the importance of our formulating a clearer political strategy, but argue that *SftP* is not the appropriate instrument for this task—that the magazine should be an educational tool directed to those who are not already outraged and disillusioned with the system,

that it should appeal to a much broader stratum of science and technology-related workers and intellectuals.

Others, not necessarily rejecting the goals of revolutionary change, see the major tasks at hand to be learning how to develop a consistent radical practice within existing institutions, e.g., in education, industry, and research.

These different conceptions of the magazine may even be compatible.

We of the mc² want to encourage as many of the members, groups, and chapters as possible to address themselves to these questions. Limited by our present energy and understanding, the mc² depends upon everybody's fullest participation to insure our moving in the best direction.

Please write.

About this Issue

The summer took its toll on this issue of the magazine. Wrapped up in the melodrama of Watergate, or weakened from the effects of spiraling food prices, or stranded at some empty gas pump, our friends neglected to send the material we depended upon to put together this issue. And probably for the same reasons (plus summer vacations) we also had trouble assembling an editorial collective. So the mc² filled the void by becoming the major part of a collective, and we've put out a somewhat shorter than usual magazine. You'll find in this issue a report of actions at the imperial science meeting in Mexico and a discussion of a London conference on technical aid to Indochina. We've printed some great letters and, for the first time ever, a cumulative index for *Science for the People*.

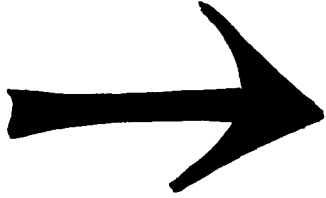
But we hope you give most thought and consideration to the questions raised in these first few pages of the magazine, including those raised in the call for position papers for the upcoming northeast regional conference.



EDITORIAL PRACTICE

Each issue of *Science for the People* is prepared by a collective, assembled from volunteers by a committee made up of the collectives of the past calendar year. A collective carries out all editorial, production, and distribution functions for one issue. The following is a distillation of the actual practice of the past collectives. **Due dates:** Articles received by the first week of an odd-numbered month can generally be considered for the magazine to be issued on the 15th of the next month. **Form:** One of the ways you can help is to submit double-spaced typewritten manuscripts with ample margins. If you can send six copies, that helps even more. One of the few founding principles of *SESPA* is that articles must be signed (a pseudonym is acceptable). **Criteria for acceptance:** *SESPA Newsletter*, predecessor to *Science for the People*, was pledged to print everything submitted. It is no longer feasible to continue this policy, although the practice thus far has been to print all articles descriptive of *SESPA/Science for the People* activities. Considerably more discrimination is applied to analytical articles. These are expected to reflect the general political outlook of *Science for the People*. All articles are judged on the basis of length, style, subject and content. **Editorial Procedure:** The content of each issue is determined by unanimous consent of the collective. Where extensive rewriting of an article is required, the preference of the collective is to discuss the changes with the author. If this is not practical, reasons for rejection are sent to the author. An attempt is made to convey suggestions for improvement. If an article is late or excluded for lack of space, or if it has non-unanimous support, it is generally passed on to the next collective. **Editorial statements:** Unsigned articles are statements of the editorial collective. **Opportunities for participation:** Volunteers for editorial collectives should be aware that each issue requires a substantial contribution of time and energy for an eight-week period. Help is always appreciated and provides an opportunity for the helper to learn, and for the collective to get to know a prospective member. There are presently plans to move the magazine production to other cities. This will increase the opportunity for participation. For legal purposes *Science for the People* has become incorporated.

INSIDE



2	FORGING BETTER WORDS— <i>SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE</i>
6	LETTERS
10	ACTIONS AT IMPERIAL SCIENCE MEETING IN MEXICO
24	TECHNICAL AID TO INDOCHINA
30	FUTURE ISSUES
32	3 YEAR INDEX
34	CHAPTER REPORTS

CALL FOR POSITION PAPERS FOR SESPA/SftP REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This letter is to announce a northeast regional SESPA/SftP conference now being planned and to invite all chapters, groups, and people in SESPA/SftP to submit position papers for discussion. In both the midwest and the west coast regions conferences have already been held or called. We in the New York SESPA/SftP and the Boston area SESPA/SftP Steering Committee have volunteered to help organize this conference.

SESPA/SftP has undergone a continuous growth from an anti-war to a predominantly anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist position. Throughout this development the organization has consisted of autonomous local chapters, lacking a unified program. Recent issues of the magazine suggest that a growing fraction of the membership believes that the time has come for SESPA/SftP to articulate a clearer political position and work toward developing programs and organizational forms consistent with that position. We hope that the regional conference will begin the process of working out and clarifying SESPA/SftP politics.

Such questions as

- “We see the dehumanization and alienation of people as part of a social order of exploitation, racism, sexism, and war.”* What changes must take place in our society? By what process will they come about?
- What can be the role of scientific and technical workers in this process? What social and economic function do these workers play in present society, and what potential do they have for bringing about change?

are fundamental to the primary issue of the conference: Whither SESPA/SftP?

This includes:

- What should be the political perspective of SESPA/SftP?
- What strategy, tactics, and program best express this perspective?
- What organizational form is coherent with and helps implement these goals?
- What style of political work (role of internal criticism, leadership, collective responsibility, etc.) is appropriate?

We anticipate that the conference will revolve around plenary sessions supplemented by smaller workshop discussion groups. We hope that the conference will occur late in October somewhere in the vicinity of New York City. The success of the conference depends in large part upon people and groups developing position papers on these questions (or those they think are more compelling). Since these papers must be duplicated and sent to participants, please send them by October 1 to Jim Landen, 3 Ingersoll, Schenectady, New York, 12305.

* From the Science for the People introductory flyer.

For further information contact the New York or Boston groups (addresses pg. 35).

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EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE: Sara Miller and the *SftP* Magazine Coordinating Committee (Britta Fischer, Herb Fox, Susan Graesser, Bob Park, Joe Passafiume, Ginny Pierce, Al Weinrub).

PICTURE CREDITS:

Tricontinental: cover, pgs. 3 & 20
Posters on pgs. 11, 15, & 18 are from the Mexican student left

Special thanks to Esther John for a week of typesetting.

LETTERS

Dear SESPA,

I just finished reading your May 1973 [Vol. V, No. 3] issue of *Science for the People*. I thought the critical discussion in this issue was very good and convinced me to subscribe. I had seen issues in the past, but felt SESPA was headed in a confused, moralistic, counter-culture direction. I strongly feel the dialogue evident in the May issue should continue and be intensified.

I believe it is extremely important for SESPA and other organizations to provide an analysis of the "energy crisis" for the average working person. Such an analysis could assist the radicalization of large numbers of people. I would recommend a Task Force on this problem if one does not exist at this time. The analysis should go beyond the gluttonous use of energy by the U.S.A., present a clear explanation of the profits and hidden political forces involved, and suggest possible organizational responses.

Two of the facts that should be included in such an analysis are (a) "only 3% of the oil consumed in the U.S. is from the Middle East..." (*Business Week*, September 26, 1970) and

(b) U.S. profits in 1 year alone (1970) from Middle East oil investments were \$1.206 billion (or 73%) on long term direct investments of only \$1.645 billion. (*U.S. Statistical Abstract*, 1972, p. 767)

The May issue contained an article on p. 40 about a Science Teacher Conference in Boston on March 10 that contained a workshop on the "Energy Crisis and World Resources". The article mentioned that materials were distributed including a package of pertinent facts and an annotated bibliography. Please send me these materials and any others available, e.g., past issues of *Science for the People* with articles on the energy crisis, outline for energy-related courses.

I enclose \$3.00 for a subscription. (I am currently unemployed.) Please start my subscription with the June 1973 issue.

Comradely yours,
E. W.

Plans are underway for an issue of the magazine dealing with the energy problem. See page 30 for an announcement which calls for contributions.

Comrades:

An apology is due for being so slow in writing. I have been busy but the real problem was my lack of discipline. The ten copies of Vol V No. 2 were distributed *and* sold. I meant to write to you to ask for more copies but Vol V No. 3 has just arrived. I don't think there is any point in sending any more of Vol V No. 2 but I could distribute 35 copies of Vol V No. 3, so if they could be sent I will certainly put them in the bookstores. I have included \$10.00 towards the amount of \$10.50 which is due.

The last issue [*May Day 1973*] is excellent. It has I feel, significantly increased the level of debate on what is an extremely important, and complex, question. I was particularly interested in seeing the comments on the type of "education" which engineers endure and the effects this process has on their later activity, and on their consciousness of that activity. There was however one very important aspect of that process which was entirely omitted—the overwhelming proportion of men in engineering courses (at least this is true in Ontario and I assume is true in the rest of North America as well). The size of this proportion can be seen at the University of Toronto, where out of 2100 currently enrolled in the undergraduate program, there are only 45 women. (And out of 18,000 living graduates, only 89 are women.)

I feel that this fact provides some of the material basis for the engineers' "object orientation". For 4 years the men in my class of 75 did *not* relate to one woman as a co-learner. In fact the relationships that most of them had with women were, for the most part, sex-typed relationships—dating partners, prospective sons-and daughters-in-law, etc. Thus while the "locker room" atmosphere produced by the lack of women in the classroom promoted a certain solidarity between the men, it was a solidarity between competitors, momentarily thrown together. It became therefore, extremely difficult to relate to women as full people (because you saw them in only 1 role) and to the men as full people (after all you will be trying for the same, and a decreasing number of, jobs). This particular point, which constitutes part of the particularity of engineers, strongly reinforces the tendencies analysed by A. Gorz, B. Fischer and M. Lesser.

One final point—as a friend and myself are currently doing research on the New Working Class in Canada, we would be very interested in seeing copies of both the transcript from the British comrades as well as the article by Stephen Marglin, "What do Bosses Do?". If copies of these two papers could be sent to me, we would be more than willing to pay for any costs incurred.

Peter Taylor
64 Beverley Street
Toronto 2B, Ont.

Dear Science for the People people:

Have been following with interest the discussion of a political orientation for SESPA/Science for the People as noted in recent issues of *Science for the People*. I think that those who have discerned a Marxist-Leninist hidden agenda among at least some of the contributors, have been correct, and personally I think it's great. Perhaps when I have been able to give the matter some more thought, I'll be able to contribute something substantive. In the meantime, keep up the good work—the magazine gets better issue by issue.

Enclosed is a check for \$10 to cover some literature and things that I would like to add to my reading rack (well read by visitors), and also for my use in some psychology courses in which I'll be participating (some as instructor) in the next year (I am a graduate student in psychology at the University of Pennsylvania). Also, if it's available, please send me one of those nifty posters from the Philadelphia AAA\$ meeting. Two of the 10\$\$ in the check is for that.

This is my last year of graduate study in psychology coming up, and hopefully I'll have more time for SftP-oriented activities after the coming year is up. In the meantime, a couple of us are trying to get started a "workplace" study group oriented towards the behavioral sciences, esp. psychology and psychiatry. We'll see if it works out.

Keep up the good work.

John F. Kihlstrom

If our "agenda" seems to be "hidden", that's probably because it doesn't quite exist. The development of a comprehensive political strategy is currently a major point of discussion in a number of chapters and at regional conferences of Science for the People. As for our inspiration, many people in Science for the People probably credit Marx and Lenin for at least some of our good ideas.

Dear People:

Please start this subscription with your last magazine which contained the article on Preventive Genocide. There is only one copy in town. We used much of the information when we confronted John D. Rockefeller, 3rd. He spoke on our campus about ten days ago. I'll enclose a copy of our handout which included information on the genocide they are trying to pull in Arkansas.

In the Struggle,
Joyce Goree

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am enclosing a check for \$5. It's about all I can afford, and I'm hoping that you'll allow me two subscriptions for it. One is for my teenage brother, a bright young man-person with a scientific bent but a slowly developing social consciousness. He *needs Science for the People*, and I'm keenly interested in getting it into his hands.

The other subscription is for me (address below) and I will see that it is widely shared here (Sociology Dept., Western Mich. Univ.).

I'm a staff member of the Kalamazoo *Patriot*, a revolutionary community newspaper serving the People in this area, and I have this to ask: can you get back copies of *Science for the People* to us for distribution in the community, in high schools, and on the campuses? We are presently in debt, but may be able to pay something later. Please let me hear from you on this.

The next issue of the *Patriot* will contain a review of *Science for the People*, which we consider to be a vitally executed and altogether righteous publication.

Yours in the struggle,
Marilyn Boyd
843 Davis Street
Kalamazoo, Mich. 49001

Perhaps the departmental or university library will subscribe to the magazine as well.

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MORE LETTERS

Sisters and Brothers,

Please renew my subscription to *Science for the People*. The magazine has vastly improved over the years. It is talking about the right things in a good manner.

As I see it *Science for the People* must have as its main motivation serving people—its practitioners must have this foremost in their minds—the science part can be quite routine, dull, or tedious. This is where a conflict comes in—many SESPA people I have spoken to feel *Science for the People* may revitalize their interest in science *qua* science. I feel this is a mistake; *science* for the people must not be seen as being more special than any other service to the people.

There may be science that is intrinsically exciting and new that can help people. However, in today's political context, most of the problems are in getting present techniques applied. This is a problem of power—not scientific innovation.

An example may illustrate: doing chemical analyses of trace metal pollutants is quite routine for a trained chemist and not very enjoyable in and of itself. However, doing this for a community, trying to use the results to stop or trace the pollution, teaching others to do analyses, is anything but routine but involves one in an explicitly political role.

I frankly enjoy doing unapplied scientific research. When I have tried to use scientific skills in an explicitly political context it has been this context (e.g., university administrators hiding weapons contracts in obscure jargon and technical details) that has been important. I wonder if others have felt this split—particularly other graduate students such as myself.

Steve Schwartz
Santa Cruz

P.S. Hello Boston SESPA!

We agree that doing "science for the people" simply to make one's otherwise alienating job more interesting, without serious thought about what needs to be done, is clearly a narrow outlook. Of course, what's 'intrinsically' interesting in science is itself a function of the social-political context, a matter deserving some introspection. However, it seems to us that taking advantage of the intellectual stimulus that some jobs provide not only helps in establishing a viable long-term lifestyle, it is also important in our becoming a welcome part of the work force which, to some extent, happens to have intellectual gratification as one of its fringe benefits. It will be difficult to win numbers of technical workers to our political outlook (perceiving their interests as common with those of other working people) while ignoring a large part of their interaction with the system.

Brothers [and Sisters],

The second parcel of Vol. V, No. 2 arrived day before yesterday, so I now have 51 of it and 50 of Vol. V, No. 3, and so we're back to normal—all well.

Vol. V, No. 3 [Mayday issue] is particularly good—a lot of good work from the editorial collective, live articles, and good layout. Are we still a little introverted, though? I'll see how it sells here. First response is encouraging.

I enclose an "open letter" which I am handing out with Vol. V, No. 2; as I see it this is the only satisfactory way of handling the problem of political conflict between me and the magazine, to publish a dissenting view like your Supreme Court ("mass line" as against "expert line" which would be just to write to Bonnie Mass, or to refuse to sell it) I keep a partial record of people who get the magazine, so if Bonnie Mass and/or the March collective would like to reply to the letter I will see that as many as possible get to see the reply as well. I hope this is satisfactory—it's hard working at this range, I can't exactly ring up and complain!

Have you seen SESPA-England's factsheet on Indochina? Gerry [Gerry McSherry—the contact for SESPA-England] just sent me some, with a request to collaborate on counterinsurgency in Northern Ireland, etc.

We are still going our individual ways. I'm still looking for a job, *SftP* is back on the streets from yesterday after a gap of several months.

Love/Truth
H.N. Dobbs

P.S. I see from the copy of *Boston after Dark* [Boston weekly newspaper] which came wrapped around Vol. V, No. 3 that the China group were to report back on April 17 at a public meeting. This seems a rather casual way of letting us know!

It's encouraging to receive serious responses like your open letter on Bonnie Mass' article 'Preventive Genocide in Latin America,' (Science for the People, V,2,3,|1973). We agree that this is a serious question and hope to have a substantial article on population control in an upcoming issue of the magazine. This article will deal with the issues raised in Bonnie Mass' article and with your criticisms, as well as others that we have received. See also: Por Que? Science and Technology in Latin America (available from Boston SESPA/ Science for the People) and the letter by Bernardini, et al, Science for the People, V,4,7|1973. We invite critical contributions on this subject from others.

Hopefully, we'll have a full report from the China group as well.

Dear Comrades,

I don't know whether Gerry told you about the street theatre a group of us performed the day Huntington* arrived on the Sussex U. campus. I'm enclosing one of the scripts, though it can only give you an idea of what the performances consisted of (street theatre cannot be contained by scripts...).

We didn't have as much time to rehearse as we needed, but nevertheless we think the activity was effective in emphasizing (with the help of a trumpet, a drum, and paper costumes...) the real issues of our campaign against Huntington; i.e., the role of social scientists in justifying and mystifying (if not formulating) American policies of destruction in Indochina.

There are many things that speak for street theatre as a means of education and consciousness-raising. Among others: it draws on people's creativity; it encourages intense cooperation and the development of a coherent group (there is no such thing as individualistic street theatre!), which also has to continually thrash out the implications and the politics of its activities (we had some traumatic discussions...); and, above all, it literally "dramatizes" issues, though it can only work within the context of a wider campaign.

Hopefully we'll use street theatre again in future action.

Gene Feder
c/o Gerry McSherry
apt. 2
5 St. Michael's Place
Brighton, England

P.S. I hope to be in Berkeley during the Genetics Conf. in August and I'm eager to witness and participate in SESPA action. I've always been impressed by your conference "activities" as described in the *SftP* magazine and look forward to experiencing them at first hand. We have much to learn from you over here. If you're able to send me any information on the conference during the next 6 weeks, please do.

P.P.S. I've just talked with one of the people collecting more information on that man Huntington. He asks if you can send him any more stuff—particularly on the response of students and faculty to Huntington at Harvard and the other institutions he lectures at. Also, we need more info. on his consulting work—what was his status on the various committees, what reports did he write?

If you have anything please send it to Gerry's address and he'll pass it on to the person concerned.

* Samuel P. Huntington, professor of government at Harvard, is an open admirer of the effects of bombing in South Vietnam—to urbanize otherwise recalcitrant and inaccessible rural populations. He is well known for his approving use of the term 'forced urbanization.' The skit which 'welcomed' him to Sussex University dramatized this fascination of his by showing Huntington helping the generals drop their bombs. We think it might be

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RADICAL SCIENCE JOURNAL

To provide a forum for serious and extended analysis of the history, philosophy, ideology and current practice of the sciences, from a radical perspective.

Many of us who have been involved in radical movements in science have felt for some time the lack of a journal which could tackle an analysis of science in society at a deeper level. Both the social sciences and philosophy are relatively well served in this respect, but we are not aware of any English language journal in which substantial articles of up to 10,000 words on this area can be, or are, regularly published. It is hoped that *Radical Science Journal* will fill the gap. We expect it to be read by scientists, students of science, and those concerned about the current role of science in society.

Prospective titles for the first issue (Nov., 1973) include:

The Ideology of Nature
Management Science in the Control of Organizations and Individuals
Selected Translations of Lorenz Publications from the Nazi Period
The "Relevance" of Anthropology Under Imperialism
The Functions of Functionalism

We are hoping that some people in the U.S. will be interested in working with Radical Science Journal—either as authors, referees, or in helping us publicize and distribute the journal.

For annual subscription (1 British lb. for 3 issues) and information, write *Radical Science Journal*, 9 Poland St., London W1.

useful to point out the insidiousness and sophistication of the social control theory which Huntington exemplifies. For instance, in his 1969 study for the Agency for International Development entitled 'Getting Ready for Political Competition in South Vietnam' he argues in detail for policies which were intended to have the following effects (among others):

to prevent the NLF from gaining "an open foothold in the cities."

to "undermine the image of the NLF as an equal of the Saigon government."

to confront the NLF with a difficult choice: either to attempt to isolate its areas from the economic integration of South Vietnam—which the report suggests would cause "population drainings" and an increasing gap in standard of living between NLF and government areas—or to allow the integration, which would undermine its authority.

to "influence the identity of the players in the game by encouraging or discouraging some individuals...or groups...to participate in politics.

to "give money and material aid to candidates and groups...either through covert means or openly through the distribution of 'pork barrel' projects."

(Quoted in the Harvard Crimson 7/14/70)

ACTIONS AT IMPERIAL SCIENCE MEETING IN MEXICO

In Preparation

For Science for the People (SftP) it all began December, 1971 at the AAAS meeting held in Philadelphia. Some of us discovered an unpublicized symposium of Latin American and other Third World scientists. Apparently, this was to have been a preview of the Mexico meeting, but unfortunately for the AAAS, the scientists there distributed a declaration denouncing U.S. imperialism in no uncertain terms. It goes without saying that they were not invited afterwards to participate in the AAAS/CONACYT meetings of June, 1973 in Mexico City, so sexistly entitled "Science and Man in the Americas."

SftP began to prepare for its own equally-uninvited participation in August, 1972. Our first step was to make contact with friends in Mexico. It was through some of them that we later received so much help and support. We also corresponded with numerous Latin American scientists in the hope of using the meetings to come together to create an anti-imperialist scientific community in Latin America. (The fact that very few Latin American scientists came to the Mexico meeting has delayed this plan.)

Our next step was to prepare a lengthy statement on science and technology in Latin America, entitled *AAAS in Mexico: Por Que? (Why?)*. This was to serve both as a primer for uninformed U.S. scientists and as a vehicle for the clarification of our own position on the Mexico City Meeting. This turned out to be a tremendous effort (a 32-page booklet) that lasted from October to the December, '72 AAAS meeting, where *Por Que* was distributed and where we put a major emphasis on the upcoming Mexico City Meeting.

SftP groups in Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis, and Puerto Rico began organizing. Copies of *Por Que* were sent to friends in the U.S. and Latin America, correspondence was initiated with possible participants, especially with Latin American scientists and Latin American students in the U.S. We also translated *Por Que* into Spanish, an effort that again involved many people and which put us into debt.

The last stage of preparation took place in Mexico. Four people went to Mexico to improve their Spanish, to find accommodations and to make the practical arrangements for our meetings. More important, one of them made contact with the left, the press, and the students. Out of this came the cooperation of militant students from the *Universidad Nacional Autonomo de Mexico* called the UNAM: National Autonomous University of Mexico), arrangements for a T.V. program, and a press release in *Punto Critico*, a Mexican left monthly magazine. (A planned press release to a variety of left publications in Latin America was never followed through.) Some of the counter-Meeting sessions at the University were planned and lots of our literature was distributed before the rest of us arrived in Mexico, just as the President of Mexico, Luis A. Echeverria, was officially opening the conference with the standard speech of welcome.

The following article describes Science for the People actions and activities at the recent joint meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and Mexico's National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT). The article was written by part of the SESPA/Science for the People group which journeyed to Mexico to join Mexican students and workers in opposing the role of U.S. imperialist science and technology in Latin America and to work toward building an international alliance of anti-imperialist scientific and technical workers.

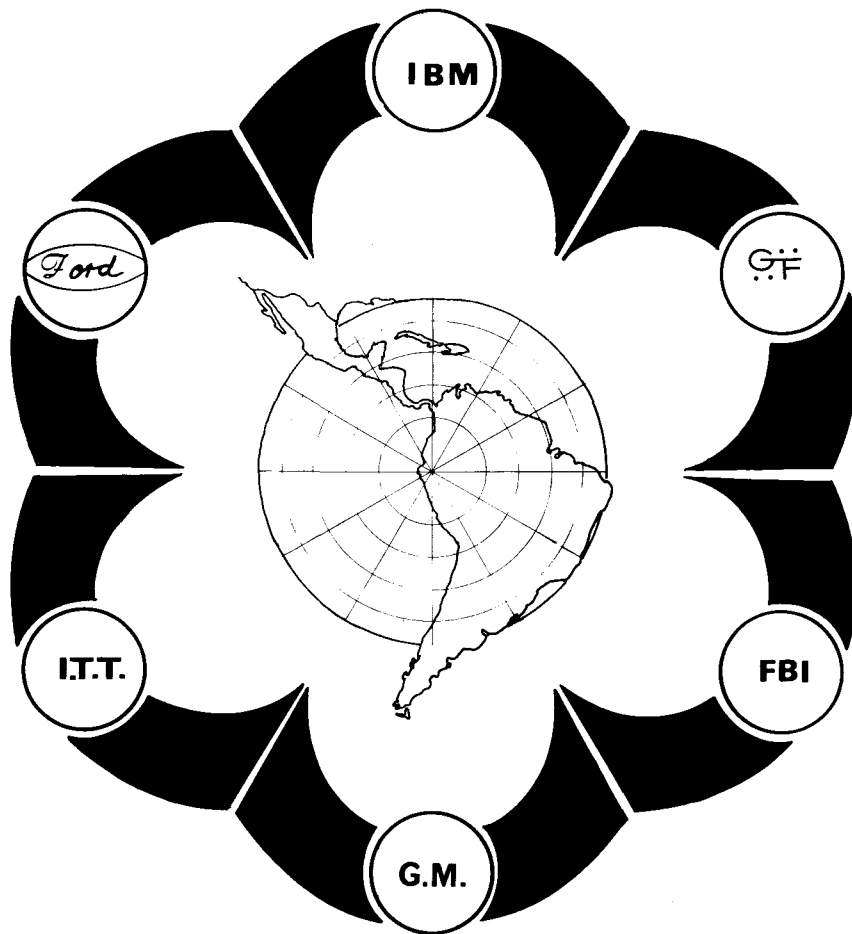
The poster on the next page, created by a group of Mexican students, is a take-off on the official AAAS/CONACYT insignia (see below). It announces an Inter-continental Meeting on Science Against (Contra) the People, substitutes CONLACIA (with the CIA) for CONACYT, and refers to the AAAS as the Association of Paid Assassins.



REUNION CONTINENTAL **AAAS**
SOBRE
LA CIENCIA Y EL HOMBRE

ASISTENTE

REUNION CONTINENTAL SOBRE LA CIENCIA **CONTRA** EL HOMBRE



conlacia

| A | A | A | S |

ASESINOS ASOCIADOS A SUELDO

How the Cry of BULLSHIT! was Heard in the Land

On the first day of the conference our attempt to distribute a leaflet on the Jason Committee* at a physics panel was thwarted. Marcos Moshinsky, chairman of the panel and a leading Mexican physicist informed us that that was done in the U.S. but was not acceptable in Mexico. But our first face-to-face encounter with the organizers of the meeting themselves came the next day. Jim Cockcroft, economist at Rutgers, had been originally scheduled to talk at the Technology Transfer panel. When his anti-imperialist politics were understood his invitation was withdrawn. Then at the last minute he was taken on as a discussant for the same panel. But in the course of Cockcroft's denunciation of the imperialist aims of technology transfer, the chairman of the program, a representative of Rockwell International, cut off his microphone without any warning and pretended that Jim had overrun his time. This barefaced censorship with its mere excuse for a rationale was too much for us, and a resonant cry of BULLSHIT! came out from one of our more soft-spoken comrades. This had two results. At the end of the meeting the chairman, in an attempt to regain his image of impartiality, asked Jim if he wanted to answer any further questions. Jim's reply was that what he wanted was to finish what had been so rudely interrupted.

*The Jason Committee is the group of elite scientists that advises the Pentagon on advanced war strategy. See *Science Against the People*, Berkeley SESPA, 1972.

FAN MAIL

Dear Dr. Greyber [AAAS Meeting Manager]:

I am glad that I had an opportunity to talk to you at the AAAS general section session in Mexico City. My motive in attending was to find out how AAAS programs get launched and possibly add my two cents' worth. My feeling is that, in spite of valiant and meritorious efforts, AAAS has not yet got down to the nitty-gritty of the role of science in our society.

. . . [The AAAS] shows a dangerous resistance to criticism and new ideas. AAAS has consistently, through reports in *Science*, put down radical science groups claiming that their sole purpose is disruption. I can testify from firsthand experience that this is false and I think a deliberate misrepresentation. The fact is that groups like SESPA have a reasoned case against the means and ends by which science is promoted and, where admitted to sessions, have presented this case without disruption. At the Mexico City meeting in particular AAAS attempted to prevent SESPA from having literature tables. It was only through the intervention of our hosts, CONACYT, that they were in fact able to do so. The literature they dispersed showed, to my mind, quite a remarkable grasp of what is wrong with the current scene in science and technology; and from what I read of the Mexican speakers in the local Spanish newspapers, they are beginning to see this too. . . .

M.G.

Secondly, immediately after the meeting we were approached by a CONACYT (*Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnologia*: National Council of Science and Technology) official. He was all amiability. CONACYT, he maintained, was not the AAAS. It wanted to avoid trouble and to guarantee our democratic rights. In fact, if truth be told, it secretly agreed with many of our political positions. He offered to provide us with a table for our literature, with a room for our talks, offered to do the publicity for our sessions and to smoothe the way if any difficulties arose. But the only price for this was our good, temperate, and civilized behavior and enough discipline not to be provoked.* With the astuteness of a confirmed bureaucrat he decided which of the members of SftP were "significant" and directed all of his conversation to these two.

The image he put forth was one of a basically good guy in a compromising position who would do his best against an array of nasty bureaucrats outside his control. The only qualification he put forth was that he was powerless against Mexican law, and we should work within the legal system. We assured him that the Mexican constitution provides us with more than enough rights. With a comradely pat on the nearest knee and a man-of-the-world smile he acknowledged the compliment, but begged us not to push it too far.

Thou Preparest a Table Before Me in the Presence of Mine Enemies

We then went on with our work. We appropriated a table in the lobby where we displayed *AAAS in Mexico: Por Que?* in Spanish and English, back issues of *Science for the People*, and leaflets written for the conference; we also announced counter-Meeting talks.

The table quickly became a center of attention and activity. Pigs came by to look themselves up in *Por Que*; out-of-touch radicals came by to make contact and offer greetings. People came to us to complain about the quality of the conference panels. There were inquiries about particular topics, such as science teaching. As the only focus of dissidence, we were approached by people wanting to sound off, express sympathy, or just find intelligent conversation. But mostly we met and spoke with Mexican students to whom *Science for the People* was new and exciting. The students had a clear, good, anti-imperialist line. Our position on the uses and aims of imperialist science led to sympathetic recognition, but what really excited them was our less-familiar analyses of class content in the internal organization and content of science. These discussions led to additional invitations to speak at various faculties of the UNAM and at other centers in Mexico City. In the end most of our speaking took place away from the Meeting. In the highly political environment of the Mexican student movement, minimum publicity with short notice still attracted up to several hun-

*Remember that this official had been at the Washington, D.C. AAAS Meeting, where we fought for our right to a literature table, and further, that CONACYT had read *Por Que* and had it translated for their own use last December.

dred students at a time. We always talked to large and friendly audiences.

The literature table ran into one snag. There were various attempts to stop us setting it up in the morning, and once a full-fledged attempt to stop us from selling anything at all. The building we were in, we were told, forbade any sort of selling whatever. But a quick survey discovered a Hertz rent-a-car counter, a tour agency, photograph sales, and book sales, including a AAAS booth. When our friendly CONACYT agent came by to apologetically pressure us to stop selling, we had our list ready. This stopped him in mid-cajole. With nothing to say, he said nothing, and didn't darken our doorstep again.

People coming to the table told us they thought the literature [which included the leaflets described in box on this page] was high quality. After the first few days, however, two questions came to haunt us: "Did we have any more copies of this piece of literature?" and "Did we have any new literature?" Any fears we had of being ignored were dissipated. In response to the demand for literature, we reproduced more copies of the leaflets and also did some translating of our material. But it wasn't enough; by the end we were virtually out of every item.

In addition, we distributed literature at the various talks we gave around the city. Especially when speaking to these groups, we consistently underestimated the demand. During one talk, we received 20 requests for *Our Bodies, Our Selves** after a mere mention of the book. We were also overwhelmed by requests for buttons. (The symbol on the button found its way onto many posters produced by the Mexican left. They pointed out that a left fist instead of a right one would have been more appropriate.)

Civil War

The counter-conference sessions organized by SftP took place in an unused room without the benefit of simultaneous translation. The sessions were bilingual, with speakers or volunteers from the audience translating the talks and discussions. The first session, entitled "The Civil War in Science", was an introduction to Science for the People and our introduction to the Mexican political scene. We emphasized that it wasn't we who introduced politics into science, but that science was intrinsically political. We pointed out that the politics of science are invisible only when they are establishment politics. In another session, "The Automobile, Vehicle of Technological Imperialism", David Barkin, a radical political economist, showed that developing underdeveloped countries could not afford the wasteful investment in an auto industry, which ties up labor, material, and technology, and which imposes the obligation to develop gas stations, mechanics, highways, etc., for the benefit of the very few. A third session was "Toward a Socialist Science", which drew on the experience of our members

* *Our Bodies, Our Selves*, Boston Women's Health Collective. A book about women by women.

SUMMARIES OF LEAFLETS

A leaflet produced by the Minneapolis collective and directed at a specific session of the Meeting with the same name was titled "Science and Human Values". It pointed out that the division of labor that assigns small portions of large problems to specialists within science leaves the decision-making involving application to those in the higher echelons of government and industry and leaves human values completely outside the domain of scientists. It explained that the export of this science carries with it cultural and political values, and is completely divorced from the people's real scientific, technological, and political needs.

A second leaflet, "Supplement to the Symposium on Tropical Ecosystems: the Use of Puerto Rico for Military Research", documented the studies carried out in that colony to develop defoliants, enhance military mobility and surveillance, and improve small arms for the tropics (the area in which U.S. intervention is most likely). Another leaflet, "Supplement to the Symposium on Environmental Deterioration: Environmental Imperialism" argues the central role of imperialism as an ecological contaminant. Specific examples illustrating this were drawn from Puerto Rico. The Puerto Rican experience was presented as a general warning to all Third World countries of the consequences of capitalist development. The direct U.S. rule and the island's small size make it an extreme case of neo-colonial technology transfer. These two leaflets, distributed only in Spanish, were signed jointly by Science for the People (Chicago) and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party. They were quoted by the Mexican daily *Excelsior*, and later in the *San Juan Star* and *El Imparcial*, both of Puerto Rico.

Another leaflet, prepared by a group of medical students at the UNAM, dealt with psychosurgery, in answer to the official session on behavior control. It related how psychosurgery, a technique to cut out violence (and creativity, and the capacity for reflection) through brain surgery, is being developed as a crime-fighting tool in the U.S. The leaflet pointed out that racial minorities and political prisoners are the main victims of this new program, which represents a further move toward facism by the U.S. government.

with the science of Cuba, Viet Nam, and China to show that what is "natural" in capitalist science is not inevitable. We challenged the notion that humanity is necessarily divided into those who create knowledge, those who transmit it, and those who use it. This session was followed by another on professionalism. The experience of the Madison SftP's investigation of the Army Math Research Center was used to illustrate several points of professionalism: the myth of neutrality, specialization and ideas of expertise, mystification of language, and separation of scientists from the People. Professionalism was also distinguished from competency. Another session, "The Strategy of Agricultural Research", undermined the notion of the efficiency of U.S. agriculture. It showed U.S. agriculture to be wasteful in energy consumption, soil nutrients, and resources, although narrowly efficient in terms of yield per man hour or per acre. The research of green revolution plant breeders was criticized for its narrow empiricism, lack of theoretical content, indifference not only to social consequences but also to ecology. A strategy of dispersed research as a mass phenomenon as in China was offered as an alternative to the elite international gene factories.

Our final session was held to make plans for continued cooperation between Mexican and U.S. scientists

GUERRILLA SCIENCE

Guerrilla science, organized around independence movements, is directly part of the people's struggle against imperialism. Looking at society and nature as a complex whole rather than as a series of problems, it is richer than bourgeois science in its intellectual structure. Without laboratories of its own, it gets its information from the libraries and from corporate or government sources, sometimes gathered clandestinely, and from the observations of the people. For instance, the local socialist part branch in Yauco, Puerto Rico, complained about wells drying up; the science group worked with them to expose the pilfering by Pittsburgh Plate Glass and other corporations of 12 million gallons of water daily from the aquifer, which has only a 17 million gallon capacity, and to spell out the dangers of salinization and cave-in. The guerrilla science is still carried out by a relatively small group of non-specialists. It has diverse activities ranging from expose and ideological confrontation, to direct aid to people's groups, developing alternative pathways for science and its organization, and be-seiging anti-popular research. In its own organization, relation to people's struggle, and theoretical structure it already foreshadows some of the features of the people's science of the future socialist republic.

and to give a final overview. It dealt largely with an analysis of the nature and implications of guerrilla science [see box].

These counter-sessions at the meeting started with about 40 people and grew to about 100. Discussion and questions led from the presentations to the problems and experiences of the audience. For example, there was lively controversy about the medical curriculum. In a counterposing of quantity and quality, some felt that a shorter course of study would produce more but less qualified doctors, while others argued for maintenance of the quality while increasing the numbers of medical students. Some questioned whether the insistence on quality while there was no medical care available for so many was not an elitist luxury. We learned that much of the medical curriculum consists of the transmission of the kinds of U.S. pharmaceuticals prescribed for the familiar illnesses of the affluent. The upshot was the recognition that you could not solve the contradiction between specialized and mass medicine in the individualistic context of contemporary medicine. The discussion ended in a deadlock that reflected the real incompatibility between high quality medical training and large-scale public health service within capitalism.

Go Forth from This Conference

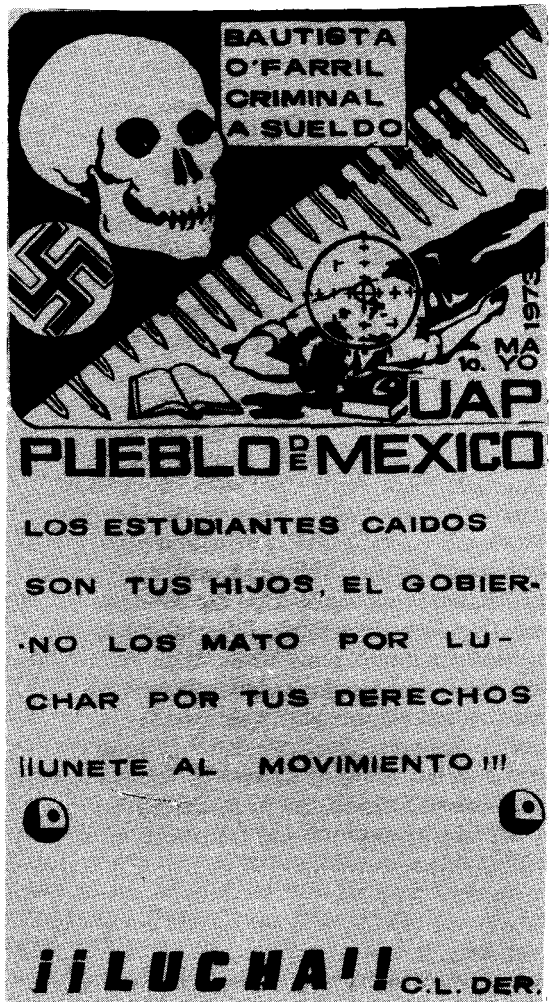
We obtained a number of speaking invitations from our preliminary contacts and from new contacts we made at the AAAS/CONACYT meeting. These invitations came mostly from radical student groups, but in a few cases we received requests to speak before workers' groups and high school students.

Initially, the speaking duties landed on the person who was fluent in Spanish. Later, with more offers than we could handle and with a new sense of confidence that we might have something to say and that our Spanish might be passable, other people shared the work.

At the UNAM we spoke before groups as large as 200 to 300 people. UNAM has 125,000 students, is public, and generally the students there are on scholarships. It is divided into strict divisions, such as engineering, physics, etc.

Most of the different divisions had a Struggle Committee (*Comite de Lucha*), a radical organization of students. The different committees, although they shared the same name even at different universities, were autonomous from one another and, while some groups worked with others, in some cases we could not combine meetings with different groups because of political differences between them. Some struggle committees have more support within their specific schools; some are aligned with specific political parties outside the university. They work at a variety of levels inside and outside the university. Our talks were generally sponsored by these committees.

We generally spoke about who we were, and what we were doing. We were asked how we intended to develop a people's science, what projects we had toward this end, and what we were doing to expose and combat imperialism and imperialist science.



This poster highlights the events of this past spring in which demonstrations were held throughout Mexico to protest the police killing of four students in Puebla. The killing occurred when the governor sent police in to break up a meeting and march which were part of a movement to open up the university to the people.

PEOPLE OF MEXICO

The fallen students
are your children.
The government killed them
for struggling
for your rights.

JOIN WITH THE MOVEMENT!

STRUGGLE !!

At a meeting with students from biology, math, and physics, we were asked to talk about how people from different fields could work on projects together. In response, we gave the example of industrial health projects where people with training in chemistry, medicine, physics, engineering and biology can work together with workers who have detailed knowledge of the production process. To illustrate that expertise was not required to work on scientific problems we cited the examples of our research into military weather modification done by the Chicago group where no one had any prior knowledge of meteorology, and the Madison Science for Vietnam project which evaluated new drugs used in the treatment of TB where most people working on the project had no knowledge of medicine.

During another meeting, before some psychology students, we were asked how psychology could be used for the people. We mentioned, as one example, how some of the literature of the women's movement, like *Our Bodies, Our Selves*, had helped break down the physiological and psychological myths of women's inferiority. The mention of this book evoked a great deal of interest.

In addition to speaking at the UNAM, we also spoke to different groups at the Politechnic Institute, a large school devoted mostly to applied sciences.

In addition to the universities, we had an opportunity to speak with some high school students. At a high school, one speaker discovered that half of what he was going to say had already been written on the walls of the school. And while he didn't find the class that had invited him, another class commandeered him to speak. Our talks to workers' groups unfortunately fell through. However, at almost any radical student headquarters at UNAM we had the opportunity to see and talk to students and workers. There was one joint student-worker demonstration at the UNAM while we were there.

Our own participation was only a part of what students were doing themselves on the subject of science for the people. At the chemistry school we showed the film *Struggle for Life** as the first part of a series of ongoing programs. Other topics included: The Role of the Scientist in Society, Teaching in the Critical University, Self-*film about struggle of Vietnamese medical workers in the Indochina War zones.

Education, Methods of Science Teaching, Science and Social Structure, and a Round Table. The talks spanned a two-week period.

The radical students we met were very well versed in political theory. (Small bookstalls around UNAM sell copies of Marx, Lenin, the *Peking Review* and the latest from the Moscow press.) They have a clear idea of the class struggle and support the struggles of workers. They understand the nature of imperialism and imperialist science.

Their political situation differs from ours in a number of respects. The students have to deal with repression on a day-to-day basis. (A few weeks ago fourteen students were arrested as they prepared to attend a demonstration in Puebla in support of a worker's struggle. There are hundreds of political prisoners in jail; many people have been killed for their political activities.)

The radical students feel the importance of having a revolutionary party which has a clear direction. Other issues are secondary, except as they support the party, as we found out trying to discuss women's liberation. They view the revolution as international and are interested in the struggles of the Third World people in the U.S. They asked for more information about blacks, chichicanos, and Puerto Ricans. They also asked for information on U.S. corporate and scientific involvement in Mexico. Also, the struggle committees are in touch with revolutionary movements around the world.

Even among those Mexican students who were not politically active, almost all that we met understood U.S. imperialism. They also had a very clear analysis of the class structure in Mexico, something perhaps unusual only from the U.S. perspective.

Our contact with the politicized students of Mexico left us with the feeling that we are kindergarten Marxists at best. In contrast, they had not explored their sciences and the possibilities for study and struggle within the sciences themselves, nor had they analyzed the role of professionalism. The learning was mutual. In Mexico City today we fancy that there is *Ciencia para el Pueblo* (Science for the People) thinking going on. But what about ourselves? Are we ready to study and better educate ourselves for ideological struggle? There is an immense literature that we must explore. And the Mexico meeting left us with a sense of the urgency of that exploration.

We observed another difference between the Mexican academic left scene and our own. There is a great gap—nearly a chasm—between the politicized professor and the politicized students. They go their separate ways and interact minimally. In the current struggle for university self-government by students, staff, and faculty they work together but more as allied blocs rather than as an integrated movement.

Also, we met some passive and some “friendly” active resistance to an attempt by two of our women to meet with a group of women students (“Why only women?”). Unfortunately, this was late in our stay, so we didn't have the time we needed to talk through the impediments and explore the questions we had about the life and op-



pression of women on all levels of Mexican society.

The patterns of repression in Mexico are different from our own and therefore confusing. In an atmosphere that seemed permissive in the extreme to us, with Marxist ideology talked about and taught openly, where walls were plastered with radical slogans and wall newspapers, where anti-imperialist analysis seemed the stuff of everyday life, there were also the arbitrary powers of detention, the wanton attacks on public meetings from the servants of a government self-labeled as the living continuation of the Mexican Revolution.

Nearly Banished

We, ourselves, became victims of this repression. Five of us and one Mexican student were arrested when we attempted to hand out a declaration entitled “Toward an Anti-Imperialist Science” [see pg. 18]. The production of this declaration brought many of us our first culture shock as we discovered that it was possible to write a joint leaflet with 8 people, then have it debated by 40 people, and to do all this smoothly and without any pain. The second came when we discovered that 20,000 copies of the leaflet were going to be produced, and that for only one campus. The leaflet was written jointly by Mexican students and people from the U.S., and was signed by 23 different university and high school student groups, a university workers' group, and SftP.

We distributed the leaflet together, both Mexicans and North Americans, at the conference building on the 28th of July. After distributing it for fifteen minutes, some men, assumed to be either employees of the CONACYT or of the Meeting Hall stopped us from distributing the leaflet inside the buildings. This sent some of us outside the hall while a few wiser, more intrepid souls went further inside the building. (It was a mistake to go outside. We should have demanded ID's from the men and insisted on our right to distribute literature as guaranteed by the CONACYT officials.)

Outside leafletting went on peacefully, if a little mostly, in the soft rain until, a distance away from the door, we saw burley plain-clothesmen hustling off one of the Science for the People women and a Mexican student. Four of us converged on this group, the men tried to shoo us away, they were "only going to ask a few questions, nothing more." Six of us, five North Americans and the one Mexican, ended up in the nearby office of the *Ministerio de Gubernacion*, which is equivalent to the F.B.I. Aside from asking our names and nationalities, they did nothing more than walk in and out of their office looking busy and important. After two hours we were taken to what we thought was dinner. Outside, our friends and newspaper reporters had been mobilized, and they demanded and received our true destination: the office of immigration.

We were brought in through the back door, and put in a small room with two North Americans and one Colombian awaiting deportation. There we sat down to wait. The Mexican student was taken away, questioned, photographed, and released (he had only a tenuous connection with our leafletting). Although we were all asked to write our names innumerable times, only two of us were questioned. One of us was harassed and insulted by the big "Chief", was designated our leader, and isolated from the rest of us. From this vantage point our comrade could see friends and reporters out the front door whenever it opened, and out the window in the other direction.

The long hours during which we calmly awaited the possibility of deportation were harried and busy for others. The high drama was taking place elsewhere. As we reconstruct it, the relative merits of deportation or release were being debated among the CONACYT, the AAAS, the political police, the U.S. embassy, and at least the periphery of the Mexican cabinet. The authorities decided that it was less trouble to release us than to deport us. The Mexican government had spent a quarter of a million dollars on its image and didn't mean to tarnish it. The result was plain from the benevolent guise of the formerly blustering chief. We could go if we refrained from distributing literature outside the Meeting. We were let out the back door and we spread out to locate our faithful friends in and around the building.

We discovered the next day by reading *Excelsior*, a Mexican daily newspaper, that our release was retroactive: Mendoza, the information director of the office of immigration, "denied categorically that a group of North Americans who formed Science for the People were detained or presented before the Immigration Authorities." (Shades of Ron Ziegler.) Not even *Science*, the AAAS magazine, took this seriously. In the condescending and studiedly non-political accounting of our activities in Mexico, they described our arrests.* The day after our arrests people stopped by the literature table to find out about the incident. The students shook our hands in solidarity and looked on knowingly, perhaps not believing that we had gotten off so easily.

*Almost 1/3 of *Science's* meeting report was about what SftP did not do at the meeting!

PRESS RELATIONS

Concerning the press, our relations were, as usual, a mixed lot. Preparations had been made that resulted in a spot in a T.V. show, and there were articles that were to appear in *Siempre* and *Diorama de la Cultura*, two weekly pictorial magazines of Mexico. We were interviewed by a friendly reporter of a reactionary newspaper who enjoyed talking with us but assured that the paper would never print anything. There were reporters from a major daily with whom we talked often; the result was two articles, one of which was a very good summary of two of our leaflets. One member of our group, a reporter, helped us to obtain copies of different papers presented at the conference. We discovered that in this way, the press was a valuable potential asset. Then there were the others. For those who had dealt with the press a lot there were no surprises. To some of us new to working with the media, the surprise was the unspoken but strong assumption by part of the press that their attention was universally desired—no one in her/his right mind would refuse an interview. A man from national radio who wanted to record one of our sessions walked out in a huff because we wanted to discuss it first. And there was the woman who decided she knew who our charismatic leader was, and wanted to know all the vital facts about him: his age, whether he was Cuban, and what his taciturn and now unfriendly wife's name was.

We also appeared on educational T.V. A journalist from *Excelsior* who also runs a panel show on educational T.V. arranged a half-hour interview with students and faculty from the UNAM as Mexican critics, and ourselves as U.S. critics of the AAAS/CONACYT Meeting. In preparation for the show, we first all met together to discuss the points we wanted to make and the division of labor. In the show itself, however, the moderator controlled the interchange tightly, asking each of us questions in turn so that there was no real discussion. A few good things were said, but compared to the lively discussions with the Mexican students it was neither very informative nor exciting. We learned from this experience that rather than gratefully accepting all opportunities for publicity, we should have been more self-determined in deciding which kinds of efforts were worthwhile.

Our overall strategy with the press was that we welcomed coverage, but that our task was reaching the Mexican students through other means. We also resisted the press assumption that stories must be organized around "human interest", and that this meant details about supposed leaders. We explained many times why we declined to give personal information: because some people were more vulnerable than others to reprisals, and more importantly because of our view of collective work and rejection of media-made leaders. We were aware, of course, that press contacts and press coverage helped both to get our ideas to the public and to put the authorities on notice that if anything happened to us, we would not be ignored in the media.

TOWARD AN ANTI-IMPERIALIST SCIENCE

In the past it was possible to believe that science meant progress, that every scientific advance would better the conditions under which we all live, and at the same time would be one more step in the liberation of the human spirit. But of that dream only the rhetoric remains, and now we find that the reality is very different.

Science today is property, and therefore, like all property, it is used for the benefit of those who own it. In the U.S.A. and in other imperialist nations, the major part of scientific effort is dedicated to the twin purposes of 1) extraction of profits and 2) the maintenance of the control which permits that extraction.

In imperialist countries, the scientific venture is devoted, for the most part, to the development of military technology, to mass extermination, and to fascistic control of the behavior of society as well as of the individual. The objective benefits that humankind might gain from scientific work is of secondary consideration.

For this reason, science is like a smoke-screen: while its force appears to be directed at the resolution of the most urgent problems of our peoples, it makes those problems more numerous. It covers up the social roots of "technical" problems. In the rhetoric of "harmony" it enshrouds the reality of imperialism.

This is where "Science and Man in the Americas" comes in, graced by the AAAS and the National Council on Science and Technology of Mexico.

The role of the U.S. transnational corporations in this meeting is seen clearly in the composition of the AAAS Executive Planning Committee for this event. Of the nine members of the committee, two are AAAS functionaries, while others very directly represent the bourgeois corporate interest of the U.S.A. Five members of the committee are directors of imperialist corporations or of the foundations established by corporation heads. Among the corporations represented on this committee alone are:

E.I. Dupont Nemours, Rand Corporation, Riverside Research Institute, Hudson Institute (these three last are research corporations which do government consulting in the U.S.A. on questions of counterinsurgency and arms development); A.D. Little, Inc. (a corporation which investigates opportunities for investment in Mexico; also an arms developer); Mitre Corporation (arms developer); Verde Exploration (with operations in Latin America); Resources for the Future (research on how to facilitate the exploitation by the transnationals of the world's natural resources).

Three members of the committee have been government consultants in the field of foreign political and economic relations, and at least one participated in the Nixon electoral campaign.

In addition, there are ten central theme coordinators from the U.S.A. Of these ten, five are presently or were in the past, members of the Nixon Government.

In Mexico, as in the rest of the Latin American countries and other continents dominated by international monopoly capital, subjection to imperialist rule is always accompanied by the voices of nationalism, which only mask the real nature of the workings of imperialism.

In practice, the politics of those "nationalist" governments protects and encourages penetration through state organisms, which can be credit institutions, as well as cultural or scientific ones. Take the CONACYT as an example. With "harmony" they promote the imperialist interchange of capital, arms, or science and technology which serve to accentuate the domination of our peoples.

It is for this reason that now in Mexico the dominant groups need certain elements, for which they are looking in science, to develop this exploitation. And it is toward this end that the spirit of "apoliticism" and "pure research" and market-mindedness is induced and conserved in the scientist, who, without understanding of historical and class analysis, is easily made a tool of capitalist designs.



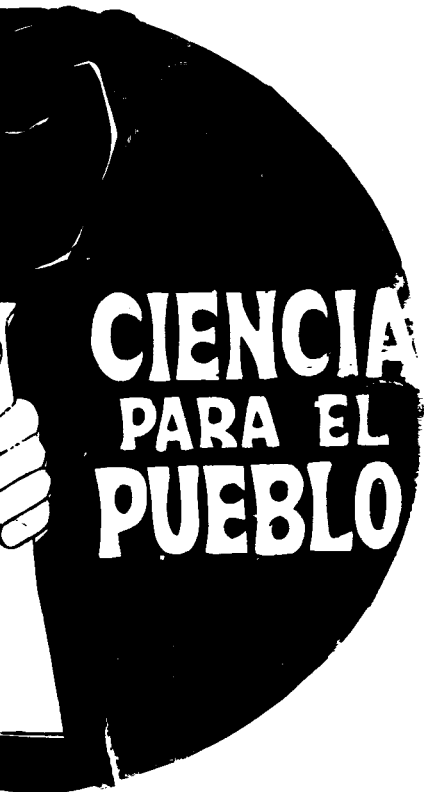
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Not a Science for th



**CIENCIA PARA
IMPERIALISTAS
Y ANQUISTAS**

**THE PEOPLE
Imperialists and Yankees**

All of this we condemn: this scientific meeting is not seriously dedicated to the solving of humanity's problems, but is an imperialist maneuver which seeks to implement and perfect the dependency and the exploitation which exist in countries of the Third World. We affirm this, although the majority of the participants are there in good faith and accept the claims of the meeting organizers as beneficial fact. We affirm this although some contributions, considered separately, are valuable and interesting. We affirm that the lack of scientific and human seriousness is the fault of the meeting's administrators.

The measure of seriousness of a meeting on science and humanity is the way in which it faces the general problems which determine the technical problems.

It is not serious science if one talks of the deterioration of the environment without confronting the reality of environmental imperialism: the exportation of contamination by means of the establishment of harmful industries which are not even allowed in the metropolis, the parent country; the extraction of mineral resources from dependent countries; the acquisition and cornering of their best farmlands; and the implantation of North American modes of consumption in order to acquire more markets, in spite of the fact that this destroys the environment and increases dependency.

It is not serious science if we do not confront scientific imperialism: the use of the environment and the people of dependent countries (without making an effort to integrate with the country's own scientific development) as objects of experimentation, sometimes very harmful experimentation, such as the use of Puerto Rico to test defoliants and birth control methods.

It is not serious science if it does not recognize intellectual imperialism, the exportation of North American ideology of industrialized, bureaucratized, and technocratic science; an ideology which separates feeling from thought, which subdivides scientists, making them narrow specialists who cannot see the whole, the totality, who evince in their practice utter contempt and disregard for the people; and who promulgate attitudes of inferiority and dependency among the people.

It is not a serious scientific meeting if it is organized in a manner which essentially excludes the general discussion of fundamental questions, excludes critical people, and which is rigidly controlled by the politicians of science from the U.S.A. and Mexico.

If we do know that there exists a science which is imperialist in its uses, its organization, its method, and its ideology, there must exist, and in fact there does exist, an anti-imperialist science. It is still in its infancy, and it takes different forms, according to the conditions it is found in. In colonial countries, dependent countries, or imperialist countries, it begins by exposing and denouncing: we denounce the use of science in the service of domination and exploitation; we denounce the use of science's name in the new pseudo-scientific racism; we denounce the conversion of science into a commodity and of our universities into corporate offices. From denunciation we move to active criticism: we look for means to put our scientific knowledge at the service of the people, and therefore as an instrument of revolutionary national liberation movements.

We challenge the system of training which tries to continue producing obedient experts. We are beginning to develop a new science on behalf of the whole of technology and society—an integrated science which refuses narrow specialization and idiot realism. We repudiate hierarchical-classist structures in order to search for forms of collective work and more democratic forms in research as well as in training. We repudiate the mystification of a science reinforced by a specialized vocabulary and we will launch a campaign to popularize science. As scientists and revolutionaries we unite with anti-imperialist scientists of the world and with popular movements of our countries.

The focus of world science has to change, as it has changed in the past. But the new science which will be developed in the Third World cannot and must not copy the bourgeois science which it displaces. We will make a new science whose form and content form an integrated part of the struggle for human liberation.

Signed by Struggle Committees of UNAM schools of Architecture, Economy, Political Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Social Work, Natural Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, and Anthropology; by the Action Committee of the school of Veterinary Sciences; by the Struggle Committees of the High Schools of Science and Humanities of the South, of the West, in Vallejo, in Azcapotzalco, and by the Activists in the Naucalpan branch; by the Struggle Committees of the Popular High Schools of Poza Rica and of Tacuba, and by the Coalition of Brigades of High Schools 6 and 8; by the Struggle Committees of Vocational Schools 1 and 3; by the UNAM Superior School of Economy; by Science for the People; and by the Union of Blue and White Collar Workers of UNAM; and by ESQUIJE.

Extravaganza with Light and Sound

In general, the international meeting "Science and Man in the Americas" turned out to be more or less as we expected: not a serious scientific event, but rather a public relations extravaganza with light and sound. Our own observations were confirmed also by the many reports brought to us by friendly people who would come to our table fresh from the frustration or boredom of the symposia and eager to sound off.

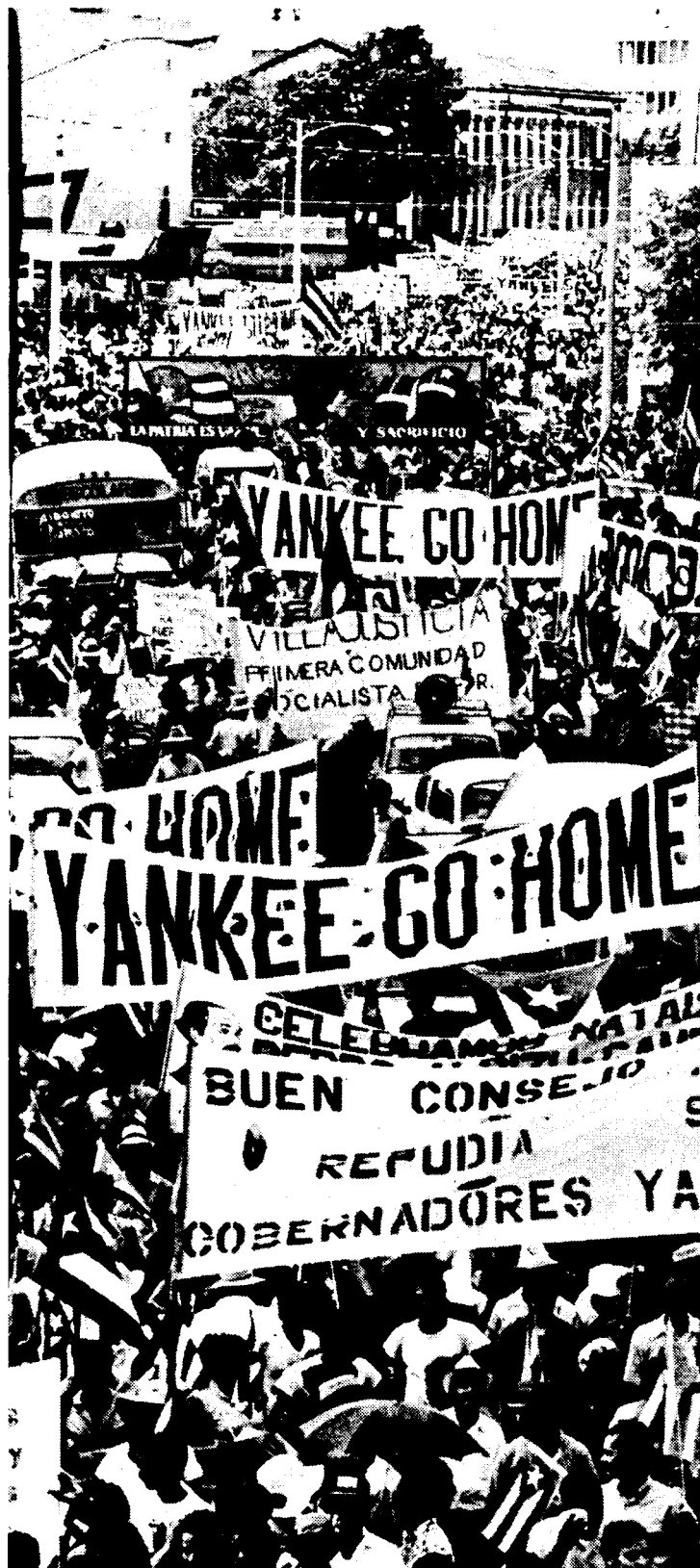
1. The composition of the Meeting: There was a striking absence of working scientists and a preponderance of administrators, directors of institutes, heads of programs, and politicians of science on the one hand, and of students on the other. But active researchers and teachers both from Mexico and from the rest of Latin America were conspicuously absent.

2. Both the quality of the presentations and the degree of control by the organizers of the Meeting varied greatly from session to session. But we could distinguish 4 kinds of topics:

a. The themes which were central to the objectives of the organizers were those which dealt with technology transfer, organization of resource exploitation, social control, and population control. Here the quality was miserable. With few exceptions we were offered neither new information nor any new insights. Rather, we visualize the speakers grabbing any old paper from a desk drawer before catching the plane. The content was limited to reaffirming the basic myth of the Conference: the science and technology of different countries differ only in the degree of development; therefore, "backward" countries aspire to follow the steps of "advanced" countries, and these only wish to help them; that once modern technology enters in search of profit, some hidden hand, *a la* Adam Smith, takes care of social questions.

In these symposia the control was most rigid. The session organized by Rudolpho Stavenhagen was cancelled when it was realized there would be radical content in his session. As noted earlier, Jim Cockcroft was first demoted from speaker to commentator, and then the chairman cut off his microphone when he commented; all the suggestions and volunteer participants from a group of women who had been preparing for the session on family planning were turned down; questions to speakers had to be submitted in writing, and these were censored.

b. Technical topics related to resource exploitation and control technique. Here some of the papers were quite competent in the narrow technical sense, some chillingly competent in their indifference to human consequences. For instance, one



paper discussed behavior control, and made passing reference to the use of lithium on prison inmates as a hint of areas of application. Other papers were illustrated self-praise by such institutions as Scripps, U.S. Hurricane Research Center, and Rockwell International, resplendent with color slides and movies.

c. Decorative themes, such as symmetry, archaeoastronomy, and mathematical biology, that had nothing to do with the basic aims of the Meeting, but which succeeded in recruiting some distinguished scientists. Here irrelevance guaranteed freedom of discussion.

d. Themes of decidedly secondary importance to meeting officials, such as Tropical Ecosystems or The Woman in Science (a topic which was added to the program at the last minute). Here the Meeting organizers authorized the symposium, selected the coordinators, and exercised little or no further control. These sessions allowed an open microphone and broader discussion.

3. We observed a systematic difference between the U.S. and Mexican presentations of the general topics. The Americans emphasized narrowly technical considerations and showed a naive faith in the enterprise called free, while even those Mexicans who accepted the official line showed greater concern for the broader picture.

The central organizing principle of the Meeting was the contradiction between the needs for tight control of the ideological content and for credibility, which undermined that control and created space for dissenters. Among the least controlled of the sessions of the Meeting was the symposium on tropical ecosystems. When a vacancy appeared at the last minute, Science for the People was invited to present a paper and participate in a general round table discussion in order to have a critical viewpoint heard. The invitation was extended to the group, not to any individual member, on the afternoon of our arrest.

Our paper for the symposium on tropical ecosystems was organized around the interactions of military, corporate, academic, civil service, and guerrilla science in the tropics. It was shown that the military and corporate science rips off the tropical environment for anti-human purposes, that those who study the tropics in order to exploit it and those who study to defend it are not colleagues but enemies. Also, the military and corporate research are bad science, narrowly empiricist, anti-theoretical, and over-specialized, with an exaggerated faith in equipment and scorn for thought. Insofar as they dominate research they serve as a model for science which leads to its internal debasement as well. Our paper contrasted this kind of science with the richer and more progressive guerrilla science [see description in box on page 14 called Guerrilla Science].

At the round table we had the support of several

other North American and Mexican participants in challenging the current patterns of education, research, and exploitation of tropical resources. An interesting pattern developed in which we served to express directly and bluntly what some of the others had hinted at obliquely; our points were picked up and quoted by other panelists; or they opened up a topic and then we followed through. For instance, one biologist expressed dismay that Latin American scientists often read in the U.S. journals about work the *yanquis* had done in their own countries without their knowledge. We took this up to demand that a complete set of all specimens collected by foreign expeditions be deposited in the national museum of the country where the work was done; that only duplicates may be removed; that a research report appear in a journal of that country and be presented verbally in a seminar at the national university; and that field expeditions require a special research visa rather than be allowed to enter as tourists. There was an enthusiastic response.

Evaluation

In order to evaluate our activities at the conference, it is necessary to understand that this conference was quite different from any that SftP had participated in previously. It was very different in terms of the composition of the attendants (notably in the absence of working scientists), the scientific content (almost none), and the local political environment. Also, it was an important imperialist event.

When the meetings were first announced we saw as our primary objective the development of anti-imperialist international solidarity around questions of science and technology. The work of expose, literature distribution, and counter-conferences was all subordinate to this goal, which would necessarily take us outside of the Meeting. Yet, we had only vague notions of the political environment in which we would be working and only a few prior contacts. Therefore, we spent a lot of time and effort, beginning months before the meeting, to develop contacts with radicals in Mexico. These contacts were extremely important to us. They provided a friendly environment in what otherwise would have been a very alienating situation; they provided material support, typewriters, mimeograph, etc.; they arranged opportunities for talks and discussions, and bolstered our political strength far beyond the small numbers of the SftP group.

But in some ways we failed to develop these contacts sufficiently. Often we did not succeed in involving Mexican friends directly in our activities. Some exceptions were the writing of the denunciation of the conference and the preparation for the T.V. program. There were a number of reasons for our failure to work more directly with other people: first, the Mexican movement had many other activities and priorities; second, there was the problem of the language; and third, the very repressive nature of the Mexican government meant that public planning meetings would not have succeeded.

This great people has said "enough"
and has begun to move...

THE EARTH IS A SATELLITE OF THE MOON

The appollo 2 cost more than the apollo 1
the apollo 1 cost enough.

The apollo 3 cost more than the apollo 2
the apollo 2 cost more than the apollo 1
the apollo 1 cost enough.

The apollo 4 cost more than the apollo 3
the apollo 3 cost more than the apollo 2
the apollo 2 cost more than the apollo 1
the apollo 1 cost enough.

The apollo 8 cost a whole lot but you didn't feel it
because the astronauts were protestants
they read the bible from the moon,
bringing glad tidings to all christians
and Pope Paul VI blessed them when they returned.

The apollo 9 cost more than all the rest together
including the apollo 1 which cost enough.

The great-grandparents of the people of Acahualinca were less hungry
than the grandparents.

The great-grandparents died of hunger.

The grandparents of the people of Acahualinca were less hungry
than the parents.

The grandparents died of hunger.

The parents of the people of Acahualinca were less hungry
than the people who live there now.

The parents died of hunger.

The people of Acahualinca are less hungry than their children,
The children of the people of Acahualinca are born dead from hunger,
and they're hungry at birth, to die of hunger.

The people of Acahualinca die of hunger.

Blessed be the poor, for they shall inherit the moon.

LEONEL RUGAMA (Nicaragua)



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from the struggle
in Latin America

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The Mexican movement saw the AAAS meeting as one of many instances of imperialist intervention, but not as an event that itself required a major organizing effort. In the context of a very active movement, deeply engaged in local struggles, this view of the meeting was quite correct. The Mexican student movement was already working closely with peasant, worker, and community groups, providing medical, legal, and technical aid. Although they didn't call their work "science for the people", they were already doing it within a developing revolutionary struggle. Understandably, our pre-conference efforts to pull together a local support group met with a lot of frustration; people just had too many other *ondas* [trips]. At the very beginning of the conference, a group finally met to plan activities. The group decided to write a general denunciation of the conference rather than attempt criticisms or activities around specific sessions.

Our own activities as well did not center around the specific content of the AAAS conference, but rather around talks and discussions of science for the people. In many of the counter-discussions we found ourselves in the role of "experts" giving our line on science for the people. We continually attempted to break out of this role by being as informal as possible, by encouraging open discussion rather than simply questions and answers, and by asking people present to help out with translations. These efforts, however, were only partly successful; it seemed that often we were presenting our ideas and answering questions but other people were not presenting their own ideas and examples for discussion. This problem could have been handled better if we had worked more closely with the Mexicans in planning the counter-sessions and had structured the sessions so that both Mexicans and North Americans were giving the introductory raps. The general interest and enthusiasm for the counter-sessions suggests that there would have been people willing to participate more directly.*

One serious difficulty in working closely with the Mexican movement was that the majority of our group did not speak Spanish sufficiently well, in spite of the fact that four of us had spent three or four weeks each studying in Mexico to improve our Spanish. This problem could have been overcome had we made a deliberate effort to seek the assistance of bilingual people. This would have made it possible to work more closely with Spanish-speakers and would have allowed fuller participation of those of us who spoke little or no Spanish. The differences in language ability in our group contributed also to a more extreme division of labor than was necessary or healthy. One person did too much public speaking, one was continually making contacts and organizing, another typing and running off leaflets, some spent long

*One of the criticisms leveled at us by Mexican students was that they thought we came here just to learn what we could learn, and they didn't really see how we could keep up contact. We weren't sure ourselves how to do this other than through sending literature and letters. We didn't expect to become comrades in two short weeks. Comradeship, we were reminded, would come out of time by testing out each other's willingness to help, etc.

and alienating hours at the literature table, while others generally had difficulty participating. Also, the member of the group who was most fluent in Spanish, because he did more speaking and oral translating than anyone else, was immediately defined as the "leader" in the eyes of many people.

We learned only late in the conference that problems stemming from language difficulties could be overcome with the help of people outside our group who could translate. Toward the end of the conference, more people in the group were speaking publicly, which gave us a more collective presence and helped more people in the group to develop and present their ideas. We observed an important phenomenon—that those of us who had to speak and answer questions were forced to develop our theoretical conception of science for the people in more specific and concrete forms.

As a group, SftP functioned very well. We had broad general agreement on most issues. There were very few disagreements and hassles, and decisions were made easily. The cohesiveness of the group probably stemmed from the fact that all of us had worked in SftP and everyone had known at least a few other members of the group before the meeting. But of course, there is a real contradiction between working as a cohesive political group and opening the group to allow new people to enter, participate, and grow.

Besides our general self-criticisms, there are a number of specific ways we could have functioned better. For example, we did not know enough about Mexican politics (we should have asked the students to give us a political orientation on Mexico). We were not adequately prepared to deal with the question of women's liberation in the Mexican context, and the attempted women's meeting was planned for too late. We should have prepared more leaflets and generally had a higher profile at the conference. Also, our planning meetings were held late at night when people were tired, with the result that plans were made for the next day, but little more. After a few days at the conference, we knew there were times during the day when there were lulls in activity. Those times could have been used for more thorough discussions and evaluations. Our self-criticisms, however, should not be read to imply that we think our efforts were unsuccessful; on the contrary, we believe it was one of the most successful SESPAs and certainly the most thoroughly prepared in advance. The criticisms were presented so that we can collectively learn from them and do better in the future.

We feel very positive about our activity in Mexico City. The experience convinced us that there is a ripeness for international cooperation in developing an anti-imperialist movement in science, a movement which recognizes the inherently political nature of science, not only in its use, but also in its internal organization and content. We found that we and our Mexican comrades were in complete accord, that as the class struggle is developing as a whole, a guerrilla struggle must be waged in science. That struggle is now being born.



TECHNICAL AID TO INDOCHINA

A REPORT ON THE LONDON CONFERENCE

The following report on the London Conference on Science, Technology, and the Indochina War provides a starting point for thought and discussion of the crucial question of aid, especially high technology aid, to Indochina. The Minneapolis collective of Science for Vietnam/SftP has responded to this report with the commentary which follows the article. Along with showing solidarity with the peoples of Indochina, a continuing discussion will hopefully result in an overall organizational position that will help clarify 1) the nature of government aid programs likely to be proposed in the near future, 2) the results of aid programs that rely on technology, capital and experts of the advanced capitalist countries, and which allow U.S. or big power control over the results, and 3) our organizational priorities in terms of our specific actions and cooperation with other groups committed to raising funds or material for aid to Indochina. We hope that this discussion will continue and welcome further comment.

What is the role of technological aid to Third World liberation movements? What form of aid should progressive or radical groups advocate and support?

These political questions were nearly pushed under the rug recently in London at the International Conference on Science, Technology and the Indochina War held in mid-May. The conference, which attracted scientists opposed to the Indochina War from many countries, was sponsored by the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science (BSSRS), a broad-based organization including a spectrum of liberal and radical people, and the Indochina Solidarity Conference (ISC), a group recently organized to provide political and material support for the continuing liberation struggles in Southeast Asia. Representatives from various Science for Vietnam national groups were there, as was a special delegation from the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV).

Our report is of the structural and political aspects of the conference, even though its main focus was the specification of the technical needs of the Vietnamese. We feel critical discussion is necessary because the very choice of this focus constitutes a political position that was very much in contestation among the radicals. [A summary of the DRV requests for technical aid are presented in the box on the following page.]

The Conference

The conference began on Friday evening, May 18, with welcoming speeches by representatives of the British Medical Aid for Vietnam group, the BSSRS, the ISC, and the DRV delegation. Several political addresses were the main business of this opening session. The chairman explained that these had been scheduled first so that the conference could then proceed with the serious business of reconstruction of Vietnam, thus implying that the latter was not a political issue. Steven Rose of the radical wing of BSSRS, Pat Langton, a social anthropologist, Joe Neilands, discussing chemical and biological warfare, and Pierre Noyes of SESPA/SftP were the speakers.

On Saturday morning, the representatives of the various national groups reported on their group's activities. These reports were then followed by the presentation of the DRV delegation, which discussed in general terms the technical problems now faced by the Vietnamese. In the afternoon the conference broke into workshops, followed Saturday evening by a concluding session in which an appeal for technical aid for Vietnam was endorsed amidst some controversy.

VIETNAMESE TECHNICAL NEEDS

The highlight of the Saturday morning session was a presentation by the DRV delegation:

Prof. Nguyen van Hieu (physicist)	Director of Physics, Institute of DRV
Dr. Tran Tri (economist)	Director, State Committee for Science and Technology of the DRV
Dr. Le Thoc Can (hydrologist)	Minister of Higher Education of the DRV

Dr. Tri emphasized the massive problems caused by the bombings and herbicides and the need for rapid expansion of production in all fields. He stressed the need for exploration and rapid exploitation of the largely unknown natural resources of the country. Metallurgy, hydrology, forestry and geology are technologies in need of development. Another immediate goal is increased agricultural production and improvement in the protein content of the Vietnamese diet. Also urgent is the development of energy sources and construction materials for the rebuilding of roads, bridges, schools and houses. To facilitate these tasks, the Vietnamese must learn the most advanced technology of the West so that they can "leapfrog" over earlier stages of development and adapt modern techniques to the particular circumstances of their land and people.

Tri stressed the need for continued medical aid and the continuing development of facilities and techniques to combat malaria and other diseases. The building of medical colleges is a high priority task for training doctors and development of the medical sciences neglected during the war.

In discussing the need to develop and rebuild the DRV's educational and research institutions, Tri placed a heavy emphasis on the help that the West could provide, not only by sending books and equipment, but also through exchange of students and professors to aid them in developing their curricula and academic organization.

The presentation by Nguyen van Hieu was less formal and more specific. He explained the connection between educational and research institutes in the DRV. Due to a lack of trained people, and a limited amount of advanced equipment, research by scientists and teachers from the thirty-six colleges and universities is generally done in centralized research institutes in Hanoi.

He pinpointed as the top priority technological need the development of an advanced physical-chemical analytical laboratory. This would be used to study soils contaminated by herbicides and to characterize the many traditional medicinal herbs which scientists learned about while they were in the jungle dodging bombs. Many of these traditional medicines may prove helpful in replacing or augmenting expensive drugs from the West. Also badly needed is an ultrasonics laboratory, to develop means of detecting underground and internal holes and defects in dykes and bridge foundations caused by nearby bomb explosions, and to locate buried unexploded bombs. Hieu also mentioned the need for a small computer for educational and training purposes and the necessity for developing and equipping scientific and engineering libraries.

Other interesting practical points were made about the needs of the Vietnamese. They are hungry for journals and texts of all types.* They are not set up to produce these themselves and the use of a Xerox is impractical because of the lack of supplies, spare parts and trained technicians to keep it operating. (A simpler Czechoslovakian duplicating system may be able to partly solve this problem.) They are set up to use microfilm but high humidity (average is 95%) renders standard microfilm useless after a year or two. The development of a moisture-resistant film would be of great help. All equipment sent to Vietnam must be suitable for use in the tropics and sensitive instruments should be accompanied by simple dehumidifiers.

*Books and journals can be sent to Vietnam quickly (but expensively) by ordering them through L.E. Gili Valdes Latin Asia, 46 Wellington, St. William House, Room 802, Hong Kong.

Within the conference planning committee, and within the conference itself, there appeared to be a serious political division. On the one side were those who thought the key purpose of the meeting was to analyze the role of science in promoting and/or opposing imperialist adventures and to discuss the practical and ideological questions involved. On the other side were those who were only interested in using the occasion for the important task of coordinating efforts to provide scientific and technical aid for reconstruction in Vietnam.

The split became evident at a preconference get-together held after it was learned that the DRV would be participating in the conference. Members of the British Communist Party, who were members of the BSSRS and the World Federation of Scientific Workers (WFS), attempted to forestall any serious political discussion at the conference. Eric Burhop, physicist from the University of London, President of WFS, and a member of the conference's organizing committee, was central in these efforts. He used the sensitive position of the DRV delegation—that is, their reliance on continued support by establishment scientists, like himself—to railroad through a meeting agenda that reserved two-thirds of the conference for information-giving, that is, formal lectures by recognized experts and establishment scientists. This is the kind of structure that SESPA/SftP has consistently exposed as the antithesis of the cooperative arrangements needed for a people's science conference.

Thus the pompous and formal arrangements inhibited participation by those attending the conference. On Friday evening, for example, the significant political points made by the speakers could not rouse the audience from its passive role. It remained uncommunicative and apparently bored. As a result Noyes ended his remarks by suggesting a change in the Saturday format to permit more time for discussion. There was virtually no opposition to this suggestion, and two speakers voluntarily gave up their speaking time. The net effect of this program change was that Saturday's workshops began promptly after lunch, still allowing only three and a half hours for what promised to be the most valuable part of the conference.

But the peculiar structure of the conference became even more apparent from the way these workshops were handled. The original plan (which we were told was formulated to prevent "disruption" of the technical sessions) called for two separate organizing sessions—one on technical aid and the other on political problems. This was objected to from the floor and it was agreed to have the setting up of the workshops discussed in plenary session. When the session began, however, a list of suggested workshops was offered by the organizing committee and we were merely asked to suggest additions. Rather than kill the entire three and a half hours hassling, it was agreed to accept the list which did, in fact, include two "political workshops" (Implications of the War for Western Science and The War and the Social Sciences) and four "prac-

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tical workshops" (Material Aid, Reconstruction, Exchange Visits, and Biomedical Aid). This artificial separation was compounded by scheduling the "political workshops" in another building. As a result, they were small and isolated.

The discussions in the political workshops were lively nonetheless. It was agreed that the workings of the Jason Committee* and the "innocent" participation of military research grant holders provide good object lessons about the bankruptcy of the notion that science is neutral. Yet most scientists still believe in value-free science, and need re-education. The political significance of scientific work and practice, however, took on subtle forms: in the discussions, for example, there emerged a split between the old left liberals and the new left radicals, among those scientific workers who have opposed the war. The former offer the Vietnamese aid in a way that is consistent with the individualistic and paternalistic ideas which dominate establishment science. The latter, however, see themselves as active allies in the liberation struggle. This means working for the political transformation which will change elite Western science itself into a people's science. For them, the cult of expertise and the emphasis on establishment scientists is counterproductive.

The plan to hold four separate workshops related to reconstruction aid never materialized, since the Vietnamese delegation chose to stay together in a large single session. Once again, discussion of the political significance of various kinds of technical aid was thwarted. For example, the Vietnamese emphasized the exchange of students and professors to help in developing their curricula and academic organization. This unqualified request caused considerable concern among some of us. We know how technology and curricula and institutional structures in the West are uniquely designed to suit imperialist needs of the nations they serve. We were reminded by our comrades that the Vietnamese had defeated the enemy

*The Jason Committee is the group of elite scientists that advises the Pentagon on advanced war strategy. See *Science Against the People*, Berkeley SESPA, 1972.

by learning about his methods, not by adopting them. Their intent was to do the same during reconstruction. We were not satisfied by this response, but unfortunately, the structure of the conference prevented fuller discussion of this key issue. The point was made, however, that it would be more useful for carefully selected technical people to be invited to Vietnam, rather than for large numbers of Vietnamese to be educated in the elitist Western technical universities and institutes. Also, it was suggested that the selection of candidates to go abroad to Vietnam should be controlled by the Vietnamese themselves and not by Western "professionals".

Final Session

The concluding session received reports from the workshops and approved a structure worked out earlier in the day for international coordination of scientific and technical aid*. There followed a strong speech by Mike Cooley, a working engineer and official of a British technical workers' union. He pointed out that the conference had included no discussion of the working people who actually produce the equipment we had been talking about sending to the DRV. He asserted that they must be included in our common struggle, that it is important to break down the barriers between professionals, academics, and workers. Much sympathy for this viewpoint was expressed in the discussion following Cooley's talk. It was suggested that putting this into practice was more diffi-

*Much time had been consumed in an attempt to set up the technical aid program in a hierarchical international structure. This proposal was successfully resisted and the structure which emerged leaves strategy and tactics to the discretion of each national group (or subgroup). Six national coordinators were selected from Holland, Sweden, Italy, France, England and the U.S. (in the U.S. the coordinator is E. Pfeiffer, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana 59801. And it was decided that P. Noyes, 823 Lathrop Drive, Stanford, Cal. 94305 would act as an intermediate coordinator for SESPA/SftP), and given the task of coordinating directly with each other and keeping the secretary of the French group (Henri van Regemortel, Observatoire de Meudon, 92 Meudon, France) informed of what has been done.

APPEAL FROM THE CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND THE INDOCHINA WAR

The war waged by U.S. imperialism in Indochina has applied the resources of science and technology to their utmost in an attempt to destroy the Indochinese peoples' struggle for national liberation and independence.

The Indochinese peoples have fought heroically and have won a convincing victory over the U.S. Just as U.S. imperialism has used science and technology against the people, so science and technology used in the service of the people has contributed to the continuing victories of the Indochinese peoples. Scientists and technologists in the United States and Europe have followed with admiration the struggle of the Indochinese peoples and their attempts to make a science in the service of the people.

There already exist a number of national and international groups established for the purposes of coordinating scientific and medical aid to Indochina, and we have heard reports of their activities. We believe that the task of collecting funds and equipment in response to the requests of Indochinese scientists and technologists is best channeled through existing organizations, but that every effort should be made internationally to coordinate their efforts, to ensure a collective, international response to practical requests. In countries where national groups do not exist, we should encourage their establishment. Regular liaison between existing and new groups is essential.

We call on scientists and technologists throughout the western countries to respond to our appeal

We demand that the U.S. and the Saigon Administration scrupulously implement the Paris Accord. At the same time, scientists and technologists should help by collecting money, helping procure the instruments, books and equipment and by responding to the requests for information on particular problems. Contributions should be made directly to their national organizations, which will continue to meet regularly to coordinate activities.

MAY 19th, 1973

cult in countries like the U.S. or the U.K. where the capitalists have successfully used elitism to prevent scientists and workers from uniting in their common interest.

A draft of an appeal for support from science workers throughout the world for technical aid to the liberated areas was then read [see box]. This appeal had been approved by the Conference organizing Committee, which despite the manipulations of the conference mentioned above had a numerical majority of people with progressive political analysis.

The question of adopting the appeal was put to the conference. Little discussion and no amendments followed. The appeal was adopted without any apparent dissent! It was only at this point—after adoption of the appeal—that some of the basic conflicts within the conference came out. Curiously, each person that rose to speak began by saying that he or she agreed with every word of the appeal but several concluded with objection in terms of the difficulty or impossibility of using such a strong statement to mobilize support for technical aid. Eric Burhop stated very strongly that it would drive away many of the people whom he had hoped to bring into an organization which would be political only in the sense that aid would go only to the DRV and liberated areas. (Burhop has since resigned from the organizing committee of the conference which continues as the nucleus of the British organization for implementing the decisions reached.) The U.S. coordinator, Bert Pfeiffer, explained that he felt compelled to abstain from voting on the appeal. He believes (probably with reason) that it would be impossible to obtain foundation support in the U.S. for a campaign organized around this appeal. Other discussants pointed out that the appeal was from the conference participants and that the local control implicit in the coordinating structure would enable each national group to use the statement as it saw fit.

Conclusions and Remarks

The London Conference succeeded only in the narrow sense of establishing a coordination and information exchange structure for soliciting technical aid for Vietnam and in learning about some of the needs of the Vietnamese. This important task could have been accomplished just as easily in a meeting of a few delegates from each of the groups involved and without the agony of listening to several hours of speeches.

Also, the meeting failed to produce any broad-ranging discussions of the many important issues that progressive Western scientific workers must face if complicity in future imperialist wars is to be avoided. We offer the appeal statement and the events of the meeting as topics for discussion, comment and criticism by SESPA/SftP chapters. The problem of providing the most effective means of obtaining the much-needed technical aid for our Vietnamese sisters and brothers without compromising our political position requires serious consideration and debate.

M.G. & T.G.

COMMENTARY BY

MINNEAPOLIS COLLECTIVE

News and impressions of the London meeting have filtered through to us from several sources; we have heard different versions of the same happenings and different political perspectives of the purpose of the meeting, the outcome, and what should be done in the future. Since none of us attended the meeting, we defer discussion of specifics, but we do want to enter into discussion of the bigger issues.

First, we feel that it is wrong to pit "undermining imperialism at home" against "supplying the Third World with technical aid" as contrasting political positions. If we consider, for example, the best possible role for "leftist" scientists living in capitalist countries, in terms of the world struggle for socialism, "undermining imperialism" and "technical aid" may prove to be complementary. The world struggle for socialism will, before it is over, demand a wide spectrum of activities and strategies, many of which may, at present, lie outside our awareness. At any point in time a given action may appear revisionist to one, ultra-left to another; these differences are readily apparent upon inspection of contrasting views of, say, party members and the independent left. All versions of the London meeting amplify this point.

Specifically, we refer to the various reactions to the Vietnamese requests for technical aid. Many of their requests have been with us for two years now, and the general rationalizations of need have been provided. Unless we have missed the point entirely, the central question of the London meeting concerned the politics of "aid". In our view this question falls into two parts: 1) the politics of receiving aid, which, in this case, belongs primarily to the Vietnamese, and 2) the politics of giving aid, which belongs primarily to us. These two parts meld into one, in proportion to the unity between receiver and giver, and hopefully that is the end we all seek. But prior to unity we must grapple with the differences.

From our point of view—based upon lengthy talks with the Vietnamese, review of their modern history, their success in adapting Russian and Chinese hardware to their peculiar conditions of struggle, etc.—their experience in matters political is greater than ours. For us to question, out of hand, their request for material goods, either on the grounds that technology has been misused in capitalist countries, or that the Vietnamese will be co-opted through receipt of our technology, is both elitist and ultraleftist. With so little exchange between the Vietnamese and Western leftists, it is our judgement that at this moment of history we have little choice but to trust *their* use of *our* technology during the initial stages of

their reconstruction; we urge deep consideration of this point of view. We also argue that this view is not "old liberal" or a manifestation of transpositional schizophrenia (i.e., we don't feel as if we *are* Vietnamese), but more, the impression that in many ways the Vietnamese are way ahead of us.

We can't in this short space document this impression. However, it is known to all who have visited the DRVN that the Vietnamese believe in and want to participate in the world struggle, but they understand that the initial stages of the "revolution" must result from adaptation of Marxism-Leninism to the local conditions of each country. They believe that we cannot solve this part of their problem and that they cannot solve this part of our problem. They are anxious for our success and to help us on our way they offer moral support and trust. We are anxious for their success, but we want to do it for them—a condition which is understandable upon examination of our upbringing, schooling and exposure to capitalist science, but which is not necessarily good politics. Indeed, we may learn something about putting science and technology to "people use" simply by observing how the Vietnamese use capitalist technology to reconstruct a communist country. In any case, we feel that they have much for us to learn; we also feel that as we begin to demonstrate some faith in them they will begin to share more with us.

Our more immediate problem concerns the politics of giving aid, which, if we give much, involves getting it from the managers and the rulers. The Mpls. Collective has been and will continue to discuss this part of the problem, and we intend to share our perspective in later issues of *Science for the People*. But for now we point only to our general contention that one big worry ought not to be whether the Vietnamese can handle capitalist technology, but whether we can hasten our own revolution by helping them get some of it. This contention is based primarily upon the conviction that as we know something more about the wheel than the Vietnamese, they know something more about socialism and revolution than we—and, if we are collectively smart, neither the wheel nor socialism will have to be re-invented.

HAVE YOU FOUND A NEW SUBSCRIBER
IN THE PAST YEAR?



MATERIAL NEEDED FOR ENERGY ISSUE

We are planning to put out an issue of the magazine devoted entirely to the energy problem. We hope to be able to do this by early 1974, and this is a call for people who might be willing to work on such an issue as well as those who may wish to contribute articles.

We might try to focus discussion around three key questions:

1. What is the energy problem? Who experiences this as a problem? Although primarily concerned with the US, we are led inevitably to the Third World and its relationship to the US when trying to answer questions such as these.
2. What does an analysis of the energy problem tell us about formulating a strategy for radical political change?
3. What are the implications of the energy problem for the scientific and technical workforce?

Some areas of investigation could be:

HISTORY

- * What has been the history of energy consumption and production and its relationship to the dynamic of economic growth in the US?
- * How has the energy industry evolved, and what has been the role of the state in this process?

PRESENT SITUATION

- * What is the alignment of power and who makes the major decisions in the energy field? What are the respective roles of the oil industry as well as the coal, gas, and uranium industries? What about federal agencies (AEC, FPC, FTC, etc.), the utility companies, the Congress and the White House?
- * We need to examine issues involving capital costs and economic growth, the limits to growth hypothesis and resource depletion, environmental and ecological factors, inflation and increased cost of living, as well as international competition and collusion and the causes of the international monetary crisis.

PLANS AND STRATEGIES OF THE CAPITALIST CLASS

- * What conflicts have developed within the capitalist class?
- * What are the implications for labor? Will there be belt tightening? Attempts to divide workers from the environmental opposition?
- * How important will the importation of oil be (from the Middle East)? Possible military intervention to shore up reactionary regimes?
- * What alternative sources of energy and alternative technology will be developed? On what time scale? For what purposes? Will there be a massive R&D "Apollo" project, a bonanza for certain sections of the energy industry?

WORKERS IN THE ENERGY INDUSTRY

- * What are the characteristics of the energy workforce, e.g., the proportions of skilled, unskilled, and technical workers and their distribution by industry?
- * What will be the repercussions of various energy policies on labor in the energy industry?
- * What issues will be best to organize around?

Please send questions, suggestions, written material, etc. to Energy Issue, c/o Magazine Support Group, SESPA/SftP, 9 Walden St. Jamaica Plain, Mass. 02130.



CONTRIBUTE TO A FORTHCOMING ISSUE
ON LABORATORIES

The newly organized magazine support group recently got together to review and analyze the subject matter of previous issues of *Science for the People* so that we might uncover some areas of interest to serve as topics for future articles. As we discussed our own experiences as laboratory workers, we soon realized that the focus of our attention had actually shifted to a discussion of the economic, social, and political aspects of the laboratory environment. In fact, although most participants in the discussion were laboratory workers, it was apparent that many of us were analyzing our work-situations for the first time. Although readers of *Science for the People* may or may not be laboratory workers, it is important for all of us to analyze our work environment.

We intend to present an entire issue of the magazine dealing specifically with the problems of the lab work environment, although many of them can be applied to any work situation. Please contribute; for a more effective analysis we need to share your experiences and ideas.

Some of you could form groups to work on specific topics. As suggestions, we present the following outline of the topics of our discussions.

1. How valid are popular conceptions about the laboratory?
 - The lab is one big happy family.
 - Lab work is exciting.
 - The lab is a personally enriching environment.
 - Lab workers are engaged in a collective search for the "Truth".
2. How is the research laboratory organized?
 - Social structure and division of labor—how is the decision making power related to the separation of manual from mental labor? Does it have to be that way?
 - How people in different job categories relate to their work.
 - What proportions of carrot and stick are used to ensure maximum commitment?
 - Racism, sexism, and other forms of institutionalized discrimination
3. What does the lab produce?
 - Material products (research results, money, etc.)
 - Social products (ideology and conceptions of scientific work)
4. What's wrong? A political analysis of lab organization and production.
5. What kind of struggle should be waged?
 - Democratizing the lab
 - Organizing workers
 - Values and limitations of such struggles

Please send all contributions to Sue Conrad, c/o Magazine Support Group, SESPA/SftP, 9 Walden St., Jamaica Plain, Mass. 02130

CRITIQUE OF ESTABLISHMENT SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS

Heroes in our Time II,2; 8/70; 14
A History of the AAAS II,4; 12/70; 15
Address to the Academie des Sciences II,4; 12/70; 32
Strangelove Award, (Teller) III,1; 2/71; 10
People's Science III,1; 2/71; 14
Indictment of Seaborg for Crime of Science against the People III,1; 2/71; 2
The Social Impact of Modern Biology III,2; 5/71; 5
Why I Resigned from the National Academy of Sciences III,4; 9/71; 6
The Strange Procedures of *Science* magazine's editor IV,2; 3/72; 16
Science, Scientists, and the Third World IV,3; 5/72; 3
Harvard Loses Pete Barrer IV,3; 5/72; 16
Hasten, Jason, Guard the Nation IV,5; 9/72; 36
European Confrontation Spoils Jason's Summer Vacation IV,6; 11/72; 9
Calculus for Conquest V,2; 3/73; 34
Light in the Sewer V,2; 3/73; 40

USE AND MISUSE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. Imperialism

The Military Industrial Complex; Myth, Mainstay, or Menace (symposium report) II,2; 8/70; 6
Nerve Gas Next Door II,2; 8/70; 9
Herbicide or Genocide—Which Cide are They on? III,1; 2/71; 13
Peoples Peace Treaty (announcement) III,1; 2/71; 23
Actions at Polaroid III,1; 2/71; 24
Help for Science Education in Cuba and Vietnam III,2; 5/71; 28
Raytheon: the Tip of a Stolen Iceberg III,3; 7/71; 14
Ethnic Weapons III,5; 11/71; 4
Press Release from Polaroid Revolutionary Worker's Movement IV,1; 1/72; 35
Science, Scientists, and the Third World IV,3; 5/72; 3
Weather Warfare IV,4; 7/72; 9
Winning Hearts and Minds: War Poems by Vietnam Veterans IV,6; 11/72; 14
Toys Against the People (remote warfare) V,1; 1/73; 8
Runaway Electronics V,1; 1/73; 18
Rx for the People: Preventive Genocide in Latin America V,2; 3/73; 4
Pogrom for Progress: Brazil V,2; 3/73; 9
War Without End (review) V,2; 3/73; 31
Calculus for Conquest V,2; 3/73; 34
Technological Dependence V,4; 7/73; 4
Environmental Colonialism V,4; 7/73; 14
Science and *the Man* in the Americas V,4; 7/73; 17

2. Technology of Control

Letters from a Political Prisoner II,2; 8/70; 5
Population Control and Organized Capital—the Case of Japan II,4; 12/70; 22
Birth Control in Amerika II,4; 12/70; 28
The Social Impact of Modern Biology III,2; 3/71; 5
Fighting the Police Computer System III,4; 9/71; 13
Psychology in the Legitimation of Apartheid IV,3; 5/72; 7
Rx for the People: Preventive Genocide in Latin America V,2; 3/73; 4
Pogrom for Progress: Brazil V,2; 3/73; 9
Motivation or Manipulation: Management Practice and Ideology V,4; 7/73; 32

INDEX TO SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE

The following listing is a compilation of the articles appearing in the first three year's issues of Science for the People. The articles have been categorized under the following headings:

Critique of Establishment Science and Scientists
Use and Misuse of Science and Technology
Imperialism, Technology of Control, Health, Ecology and Environment, To Justify Ideology
Scientists and Technical Workers
Analysis of Work and Working Conditions, Workers' Actions and Struggles
SESPA/SftP Actions and Activities
Actions at Scientific Meetings, Workplace Actions, Science for Vietnam, Other Actions and Activities, SESPA/SftP Politics
Alternative Science and Technology
Science Teaching
Racism, Sexism, and Liberation
Economic Analysis

Many articles are listed under more than one heading. Within headings articles appear in chronological order. Each entry gives the title, volume and number of magazine; date; and page.

In the future, each volume will be indexed separately. Please suggest ways we might improve the listing.

3. Health

Birth Control in Amerika II,4; 12/70; 28
Cancer: We Cause it and Cure it (announcement) III,3; 7/71; 12
A Scientific Visit to Hanoi III,3; 7/71; 19
Biological Science in China III,4; 9/71; 3
Food Additives or 1+1+1 . . . Makes Many III,4; 9/71; 20
Free Clinics IV,1; 1/72; 22
People's Health Movement (announcement) IV,1; 1/72; 23
Industrial Health and the Chemical Worker IV,3; 5/72; 10
Using Pregnancy Tests in Hiring Discrimination or Ma Bell Rejects Pregnant Belles IV,3; 5/72; 17
Our Bodies, Our Selves (review) IV,3; 5/72; 18
What Do Health Maintenance Organizations Maintain? IV,4; 7/72; 19
Cancer—a Political and Social Problem IV,4; 7/72; 27
Occupational Health: Time for Us to Get to Work IV,6; 11/72; 4
Stilbestrol V,1; 1/73; 14
Midwifery V,1; 1/73; 16
The Atomic Establishment (review) V,1; 1/73; 32
Rx for the People: Preventive Genocide in Latin America V,2; 3/73; 4
The Philadelphia Story (Another Experiment on Women V,2; 3/73; 28
Health Workers vs. Supervisors V,3; 5/73; 21
4. Ecology and Environment
Science for the People at Ann Arbor: ENACT Conference II,2; 8/70; 3
Industrial Health and the Chemical Worker IV,3; 5/72; 10
The Atomic Establishment (review) V,1; 1/73; 32

Ecology for the People V,1; 1/73; 34
Environmental Colonialism V,4; 7/73; 14

5. To Justify Ideology

Science in the Justification of Class Structure IV,1; 1/72; 6
Herrstein Buffs Rebuff Herrstein's Ideological Bluff IV,2; 3/72; 12
Psychology in the Legitimation of Apartheid IV,3; 5/72; 7
Motivation or Manipulation: Management Practice and Ideology V,4; 7/73; 32
Women's Biology in a Man's World: Some Issues and Questions V,4; 7/73; 39

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL WORKERS

1. Analysis of Work and Working Conditions

Equality for Women in Science II,2; 8/70; 10
Proposed Legislation Threatens to Silence Scientists II,3; 10/70; 4
Scienza per il Popolo II,4; 12/70; 35
Unemployment of Scientists and Engineers II,4; 12/70; 5
Peoples' Science III,1; 2/71; 4
Majority View III,1; 2/71; 21
Manipulation of Man for a War Economy III,3; 7/71; 5
Engineers in the Working Class III,4; 9/71; 9
Woods Hole: Seeing the Forest and the Trees III,5; 11/71; 8
Visit to Pfizer and Co. (letter and reply) III,5; 11/71; 15
Conditions at Bell Labs (letter) III,5; 11/71; 18
On Engineers in the Working Class (letter) IV,1; 1/72; 36

Brother Hollis Writes from Kansas IV,2; 3/72; 24
Industrial Health and the Chemical Worker IV,3;
5/72; 10
Women in Chemistry: Part of the 51% Minority
IV,4; 7/72; 4
Colleen Meier 1946-1972 IV,6; 11/72; 19
Workplace Politics (Honeywell Capers) V,1; 1/73; 11
Engineering Unemployment—How to Lie With Sta-
tistics V,2; 3/73; 42
Technical Intelligence and the Capitalist Division of
Labor (with critiques) V,3; 5/73; 6
An Examination of Some Myths and Contradictions
Concerning Engineers V,3; 5/73; 16

2. Workers' Actions and Struggles

200 Scientists and Engineers Descend on Washington
II,2; 8/70; 8
Workers at Cambridge Firm Publish Underground
Newspaper II,2; 8/70; 8
Workers' Groups Hold Joint Meeting With Science
for the People II,2; 8/70; 16
Computer Professionals for Peace II,2; 8/70; 17
Actions at Polaroid III,1; 2/71; 24
Black Revolutionary Scientific Worker Jailed Without
Bail III,1; 2/71; 26
St. Louis Aerospace Workers Respond to Layoffs
With New Organization III,2; 5/71; 9
Polaroid Fires Workers; Struggle Continues III,2;
5/71; 16
Repression Hits the Liberal Fan III,2; 5/71; 17
Discrimination at U. Mass.; Woman Scientist Fights
Back III,2; 5/71; 18
Class Struggle in the French Science Establishment
III,3; 7/71; 29
Questions from Argentina: *Que Pasa en los Estados
Unidos?* IV,6; 11/72; 16
Health Workers vs Supervisors V,3; 5/73; 21
"Marxist" Scabs at the University V,3; 5/73; 22
Which Side Are We On? (song) V,3; 5/73; 24

SESPA/SftP ACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

1. Actions at Scientific Meetings

Science for the People at Ann Arbor: ENACT Con-
ference II,2; 8/70; 3
Resolutions for the AAAS II,4; 12/70; 26
SESPA Tells it Like it Is: Opening Statement
AAAS '70 III,1; 2/71; 6
1970 Chicago AAAS Actions: Review and Critique
III,1; 2/71; 8
Polaroid Struggle Lands at N.Y. APS Meeting III,2;
5/71; 12
Actions at NSTA III,3; 7/71; 9
Open Letter, AAAS Philadelphia '71 IV,1; 1/72; 4
AAAS Actions at Philadelphia: the Solidarity of the
Long-Distance Activists IV,2; 3/72; 4
American Chemical Society Meeting IV,4; 7/72; 10
Report of the 16th Annual Biophysical Society and
Meeting IV,4; 7/72; 25
SESPA at the Eastern Psychological Association
Meeting IV,4; 7/72; 35
Up Against the NSTA IV,5; 9/72; 11
Hasten, Jason, Guard the Nation IV,5; 9/72; 36
European Confrontation Spoils Jason's Summer
Vacation IV,6; 11/72; 9
Report from the ACS Collective IV,6; 11/72; 35
Call to AAAS Actions V,1; 1/73; 29

AAAS: Action and Reaction (with critiques) V,2;
3/73; 15

Science and *the Man* in the Americas V,4; 7/73; 17

2. Workplace Actions

Bobby Seale at Cold Spring Harbor II,2; 8/70; 3
Workers at Cambridge Firm Publish Underground
Newspaper II,2; 8/70; 8
Theatre of the Absurd? III,5; 11/71; 6
Discrimination at U. Mass.; Woman Scientist Fights
Back III,2; 5/71; 18
Controlling Aggressive Behavior or Stopping War Re-
search V,1; 1/73; 21
Calculus for Conquest V,2; 3/73; 34
SESPA Activist Wins Court Case V,3; 5/73; 45

3. Science for Vietnam

People's Science Projects for Vietnam III,2; 5/71; 25
Science for Vietnam Conference III,3; 7/71; 24
Science for Vietnam III,5; 11/71; 10

4. Other Actions and Activities

Industrial Health and the Chemical Worker, (course
for workers) IV,3; 5/72; 10
Report from the China Collective IV,3; 5/72; 21
Brief History of Vietnam Moratorium Committee
at NIH/NIMH IV,5; 9/72; 43
SESPA—CPP at the Democratic Convention IV,6;
11/72; 36
Science Teachers Hold Successful Conference in Boston
V,3; 5/73; 40

5. SESPA/Science for the People Politics

Tyranny of Structurelessness IV,6; 11/72; 26
SESPA/SftP Politics V,1; 1/73; 4
A Modest Proposal V,1; 1/73; 27
How Does Political Change Take Place? V,3; 5/73; 31
Does Our Practice Stand Up To Scrutiny? V,3;
5/73; 33
Who Are We? V,3; 5/73; 34

ALTERNATIVE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Technical Assistance Project II,2; 8/70; 7
Panthers Suggest a "Free Science Program" II,4;
12/70; 26
Peoples' Science III,1; 2/71; 14
People's Science Projects for Vietnam III,2; 5/71; 25
Help for Science Education in Cuba and Vietnam III,2;
5/71; 28
A Scientific Visit to Hanoi III,3; 7/71; 19
Science for Vietnam Conference III,3; 7/71; 24
Biological Science in China III,4; 9/71; 3
Science for Vietnam III,5; 11/71; 10
Free Clinics IV,1; 1/72; 22
People's Health Movement (announcement) IV,1;
1/72; 23
Mathematics in China and Vietnam IV,2; 3/72; 19
Industrial Health and the Chemical Worker IV,3;
5/72; 10
Science Teaching: towards an Alternative IV,5;
9/72; 6
Occupational Health: Time for us to Get to Work
IV,6; 11/72 4
Rat Control—People's Science in Philadelphia IV,6;
11/72; 20
A Modest Proposal (alternative science) IV,1; 1/73; 27
Fidel Castro on the Universal University V,4; 7/73; 24
Agriculture in China: an Eyewitness Report V,4;
7/73; 26

SCIENCE TEACHING

Help for Science Education in Cuba and Vietnam
III,2; 5/71; 28
Actions at NSTA III,3; 7/71; 9
Science Teaching: a Critique III,3; 7/71; 11
Perception, Learning, and Science Education IV,4;
7/72; 15
Science Teaching: towards an Alternative IV,5; 9/72; 6
Objecting to Objectivity: a Course in Biology IV,5;
9/72; 16
Resource Bibliography IV,5; 9/72; 22
Action and Reaction: Teaching Physics in Context
(course bibliographies) IV,5; 9/72; 29
Grading: to Each According to her/his Needs? IV,5;
9/72; 22
Rat Control—People's Science in Philadelphia IV,6;
11/72; 20
Paolo Freire—Pedagogy IV,6; 11/72; 26
Science Teachers Hold Successful Conference in Boston
V,3; 5/73; 40
Fidel Castro on the Universal University V,4; 7/73; 24

RACISM, SEXISM, and LIBERATION

1. Racism

Actions at Polaroid III,1; 2/71; 24
Black Revolutionary Scientific Worker Jailed without
Bail III,1; 2/71; 26
Polaroid Fires Workers; Struggle Continues III,2;
5/71; 16
Ethnic Weapons III,5; 11/71; 4
Liberation in the Liberation III,5; 11/71; 22
Hernstein Buffs Rebuff Hernstein's Ideological Bluff
IV,2; 3/72; 12
Psychology in the Legitimation of Apartheid IV,3;
5/72; 7
Rx for the People: Preventive Genocide in Latin
America V,2; 3/73; 4

2. Sexism

Equality for Women in Science II,2; 8/70; 10
Women in Chemistry: Part of the 51% Minority
IV,4; 7/72; 4
Discrimination at U. Mass.; Woman Scientist Fights
Back III,2; 5/71; 18
Liberation in the Liberation III,5; 11/71; 22
Tyranny of Structurelessness IV,6; 11/72; 26
The Philadelphia Story (Another Experiment on Wo-
men V,2; 3/73; 28
Boston Women to Publish Special Issue of *Science for
the People* V,3; 5/73; 39
Womens' Biology in a Man's World: some Issues and
Questions V,4; 7/73; 39

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Unemployment of Scientists and Engineers II,4;
12/70; 5
Unemployment in America—the People Pay for In-
flation II,4; 12/70; 10
Population Control and Organized Capital—the Case
of Japan II,4; 12/70; 22
Manipulation of Men for a War Economy III,3; 7/71; 5
Raytheon: the Tip of a Stolen Iceberg III,3; 7/71; 14
Inflation, Recession, and Crisis IV,1; 1/72; 14
The U.S. Ethical Drug Industry IV,4; 7/72; 12
Technological Dependence V,4; 7/73; 4

CHAPTER REPORTS

PALO ALTO

Great News! SESPA at Stanford has started! Over the past two weeks, we've written an article in the university newspaper, and held the initial two meetings of the chapter. Interest has been good. We have approximately 20 members now, of which at least 10 are quite motivated. I already have a contact at Berkeley—he's quite excited about coordinating our efforts (Berkeley and Stanford SESPA) in the bay area; especially for the San Francisco convention next Christmas.

Now about our activities. We've xeroxed 50 copies of the membership form and will distribute them among our people that are not yet national members. We would greatly appreciate it if you could send all the literature (back issues and other publications) that you can spare. We will try to sell as much as possible and forward to you the proceeds. Also we would appreciate any other information and/or advice that is appropriate for a new chapter.

As it stands now, SESPA at Stanford plans to pursue a threefold program of action:

- (1) We are establishing a series of open meetings where we will present radical perspectives to technological issues such as the energy crisis, toxic chemical exposure for farm workers, or the Honeywell project. At such meetings we hope to have speakers from the university and surrounding community take part (we can possibly get university guest-speaker funds to pay for them).
- (2) SESPA at Stanford plans to strongly support the national organization (in the magazine principally) on all issues that we as a group accept. Furthermore, we will actively pursue Bay area issues such as the conversion of the engineering industry from defense to more humane pursuits in the mid-peninsula, or the BART* system's alleged unfairness to those that sorely need it—non-suburban commuters.
- (3) We are establishing the People's Science Combine. PSC is our attempt to pool our resources as technically trained, yet politically concerned, activists. One of our members is engaged in alternative computer systems work where he intends to design a very inexpensive machine. (He is looking into getting computer space in Stanford's system for the PSC, where we can store our information and project plans. Anyone who wants access to that material will be able to obtain it from the computer. We hope to get such space at no or minimal cost. So, we'll be able to keep a constant interchange of alternative technological information, bibliographies, designs, etc., in our computer space. The whole PSC idea is really exciting. Its potential at a place like Stanford is huge.

Things are going good.

*Bay Area Rapid Transit

NORTHSIDE CHICAGO

This is sort of a catch-all letter to brief you on what's been happening.

First, all of us basically like the "Who Are We" pamphlet—especially in the expanded flyer version. We'd like to see it put up in a little brochure which will be useful as an organizing tool.* We feel it defines us as specifically as is needed right now.

So here's what we've been doing:

(1) We put out the March 1973 issue of CPP's newsletter *Interrupt*. We got a lot of practical experience both in the nuts & bolts of layout, etc., and in collective work, for example, how to reach consensus on the political content of the articles. This is part of our representing CPP (Computer People for Peace) and CSRE (Committee for Social Responsibility in Engineering) in Chicago. Because the CPP, CSRE, and SESPA chapters are slightly distinct in membership and orientation, we think chapters should encourage this cooperation.

(2) We got together with the southside chapters and discussed the Gorz article [see *SftP*, V, 3, May, 1973, "Technical Intelligence and the Capitalist Division of Labor."] After some discussion in applying it to us as academic scientists (not French technicians), we made the following observations:

- a. We as teachers provide the technician and engineer faction with the basis for feeling superior in knowledge and overall perspective to production workers.
- b. "Pure" research—aside from material benefits—contributes to ruling class hegemony and mystification of the masses; for example, "experts" will come up with techfix solutions for the world's problems.
- c. The ruling class of science—some 4000 elite hotshots—is small compared with the million odd scientific workers.

(3) Vint Thomson from Southside SESPA gave a public talk at DePaul on Science in the People's Republic of China, followed a week later by Len Radinsky on Science for the People.

(4) Finally, at our chapter meeting June 3 were about thirteen old and new people. We decided on a summer-time research project on psychosurgery and behavior modification. Any suggestions on previous work in this area will be appreciated.

We also worked on some minor projects: participation in the Black Panther Party sponsored community control of police conference; table at AFSC workshop on educational alternatives; support for a community survival committee in getting access to census and housing data; participation in a coalition against Illinois Bell rate hike petition to ICC; one of us got on the steering committee of the radical caucus of the Midwest Sociology Society; we raised money for and found someone to work on setting up dental equipment for a Black Panther clinic.

So we're staying productive and growing. Give everyone in Boston our regards and keep in there strugglin'.

*This brochure is available for the asking from the Boston office

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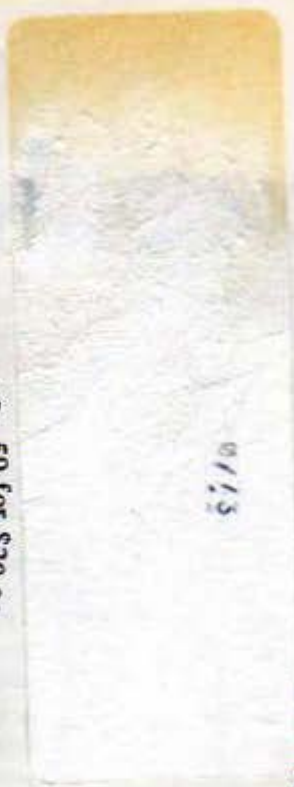
*Chapter—three or more people
meeting regularly

Science for the People Buttons provoke discussion spread the word are beautiful 50 cents ea. 10 for \$4.50 50 for \$20.00 250 for \$70.00



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SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE AND MEMBERSHIP IN SESPA

SESPA is defined by its activities. People who participate in the (mostly local) activities consider themselves members. Of course, there are people who through a variety of circumstances are not in a position to be active but would like to maintain contact. They also consider themselves members.

The magazine keeps us all in touch. It encourages people who may be isolated, presents examples of activities that are useful to local groups, brings issues and information to the attention of the readers, presents analytical articles and offers a forum for discussion. Hence it is a vital activity of SESPA. It is also the only regular national activity.

We need to know who the members are in order to continue to send *SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE* to them. Please supply the following information:

1. Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Occupation:
(if student or unemployed please indicate)

If you are working, do you work in industry [], government [], university [], other _____

2. Local SESPA chapter or other group in which I'm active:
3. I am enclosing money according to the following scheme: (a) regular membership—\$10, (b) indigent membership—less than \$10, (c) affluent or sacrifice membership—more than \$10, (d) completely impoverished—nothing, (e) I have paid already.
4. I will sell _____ magazines. This can be done on consignment to bookstores and newsstands, to your colleagues, at meetings. (If you want to give some away free because you are organizing and can't pay for them, let us know)
5. I am attaching a list of names and addresses of people who I believe would be interested in the magazine. Please send them complimentary copies.
6. I would be willing to provide technical assistance to community, movement, or Third World groups in the areas of:

Please add any comments on the magazine or SESPA or your own circumstances. We welcome criticism, advice, and would like to get to know you.

SEND CHECKS TO: SESPA, 9 WALDEN ST., JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS. 02130