

# Drugs in Portland

Fourth in a continuing series

by Roy Harvey

A review of *The Myth of the Hyperactive Child* and other means of child control. by Peter Schrag and Diane Divoky (Pantheon Books, 1975)

By the end of 1975 a full million children -- ages two-and-a-half to about sixteen years old -- are taking psychoactive drugs, according to authors Schrag and Divoky. The main pusher of these drugs (primarily ritalin) is CIBA Company, which makes \$30 million annually off ritalin. The overwhelming use of these drugs, the authors argue, have nothing to do with illness but are used for controls: 'Auschwitz in a pill.' Actually the use of drugs is only a small part of the authors' indictment of the individuals and government agencies responsible for brainwashing and mendacity of youth.

In the early 50s the school system 'discovered' Freud. Failure in the school could be regarded as environmentally produced -- the consequence of this discovery was that the orientation (at least in rhetoric) was to change the environment that interfered with the child's development. (Actually there was no real cognition of Freudian psychoanalysis, but rather a 'pragmatic' amalgamation of Freud to the behaviorism of John Watson (which Watson got going in 1913) and his rat skinner followers.)

Simultaneous with the ongoing Kennedy-Johnson 'War on Poverty', the covert 'war on children' was being planned. In the late 50s a plethora of grants for the development of social control mechanisms were made, through the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations -- and through the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) etc. By 1969 the 'war on poverty' was lost, and the Assistant Secretary of Education could announce "a mass program (can) begin immediately, without the need to wait for the slow agonizing process of improving living conditions and the elimination of hunger." As Schrag and Divoky write, "the overriding expectation (was) that social ills could (now) be eradicated by reforming individuals rather than insti-

tutions..." *The Myth of the Hyperactive Child* documents the case that a multitude of 'illnesses' were invented ('new hyperkinesis', 'minimal brain dysfunction', 'learning disabled' etc). While CIBA pharmaceutical company lists symptoms of 'minimal brain dysfunction' (MBD), physicians unallied to CIBA proved there was "simply no such thing as 'Minimal Brain Dysfunction.' Subsequently the drug companies and government agencies conceded that MBD hadn't any medical foundation, and simply pushed their drugs as useful for social control.

"The older (educational) system," Schrag and Divoky write, "however repressive it may have been, at least recognized the individual as a person with a free will who was responsible for his acts -- whereas the new system 'defines failure and determines punishment...it takes responsibility out of the hands of the child -- or the parents -- it regards the child as simply a collection of neurons, syndromes and dysfunctions..."

The *Myth of the Hyperactive Child* outlines a number of other social control mechanisms used against children: behavior modification, secret dossiers, notions of 'pre-delinquency' and 'early intervention' -- various 'therapies' which are thinly disguised punishment or torture. The book's topic is deschooling and brainwashing, exposing the criminal role of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) and the NIMH in this process. In a society in collapse, education becomes unessential -- while it is essential (for a time) to maintain the illusion that society offers an education to its youth. There is, of course, nothing new in the notion of social control: such mechanisms course through the periods of decline throughout the 2000 years of Western history: which with witch trials, demonology, phrenology, psychological tests, intelligence and criminal tendency tests, loyalty tests, etc. Intellectual revolutionary Giordano Bruno was burned at the stake by the Inquisition in 1600 for insisting that the universe was coherent, while the contemporary method of removing the troublesome is the use of

behavior modification or drugs. Schrag and Divoky document the charlatany involved in the development of the 'illnesses' and the criminality of the 'cure' -- for example: "ritalin...has no positive effects on scholastic achievement of children diagnosed as hyperactive (but instead) produces far less responsive and enthusiastic children...far more apathetic, humorless and zombie-like." This is not to say that such drugs do not tend to improve performance on repetitive, routinized tasks -- hence their use as 'slave labor'.

### Morality

One of the most important aspects of the book is only touched on briefly: it is the destruction of the super-ego of the child: "The child comes to believe not in the soundness of his own brain and body, not in his growing ability to learn and to control his behavior but in 'my magic pills that make me into a good boy and make everybody like me.'" Likewise it is the parents -- especially the mothers -- who turn their children into clinically paranoid 'successes' who spend their lives looking for the appropriate authority to propitiate: looking for the authority with the 'reward' so that everybody will like him other. Parents -- again, especially the mothers, as the authors document -- see in such notions as MBD a relief from the guilt that they have been inadequate mothers (e.g.: 'my child is noisy/nasty/nasty/odd/etc...because he/she has a 'chemical imbalance'). Of course this guilt is used by the agencies that bring the mothers into a coparticipation in the drugging and mendacity of their own children. Contrary to the humanist (Spinozan) notion of morality "which seeks and accepts personal responsibility for the present and future well being of humanity," the institutions responsible for the social control mechanisms (NIMH, LEAA, HEW, the drug companies, etc.) are actually destroying the individual psychological foundations for morality.

Why has it happened? How will it stop?

The social control mechanisms Divoky and Schrag outline won't go away by themselves. The billions of dollars of

funds oriented toward the destruction of thought have their predecessor in the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute in Germany which in the early '20s prepared the way for Nazi 'science' -- for example in the reknown German psychiatrist Alfred Hoche's book *The Destruction of Life Devoid of Value* -- or in the social control work of the London based Tavistock Institute (both of these institutions were funded heavily by the Rockefeller family -- and for a reason).

Primitive accumulation (cheap raw materials and labor -- less euphemistically, slave labor) of the underdeveloped (Third World) sector have characterized capitalist economic growth from our origins, but especially from the early 1900s. The process of primitive accumulation of the Third World has been exhausted, while the holders of the international debt -- primarily the New York banks under the hegemony of the Rockefeller family -- intend to collect by primitively accumulating off the working population in the industrial sector: lower wages, slash the standard of living, cut out social services, cut out education; austerity. Meanwhile the World Bank (et al) fosters the false notion that the Darwinian struggle for survival has simply spilled over into a contest between the industrial nations and the Third World.

Rather than a suspension of debt and the creation of such programs as outlined in the Labor Party's Emergency Employment Act (EEA), for full productive employment such mechanisms of social control are developed: the cannibalization of the social wealth of humanity; it feeds on its own youth, destroying its future skilled and scientific labor force, cutting back essential funds for the development of a healthy creative population. It deploys parents who will chemically 'lobotomise' their children, while deploying the children against the parents in hiring the youth (via federally subsidized programs) at minimum wages to scab on the adult population's union scale wage. Such human recycling -- with military production -- is all there is to Nazi economics.

## Supervision Program loses funding

PMSC's Close Supervision Program will be terminated effective January 29th, according to Pat Sweeney, Close Supervisor Coordinator. Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee received notification from Don Clark, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, that the program would be terminated because of the current county budget crisis.

The program, which provides daily supervision for juveniles referred by the Juvenile Court, was contracted to PMSC in August of 1974.

The philosophy of the Program is that many of the juveniles who come in contact with the Court do not require the secure custody of the Juvenile Detention Home while awaiting Court services; but that they do require close supervision while in the community. The PMSC Close Supervision Program, as it is called, maintains a staff of Community Youth Workers who maintain daily contact with each juvenile's assigned, and a Program Coordinator who oversees the program operation and screens each juvenile accepted on the program.

Once a juvenile is admitted to the program, he is assigned to a Community Youth Worker who resides in the same general geographic area as the juvenile. While in the Program, the juvenile's behavior is monitored by the CYW through daily contacts with the juvenile, his parents or legal custodians, school officials, employers, and other interested parties. Other services the Community Youth Workers can provide are employment for the juvenile, readmittance to school, referral to other agencies for supportive services, and to provide an introduce a variety of healthy activities the child may pursue after he is no longer in the Program.

A juvenile receives Close Supervision Services until he attends his Court Hearing, at which time the Community Youth Worker provides the Court with a report concerning the juvenile's behavior while he was on the program. If a juvenile fails to follow the conditions of the Close Supervision Program, he is returned to the Juvenile Detention Home to await his Court Hearing.

Since the PMSC Close Supervision Program went into operation on August

1st, 1974, the monthly caseload of services has grown from twenty cases to a present average of sixty cases. During the eighteen months of operation, a total of 450 juveniles who might have otherwise been held in Detention have received PMSC Close Supervision Services. Of that 450, only eight percent have committed new law violations while on the Close Supervision Program.

The PMSC Close Supervision Program has been commended by the Juvenile Court Counselors, Judges, the School Districts within the County, the juvenile's parents, and in many cases, even the referred juvenile for the services provided, Sweeney stated.

"The PMSC Close Supervision Program is not and was not intended to be the sole solution for the juvenile crime problem in Multnomah County, but it did have a marked impact on juvenile crime's recidivism," Sweeney said. "With the Program gone, it is difficult to project he effect in the future. However, it is for certain that if the county continues to terminate juvenile services program, the juvenile crime rate has only one thing to do -- grow!", Sweeney stated.

and put into motion the ideas and preaching of the "average" Black preacher. (Reverend Webster Turner)

**Preparation For Non-Violent Actions:** This session will include some demonstrations of methods used to condition protesters to accept the physical and psychological abuse and at the same time protect their vital organs. The group will be led in a series of protest songs. (Faculty and student participation)

**Where Did It All Lead?:** This final session will include a panel discussion on the implications of the South Christian Leadership Conference and a wrap-up summary.

A panel consisting of Mr. Maceo Pettis, Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Fund; Ms. Sandy Yuvenco, Director of the Independent Learning Center; Mr. Warren Fluker, Coordinator, Youth Environment Project; and Black Student representatives from Concordia.

Mr. Paul Anderson will be the wrap up and summary Lecturer.

## Diggs on Angola

(continued from p.1 col 4)

Union. The Senate of the U.S. cannot be too strongly commended for its strong vote on December 19th to bar funds in the Defense Appropriations Bill for use in the Angolan civil war. The House of Representatives will consider the same matter when it reconvenes next session. It is a priority concern that the American people convey their views on U.S. involvement in Angola to their Congressmen before the new session begins on January 19th.

It is also important that the Administration be made aware of the public's concern with respect to U.S. Angola policy. Accordingly, I would like to reiterate some of the key suggestions made by the Congressional Black Caucus on this issue. These recommendations include the following actions by the U.S. Government:

1. Cease immediately all military-related assistance, direct or indirect, to any parties fighting in Angola, and withdraw its request for financing of additional military and related assistance;
2. Urge a ceasefire among all parties concerned;
3. Use its good offices to reach an agreement among all non-Angolan powers involved, directly or indirectly, that they will end their intervention;
4. Urge the Angolan factions to find an immediate, political solution;
5. Urge all countries to await the results of the forthcoming meetings of the OAU for further guidelines with respect to Angola;
6. Commit the U.S. to substantial economic and rehabilitation assistance to whatever Angolan government is recognized by the OAU;
7. Make it clear to the South African Government, as we have to the Soviet Union, that its intervention is a threat to international peace;
8. Emphasize to the Soviet Union that American public reaction to its intervention in Angola is bound to affect support for its future economic relations with the U.S.; and
9. Report to the Congress on the implication of these recommendations and keep all interested Members of Congress fully advised with respect to U.S. policy and involvement in Angola.

## Concordia College honors King's birthdate

To celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday, a series of five lectures dealing with his life and works will be held in the Mary Neil Lounge at Concordia College, 2811 N.E. Holman Street, on January 15th.

Rozell Gilmore, Director of Minority Affairs and coordinator of the event, stated that the public is invited to attend the sessions which will begin at 9:20 a.m. and close at 3:15 p.m.

"The series will attempt to deal objectively with the contributions Dr. King made, not only to the Black people of the U.S., but to this nation and to the world," Gilmore stated.

The following topics will be addressed: **The South, Black/white -- USA:** An examination of the general conditions of the South and events which precipitated the struggle for Civil Rights. (Rozell Gilmore, Lecturer)

**King, A Man Of Destiny:** An attempt will be made to identify the major events that propelled the struggle for Civil, Human and Equal Right and Dr. King. (Dr. William Harris, Director of Black Studies, PSU.)

**Martin Luther King, A Symbol Of The Black Preacher:** An attempt will be made to point out how King was able to embody

## Meeting discusses health bill

All Northeast area residents and interested persons are urged to attend a meeting to discuss the Kennedy-Corman Act, which would establish a comprehensive national health insurance plan, on January 12th at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Al Green, Interim Director of the Northeast Portland Health Security Act Coalition, has been encouraging residents to write their congressional representatives to support the Health Security Act, HR 21. Mr. Green has organized the meeting on January 12th, to be held at Adams High School, 5700 N.E. 39th Avenue, at 7:00 p.m.

Ralph Groener, Oregon State Representative, is the Director of the Oregon State National Health Coalition and will introduce this important health act. Denny Scott or Roy Ockert from the International Woodworkers Union will provide commentaries. Special guests will include Cleveland Gilcrease, Executive Director of the Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee, and other local proponents.

"The Kennedy-Corman Bill covers everyone from birth to the grave," Green said. "It also has a ceiling on amounts which doctors and hospitals can charge."

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## Citizen of the Week



EDGAR MITCHELL

Edgar Mitchell serves as Coordinator of Community Services for Multnomah County's Northeast Quadrant.

Mitchell was born in Wichita, Kansas and raised in Illinois. He attended Wheaton College then, after graduating, served four years in the Air Force. He met his wife, Geraldine Chesley, while stationed in Washington, D.C. After leaving the Air Force, Mitchell returned to Illinois and was employed by the Chicago YMCA for ten years.

In May of 1966, he came to Portland as director of the North Branch Y, where he remained for two years. He then was a Community Coordinator for the Model Cities program for a year. When Adams High School opened, he was assigned there as a curriculum associate, where he stayed for five years.

In August 1974, Mitchell was selected by a committee from the community, to be the first Quadrant director for the County.

Mitchell's community activities have been many, including: two years as chairman and five years membership on the Albina Citizens' War on Poverty Board; AYOS board for five years including three years as chairman; chairman of Holy Redeemer Parents Association; Waverly Children's Home Board; committee designing 4-C Latchkey program's and many more.

Mitchell earned his Masters in Secondary School Administration at Portland State University, a certificate in Secondary School Administration in 1975, and is doing work on a Ph.D. in Public Administration/Urban Studies.

The Mitchells have five children, ranging in age from eight to twenty-one years.

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