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BOOK REVIEWER
BOSTON HERALD AMERICAN
THE JOURNAL OF INTERGROUP RELATIONS
JEWISH ADVOCATE
Boston Phoenix

Mr. Herb Hetu
Director of Public Affairs
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Herb:

I am enclosing a recent piece that my colleague, Mike Kort, and I ran in the Boston Phoenix. We have been specializing in crime and politics and as I told you we will be doing a piece on Senator Kennedy during the week of the 23rd of July. Our piece is the cover story.

It struck me that we could combine our time and bring back the beginnings of an in-depth piece on the CIA's problem with the magazine Covert Action. The NBC piece was much too brief although it was enough to outrage most of the people I know who viewed it--especially me.

Let me know as soon as you can about scheduling some important interviews with key people in the agency. I was surprised, and of course delighted, when I found out you were in such a key spot.

Best regards,

Marty

Marty Goldman

Messrs. Goldman and Kort met with Daniel Silver, the Director and [redacted] from the DDO on Tuesday, 31 July 1979. STAT

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DON'T QUOTE ME...

Missed connections: The Globe hires an ad agency

by Dave O'Brian

The big joke making the rounds of Boston's outrageously gossipy advertising community last week was the one about our most prestigious daily newspaper and how, after setting out to select a strictly non-political ad agency to direct its lavish promotional efforts, said newspaper ended up opting for the most thoroughly politicized agency in town.

Specifically, that joke was about the *Boston Globe*'s decision, after seven years with Quinn & Johnson (the agency that gave us such memorable campaign slogans as "We want you to know everything" and "Have you seen the *Globe* today?"), to switch gears. And so, after conducting an extensive, three-month-long agency review, the *Globe* agreed to hand over its lucrative, $1.5 million-plus account to Hill, Holliday, Connors, Cosmopulos — the doubtless capable and very prosperous agency that has involved itself in loads of past political campaigns, most notably as the agency of record for Mayor **Kevin White**'s last two re-election drives.

The choice was made, it turns out, even though the *Globe*, in its written invitation for bids for the account, pointedly asked each bidder to detail how it would "insulate the *Globe* from any conflict-of-interest problem involved with the agency's handling of a political candidate or emotion-filled issues." That unusual question was read by most of the ad execs preparing proposals for the *Globe* account as a warning against submissions by those currently involved in such activities, and **Richard Collins**, the *Globe*'s promotion director, tells us such a reading was precisely accurate. "The *Globe* takes strong positions on any number of issues," he said, "and it was terribly important to us that the agency doing our advertising not be promoting the opposite sides of those issues." Collins suggested, for example, that it would have been awkward, at best, had the *Globe* been dealing with gubernatorial candidate **Ed King**'s ad agency last year while the paper's news pages were "so violently in favor of Hatch." Or had the paper been doing business with an ad agency that was at the same time handling an anti-bottle-bill crusade.

How, then, was the paper able to settle on Hill, Holliday — which has promoted such pols as White, one-time gubernatorial hopeful **Bob Quinn** and last year's unsuccessful senatorial candidate **Paul Guzzi**? "The first thing **Jack Connors** (president of Hill, Holliday) told us," said Collins, "was that as of the first of this year his agency was handling no more such accounts."

Indeed, Hill, Holliday (not unlike such other finalists for the *Globe*'s business as Ingalls Associates and Humphrey, Browning, MacDougall) *did* make such a declaration. Connors, in fact, assures us that his agency had bowed out of political campaigning because it offers too much pressure and too few rewards. "It's just not profitable for an agency as large as ours," he said.

Ah, but to draw from that statement the inference that Connors and his agency cohorts are now totally out of the political wars would be like concluding that Liz Taylor, on a day she found herself between marriages, had lost interest in men. Last year, as it happens, Hill, Holliday lent **Dick Pantano**, the agency's top art director, to State Treasurer **Bob Crane** (a fast friend of Mayor White's) to produce his campaign's TV spots. This year, despite its non-political pledge, Hill, Holliday has done the time-buying for those Kevin White TV spots being produced by **Scott Miller** (one-time Hill, Holliday honcho) out of New York. And most significantly, Jack Connors himself — the long-time close Kevin White buddy who named his own son after our esteemed mayor — remains extremely active in the White campaign as an unpaid consultant and top-level adviser. "He attends all the strategy meetings and is very much a part of the campaign," said one City Hall insider.

"No, I wasn't aware of that," said the *Globe*'s Collins when apprised of Connor's extracurricular politicking. "Jack didn't tell us about that, nor did he deny it. It just didn't come up." He was quick to add, though, that "I don't see it as a particular problem. People have got to be allowed their political beliefs. We can't censor individuals." Maybe *that's* how come everyone's reading the *Globe* these days.

* * *

Which Reminds Me: when the aforementioned Kevin White campaign first approached **Steve Crosby**, the former Republican campaign operative now publishing *Metroguide*, a leisure-time supplement to suburban newspapers, the proposal offered him was that he sever his ties from his fledgling publication so as to go and manage the White campaign full-time.

Crosby, however, said no — and so, believe it or not, the White campaign stalwarts ultimately agreed to Crosby's precondition that he continue to run *Metroguide* during the day and, in effect, manage the White effort in his spare time. What's this? A part-time campaign manager? "No," Crosby said. "I'll have two pretty nearly full-time jobs. I'll have to spend business hours at *Metroguide*, but there's no reason why people should work only 40 hours a week. There's no reason why people can't work as many as 80 or 90 hours a week."

* * *

Elsewhere: hardly had she gone and totally redone the on-air sound of Cambridge's progressive AM radio station WCAS (shifting the daytime outlet from its former folk/bluegrass format to the current jazz/pop sound) when the station's program director, **Judith Brackley**, was lured away by WCOZ-FM, where she'll do weekday-morning news broadcasts and one Saturday music shift. "I would definitely have continued the jazz emphasis at 'CAS if I had stayed," she said. "I don't know if it would have become an all-jazz station, but it would have been damn close." **Don Cohen**, the 'CAS music director who's been promoted into the job Brackley vacates, said only that for now he wants to "give the current mix, jazz and pop, a real shot" .... Meanwhile, **John Koch**, who has served in various posts at the *Herald American* during the past seven years, most recently as arts editor, has up and quit. Koch says he's leaving the paper amiably, though there can be no doubt that the disintegration of the paper's once-proud and readable arts section as the *Herald*'s news hole underwent a series of cutbacks can only have left that section's editor frustrated and with little remaining authority .... And, as predicted recently in this column, **Bob Bergenheim**, former *Herald American* publisher, has indeed been named by Boston University as a vice-president. BU trustee Bergenheim, who handled both the press and the union negotiations during this spring's faculty strike, gets the newly created title of vice-president for labor and public relations. The appointment apparently marks the end of Bergenheim's attempts to bankroll some sort of a local publishing venture .... In an attempt to beef up a somewhat obscure (circulation: below 10,000) two-year-old local monthly magazine called *Boston Today*, **Benjamin Franklin Smith**, president of the Benjamin Franklin Publishing Company, which puts out the thing, has named editor **James O'Neill** as publisher and has hired **Harry Zane**, the one-time newsman who has lately been public-information director at Tufts University, to be editor .... Arts Editor **Pat McGilligan** and pop-music columnist **Rory O'Connor** are both due back at those posts at the Cambridge-based *Real Paper* this week, bringing to an end, for now, the controversy that had erupted at that alternative weekly after editor **Martin Linsky** had objected to an unkind remark about rock promoter (and major advertiser) **Don Law** in O'Connor's column. Linsky had taken away O'Connor's column, McGilligan had resigned in protest, and Linsky subsequently backed off under pressure from the staff union .... And for those of you who have yet to read it elsewhere, be it known that effective in two weeks, *Phoenix* staffer **Richard Gaines** will be promoted from State House reporter to editor. ●

JAMES TAYLOR

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Tickets on sale at Ticketron outlets now. Tickets will be available at regular outlets and the ORPHEUM THEATER box office Wed. June 27.

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The shoplifting war

by Martin S. Goldman
and Michael G. Kort

The attractive young woman left Filene's in downtown Boston, turned and walked casually down Snow Place. Two men followed as she rounded the corner onto Arch Street, one of them glaring intently from behind sunglasses. It was drizzling as she walked and chatted with a friend, completely unaware that anyone was behind her. Or in front of her. Or to her left or right.

The man wearing sunglasses pulled out a two-way radio and gave a signal; eight store detectives from Filene's converged on the startled woman. She began to struggle. A detective in a green slicker picked her up by the shoulders. The detective in the sunglasses grabbed her legs. They carried her down Arch Street, back up Snow Place and into the store, where she disappeared, screaming, biting and kicking, up a narrow flight of stairs and behind a door with brown lettering that said SECURITY.

The woman was another casualty in the commercial world's war against shoplifters.

Shoplifting hardly conjures up images of menacing criminality. Yet it is "the biggest consumer ripoff in America," according to Myles Hannan, a vice-president of the Stop & Shop companies. Arnold Feldman, past president of the Massachusetts State Pharmaceutical Association and a Hyde Park store owner, says, "Two to five percent of gross sales are lost in pilferage. It's like paying a second rent."

The latest available government estimates show that in 1975 over $1.9 billion worth of merchandise was stolen nationwide in 140 million incidents. Experts say that one in 10 — perhaps as many as one in three — of all Massachusetts shoppers have shoplifted at least once. They are difficult to catch. Between one in 10 and one in 35 — again, depending on your expert — are caught. The battle lines in this war are firmly drawn. Retailers hire troops who are engaged in never-ending conflict with those who want something for nothing — a group that seems to be expanding.

Shoplifting also destroys jobs and livelihoods. Small businesses, which ordinarily cannot afford expensive security equipment and trained personnel, are particularly vulnerable. Shoplifting can even kill off an entire shopping complex. Boston Police Superintendent John F. Doyle says the Bayside Mall in Dorchester "went down the drain because of shoplifting."

Gerald Lavoie, associate professor of criminal justice at Northeastern University, estimates that for most retail outlets "shrinkage" (as the retail trade puts it) of six percent of inventory could mean bankruptcy. Because many retail businesses operate on thin net-profit margins — one percent in food and two to three percent in clothing, according to William Phipps, executive director of the Retailers' Association of Massachusetts — the cost of shoplifting must be passed on. Thus shoplifting adds to the general ravaging effects of inflation.

Stop & Shop's Hannan views shoplifting as a good index of the state of the economy. He says that these days, "Things are worse. It's a maddening problem for this company." John Powers, director of corporate security at Jordan Marsh, agrees. "There is probably more shoplifting now than 10 years ago," he says, attributing it to the economy and to less help on the floor in the larger retail stores. A dramatic 75 percent increase in the number of shoplifters apprehended during the last decade, Powers notes, reflects the growing use of sophisticated technology and better-trained personnel. "We have a small army (of detectives) in our Boston store alone," Powers says. "This is where the action is." The professionals feel they are at war with the shoplifters. The war is interesting. But the battles are fascinating.

* * *

Who shoplifts? As Pogo remarked, "We have met the enemy and he is us." Doctors, lawyers, teachers, college administrators, oil-company executives, physicists and the clergy — these groups all have shoplifters in their ranks. One detective tells the story of a nun who attempted to walk out of Filene's with a dress during Easter week. Another recalls a six-year-old jewelry thief. Bob Gordon, president of Store 24, remembers "college kids being a problem in the past — as a political statement." Stores near colleges are not, these days, a particular problem.

Photos by Eric A. Roth

One-third of all shoplifters are teenagers and nearly 85 percent women, according to government estimates. John Powers of Jordan Marsh believes that figure is actually somewhat lower: "The biggest problem still is women in the 18-to-25 age bracket, but men in that category are catching up. They're going for the new men's-fashion clothing, especially the stuff in the disco shops," he explains.

Robert Gallant, professor of criminal justice at Northeastern University, places shoplifters in four general categories.

The amateur steals on impulse, often because something looks easy to steal. Frequently, the amateur has the money to pay for what he or she is stealing, as did the woman apprehended in a large store hiding a $3.75 cosmetic in her handbag as she paid for well over $40 worth of other merchandise.

The drug addict steals to sell the goods. Addicts get 10 to 20 percent of the value of their stolen goods, and a $500-a-day quota is not uncommon for them.

The "professionals" approach shoplifting as scientifically as the security forces aligned against them do. A good professional team of two or three people can roll up half-a-dozen men's suits, stuff them in a bag in a few seconds and get out of the store. According to Police Superintendent John F. Doyle, "Well-known organized-crime figures have been caught shoplifting in Boston." Doyle knows one thief who was so expert that the Boston police put him in touch with Boston retailers, and the ex-thief now runs seminars for security personnel.

Almost alone among shoplifters, the professionals face jail terms if they are caught: one aspiring lumberjack got six months for stealing 11 chain saws that sold for over $140 each. On the other hand the reward can be great. Peter Pleshaw, security director for Lechmere stores, knew a professional "who makes $70,000 a year," tax-free.

Gallant's last category is the person who steals to beat the system, who shoplifts for thrills. The job of stopping them belongs to the store detectives, who often work in pairs to provide a witness in each potential case. One store detective stated that this is especially important in the apprehension of female suspects, who often charge that they have been assaulted. A woman caught stealing in a local bookstore accused a guard of attacking her. One fashionable shoplifter who stole an expensive bottle of perfume in full view of an undercover detective claimed that the arresting officers beat her. And a college administrator, accused of stealing a variety of items in a large chain store, maintained in her suit that she had been the victim of assault and battery. Store 24 has developed a novel approach to avoid suits alleging excessive force in shoplifting arrests: "Our lawyers are not sure you can detain someone forcibly," Bob Gordon notes, "so we have actually had our employees lock the doors of the store until the police come."

* * *

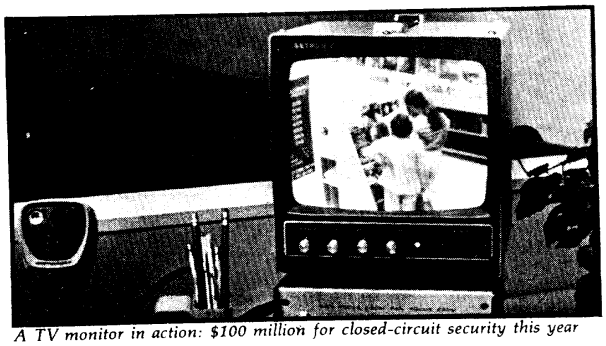
Tommy (all detectives interviewed for this article requested that their last names not be used, to protect their safety) wears a tweed cap pulled down almost over his eyes. He looks like a fugitive from the Bowery Boys. Tommy is a detective with the Stop & Shop chain who works out of a Bradlees department store. He is conducting a tour of his beat and explaining the tricks of his trade. Tommy, who calls them "thieves," not shoplifters, says he was taught by his family that "Stealing is stealing." He notes that thieves prefer stores that offer ready exits. One popular spot in his store is a gate by the Garden Shop that leads to the parking lot. Just as Tommy is pointing out the exit, a well-dressed young man with blond hair and a thick mustache wheels 40 quarts of motor oil past him in a cart as he heads toward the parking lot.

Tommy springs into action. "Can I please see your sales receipt for that merchandise?" he asks firmly as he approaches the man and identifies himself. The man appears startled. "I was just wheeling it out to the car first. Then I was gonna go in to pay for it," he stammers. Tommy asks the man to accompany him to the store's security office.

The man is clearly shaken. He is also angry — mostly, it appears, with himself. "Stupid, just stupid of me," he mutters. "I really wasn't going to steal that stuff. How thoughtless of me to do what I did. I know it looks real bad . . . . But this is crazy . . . . I got myself in trouble. Are you guys gonna arrest me?"

Ed, another Bradlees detective, reads the man his rights. Ed has worked the store for five years and says he has seen "just about everything you can imagine." Ed looks the man straight in the eye. "Hey man, come on. You want us to believe that you were wheeling the oil out to your car and then you were going to come back into the store and pay for it? Come on. At least be straight with us." Ed gives the man a form offered to every person caught shoplifting in the store. The man signs it. By signing he has admitted his guilt. He is then permitted to leave the office.

He walks quietly and quickly down the steps and back to the department where the oil is displayed at 88 cents a quart. He fills another cart, pays for the oil and, receipt in hand, walks back to the parking lot through the Garden Shop. "Why did you do it?" he was asked. At first he reiterates that he intended to return to the store to pay for the oil. "Th hy did you sign the form and admit that you stole it?" He grins sheepishly and shrugs his shoulders. What about the technology he was able to see in the security office? He is a student at Wentworth Institute, and he knows a lot about technology. "The technology I saw? That technology is outrageous. Were they watching me every minute on all those cameras?"



A TV monitor in action: $100 million for closed-circuit security this year

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Bell Markets manager Peter Sherin: "You have no decent option."

Photos by Eric A. Roth

The shoplifters of a decade ago did not have to contend with such sophisticated security systems. John Powers feels the technology evens the odds and enables the large as well as the small store to take preventive action against potential theft. Bradlees uses seven television monitors with nine-inch screens and lenses that are able to zoom in close enough to read the label of an eight-track tape just as it disappears into someone's pocket. Jordan's employs a TV system that enables a handful of trained men and women to monitor the entire store — especially those areas that have a high rate of shrinkage. Filene's uses two-way mirrors, strategically situated throughout the store, in addition to TV cameras.

The hardware side of the security business is big business. Chains are used to secure expensive items like leather jackets. Many clothing stores, as most shoppers know, rely on special tags and entryway detectors that emit a loud beeping if the tags have not been removed from the merchandise by a clerk. The demand from stores for closed-circuit-TV systems will rise nationwide to $100 million in 1979 — up from $70 million last year. Once again, the consumer pays the bill — and all this security expenditure does not add one cent of value to the goods purchased with shunken dollars. "I'm a big expense," admits John Powers of Jordan Marsh. Store 24 now spends about $3800 a week for security, according to Bob Gordon.

* * *

The small-store owner can ill afford such enormous expenses. Thirty years ago, Peter Sherin's market in Beverly would have been considered a "super" market. Today Bell Markets is a small business, the category that suffers most from shoplifting. Bell Markets has no special security force. Each of the dozen or so employees must pitch in while doing his regular job. In an age of advanced technology, Sherin must rely almost entirely on people to keep his shrinkage at a tolerable level. Watching from their regular posts and from the hidden observation window, Sherin's people are adept at spotting suspicious-looking customers. But unlike professional security agents, Sherin's employees do not have the power of arrest. They must request aid from the police station across the street. Sherin must file a complaint and then appear in court. And this is something he is not likely to do, because he feels the law won't back him up.

Sherin's troubles could multiply if he decides to prosecute. Parents of young people detained in the store might sue him for slander; adults accused of shoplifting can launch a counter-accusation of false arrest. Sherin therefore feels he must be 100 percent sure before he accuses anyone of anything. "You are never 100 percent sure," he says. Thus, to protect his operation he is forced to take legal risks. "Believe me," Sherin asserts, "the adrenalin flows."

So far, Sherin has been fortunate. He has established a live-and-let-live relationship with the local street kids, and Bell Markets has developed a reputation as "a hard place to hit." Nevertheless, Sherin has watched 10 pounds of food disappear into a customer's pants, and has followed trails of food eaten right off his shelves. But because of his lack of confidence in the law, Bell has prosecuted only one case in recent years — a scam in which parents were directing their children to steal. Sherin is a handsome and friendly man, and when he speaks of his never-ending struggle against shoplifting he seems to be a victim of battle fatigue. He says, "You have no decent option — the situation dictates what we do and how far we go."

For the small- and large-store owner alike, successfully prosecuting shoplifters is almost as difficult as apprehending them. Responding to the large number of cases, the Boston Municipal Court arraigns shoplifting cases early in the morning and holds the trials at specific times. One Filene's detective says that she spends almost as much time in court as she does on the job.

But the merchants are not satisfied. William Phipps of the Retailers' Association of Massachusetts points out that about 80 percent of all shoplifting cases are continued without a finding (no judicial decision is reached). Instead, the charge is left hanging for a specific period of time — often six months. At the end of this period, if the defendant has managed to stay out of trouble, the charge is dropped and the record is erased. In effect, most shoplifting defendants escape punishment.

Large chains do not wish to disclose their records of arrests and convictions. One chain caught almost 26,000 shoplifters in this area last year. They prosecuted approximately 4500 — about one in six.

Still, the practice of continuing cases without findings undermines the effectiveness of prosecution. Phipps and his organization would like some kind of mandatory sentence. "Now please remember, I'm not talking about jail or anything like that," he emphasizes. For the average case involving an amateur, Phipps suggests a suspended sentence or a reasonably stiff fine. This, he stressed, would up the ante a little more, making the punishment fit the crime.

Many stores, particularly the larger chains, continue to prosecute despite the odds against convictions. According to Powers of Jordan Marsh, "It is the only thing that works." Hannan says, "Stop & Shop is increasing the frequency of prosecuting shoplifters." Says Jacob Lewiton, retired chief justice of the Boston Municipal Court, "After all, if every dog is given one bite, the stores would go out of business."

John Powers does admit that there are special circumstances. "We try to be sensitive," he explains. While children are handled according to the laws governing the arrest of a minor and are eventually released in the custody of a parent or guardian, they are not spared an encounter with the police by most of the larger stores. Juveniles whose parents cannot be reached are sent to the Youth Service Board in Charlestown.

* * *

Gloria said she was 13. She looked terrified as a husky female detective brought her into the security office of Jordan Marsh's downtown store. The detective opened Gloria's shopping bag and dumped the contents on a desk: a top-and-slacks set, six pairs of athletic socks, four pairs of pantyhose, a brassiere, some jewelry and a few ballpoint pens — almost $75 worth of merchandise. Gloria had been stopped just as she was about to leave the store. None of the merchandise had been paid for. According to the detective who apprehended her, "She won't be booked unless she has a record. She'll be back on the street in a matter of hours." Jordan's was satisfied to get its merchandise back.

Sometimes apprehensions run less smoothly and lead to violence. Sherin feels lucky that during a recent incident in a parking lot, two suspects he had thwarted in their attempt to steal 30 cans of instant coffee "chose not to run me over." Several years ago, an employee at Bell was challenged by a shoplifter to step outside. The shoplifter was carrying a gun.

Mary has worked in security at Jordan's for almost five years. She remembers a teenage suspect who bit her and a 75-year-old man who tried to throw her down a flight of stairs when she apprehended him. Mary, who is only 5-foot-2, smiles and says, "I'm not scared until I get them up to the security office and have time to think about it."

Another young woman who has worked in a large downtown store reports, "We get hit often. Sometimes they hurt you enough so that you have to go home." One detective from a major chain remembers, "We stopped a guy who had stuffed a bolt-cutter down his pants. When we got him upstairs, he hit my partner with the thing and ran for it."

But the most able shoplifters rely on finesse. One favored technique is label-changing. Peter Sherin recalls observing customers using a small hand-warmer to melt the $5.99 label off a choice cut of meat and replace it with a label melted off a package of ground meat selling for 99 cents. Sherin says he now keeps his small tins of expensive Alaskan king crab under lock and key. And one Bradlees detective showed how a Norelco Home Patrol Burglar Alarm, originally priced at $249.99, had somehow been marked down to $8.99. An alert cashier caught the item during checkout by calling for a price check. Such incidents are not rare, and retailers must depend heavily on alert and dedicated employees to counter this type of shrinkage.

Tony DeFranco, manager of the downtown Jeans West store, stresses the human element in preventing shoplifting. Every person entering DeFranco's store encounters a polite "May I help you?" "This lets the shoplifter know he

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Power pipeline

How the utility industry gets money to 'responsible' candidates

Joe Thomas

Rep. Richard Roche at an anti-nuke rally: his opponent got $250.

by Alan Lupo

New England's multi-million-dollar utility industry has built an underground transmission line to carry a power source greater than coal, oil, plutonium or electricity. This conduit carries money.

From July 31 to October 30, 1978, the money was transmitted to 85 candidates for the state legislature in an attempt to fuel some sympathy for utility causes. The line was buried under something called the "Committee to Elect Responsible Public Officials," which was dutifully registered with the state with a high-sounding purpose: "To help elect public officials who believe in a continuation of the private-enterprise system."

Given that no known communists, fascists, socialists or anarchists could have won a legislative seat, that description would seem to cover everyone. It doesn't. With some exceptions, the money went to candidates regarded as conservative or pro-business. In certain cases, the money was sent to candidates regarded as pro-nuclear or pro-utility, especially if they faced opponents critical of the utility industry.

But more telling than the destination of the dough was its source. From mid-July to early November of last year, the Committee to Elect Responsible Public Officials collected $31,581 from 153 persons. A *Phoenix* investigation shows that more than two-thirds of these contributors have direct or indirect connections to the utility industry, and that all but $7000 of the money collected can be traced back to the utility industry. Because not every contributor's job could be traced, these are *conservative* calculations.

In other words, what purports to be a broad-based pro-business organization seems to be a front for the utilities, the denials of some contributors notwithstanding.

At least 38 executives and employees of Boston Edison contributed $8760 to the committee. The money came in amounts ranging from $10 contributions from clerical workers to $1000 each from Thomas J. Galligan Jr., chairman of the board; James Lydon, a vice-president; and Joseph Tyrell, a senior vice-president.

From the New England Electric System, at least 14 officers and directors threw a total of $5000 into the pot. The New England Electric System is tied in with the New England Power Co., the New England Power Service Co., the New England Wholesale Electric Co. and the Massachusetts Electric Co., all of which have headquarters at 20 Turnpike Rd., Westborough.

This proved to be a lucrative tie-in for the Committee to Elect Responsible Public Officials. The *Phoenix* investigation found that seven Massachusetts Electric officials contributed $1900 and three New England Power Service Co. officers contributed $700.

From Fitchburg Gas and Electric, which is tied in with the Bay State Gas Co., 10 officers and directors contributed $1315.

Ten officers and trustees of the New England Gas and Electric Association, which runs the New Bedford Gas and Edison Light Co. and Cambridge Electric, contributed $1300, and 10 officials and business associates of the New Bedford company alone accounted for another $950.

At least seven officials and directors of Northeast Utilities, Connecticut's largest utility company and the owner of Western Massachusetts Electric Co., contributed $600.

When you throw in some miscellaneous utilities and the state's major utility-lobbying outfit, Thomas Joyce's Massachusetts Electric and Gas Association, you end up with about $24,500 from utility officials, employees, directors, trustees and relatives thereof.

That's only about $7000 less than the $31,581 collected by the committee and only about $5000 less than the $29,650 the committee gave to candidates.

The list of receipts and contributions was filed, as required by law, with the Office of Campaign and Political Finance. It is not the most accurate list on file there. Addresses for six contributors are missing; another 13 addresses list just a city or town, without any street or post-office box; some addresses are places of business, not of residence.

State law does not require that contributors list their occupations or business affiliations, but a study of public records, company reports, news clippings and city directories brought the utility connections to light.

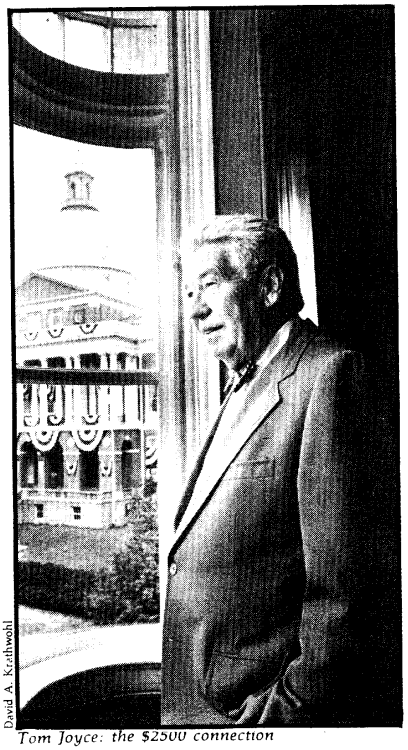
The money came from all over Massachusetts and from New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Connecticut, further testimony to the interlocking of the different utility companies and associations.

Some utility companies operate in more than one New England state. Others have affiliates or subsidiaries in two or more New England states. Some may share ownership in a nuclear power plant. They all have an interest in the Massachusetts legislature, which annually considers a variety of bills that could affect them.

Donald C. Switzer of Granby, Conn., an official of Northeast Utilities, told the *Phoenix* that while he doesn't remember regarding the committee as a vehicle for utilities, he "probably discussed it" with Northeast's lobbyist and public-relations man. "All I would remember is that he recommended it was a good committee, and if we wanted to support candidates in Massachusetts, it was a reliable committee to give to," Switzer said.

Most contributors interviewed by the *Phoenix* denied the committee was a utility interest, or said they couldn't remember the details, or declined to comment further when the utility question was raised in the interview.

Howard W. Evirs Jr., president of Fitchburg Gas and Electric, said he gave because "I just felt from the candidates they were supporting, we could get representation of a good conservative government, and I felt that with the election of Governor King, this would be an asset."



David A. Krathwohl

Tom Joyce: the $2500 connection

When asked how he had been contacted, Evirs said, "probably through a business acquaintance." Was the utility approached? "Absolutely not," he insisted. "There was no corporate contribution or solicitation." Evirs said he didn't know if any effort had been made by the committee to get contributions from utility companies.

When asked if it was not curious or coincidental that so many from his company donated, Evirs asked, "How many?" When told 10, he said, "I don't think that's so many."

Paul J. Sullivan of Westborough, vice-president of the New England Electric System and a director of Massachusetts Electric, at first could not remember the committee. When it was described, he then recalled it as having been "set up to channel contributions to those legislators supporting what I thought were business-oriented decisions."

Sullivan could not recall how the committee came to his attention, and when asked if the committee was reflecting the utility industry's concerns, he said, "I can't comment on that."

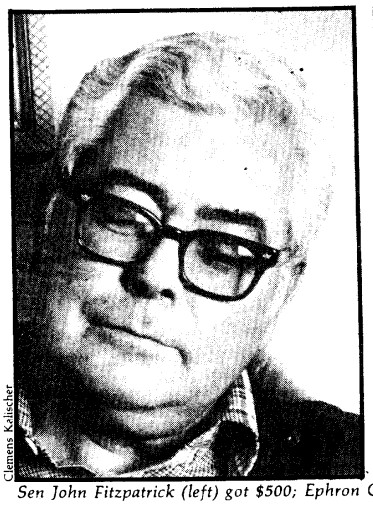
Unlike Switzer, who gave $100; Evirs, who gave $250; and Sullivan, who gave $400, James S. Curran of West Quincy, a Boston Edison employee, gave $10. His contribution was smaller, but his memory was better.

"I gave to one of those programs. We did get a list of who they pushed and how the guy made out. I'm in the utility end of the business and interested in not helping the antis, shall we say . . . . All the guys in work were giving. It was a push program, everyone was giving, and that's why I gave. There was no pressure, though. I wouldn't have given, if there was pressure.

"They had letters, a form letter my boss gave me. That's how it got around. The letter explained the goals." Was it geared to the utility industry? "Oh yeah, the letters were stressing what the utilities needed, tailored to us in the utilities. There might have been another type of letter going out to Gillette or some other type of industry, like machine-tool."

The *Phoenix* was able to track about $700 in contributions to the

Continued on page 20



Clemens Kalischer

Sen John Fitzpatrick (left) got $500; Ephron Catlin helped collect it.

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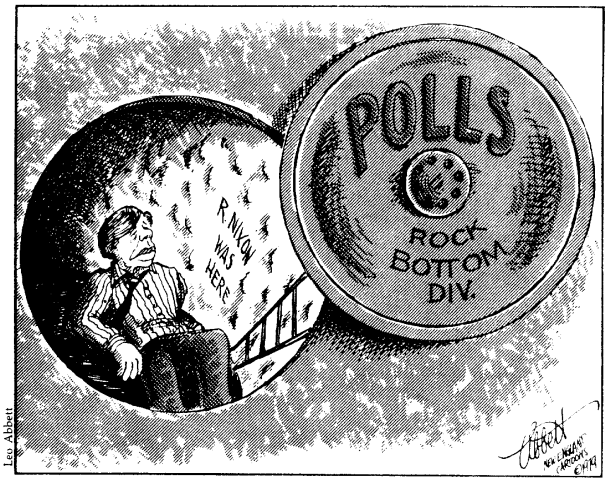
INSIDER

edited by Stu Cohen



Leo Abbett

FIGHTING GASOHOLISM

The Mobil Oil Company has let its retailers know they will not be allowed to sell "gasohol," a fuel that is 90 percent gasoline and 10 percent ethyl alcohol. In a letter sent to local retailers, the company warns, "The marketing of an adulterated Mobil gasoline as a Mobil product is expressly prohibited."

The letter, obtained last week by the *Phoenix*, is accompanied by a three-page critique of the fuel which includes claims that gasohol is "probably energy-deficient" (because more fuel is spent producing alcohol than is saved by mixing it with gas), that it can reduce mileage by three percent, that it harms engine performance, and that long-term uses "can aggravate corrosion of some metals and promote swelling of plastics and rubber, and could damage sensitive parts of some engines (and) cause plugging of the fuel filter when first used in some older cars." The critique lists as its sources of information automakers, the federal government, academic research and an outfit called Mobil Research and Development.

But Lucy Flynn of the state's energy office, who is now heading up a federally subsidized experiment with gasohol, says Mobil's real objection is to the competition the fuel could encourage. She strongly contests all of Mobil's criticisms of gasohol, claiming that Midwestern studies of vehicles actually using the stuff prove that engine performance and longevity are not affected and that mileage is not reduced. "Right now," says Lucy Flynn, "we have a technology that clearly works and Mobil is telling its people they can't use it." — **Bob Salsberg**

BANKING ON INACTION

Under Governor Michael Dukakis, Banking Commissioner Carol Greenwald was a thorn in the side of the industry for four years, urging it to redress chronic, systemic discrimination against women and members of minority groups. As a parting shot, last December, she produced an industry-wide study documenting her charges that if such people are to be found at all in bank management, it is at lower levels, and at lower pay, than for white males with similar experience.

Encouraged perhaps by the election of Governor Edward J. King, who spoke of deregulation and evinced sympathy for the *status quo*, several banks took Greenwald to court in an attempt to suppress her report. That was seven months ago, and the momentum for equal opportunity in Massachusetts banking has been decreasing ever since. Today, there is not a government agency in the Commonwealth that even pretends to carry Greenwald's crusade forward.

Leonard Bierman, the US Labor Department official responsible for equal-opportunity compliance by banks, shrugs off the Greenwald report as "raw, superficial data" of little value, while his agency embarks on a multi-year national study of banks' employment practices. The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD) would like to weigh in, but without adequate funding can do little more than intervene on a case-by-case basis.

Meanwhile, the legislature's Banks and Banking Committee, which has broad jurisdiction, cannot decide what, if anything, to do, despite having had a copy of Greenwald's report for months.

Greenwald's successor, Gerald Mulligan, a former First National Bank of Boston officer-trainee, has taken a firmly passive posture on the question of bank hiring and promotion policies. He is "waiting," he told the *Phoenix* last week, "for things to calm down."

He said he could not draw conclusions from the Greenwald report and claimed he does not have the staff to analyze it. Mulligan also said he is waiting for court cases involving the Greenwald report to be resolved, but even then, he said, "I don't know anything in my jurisdiction" that would allow enforcement of equal-opportunity or affirmative-action requirements.

However, Dan Jaffe, the assistant attorney general who handled the suits against Greenwald, told the *Phoenix* those cases have long since been resolved. Asked if there were any legal blocks to prevent Mulligan from using the data Greenwald left for him, Jaffe was unequivocal. "None at all," he said.

If Mulligan were sincerely interested in acting, he could start by calling Greenwald at the Harvard Business School for a short course in activism — if not by suit, by the kind of moral suasion, known to some as jawboning and to others as political blackmail, that earned Greenwald the enduring enmity of the state's bankers and convinced most of them to seek her and Dukakis's early retirement.

Mulligan told the *Phoenix*, "There is a place in every branch of government for work against discrimination." Obviously, he has not found that place in his own department. But then, he hasn't looked very hard. — **Jenni Watson**

A HASTY MARRIAGE

At the risk of sounding self congratulatory, we report that the *Phoenix* has brought together the Boston School Department and the state legislature's Special Commission on Asbestos. The beneficiaries of this speedily arranged marriage are the 682 boys and girls who attend the John W. McCormack Middle School in Dorchester.

The youngsters' gym classes were being repeatedly interrupted by showers of baseball-sized chunks of asbestos-laden material dropping from the ceiling. It

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SPORTING EYE

The midsummer fight: The good, the bad and the injured

by George Kimball

The baseball season moves past its halfway point this weekend, with the Red Sox sporting the second-best record in baseball. Thus far, all that has been good for is second place in the American League East, where everyone keeps waiting in vain for the Baltimore Orioles to stumble and fall. (The season-long surge of Earl Weaver's team has been so consistent, in fact, that when they dared to lose three games in a row last week, managers of teams up and down the East Coast were eager to contemplate Baltimore's imminent collapse, rather than view Texas's domination of the series between the teams as what it more probably was: a somewhat uncharacteristic display of fallibility on the part of the Birds.)

Yankee Manager Billy Martin was attempting to draw a parallel between this season and last in his Bronx office one afternoon last week. Martin spoke so knowledgeably about New York's dramatic charge from behind in 1978 that one might have supposed that *he* was actually managing that team, and not Bob Lemon.

"The whole thing is to stay close and not let them get away from you. Just like last season *I* knew that there was no way in the world Boston could stay that hot for a whole year. Eventually they got a few people hurt, and they didn't have the depth on the bench we did.

"Same thing this year. The Orioles are going good right now, but over the long run I think we've got the better team. If we don't let anybody get away, I like our chances. I still think we're gonna win this thing."

Don Zimmer similarly attributes last season's all-fall-down to a lack of bench depth, but points out that this season's Red Sox are a manifestly deeper and more versatile bunch. He is right to a point: if they were all healthy, they probably would be. Unfortunately, the Red Sox are at this point more injury-riddled than they were at any time last year.

The point is this: Zimmer may be correct in noting that Tom Poquette and Bob Watson and Bob Montgomery and Larry Wolfe and Jack Brohamer make up a nice bench, but in games last week they were all in the starting lineup, while Carl Yastrzemski, Jerry Remy, Carlton Fisk, Butch Hobson and, eventually, Brohamer too all sat out with injuries. (This doesn't even count the pitching staff, where Jim Wright is on the disabled list, Chuck Rainey is battling a chronically sore arm, and Bill Campbell's infirmities have left him at the stage where he can no longer be relied upon with a game on the line.)

Remy's injury, a hyperextended knee suffered when he tried to score from third on a foul fly to the second baseman last Sunday in New York, could have been as damaging to the team's chances as was Rick Burleson's in mid-season last year. (When Burleson was hurt, the team was not already trying to survive *sans* Yastrzemski and Fisk.) Among the other wounded, Fisk now finds himself tormented by doubts — first, about the mysterious nature of his injury, and second, about his future. "I don't know what to do," he admits. "If my elbow's all right next week and I go tell them that, does that mean I'm going to have to catch the last 80 games in a row?" Privately, Fisk says he would like to be used less as a backstop when he returns, spelling his duty behind the plate with stints at first base and as a designated hitter. Now, since Yastrzemski's been turned into a DH by two bad Achilles' tendons, and given Watson's performance, he may have a difficult time getting into the lineup anywhere else, if and when he is well enough to play.

And, of course, there is an additional factor that neither Martin nor Zimmer seems to have taken into account, and that is that the Orioles themselves have scarcely been injury-free this year, either. It would not be unreasonable to suppose, in fact, that they have already experienced a season's worth.

Doug DeCinces, last year the Orioles' leading home-run hitter, has missed more games than he's played, with a bad back. Perennial Cy Young candidate Jim Palmer has been in and out of rotation all year, yet he still appears headed for 20 wins. Mike Flanagan and Steve Stone have both been hurt. Mark Belanger is finally beginning to succumb to the infirmities of old age, and Eddie Murray has yet to regain the power he has displayed for the last couple of years, yet the Orioles are *still* three games ahead of the Red Sox, and nearly a dozen in front of New York.

One would also have to be somewhat skeptical about the Red Sox' formula for success over the season's first half, which apparently consists of trying to play .500 ball on the road and win everything at home (on Thursday, when they left for Seattle after their three-game drubbing of the Kansas City Royals, the Sox were 32-10 in Fenway Park, 18-19 elsewhere, and not returning home until July 19).

Actually, the team was in an excellent position to go over .500 on the road last weekend in New York, but dropped the last two games of the four-game set in Yankee Stadium. On Sunday afternoon, the Yanks teed off on Dennis Eckersley for five home runs and won the game 6-5, lending credence to the theory that the Eck should not be permitted to pitch day games in a town that has a Studio 54.

This was followed by a 7-2 trouncing in Monday night's nationally televised game that was little short of embarrassing, as the Red Sox, when they weren't dodging firecrackers, threw baseballs all around the Bronx and then capped off the evening by allowing Bobby Murcer a single on a suicide squeeze because nobody remembered to cover first base.

A night later, back in Boston, though, the Sox unleashed all their frustrations from the night before, simply pounding the three-time defending Western Division champs 10-0, as Steve Renko enjoyed his finest pitching performance in a Red Sox uniform. A night later, Renko's fellow Kansan Mike Torrez was allowed to stay in the game despite the vociferous boos of the 27,000-plus people who were not at the Esplanade, and the Gerbil's patience was rewarded, as Torrez hung on to keep the game close and Dwight Evans hit his 11th homer in the ninth to win the game. (The blow concomitantly put him over 30 RBIs for the year.)

Then, on getaway day Thursday afternoon, the Royals knocked out Rainey early and held a 4-0 lead when one-time black sheep Allen Ripley, who was allowed to return from exile in Pawtucket last Monday, entered the game. Ripley pitched magnificently, throwing five-and-a-third innings of four-hit, shutout relief, while the Sox chipped away at the lead. In the bottom of the seventh, Kansas City manager Whitey Herzog, with the tying runs on base, elected to walk intentionally the crippled Yastrzemski — he had Steve Mingori, whom Yastrzemski describes as the league's toughest opposing pitcher for him, ready in the bullpen, but elected instead to take his chance with Bill Paschall against Burleson. The Rooster singled home two runs to tie the game, and an inning later Bob Watson won it by singling on an 0-2 pitch, raising his career American League average to .360 and recording his third game-wining RBI.

Sometimes, some guys can't do anything wrong. Now we shall see whether that good fortune follows them to the West Coast. ●

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ELECTRIC EYE

Money talks: Channel 5 turns economics into good television

by Larry Simonberg

People talking, simply talking, are supposed to be death on television. But it ain't necessarily so. It all depends on what they're talking about.

Take money, for instance. People talking about money can be pretty compelling.

Channel 5 proves this with *The Cost of Living*, a film airing Wednesday, July 11, at 10 p.m. The provenance of this production is interesting in itself. Robert Gardner, a Channel board member and head of film studies at Harvard, suggested opening up a spot for independent filmmakers. The station went to the Independent Film Producers' Workshop in New York, in search of a project with a New England angle, and found Richard Rogers and his plan to investigate how money affects different kinds of people.

Despite the title then, *The Cost of Living* is not your standard documentary about inflation, full of charts and statistics and shots of supermarket lines and ringing cash registers. It's much more: it's no less than an attempt at allowing us to *feel* the effect of money — or its absence — on the quality of life.

This ambitious attempt succeeds only partly, but that part makes for an engrossing hour of TV. It's a rare viewer who won't find many of the things said and implied pertinent and perhaps painful.

What Rogers has done is find eight families of widely varying economic and social status and let individual members talk about how the need to make a living has shaped their lives. The camera occasionally strays from the faces to show us a room or a car or a little of the great outdoors, but most of the time it sits primly, like a sympathetic listener, and pays heed to the words and the facial expressions.

Naturally, the filmmaker has had to select only a fraction of the verbalized thoughts of his subjects, but the result is a mosaic rich in subtle shadings of color and variations in design. We come away believing that we have heard the truth — not all of it, to be sure, but a satisfying portion.

We hear Wally Nelson, an aging black man who used to be a traveling salesman, tell how he's attempted to live his ideals by living off the land. His annual measurable income is between $1500 and $2500, but he says he doesn't feel poor.

We hear Donna Sweeney, wife of a Newton firefighter, talk about her shopping sprees. She didn't care about running up an unmanageable debt or having nothing in the bank. What she did care about was all the goodies she saw her friends amassing.

Then there's Bob Monks, a Boston financier and real-estate baron, who's run twice, unsuccessfully, against Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine. He talks articulately about how money allows him to do useful things for society and says making money is a "morally satisfying" activity.

Pauline Perry is a welfare mother with 10 kids; Dick Perrin works for Wang Laboratories and finds it a struggle to make ends meet each week; Sidney Moss is a Cambridge hairdresser who emigrated from England and enjoys his snazzy sports car and his home in Lincoln, but feels unaccepted because of his trade; Michael Levinson is a cigar-smoking New York stockbroker who's gone way into the hole after two divorces; Ron Najjar makes a comfortable living working for Honeywell but wonders why society doesn't value his role as a good father.

The film jumps back and forth among all these people, never allowing us to get bored and surprising us with insightful moments. Probably the most sobering comes when Pauline Perry's 14-year-old son says he doesn't want to be rich and doesn't need help. He just wants to run the streets. They call him a project bum, and that's what he wants to be. His mother, who has found solace in fundamentalism, matter-of-factly says she expects the boy to wind up in jail.

Moss, toofing around in his Morgan, says education is at the center of America's class system. As a hairdresser, he's been made to feel inferior. Working in Cambridge, though, has opened his eyes — the professorial class doesn't seem any more satisfied than less privileged people. Making money has allowed Moss to compensate for his feelings of inferiority. He credits his wife with introducing him to the arts — "not the better life, the more fulfilling life."

Donna Sweeney, the firefighter's wife, will undoubtedly set off sparks for a lot of viewers. Her use of credit shopping as therapy for depression and envy is not rare. Her stoical husband notes that she had no reason to worry about money because she never dealt with the bills. Moving in with her in-laws was a bit of a shock, however. Donna says she's gotten her act together. She's happy with her modest house. And besides, there's room to put in a pool.

Some of the subjects are less satisfying than others. Nelson, the subsistence farmer, alludes to his pacifist beliefs and his refusal to pay taxes since 1948, but his background, his family and how he lives now remain too vague. Levinson, the stockbroker, is a colorful character, but his status is even more uncertain. It's never explained what (besides two alimony checks and child support) has made him go broke several times. If he's as good a producer of business as he claims, why did he have to sell all his possessions except his clothes?

The mosaic does have gaps. *The Cost of Living* suffers from the affliction common to most documentaries that eliminate the narrator or on-screen interviewer: unasked and unanswered questions, missing information, the suspicion that we are being cheated of our fair cut of the meaning.

I'd like someone to ask Pauline Perry why she had 10 children. I'd like to know how many kids Dick Perrin has and how much he makes so I can decide whether he really had to buy cheap Christmas presents that broke. What does Ron Najjar do at Honeywell that he's so much better off than Perrin?

Well, for an hour-long film that takes on such a large and sensitive subject as money, *The Cost of Living* hits for a high average. Getting people to disclose their feelings, to reveal their failures, to spell out their yearnings — these are admirable accomplishments. Channel 5's decision to pay for *The Cost of Living* and show it in summer prime time is a public service — and a testament to how provocative television can be.

Utilities

Continued from page 8

committee from four Gillette officials but only a scattering of other businesses could be traced, and a lot of them were not heavies, either in the Boston investment community or in the group of high-technology companies on Route 128.

A number of those businessmen also were tied in with utilities as directors, trustees or general counsels.

Committee records on file with the state list three men as officers: the chairman, Edward F. Chase of Belmont, who retired recently as chairman of the board of Harold Cabot and Co., an advertising agency, the treasurer, Allan A. Larivee of Beverly, former chauffeur and aide to the late Senator Leverett Saltonstall; and a third officer, without title, Ephron Catlin of Hamilton, former senior vice-president and spokesman for the First National Bank of Boston and now a financial consultant with Tucker, Anthony and R.L. Day.

Larivee said the committee was precisely what its statement of purpose described it as being. "We believe in the private-enterprise system." He felt the committee had been successful, and that it would continue.

Whose idea was the committee?

"A group got together," Larivee said. "Eph Catlin and Ed Chase." Yes, he said, and himself.

Why, if this was a broad-based business group interested in promoting the candidacies of pols who believe in private enterprise, were there so many utility people among the contributors?

Larivee, the treasurer, said he didn't know who the contributors were. "I just got the names and addresses, but I don't know who the hell they are."

How did the committee get the contributions? Did it solicit?

"We didn't solicit. We organized, and that's how it worked. It was coming in, that's all."

Catlin, perhaps the most well-known of the three officers, would not be available, a woman at Tucker, Anthony and R.L. Day said, until July 23. No one answered the phone at his Hamilton home. Catlin is a "half-Irish, half-Yankee" (his description) *emigre* from St. Louis who went to Harvard, married a Saltonstall, and toiled in investment banking on Wall Street and for Boston

Continued on page 28

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Utilities

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Edison before joining the First National Bank in 1943.

He became an institution within the institution of the First. Catlin was a leader in the Vault, the group of private-sector leaders who worked with Boston Mayors John Hynes and John F. Collins to do the things they thought best for the New Boston.

Catlin became an acknowledged master of fund-raising drives, whether it was for the United Way or for the destruction of proposals for graduated income taxes for the state. The current Committee to Elect Responsible Public officials is certainly not his first such venture.

In 1972, he organized the Committee for Efficiency in State Spending and Sane Taxation to defeat the graduated-tax proposal and said publicly that he wanted to create a "militant" organization with a $100,000 budget to fight higher state spending and taxes.

Could the Committee to Elect Responsible Public Officials be the militant organization of Catlin's dreams? It would seem unlikely, for unless Catlin has lost his clout in the financial community, such a committee would have collected more than $31,581 and would have included more big bankers, insurance men, investment consultants and the like.

One liberal state senator who had received $500 from the committee ("They knew I'd win," he said) suggested that the presence of Catlin would mean a tie-in with Tom Joyce, the powerful utility lobbyist on Beacon Hill.

The contributions list indicated that Joyce, his relatives and his associates gave at least $2500 to the committee.

Was the committee a utility-industry operation?

"My understanding," Joyce said, "was that anyone who wanted to contribute contributed .... I can't even tell you who they gave to. I'm not part of the committee."

While Joyce may not have been part of the committee, he seems to have been active. Colman Mockler Jr., chairman of the board of Gillette and a contributor of $250, said he heard of the committee when "Tom Joyce called me." Had Mockler talked it up at Gillette, where two or three other officials also gave? No, he said, Joyce probably called others. "I think Tom Joyce probably knows some people here." Mockler said that he never saw the committee as a utility-industry group, and that he holds no director or trustee positions on any utility firms.

The third officer of the committee is Edward Chase, who joined Harold Cabot and Co. in 1941 as an account executive and rose to chairman of the board before he retired, last year. No one could be reached at Chase's Belmont home.

But recently, Chase's name appeared on another document — specifically, the incorporation papers of a new consulting and lobbying outfit, Issues Management Inc. Chase is listed as the clerk and a director. The treasurer and another director is John I. Ahern of Newton, recently retired chairman of the board of Massachusetts Electric and a $500 contributor to the Committee to Elect Responsible Public Officials. The president is one Kevin B. Harrington of Salem, until recently the president of the state Senate, confidant of Tom Joyce's and a man who did not shy away from utility-industry issues when he held power on Beacon Hill.

With Harrington gone from the Senate, perhaps the utilities felt his sympathetic ear could be replaced by this committee. Certainly, there are issues enough in the legislature to warrant the utilities' attention.

The utilities would like to keep the fuel-adjustment clause, which allows them to pass directly to consumers any increase in oil costs. The utilities would someday like to see the legislature pass CWIP, which stands for Construction Work in Progress; it means that costs accrued in building new nuclear plants could be charged to consumers even before the plant is finished and operating. The utilities also would like to diminish the anti-nuclear fervor in the legislature, which considered this session 24 bills that would stop or otherwise limit nuclear-plant construction and operations for reasons relating to safety and cost.

The Committee to Elect Responsible Public Officials took a strong interest last summer and fall in races between candidates perceived as anti- and pro-utility.

On September 6, 14 days before the state primary election, the committee gave $500 to John H. Fitzpatrick of Stockbridge, who was running unopposed in the Republican primary for the Berkshire Senate seat.

Fitzpatrick, owner of the Red Lion Inn, went on to beat his Democratic opponent, James Lloyd Burns Jr., in November. Burns recalled, in a *Phoenix* interview, "I publicly stated in the campaign that I don't think the state should issue further licenses for the operation of nuclear facilities." Burns described Fitzpatrick as supporting "research and expansion of nuclear facilities."

One of the most outspoken utility opponents in the legislature is Rep. Richard Roche (D-Springfield). On October 18, Roche's Republican opponent, Robert L. Howarth, got $250 from the committee. Howarth, an attorney, had worked more than seven years for Western Massachusetts Electric, which is owned by Northeast Utilities, of Connecticut.

Roche says he campaigned hard on how he had fought to reduce $6 million in "illegal fuel-adjustment charges" by Western Massachusetts Electric.

Northeast Utilities executives contributed at least $600 to the Committee to Elect Responsible Public Officials, ranging from $50 from John T. Hickey of Holyoke, the utility's lobbyist in Massachusetts, to $100 from Lelan F. Sillin Jr. of Lyme, Conn., the utility's chairman of the board.

In a tight Democratic primary race for state representative for the Ayer-Berlin-Harvard-Westford area of Middlesex County, the committee sent $250 to Gary Sullivan of Westford on September 16, four days before the election. Sullivan lost by only 59 votes to the incumbent, Walter Bickford of Berlin, whom Roche described as a reasonable critic of utilities. Sullivan subsequently became Governor King's legislative liaison on energy issues. King, of course, is close to the utilities and pro-nuclear; upon assuming office, he depended a great deal on Kevin Harrington for advice.

On October 16, the committee gave $250 to James Lagoulis of Newburyport, the Republican candidate for state representative. His opponent, Nicholas J. Costello, had been an Amesbury selectman who'd fought Massachusetts Electric over the erection of transmission lines to the Seabrook, NH nuclear facility. Costello won.

Officials and employees of Massachusetts Electric and its interlocking corporations and associations, New England Electric System and New England Power Service Co., gave $7600 to the committee.

Roche, who said he had not known of the committee until he was contacted last week by the *Phoenix*, looked at the contributions in those House races and said, "They gave money to opponents of people who had fought electric companies. To me, it doesn't seem coincidental."

To date, the utilities have won a few and lost a few this legislative session. Some of their candidates were elected; some were not. Some who received the committee's money have been stridently opposed to nuclear plants. The fuel-adjustment clause remains, but CWIP seems dead, for a few months anyway. And two or three of the anti-nuclear bills have survived the House. How much of whatever success the utilities have enjoyed is due to the committee and how much to the more traditional and very capable efforts of its lobbyists and influence-peddlers is open to question. But that's not the question here.

The lingering, unanswered question here is why such gyrations have been gone through to create what seems to be a front for the utility industry. Other special interests — construction-industry dentists, environmentalists, nursing-home owners, unions, banks and, traditionally, the utilities themselves — have clearly labeled committees that lobby or donate money to candidates.

Despite its paean to private enterprise, the Committee to Elect Responsible Public Officials is not very clear about what it is about — and that's not responsible. ●

Shoplifting

Continued from page 7

or she is being watched," he explains. Jeans West also trains its employees to position themselves to observe the store better. Everyone who enters a fitting room is watched as he enters and leaves.

According to Dave Kirkpatrick, a field-security supervisor for Stop & Shop, "It takes a special person to do this type of work. You have to have a feel for it." Kirkpatrick, who has worked in security for over 30 years, says his people put in long and often frustrating hours, usually eating lunch by the TV monitors.

This is true for the security personnel in virtually every large store. They are unusually dependent on one another. Everyone seems to operate on special signals; vibes become important. On a recent Saturday in Bradlees, Ed pointed out a woman on one of the TV monitors. He'd been trying to nab her for months. "Look," he exclaimed, "she's eye-flashing. She's throwing some eyes." The woman is glancing left and right as she closes in on the jewelry counter. Ed picks up the house phone and uses a store code to have his floor operative call him back. Ed sends the floor detective to watch the woman. After almost 45 minutes, she hasn't made a move and still stands near the jewelry counter. Ed sighs. "She's made us. We know she's been ripping us off for months. The problem is we can't catch her."

Another woman is less successful. She is pretty, her clothes are fashionable and her makeup is perfect. But her hands are shaking. She has just been apprehended by Jim as she attempted to steal a $3.75 bottle of nail polish. Her driver's license reveals a Chestnut Hill address. "Why are my hands shaking so?" she asks Jim as she sits in the security office. "Because you're scared," he answers softly, with a trace of compassion in his voice. "Can we finish this here?" she inquires, her voice trembling. "I have a good job. This is so embarrassing." Jim nods his head wearily. He's heard it all before. ●

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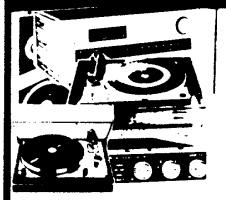

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