

Buchanan's Presidential Campaign Takes a Pratt-Fall

By Jim Crawford

Critics of the English-only movement who have long suspected a "Nazi connection" may finally have found one in the person of Larry Pratt, co-chairman of the Pat Buchanan presidential campaign.

Until the New Hampshire presidential primary, Pratt was an obscure third-stringer for the New Right. Now his face has been on front pages across the country, thanks to his inopportune appearances with leaders of white supremacist organizations, including Aryan Nations and Christian Identity.

Pratt reportedly addressed meetings sponsored by these groups to organize and promote armed militias. Interviewed on ABC's "Nightline," he claimed not to have known about the Nazi sympathies of his fellow speakers, even though one identified himself as "a 100 percent bigot" and used Hitler's favorite salute.

Press accounts have identified Larry Pratt as the director of Gun Owners of America (GOA). But they have neglected to note that he is also the president of English First, a group he founded in 1986 to combat bilingualism and advocate English as the nation's official language. English First and GOA share a suite of offices in Spring-

field, Va., along with other Pratt-created lobbies, including the Committee to Protect the Family and U.S. Border Control.

In the 104th Congress, English First has worked closely with Reps. Toby Roth (R-Wisc.) and Pete King (R-N.Y.) in drafting federal English-only legislation. These bills -- H.R. 739 and H.R. 1005, respectively -- are the most explicit and restrictive "Language of Government Acts" now pending. Both would repeal the Bilingual Education Act and the bilingual provisions of the Voting Rights Act.

English First also seems to have influenced Buchanan. Although Pratt is now "on leave" from the campaign, his spirit of intolerance persists. In Arizona, Buchanan ran TV commercials promising "to insist on one language, English, for all Americans."

Pratt's group is not to be confused with the older and better-funded U.S. English lobby. The two organizations compete for direct-mail dollars and have never been on friendly terms. English First hasn't hesitated to associate itself with Far Right causes or to offend ethnic minorities with its innuendo-laden rhetoric.

In 1986, it began raising funds with the following appeal,



Checking results
Pat Buchanan reads the results of Tuesday's Arizona primary, Wednesday in Atlanta, Ga.

signed by Texas state Rep. Jim Horn: "Dear Fellow American:

"I don't know about your forefathers but when mine came to America, the first thing they did was learn English.

"They wanted to be part of the American dream and they knew that learning English wasn't just a practical necessity. It was a moral obligation.

"Tragically, many immigrants these days refuse to learn English.

"They never become productive members of society. They remain stuck in a linguistic and economic ghetto, many living off welfare and costing working

Americans millions of tax dollars every year...

"Radical activists have been caught sneaking illegal aliens to the polls and using bilingual ballots to cast fraudulent votes...

"If you and I fail to pass the (English Language) Amendment now, the fragmentation of American society along language lines will be complete. We'll create a permanent underclass of unemployable citizens. And you and your children will have to pick up the tab..."

Using this pitch, Pratt proudly claimed to have recruited 200,000 members and raised \$2 million for English First in a single year. When the letter was later criticized in the press, however, he rewrote it and alleged that it had been misquoted.

I interviewed Pratt for Education Week back in 1987 and asked him about the charges of racism leveled against English-only proponents. He dismissed these as "strictly irrational paranoia" on the part of Hispanic leaders who "oppose their communities learning English (so as) to keep their political base." He added that his Panamanian-born wife fully approved of the activities of English First.

The "true racists," Pratt in-

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News Briefs

Different Approach to Census 2000

Associated Press reports that officials planning the next census say they will not use the controversial street count that sought out the homeless on corners and in alleyways.

The goal is to produce a single number "that's right the first time" said Commerce Undersecretary Everett M. Ehrlich. He wants to avoid the problems of 1990 when two sets of results, an actual head count and an "adjusted" number using statistics to estimate the number of people overlooked, led to confusion and lawsuits.

The Constitution requires a census every 10 years to apportion seats in the House of Representatives. The numbers are also used as a basis for distributing billions of dollars in federal and state money.

Ehrlich and Census Director Martha Farnsworth Riche briefed reporters on plans for the 2000 census in preparation for a series of workshops on the project Wednesday at the Commerce Department.

Riche said improved advertising is being planned and the Bureau wants to make census forms more widely available. For example, in addition to forms mailed to homes, they could be provided in convenience stores, community centers, shopping malls and other locations. Computers can easily sort out any duplicate forms, she said. The rate of mail response has dwindled in recent decades, Riche said, from 85 percent in 1970 to 70 percent in 1980 and to 63 percent in 1990.

Since the first census in 1790, officials have known they missed some people, but only in recent years have they been able to estimate how many. Since 1940 they also have realized that minorities were missed more often than whites. Statistical sampling attempts to compensate for that while still meeting the requirement of a national head count.

Diverse Groups Attack Anti-Immigration Bill

Democrats, Republicans, business, labor and social service groups attacked a bill Tuesday that would cut the number of foreigners allowed to immigrate to the United States, reports Associated Press.

Opponents led by Sen. Spencer Abraham, a freshman Republican from Michigan, promised to lobby the Senate Judiciary Committee to split the bill in two, separating new restrictions on legal immigration from popular measures that get tough with undocumented aliens. They also believe the bill is "anti-family" in that it could keep U.S. residents from having relatives join them in this country.

Feingold and Abraham also plan to introduce an amendment that would strip the bill of a plan to require U.S. businesses to check the validity of all new hires' Social Security numbers. Some opponents have suggested it could lead to a national identification system that would collect personal information on every citizen.

The bill, written by Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., would cut by at least 20 percent the number of nonrefugee immigrants allowed each year. Simpson says he wrote the bill in response to concerns that too many foreigners are coming to the United States and driving down wages, competing with American workers for jobs and overcrowding some districts.

Also on Tuesday, executives from 50 businesses - members of the newly formed American Business for Legal Immigration - spread out on Capitol Hill, cornering senators in their offices and urging them to vote against the Simpson bill.

They said the measure would threaten their competitiveness by interfering with their recruitment of the best-qualified employees, whether from inside or outside the United States.

Simpson's bill would reduce the number of visas for immigrants coming to fill specified jobs from 140,000 to 90,000. Immigration applications from unskilled foreigners would be rejected.

Farmers Want Short-Term Migrants

Ranchers and growers of fruits, vegetables or other crops that must be harvested by hand want to make it easier to bring in workers from Mexico and elsewhere for short-term jobs, reports Associated Press.

The businesses say they will need temporary workers because efforts by Congress and the Clinton administration to curb undocumented immigration will drain their work force as much as 70 percent. The businesses admit they employ undocumented workers, but say they do so because it's practically impossible to check work papers without facing discrimination lawsuits.

Farm worker advocates call the move a back-door attempt to keep a steady supply of cheap, docile labor instead of paying more for laborers already in this country. They argue the plan would revive the "bracero" program of the 1940s, '50s and '60s that depressed wages and caused Mexico to charge that its nationals were mistreated here.

At stake are the livelihoods of seasonal workers, about half of whose families live in poverty, and growers, for whom labor is the single biggest cost. In the new era of free trade, crops grown with one-twelfth the U.S. labor cost in countries such as Mexico have an edge. Farm labor accounts for only pennies at the supermarket checkout line, but those pennies still matter in a competitive food market.

The Labor Department argues that there are plenty of farm workers available - more than 1 million migrants were allowed to stay when the last immigration overhaul was passed 10 years ago.

The Senate Judiciary Committee plans to air the proposal during a meeting this week on an immigration bill. Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., was planning to introduce the proposal as an amendment to the bill.

Health Care Execs Approve Plan

Representatives of major hospitals, doctors and drug companies urged Congress Monday to approve a bill overhauling health insurance, saying it is vital to the health care industry, reports Associated Press.

"All of us know people who have trouble getting insurance," said David Jones, chief executive office of Humana Inc. He and other industry executives criticized health insurance companies for fighting pending legislation that would, among other things, guarantee workers continuous health coverage when they change jobs or leave a group plan to become independently employed.

The Health Insurance Association of America opposes required coverage of workers who leave group plans, saying it

*"El Respeto Al
Derecho Ajeno
Es La Paz"*
Lic Benito Juarez
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EL EDITOR

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Immigration Heats Up Campaign

WASHINGTON - Armed soldiers at the border. Barbed security fences glinting in the sun. Keep out signs in schools and keep away sentiments in society. As the 1996 Republican presidential race heats up, so does the talk about how to stop or slow illegal immigration to America.



Forbes



Buchanan



Dole

With Arizona's primary just days away and contests in Florida, Texas and California looming in March, Pat Buchanan is equating the streams of illegal aliens flowing into the United States with a "foreign invasion."

"When you have one, two, three million people walking across your border every year, breaking your laws, you have an invasion," he said Thursday during a debate in the Mexican-border state of Arizona.

Lamar Alexander pledges to devote a new branch of the U.S. armed services to guarding the border. "The reason we should do that is because our failure to deal with illegal immigration is poisoning our attitude toward legal immigration," he explained in the same debate. The former education secretary also objects to illegal immigrants attending U.S. schools.

Steve Forbes scoffs at his rivals. "The principal task for America is not to build fences, not to build walls," he says before calling Alexander's idea "another agency, another government program."

Rep. Bob Dornan, who represents legal- and illegal-immigrant rich California, finds his peers ridiculous. "Wake up and smell the coffee ... and keep that Colombian mountain-grown coming in," he says.

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole takes a less drastic view. He favors ending benefits to illegal immigrants but not legal ones. Sound familiar? That was the idea roundly debated during the 1992 presidential campaign.

This time around, Republicans

are fighting over whether foreigners and their money should have anything to do with America at all.

In new radio and TV ads airing in Arizona, Buchanan is pushing his plan to build a security fence along the U.S.-Mexican border, and to stop almost all legal immigration for five years. Buchanan also is accusing foreign trade of robbing Americans of jobs, linking the issue with immigration.

Dole, Alexander and Forbes, on the other hand, have stressed the benefits of trade along the southern border and across the country.

GOP-leaning business groups like the Chamber of Commerce in the border town of Nogales, Ariz., are watching with some alarm.

City Councilman Hank Tintos, who operates clothing and grocery stores in Mexico and Arizona, said his business already is hurting because of Mexico's economic crisis. Tintos calls Buchanan's proposals "totally contradictory to the good-neighbor policies we're trying to promote."

He's not alone. In Tucson, Ariz., Buchanan was met this week with boos and shouts of "kick him out" and "racist" from a mostly Hispanic crowd. "You shouldn't build a wall. It's crazy," said protester Edward Richards.

Texas, also heavily dependent on Mexican trade and with a large Hispanic population, may react the same when the GOP contest moves there on March 12. Its Republican governor has promoted close ties

with Mexico.

But Republicans like Arizona Gov. Fife Symington acknowledge Buchanan's message will appeal to some conservatives.

Indeed, in California and Florida and other parts of the country, some voters express disgust over illegal immigration.

Annemarie Jenkins believes illegal aliens cost her family tax money. When she stops for coffee on her way to work in Riverside, Calif., east of Los Angeles, Jenkins walks past a group of migrant men looking for temporary work. She believes most of them are illegal.

"We all voted for this thing and then the judge blocked it," Jenkins said of Proposition 187, an initiative passed by California voters in 1994 to end state welfare benefits, schooling and most medical care to illegal aliens. "And so nothing really got solved."

Groups of Florida residents say they have a good chance of getting a similar measure on the fall ballot. Congress also is looking at proposals to restrict immigration and benefits.

As the GOP candidates bicker, President Clinton has used government resources to fight illegal immigration along the 2,000-mile rugged border with Mexico. With an eye toward lucrative electoral pots like

California's, Clinton has increased the Immigration and Naturalization Service's budget by 73 percent since 1993, putting hundreds more Border Patrol agents in San Diego and the southern parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

Clinton, more quietly, also has pushed for reforms that would temporarily cut back the number of legal immigrants.

"There is virtually a national consensus that illegal immigration is a problem," said Frank Sharry of the liberal National Immigration Forum.

In 1994, the United States granted legal residency, asylum or refugee status to 804,416 foreigners. At the same time, at least 300,000 people are believed to enter unlawfully each year.

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Aguero

Although politics is in the news everyday on the national scene, here in Lubbock we are hearing very little.

Only one race is drawing a little attention, that between

incumbent Commissioner Gilbert Flores, Isabel Luna and David Billingsly for the Precinct 3 County Commissioner's post.

The A-J reported that the main issue is roads in the rural area, but is it really?

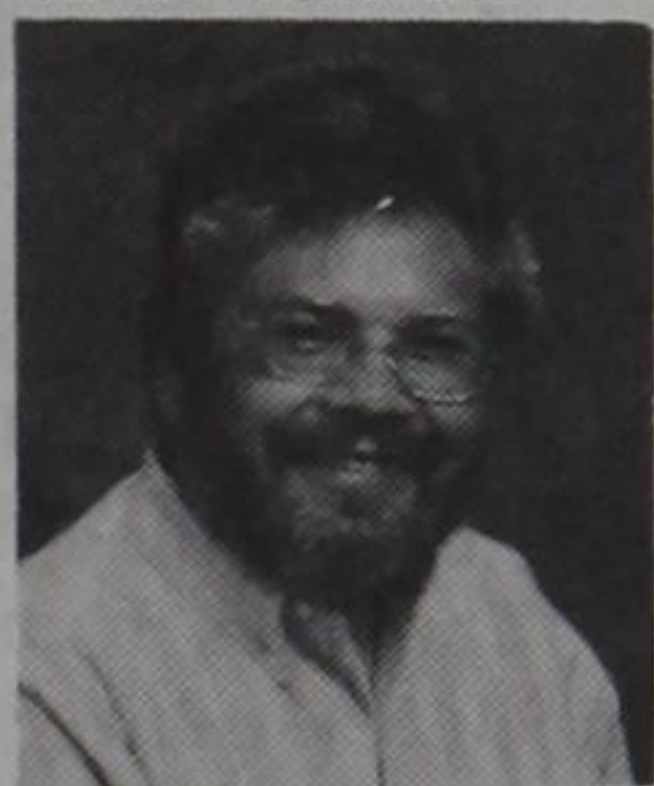
Granted that one of the major responsibilities for Commissioners is to take care of County roads but rural voters make up under 15 percent of people that are eligible to vote in Precinct 3. The bulk of the population in Pct. 3 lives in North and East Lubbock. And no one can argue the fact that North and East Lubbock have more than their share of problems.

Among them and most visible is juvenile crime. All of the candidates are addressing the problem in their campaign but none seem to put forth a definite program to address the problem.

Next week we will be focusing on candidates and offering our endorsements, not only for this position but for others up for election on March 12. Questions will be asked. Lets hope that we can get some answers.

*****Pico de Gallo****

For those of you that want to ask your questions personally, there will be a forum sponsored by the Hispanic Agenda on Monday at Cavazos starting at 5:30 pm.



Tracking the Hispanic Angle in New Hampshire's Primary

By Margarita Contín

You have to question just what is it about New Hampshire that gave it the privilege of being the first state in the nation to vote for our presidential candidates.

Its residents make up four-tenths of one percent of the nation's population. They are primarily conservative, half are rural, and 98 per cent are Anglo.

So the distinction certainly doesn't have anything to do with its rich diversity. Maybe its motto of "Live Free or Die" was the clincher.

I spent the week between Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday in New Hampshire, covering the election for the Herald Journal and public radio station WAER-FM of Syracuse, N.Y., California's San Jose Mercury-News, and Washington, D.C.-based Hispanic Link News Service, tracking appropriate regional or ethnic angles for each.

Needless to say, the latter was my toughest assignment. The 1990 census reported that 11,333 of the state's 1,115,085 residents -- barely 1 percent -- identified themselves as Latino.

In my countless hours trailing after the candidates, I managed to find just one His-

panic voter -- Ana Ricabal, a Cuban college student. She was attending a Clinton rally in Keene.

Resorting to checking Hispanic surnames in local phone books, I managed to track down and interview two more -- Angel Rodríguez, a transplanted Puerto Rican who guides a Baptist church in Manchester, and Diane Hernández, a student at Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord.

For me to make the claim that the Hispanic turnout was pivotal would have been a stretch. The election would have to have been decided by one vote.

Reverend Rodríguez told me that on more than one occasion, he's been asked if he has a "green card," the alien registration identifier. Each time, he lectured the inquisitor that Puerto Rico is part of the United States.

I told the reverend of my encounter with a New Hampshire resident who explained the state's homogeneity: "It's not that ethnically diverse people are excluded. I guess Puerto Ricans don't want to live in this climate because they don't want to ski. They want to hang out at the beach."

Rodríguez laughed. "People are just ignorant about Latinos

here."

Yet "here" is where aspirants to the White House supposedly make or break their campaigns. The Republican and Democratic conventions don't take place until August. So why do Granite State voters get to sort through the candidates for the rest of us -- including the 10 percent of us who are Latino -- and set the tone each election year?

If it's a part of Yankee tradition, I say traditions are meant to be broken. This is a state that refuses to recognize Martin Luther King Day as a holiday.

If someone proposed naming a school or a street after César Chávez -- as so many communities across the United States have done -- people here would no doubt ask why honor a Portuguese fisherman?

Winner Pat Buchanan did mention Latinos indirectly in his stump speeches. He promised, "The southern border will be stopped cold." His words were met with rousing cheers.

He didn't bother to mention that ex-campaign advisor Larry Pratt is the founder of English First, an organization that is promoting English as the nation's only language. Buchanan probably would have if he hadn't had to cut his aide loose after

Pratt's ties to white supremacy groups were exposed a few days before the primary.

Former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander also included in his speeches a proposal for more reinforcements along our southern border. Senator Bob Dole regularly rails against bilingual education and urges that we pass a nonsensical constitutional amendment to make English our "official" national language. All are popular positions in 98 percent pure New Hampshire.

It's no wonder that John Sununu's aides denied their boss' links to Hispanic heritage when he was governor of New Hampshire in the mid-'80s. Only when he moved to Washington, D.C., as George Bush's first White House Chief of Staff in January 1989 did it become common knowledge that his mother was from El Salvador and he was born in Havana, where his U.S.-citizen father operated an import-export business.

President Bush apparently explained to Sununu that beyond the borders of New Hampshire, cultural diversity that includes a growing Hispanic voting bloc can be a political plus.



Sittin' Here Thinkin'

Getting The Mail

by Ira Cutler

Every now and then I like to report to you on the contents of my mailbox -- I see it as a mirror reflecting on our society and maybe a little on me. This week the best things were from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), my insurance company, a telephone company that did not tell me its name, my congressman and the Democratic National Committee.

The AARP, which somehow knows that I will be 50 years old in June, is rushing me. They offered me either a one, three or ten year membership, and presented me with a temporary membership card with my name already printed in. It is astounding to me that I will soon be 50, and even more astounding that this makes me a part of the population group that worries about Part B premiums and gets discounts to go to the movies at times when no one else wants to go. If I join AARP I can also go on group vacations with many other fun oldsters, at reduced off-peak prices. I worry that being on the AARP roster will be the start of getting ads for trusses, coupons for denture cream, diet and sex aids, and endless offers of condos in sunny Arizona retirement communities.

My insurance company, which has now been playing with my paperwork for two months, sent me a "Notice Regarding Reinstatement of a Lapsed Policy Due to The Mental Incapacity of the Insured". This document says that if I fail to keep paying the premiums because I become mentally ill, then I can get reinstated. The best part of this document is their very specialized definition of mental illness: "lacking the ability to understand and appreciate the nature and consequences of a decision regarding failure to pay an insurance premium..." I assume that they sent this notice to all their customers, not just to select customers for whom they think it might be relevant, but why have they now sent it to me twice?

Then I got a letter about the Dial And Save Program. Although they are headquartered in a post office box in Virginia, they promise me and all other Connecticut residents that, if we dial 10457 before the rest of our long distance numbers, we can get our calls for 25% less than ATT, MCI or Sprint. Oddly, Dial and Save does not tell me who they are or how it works. They gave me a lot of stickers that say 10457 on them for me to put on my phones, but I do not think I will become a Dial And Save customer. In fact, I wish the telephone company was once again a monopoly. It seemed to me to work okay, you could remember the shorter phone numbers and you just got one bill.

My Congressman is Christopher Shays, a Republican in the Fourth District of Connecticut. He sent me, at your expense, a 24 page report identifying the results of the poll of his constituents he took in 1995, and reporting on all his votes last year. Shays' constituents, who are pretty wealthy in this district, find it okay to cut Medicare as the House leadership wanted, like block grants, are anti-immigration, and want taxes cut but not until the budget is balanced. Some of the poll questions are worded in such a way as to make predicting the answer pretty easy. Here is his Medicare question:

What is your view on the projected reduction in the growth of Medicare from 10 per cent a year to 6.3 per cent -- closer to the rate of growth of health care in the private sector -- to help keep it from going bankrupt in 2002? Only 16% thought this was too harsh a measure.

I do not know if the views of his constituents caused Shays to alter his votes. He tells us the poll results, he tells us his votes, but I don't have the time or interest to see where he departs from his constituents. Part of me likes it that he is willing to put his record out there but most of me knows that this is free advertising and the beginning of his 1996 campaign.

Finally, I received a survey from my friends at the Democratic National Committee. I am, the mail tells me, one of a select group representing the state of Connecticut and helping to develop the Party's platform. I find this an extremely odd and confusing document. They say that in times past there was an accusation that the two parties were too similar but that today the gulf in political and policy preferences is pronounced. I had thought just the opposite was true.

Then they ask me to help develop the Party's positions on Medicare, crime, education, etc. They are asking me, at one and the same time, to support the Democratic Party because of its point of view and to help them develop the point of view as though they do not already have one.

The DNC asks me if I support the death penalty, oppose it, or am undecided. My understanding is that President Clinton, the head of the Party, supports the death penalty. I oppose it. Will he take my position if the poll, or for that matter the platform, goes against his beliefs? They ask if private and parochial schools should receive subsidies, indirectly, in the form of tax credits to parents. This is an extremely complicated and volatile issue. Am I to understand that the DNC's position is up for grabs?

So what does this sample of the daily mail tell me? That I am getting older, that I now have enough money to be a target of various forms of solicitation, that companies and organizations and political movements all, for their various purposes, want a piece of me. All of my five pen pals -- the AARP, the phone company, the insurance company, Congressman Shays and the Democratic Party -- assure me that they really care about me, my ideas, and my well-being but I find that hard to believe. If they cared so much then why would their correspondence speak to me in that Ed McMahon-Publisher's Clearing House-win ten million dollars kind of language?

Why do so many major institutions think that I, and you by the way, are so stupid that we will fall for shallow questionnaire tricks, something for nothing phone schemes and all the rest? And why, I wonder, doesn't anyone write letters anymore?

(Ira Cutler, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irreverent, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. He promises us a Monday column most weeks. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.)

Rastreando Al Angulo Hispano En La Eleccion De New Hampshire

Por Margarita Contín

Hay que preguntarse qué es exactamente acerca de New Hampshire lo que le dió el privilegio de ser el primer estado de la nación en votar por nuestros candidatos presidenciales.

Sus residentes forman cuatro décimas del uno por ciento de la población del país. Son primordialmente conservadores, la mitad son personas rurales y el 98% de ellos son angloamericanos.

De modo que la distinción no tiene, en verdad, nada que ver con su rica diversidad. Puede que su lema de "Vivir Libres o Morir" fuera el hecho decisivo.

Pasé la semana entre el Día de San Valentín y el Miércoles de Ceniza en New Hampshire, informando sobre las elecciones para el "Herald Journal" y la estación de radio WAER de Syracuse, Nueva York, el "San José Mercury-News" de California, y Hispanic Link News Service de Washington, DC., rastreando los ángulos regionales o étnicos adecuados para cada uno.

Huelga decir que lo último fué mi asignación más difícil. El Censo de 1990 informó que 11,333 de 1,115,085 residentes del estado -- apenas el 1 por ciento -- se identificaron a ellos mismos como latinos.

En mis incontables horas siguiendo a los candidatos, me las arreglé para encontrar sólo a una electora hispana, Ana Ricabal, estudiante universitaria cubana. Ella estaba asistiendo a una reunión de Clinton en Keene.

Recurriendo a la comprobación de los apellidos hispanos en las guías telefónicas locales, pude rastrear y entrevistar a dos más -- Angel Rodríguez, un puertorriqueño transplantado que dirige una iglesia bautista en Manchester, y Diane Hernández, estudiante del Centro de Derecho Franklin Pierce en Concord.

El que yo alegara que la concurrencia hispana fué crítica hubiera sido una exageración. Las elecciones tendrían que habersido decididas por un voto.

El Reverendo Rodríguez me dijo que, en más de una ocasión, le han preguntado si tiene una "tarjeta verde", que identifica a los extranjeros inscriptos. Cada vez él ha dado una conferencia al inquiridor, aclarándole que Puerto Rico es parte de los Estados Unidos.

Le dije al Reverendo de mi encuentro con un residente de New Hampshire que explicó la homogeneidad del estado: "No es que se excluya a las personas étnicamente diferentes. Me

imagino que los puertorriqueños no quieren vivir en este clima porque no quieren esquiar. Ellos quieren pasar el tiempo en la playa".

Rodríguez se rió. "La gente es ignorante acerca de los latinos aquí".

Sin embargo, "aquí" es donde se supone que los aspirantes a la Casa Blanca hagan o deshagan sus campañas.

Las convenciones republicana y demócrata no ocurren sino hasta agosto. De modo que, ¿por qué los electores del Estado de Granito han de sortear a los candidatos para el resto de nosotros -- incluyendo al 10% de nosotros que somos latinos -- y fijar el tono de cada año de elecciones?

Si es parte de una tradición yanqui, yo digo que las tradiciones se destinan a ser rotas. Este es un estado que se niega a reconocer al Día de Martin Luther King como feriado.

Si alguien propusiera nombrar una calle o una escuela por César Chávez -- como lo han hecho tantas comunidades de todos los Estados Unidos -- la gente de aquí sin duda preguntaría, ¿por qué homenajear a un pescador portugués?

El ganador Pat Buchanan mencionó a los latinos indirectamente en sus discursos de campaña. El prometió que "la frontera del sur se detendría en seco". Sus palabras fueron recibidas con vítores estentóreos.

El no se molestó en mencionar que el ex-asesor de su campaña Larry Pratt es el fundador de "English First", una organización que propugna al inglés como idioma único de la nación. Buchanan probablemente lo habría hecho si no hubiera tenido que deshacerse de su ayudante después de se revelaron los nexos de Pratt con los grupos de la supremacía blanca unos cuantos días antes de las elecciones primarias.

El ex-Gobernador de Tennessee, Lamar Alexander, incluyó también en sus discursos una propuesta para más refuerzos a lo largo de nuestra frontera meridional. El Senador Bob Dole se burla periódicamente de la enseñanza bilingüe e insta a que aprobemos una enmienda constitucional insensata para hacer del inglés nuestro idioma nacional "oficial".

Todas esas son posturas populares en New Hampshire, que es 98% puro.

No es de sorprenderse que los ayudantes de John Sununu negaran los vínculos de su jefe con la herencia hispana cuando él era gobernador de New

Hampshire a mediados del decenio de 1980. Sólo cuando él se mudó a Washington, DC., como primer jefe de personal de George Bush en la Casa Blanca, en enero de 1989, llegó a ser del conocimiento público que su madre era de El Salvador y que él mismo había nacido en La Habana, Cuba, donde su padre, ciudadano de los Estados

Unidos, administraba un negocio de importación y exportación.

El Presidente Bush aparentemente explicó a Sununu qué, más allá de los límites de New Hampshire, la diversidad cultural que incluía a un bloque de electores hispanos cada vez mayor puede ser una ventaja política.

Talking Politics

by Alberto Peña

The 21 member Citizens Advisory Task Force appointed by the Commissioners Court to study the need for the possible expansion of the Lubbock County Youth Detention Center held their second public hearing on Tuesday at Monterey High School. Many of persons speaking before the Task Force were Probation Officers, Juvenile Counselors, Judges and Jailers, and others associated with the Juvenile Justice System in Lubbock County. They all spoke in favor of expanding the Youth Detention Center. Judge Jan Blalock, one of the first presenters, stated that juvenile offenders come from every social and economic strata in the community. However, it is commonly accepted that the vast majority of young people detained in the center are of hispanic ethnicity. Another speaker addressed this point but qualified his comments by asserting that the youth detention center should not become an issue of race discrimination.

Only three speakers opposed to the expansion citing new and higher taxes as their primary objection.

According to it's Mission Statement, the Citizens Advisory Task Force seeks to answer five critical questions. They are:

1) Whether to expand the existing Lubbock County Youth Detention Center from the current 70 bed to 260 bed facility at an estimated cost of \$12 million.

One answer was NO! Since the current system has failed to rehabilitate it's population, why spent \$12 million to add to a system that doesn't work.

2) What are alternative proposals?

Following through with the recently approved child abuse prevention and protection plan is a step in the right direction. One speaker stated that there are over 550 public or private agencies or organizations which already exist in Lubbock County that provide intervention or prevention services for Lubbock County Youth. Other alternatives mentioned were to enter into a partnership with LISD to teach morals, ethnics and individual responsibility. To target younger age groups 6 to 10 down from the current 10 to 14. To utilize Reese AFB as less costly expansion. to educate and empower parents especially single parents and grandparents raising grandchildren. To stop running the current Youth Center as a day care center and make it more of a jail style facility.

3) What size should the expanded facility be?

Since the size of the proposed facility was announced publicly long before the Task Force was commissioned, this question seemed to be based on the premise that the Citizens Task Force would render a rubber stamped recommendation in favor of expansion. This may also explain why the County Commissioners have already applied for a \$4 million state grant.

4) What size facility can the community afford?

The County Commissioners have already imposed a road and bridge tax and a hospital tax. When combined with other taxes the citizens of Lubbock county have already had an estimated 14 percent tax rate increase. Certainly the citizens of Lubbock cannot afford \$12 million more.

5) What are the most appropriate funding mechanisms to finance the expansion?

Since Lubbock voters have already voted NO on several tax hike proposals, it is probable that a new tax hike vote down as well. Many citizens feel that they are being burdened with the detention expense for neighboring counties who house their juveniles in the Lubbock facility.

Gilbert Flores, Pct. 3 Commissioner, has gone on record as being non-committal on the issue of the Expansion of the Youth Detention Center. Perhaps Commissioner Flores reconsidered his position maybe he would win the endorsement of a group from Pct. 3 not just the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal and SPARTAN whose interest in Pct. 3 are minimal. Commissions are elected to make the tough decisions not appoint Task Forces to study and advise and be a convenient escape for unpopular decisions.

There is no doubt that a serious juvenile crime problem exists in Lubbock and the USA as a whole but locking up more young hispanics is known to be a failed policy. Why spent \$12 million on something that we know doesn't work.

EL EDITOR NEWSPAPER

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Editor/Publisher Bidal Agüero

Candidate Forum Set Here

The Lubbock Branch NAACP and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance will sponsor a pre-primary nonpartisan candidates forum. Thursday, March 7, 1996 at 7 p.m. The forum will be held at the Mae Simmons Community Center.

The sponsors do not endorse any political party or candidate.

Latinos Network to Build Their Own Safety Nets

By Joseph Torres

The greatest window of opportunity in this century for people of color to gain an equal footing in U.S. society came between World War II and the Vietnam War. Unfortunately, during that period of civil rights advances -- spawned by the GI Bill, the War on Poverty and the Great Society -- Hispanic numbers were still politically insignificant, and their participation was little more than a footnote.

Today the U.S. Hispanic community numbers 30.7 million -- five times the census count of the early 1940s. By 2010, Hispanics are projected to outnumber African Americans. Yet, as governmental concern for the underserved diminishes, Latino organizations are still playing catch-up. And unique Hispanic needs in education, employment, health and other critical areas remain poorly attended by such other equalizing forces as foundations, corporate givers and the United Way.

Does this suggest gloom and doom ahead in the 21st century?

A gala staged in New York City last week suggests otherwise. Such Latino entertainment celebrities as Julio Iglesias, Andy Garcia, Martin Sheen and John Leguizamo -- 650 Latinos and their friends in all -- dined Feb. 29 at the fabled Waldorf-Astoria, paying \$500 each for the meal.

The gala's chairwoman was designer Carolina Herrera, and the honorary co-chairmen were New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Gov. George Pataki.

The beneficiary is the Hispanic Federation of New York City, an umbrella organization that didn't exist at the beginning of the decade. Created with seed money from the United Way, the federation set out in 1990 to make Hispanic social service groups in the city competitive in fund-raising with long-entrenched institutions.

Existing social agencies still fall far short in addressing the needs of the city's spiraling

Latino community of two million. Latino groups struggle to fill the gap in areas ranging from education and job training to immigrant services and AIDS care.

The federation was launched in 1991 with 17 members and a \$550,000 budget. By 1995, it had grown to 58 members and a \$2.1 million budget. Its job is to improve relationships between its members and the philanthropic community, to empower members through strategies that include leadership training and technical assistance in areas such as grant writing.

Much of the federation's success can be credited to Luis Miranda. His political and philanthropic connections have been pivotal. Miranda is the former chairman of the city's Health and Hospitals Corporation in the Giuliani administration.

He also served as special adviser for Hispanic Affairs to former Mayor Ed Koch, as well as director of the Mayor's Office for Hispanic Affairs. Miranda sees the federation as a model for forming Latino federations in cities across the country. Simultaneously, a few have sprung up, starting to disburse grant money to Latino service groups. Most do not yet provide the extensive technical assistance that the New York federation does.

Historically, the philanthropic community has had an almost non-existing relationship with Latino agencies. A 1991 study by the Foundation Center in New York found that 75 percent of foundation funds for Latino non-profit service organizations were provided by only seven foundations. It reported that less than 2 percent of all grants went to Latino non-profits. Fewer than 4 percent of staff and 1 percent of trustees working with organized philanthropy were Latino.

Bettina Flores serves as operations officer for the seven-year-old San Francisco-based Hispanic Community Founda-

tion, which also was started with seed money from the United Way. It works to strengthen the Latino family through youth initiatives.

Says Flores, "What we typically see is Hispanic organizations getting lost when it comes to receiving corporate funding. Unless you have a high-profile advocate, corporations don't know who the organizations are."

Los Angeles' United Latino

Fund, launched in 1990, focuses on social services and human care. It has awarded more than \$180,000 to 40 Latino community-based organizations. Other new umbrella groups include the Greater Kansas City Hispanic Development Fund, the Hispanic Fund in Lorain County, Ohio, El Fondo de la Comunidad in St. Paul, Minn., El Paso Community Foundation and the Puerto Rico Community Foundation in San Juan. Hispanic organizations are

learning that they must work collectively to maintain stability in providing services to the community. The New York federation sees its emphasis on teaching such groups how to fish, rather than giving them a fish, as most critical. Finding a dedicated, politically savvy leader who has the influence of a Luis Miranda doesn't hurt, either.

In the meantime, Latino groups across the country

struggle to serve constituencies in dire need at a time when the poor and disenfranchised are being admonished by public and private agencies alike that they must do more with less.

(Joseph Torres, of Washington, D.C., is a reporter with the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

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Latinos Hacen Sus Propias Conexiones Para Construir Su Red de Seguridad

Por Joseph Torres

La mayor oportunidad en este siglo para grupos minoritarios de alcanzar igualdad en la sociedad estadounidense fue durante la época entre la segunda guerra mundial y la guerra de Vietnam. Desafortunadamente, en ese período de grandes avances de derechos civiles -- con el programa social más extenso en la historia, la ayuda financiera a veteranos, y la llamada batalla contra la pobreza -- todo esto surgió cuando las cifras hispanas eran políticamente insignificantes.

Hoy la comunidad hispana de los Estados Unidos asciende a 30.7 millones -- cinco veces el conteo del Censo a principios del decenio de 1940. Para el año 2010, se proyecta que los hispanos superarán en número a los afroamericanos. Sin embargo, a medida que disminuye el interés gubernamental por los insuficientemente servidos, las organizaciones latinas están todavía tratando de ponerse al día. Y las necesidades hispanas en la enseñanza, el empleo, la salud y otros campos críticos permanecen defectuosamente atendidas por otras fuerzas igualadoras tales como las fundaciones, los donantes empresariales y United Way.

¿Sugiere esto tristeza y ruina adelante en el siglo XXI?

Una fiesta escenificada en la ciudad de Nueva York la semana pasada lo sugiere de otro modo. Artistas latinos de la talla de Julio Iglesias, Andy Garcia, Martin Sheen y John Leguizamo, cerca de 650 latinos y sus amigos cenaron el 29 de febrero en el fabuloso Waldorf-Astoria, pagando \$500 cada uno por la cena. La presidenta de la fiesta de gala fue la diseñadora Carolina Herrera y los copresidentes honorarios fueron el Alcalde Rudolph Giuliani y el Gobernador George Pataki.

La beneficiaria de la fiesta es la Federación Hispana de la Ciudad de Nueva York, una organización comprensiva que no existía al comienzo del decenio. Creada con fondos de comienzos procedentes de United Way, la federación se dedicó en 1990 a hacer que los grupos hispanos de servicios sociales de la ciudad compitieran en recaudación de fondos con las instituciones establecidas hace mucho tiempo.

Las agencias sociales existentes todavía se quedan cortas para enfocarse sobre las necesidades de la comunidad latina de dos millones, que continúa aumentando. Los grupos latinos luchan para cerrar la brecha en los campos que van desde la enseñanza y el adiestramiento para el trabajo hasta los

servicios a los inmigrantes y la atención a los enfermos del SIDA.

La federación fue iniciada en 1991 con 17 miembros y un presupuesto de \$550,000. Para 1995, había crecido a 58 miembros y un presupuesto de \$2,100,000. Su trabajo es mejorar las relaciones entre sus miembros y la comunidad filantrópica, habilitar a los miembros mediante estrategias que incluyen el adiestramiento para la dirigencia y la ayuda técnica en campos tales como la redacción de subvenciones.

Gran parte del éxito de la federación puede acreditarse a Luis Miranda. Sus conexiones

políticas y filantrópicas han sido indispensables. Miranda era el presidente de la Corporación de Salud y Hospitales de la Ciudad de Nueva York durante el mandato del Alcalde Giuliani. También prestó servicios como asesor especial para Asuntos Hispanos al ex-Alcalde Ed Koch, así como director de la Oficina del Alcalde para Asuntos Hispanos.

Miranda ve a la federación como un modelo para formar federaciones latinas en las ciudades de todo el país. Simultáneamente, unas cuantas han surgido, comenzando a asignar dinero de subvenciones a los grupos latinos de servicios. La mayoría no proporcionan aún

continúa en la página 5

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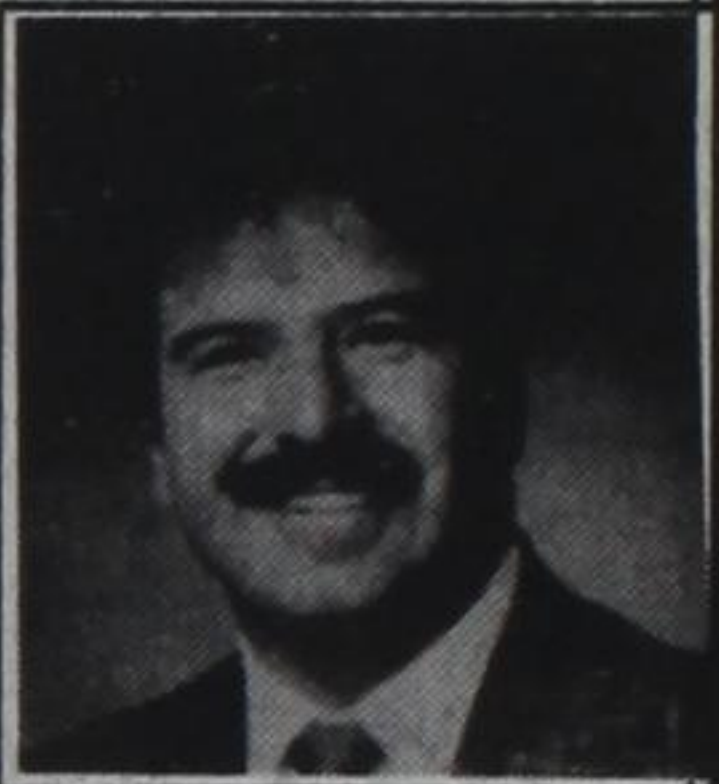
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Neighborhoods Taking on Government Work

Across the country, neighborhood groups are growing in number and in strength, taking on responsibilities that were once the province of government agencies and getting more attention from government officials, reports The New York Times.

In a neighborhood in Ozone Park, Queens, people were distressed when the city slashed its budget for youth programs last year, so they turned to their neighborhood association. The group sprang into action, finding a \$5,000 city grant and rounding up neighborhood volunteers to save after-school tutoring and art classes.

Fueled by shrinking local, state and federal budgets and armed with fax machines, newsletters, a mastery of legal nuance, and enthusiastic members willing to give their money and time, they are moving beyond their traditional role of pestering officials to get potholes filled and streetlights fixed.

"Increasingly, as resources get scarcer and the public purse to afford the nice things in life, let alone the essential things in life, is greatly reduced, most of the angry citizens groups that were there to protest have now turned to delivering services close to home," said Robert H. McNulty, the president of Partners for Livable Communities,

nonprofit organization in Washington that advises communities and cities on how to solve economic and other problems. "Now instead of hand-biting, it's hand-shaking."

Nationally, one snapshot of the growth of these groups is the membership list of the National Association of Neighborhoods, a Washington organization that advises block associations and other citizens groups. Membership has jumped from 1,500 five years ago to 2,000 last year and 2,200 this year.

And the group's director, Ricardo Byrd, said he has recently been peppered with calls from state and local governments seeking ways to cooperate with these groups.

In Austin, Texas, neighborhood groups volunteer their time to work with a Parks Department health and nutrition program for children. In Santa Barbara, Calif., a neighborhood responded to gang shootings by organizing a block-watching program. In St. Louis, Mo., one neighborhood association has a staff of about 40 people and has set up programs like a skills bank, in which people trade hours of baby-sitting for, say, hours of plumbing, McNulty said.

Immigrants have found a new civic and political voice, spawn-

ing dozens of new groups. In New York, the Hillcrest Estates Civic Association had been dormant for years until George Yee, a real estate agent, revitalized it, drawing in many families from the neighborhood's growing Chinese-American community.

"A number of new emerging civic organizations are tied to

immigrant populations, a Chinese association, an Indian women's group," said Alexandra Rosa, the chief of staff for Queens Borough President Claire Shulman. "The trend is that civic associations continue to be very very focused on local issues, but they are beginning to focus on systemic issues, boroughwide issues and city-wide issues."

Shalala: Feds Will Stay In Welfare

Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala said Wednesday governors must accept a continued federal voice in Medicaid and welfare programs, reports Associated Press.

The efforts of the National Governors' Association have increased the likelihood that Republicans and Democrats will agree on changes in the programs, Shalala said in testimony prepared for a Senate Finance Committee hearing.

But, "we do have serious questions about some of the proposals they have put forward: questions about maintaining national objectives and the federal-state partnership necessary to achieve them," she said.

Shalala's testimony is the first in-depth administration response to the governors. Shalala also said more work needs to be done on the proposals for:

- Emergency federal spending when states fall into recessions that throw people into the Medicaid and welfare systems.
- Basic health and safety protections guaranteed under current welfare programs.
- Foster care and adoption standards.
- Food stamp coverage.

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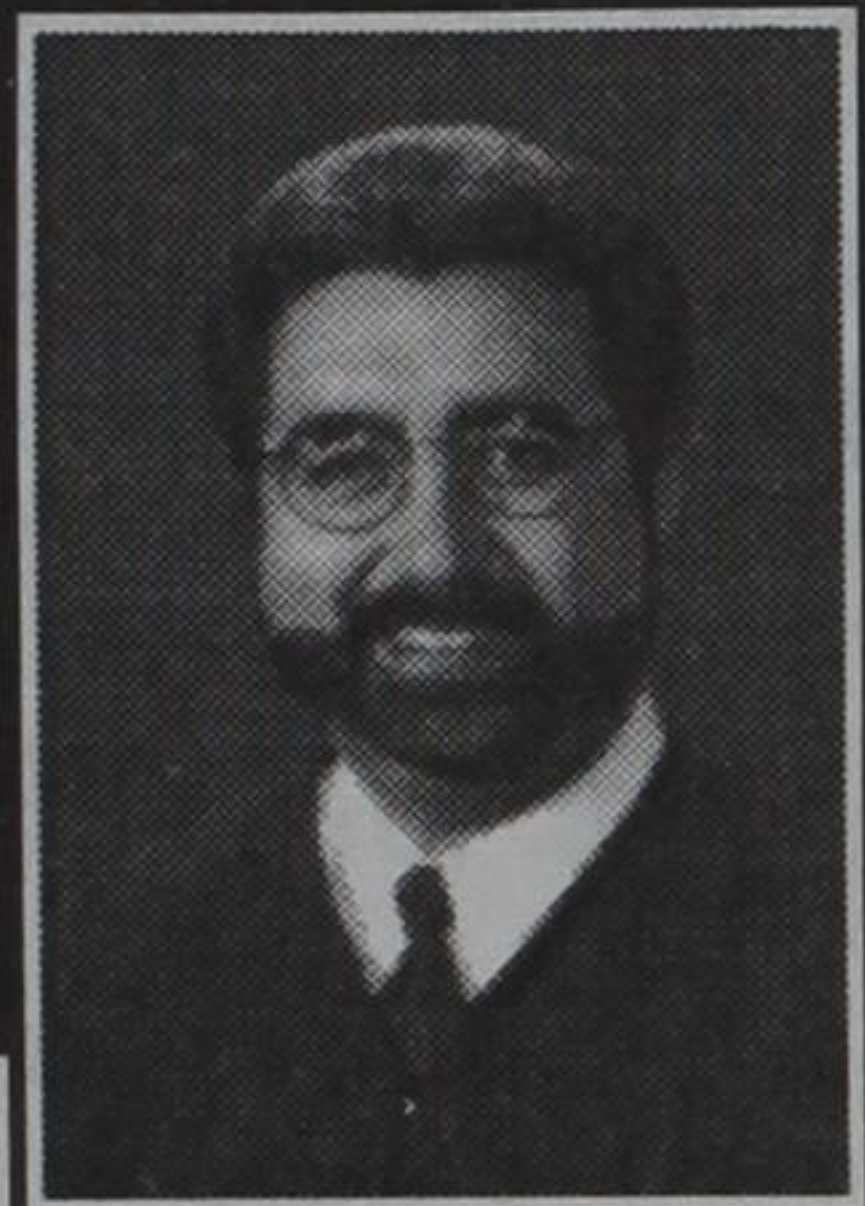
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I have always worked with my hands. And I have always been proud of being a tradesman. After high school then trade school graduation as a youth, I practiced auto, truck and tractor repair for 10 years. Thereafter I entered the construction trade after receiving an associate's achievement from Midland College. I was a carpenter, then foreman and contractor. And I have worked on the family ranch throughout my life of 46 years in West Texas.

My decision to enter public service began as I became steadily aware of a need for a change in local government. And I believe I understand that is what Lubbock county residents want also.

There seems to be a widening communication gap between the taxpayer and the elected leaders. Tougher jails are what the citizens see as the most neglected aspect of deterrence. Being soft on criminals is counterproductive. Early release is the criminal's best friend. Crime prevention is community development! I will stand for reduced opulence in our criminal lock-up facilities.

Some leaders insist that increased taxes will answer all our social problems, but budget over-runs continue to worsen. Parents can't spank their children, and the Elderly are often treated as second-class citizens. Our priorities are astray.

A public servant is one who serves all ethnic backgrounds equally and fairly. Trust and integrity and respect are important values to practice and to expect.

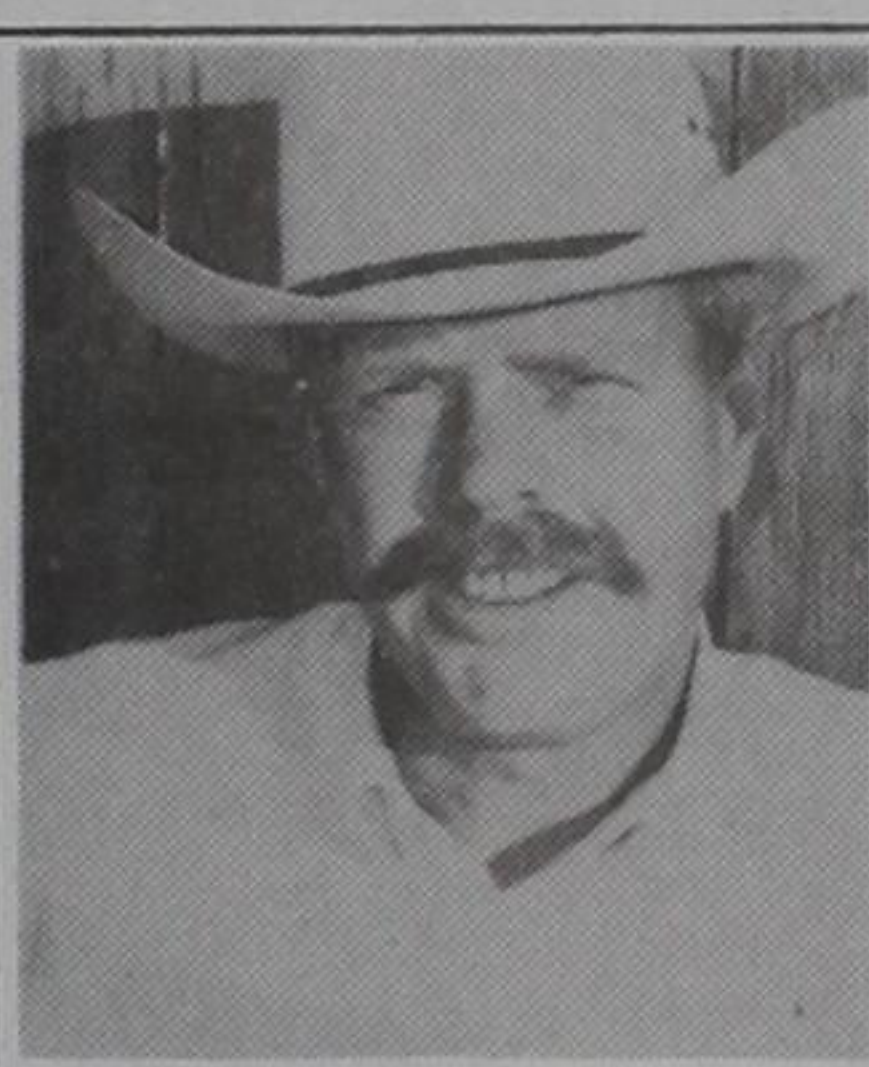
Leadership is a quality learned through years of acceptance of authority and the continuing application of compromise between idealism and practicality. But uncompromising values is the test voters apply when they bestow leadership.

I will work hard to be a leader for the youth, and a champion for the Elderly. And I will strive to bring together our multi-ethnic precinct to serve as a strong, undivided voice in county government for the benefit of us all!

West Texas people are proud and tough and we will stand for what we believe is right! Just as I stand now as your candidate.

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Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

Las Obras espirituales de misericordia son las que debemos de hacer para ayudar el alma del prójimo. Son cuatro principales: Enseñar al que no sabe, dar buen consejo, consolar al triste, y rogar y hacer rogar a Dios por los vivos y por los muertos.

Nos dice el Evangelio que el último día vamos a ser juzgados de acuerdo a como hayamos practicado, durante nuestra vida, las Obras de misericordia espirituales y corporales: Cuanto venga el Hijo del Hombre (Jesucristo) en toda Su Majestad, con todos Sus angeles, se sentará en el trono y todas las naciones serán reunidas ante El y separará a unos de otros, del mismo modo que el pastor separa a las ovejas de los cabritos; y pondrá las ovejas a su derecha y los cabritos... a su izquierda. Luego, dirá Jesucristo a los que estén a Su derecha: "Vengan, benditos de mi Padre, gocen del reino preparado para ustedes desde el principio del mundo, porque tuve hambre y me dieron de comer, tuve sed y me dieron de beber; llegué como uno que no tiene casa y ustedes me recibieron, estaba desnudo y me vistieron, estuve enfermo y me curaron; estuve en la cárcel y me fueron a ver". Entonces los justos responderán: Señor, cuando te hicimos tanta cosa buena...? Y Jesucristo responderá: "en verdad, les digo que cada vez que lo hicieron con uno de mis hermanos, lo hicieron conmigo mismo". Pero, lo mismo pasará cuando hagamos algo malo a alguien: Será al mismo Cristo a quien lastimemos... (Lucas 10, 1-12 y Luc. 10, 17-20).

From Page 1

sisted, were those who reject English as the common U.S. language in favor of "linguistic separatism." He questioned the patriotism of many Hispanic advocates of bilingual programs, warning that they secretly hope to reunite the Southwest with Mexico. Funny. In more than a decade of reporting on bilingual education, I have never encountered a single linguistic separa-

Buchanan Sufre La Caida De Pratt

Por Jim Crawford

Los críticos del movimiento del inglés solamente que han sospechado por mucho tiempo una "conexión nazi" pueden haber encontrado una por fin en la persona de Larry Pratt, copresidente de la campaña presidencial de Pat Buchanan. Hasta las elecciones primarias presidenciales de New Hampshire, Pratt era un miembro obscuro de tercera clase para la Nueva Derecha.

Ahora su cara ha estado en las primeras páginas a través del país, gracias a sus comparecencias inoportunas con dirigentes de las organizaciones de la supremacía blanca, incluyendo

Aryan Nation y Christian Identity.

Se informa que Pratt se dirigió a las reuniones auspiciadas por estos grupos para organizar y promover las milicias armadas. Al ser entrevistado en el programa "Nightline" de la cadena ABC, él alegó no haber sabido de las simpatías nazis de sus colegas oradores, aún cuando uno de ellos se identificó a sí mismo como "un intolerante 100 por ciento" y usó el saludo favorito de Hitler.

Los artículos de prensa han identificado a Larry Pratt como director de Gun Owners of America (GOA). Pero han dejado de hacer notar que él es

EN LOS AÑOS PASADOS RECORDANDO LOS BUENOS DÍAS DEL PASADO

Haciendo memoria de los días antiguos Por Pastor García

Como a 50 millas al Sureste de Temple, en una pequeña ciudad que se llama Cameron, Texas, 60, años pasados, cuando mi madre se sentaba a la sombra del portal de nuestra casa, con su Biblia en el regazo, enseñándonos y leyendo la Palabra de Dios. Nosotros eramos 6, hermanos, todos nos sentabamos en el suelo, en la tierra para escuchar a mamá. Esos días eran buenos días. Eran buenos días, en el sentido que en esos días no se tenía que poner llave o candado a la puerta de la casa. La única manera que se ponía candado a la puerta, era cuando la familia salía fuera del hogar por dos semanas o más, pero la llave se dejaba con el vecino, en caso que alguien viniera y quisiera entrar en el hogar. Las casas no tenían plomería, luz eléctrica, agua caliente, cuarto de baño. Así que no había biles que pagar. En el hogar, la estufa era de leña, la luz, lámpara de petróleo. El cuarto de baño estaba fuera, junto al montesito. Mi mamá no tenía una máquina de lavar, pero tenía una biblia. No teníamos dinero, pero teníamos mucho que comer. El jornalero ganaba un dólar por día, y los muchachos en tiempo del azadón ganaban 50¢ por día. Mi papá era herrero y ganaba \$10.00 por semana, yo a los 14, años comencé a trabajar con mi papá en la fragua y ganaba 50 centavos por 10 horas, dándole vuelta al soplador de aire que mantenía la lumbrera de carbón viva, para calentar los fierros. En el rancho, se trabajaba de sol a sol, el reloj solamente se usaba para marcar la hora de comida. Los platos que se hacían se aseguraban dándose la mano o la palabra y en muchas ocasiones no se firmaba un papel de contrato, y casi no se usaba un abogado. Para ir al pueblo, íbamos en un carro de dos caballos, pero no de dos caballos de fuerza sino dos caballos de cuatro patas. A este carro mi papá le llamaba guallín. No se compraba casi nada de lo que se compra ahora que vamos a la tienda. Solo se compraba como, harina, sal, asucar espauada; casi todo lo demás se conseguía en el hogar o se tenía en el rancho. Para la harina de maíz, se llevaba el maíz a moler. Los huevos, leche y manteca, ésto se conseguían en el rancho. Los huevos, daban hasta 20 huevos por 10, centavos, y luego le daban a uno un pedazo de carne o un galón de leche por los mismos 10, centavos.

En el pueblo o en el rancho casi todos se conocían. La mayor parte de los latinos vivían en los ranchos, y en todo rancho se conocían todas las familias, conocíamos sus nombres y nombres y hasta el nombre de todos los perros del rancho. Casi nadie le hacía mal a su vecino; se respetaban mucho las familias. La juventud ni maldecía ni fumaba delante de sus mayores. ¿VOLVERÁN ESTOS TIEMPOS DE JUSTICIA? La Escritura dice: "bien que esperamos cielos nuevos y tierra nueva, según sus promesas, en los cuales mora la justicia." 2 Pedro 3:13.

tist -- much less a Hispanic secessionist. Maybe it takes a true racial conspirator to see racial conspiracies everywhere.

también el presidente de English First, un grupo que él fundó en 1986 para combatir al bilinguismo y propugnar al inglés como el idioma oficial de la nación.

English First y GOA comparan actualmente un grupo de oficinas en Springfield, Virginia, junto con otras organizaciones de cabildeo creadas por Pratt, incluyendo al Comité para Proteger a la Familia y al Control de Fronteras de los Estados Unidos.

En el Centésimo-Cuarto Congreso, English First ha trabajado en contacto estrecho con los Representantes Toby Roth (repblicano por Wisconsin) y Pete King (repblicano por Nueva York) para redactar proyectos de leyes federales de inglés solamente. Estos proyectos de ley -- H.R. 739 y H.R. 1005, respectivamente -- son las más explícitas y limitadoras "Leyes sobre el Idioma del Gobierno" que están pendientes ahora. Ambos revocarían la Ley de la Enseñanza Bilingüe y las disposiciones bilingües de la Ley de los Derechos Electorales.

English First parece haber influido también sobre Pat Buchanan. Aunque Larry Pratt está ahora "con licencia" de la campaña, su espíritu de intolerancia persiste. En Arizona, Buchanan publicó anuncios televisados prometiendo "insistir en un idioma, el inglés, para todos los estadounidenses".

El grupo de Pratt no ha de confundirse con el más antiguo y mejor financiado cabildo del U.S. English. Las dos organizaciones compiten por dólares enviados por correo y nunca han estado en términos amistosos.

English First no ha vacilado para asociarse con causas de la extrema derecha ni para ofender a las minorías étnicas con su retórica cargada de inuendo. En 1986, comenzó a recaudar fondos con el llamado siguiente, firmado por el representante estatal de Texas Jim Horn:

"Querido colega estadounidense:

"No sé de sus antecesores, pero cuando los míos llegaron a los Estados Unidos, lo primero que hicieron fué aprender el inglés.

"Ellos querían ser parte del sueño estadounidense y sabían que aprender el inglés no era

sólo una necesidad práctica. Era una obligación moral.

"Trágicamente, muchos inmigrantes en estos días se niegan a aprender el inglés!

"Ellos nunca llegan a ser miembros productivos de la sociedad. Permanecen atascados en un ghetto idiomático y económico, muchos de ellos viviendo de la asistencia económica pública y costando a los estadounidenses que trabajan millones de dólares en impuestos cada año...

"Los activistas radicales han sido atrapados deslizando a extranjeros ilegales en los colegios electorales y empleando boletas bilingües para depositar votos fraudulentos...

"Si usted y yo dejamos de aprobar la Enmienda (del Idioma Inglés) ahora, la fragmentación de la sociedad estadounidense a lo largo de las líneas idiomáticas será completa. Crearemos una sub-clase permanente de ciudadanos incapaces de trabajar. Y usted y sus hijos tendrán que pagar la cuenta..."

Usando este argumento, Larry Pratt alegó con orgullo haber reclutado 200,000 miembros y recaudado \$2 millones para English First en un sólo año. Cuando la carta fué criticada después en la prensa, no obstante, él volvió a redactarla y alegó que había sido citada incorrectamente.

Yo entrevisté a Pratt para la revista "Education Week" en 1987 y le pregunté sobre las acusaciones de racismo que se hacían a los proponentes del inglés solamente. El las descartó como "paranoia estrictamente irracional" por parte de los dirigentes hispanos que "se oponen a que sus comunidades aprendan inglés para conservar sus bases políticas". El agregó que su esposa, nacida en Panamá, aprobaba plenamente las actividades de English First.

Los "verdaderos racistas", insistió Pratt, eran aquellos que rechazan al inglés como idioma común de los Estados Unidos a favor del "separatismo idiomático". El puso en tela de juicio el patriotismo de muchos defensores hispanos de los programas bilingües, advirtiendo que ellos esperan secretamente reunir al suroeste con México.

From Page 3

la ayuda técnica extensa que suministra la federación de Nueva York.

Históricamente, la comunidad filantrópica ha tenido una relación casi inexistente con las agencias latinas. Un estudio hecho en 1991 por el Centro de Fundaciones en New York halló que el 75% de los fondos de fundaciones para las organizaciones no lucrativas de servicio latinas eran suministrados sólo por siete fundaciones. El mismo estudio informaba que menos del 2% de todas las subvenciones se destinaban a organizaciones latinas no lucrativas. Menos del 4% del personal y del 1% de los fideicomisarios que trabajaban con la filantropía organizada eran latinos.

Bettina Flores presta servicios como funcionaria de operaciones para la Fundación Comunitaria Hispana, con siete años de existencia y sede en San Francisco, que fué iniciada también con fondos de comienzo procedentes de United Way. La misma funciona para fortalecer a la familia latina mediante iniciativas juveniles.

Flores dice: "Lo que vemos típicamente es que las organizaciones hispanas se pierden cuando se trata de recibir financiamiento empresarial. A menos que se tenga un partidario de alto perfil, las empresas no saben quiénes son las organizaciones."

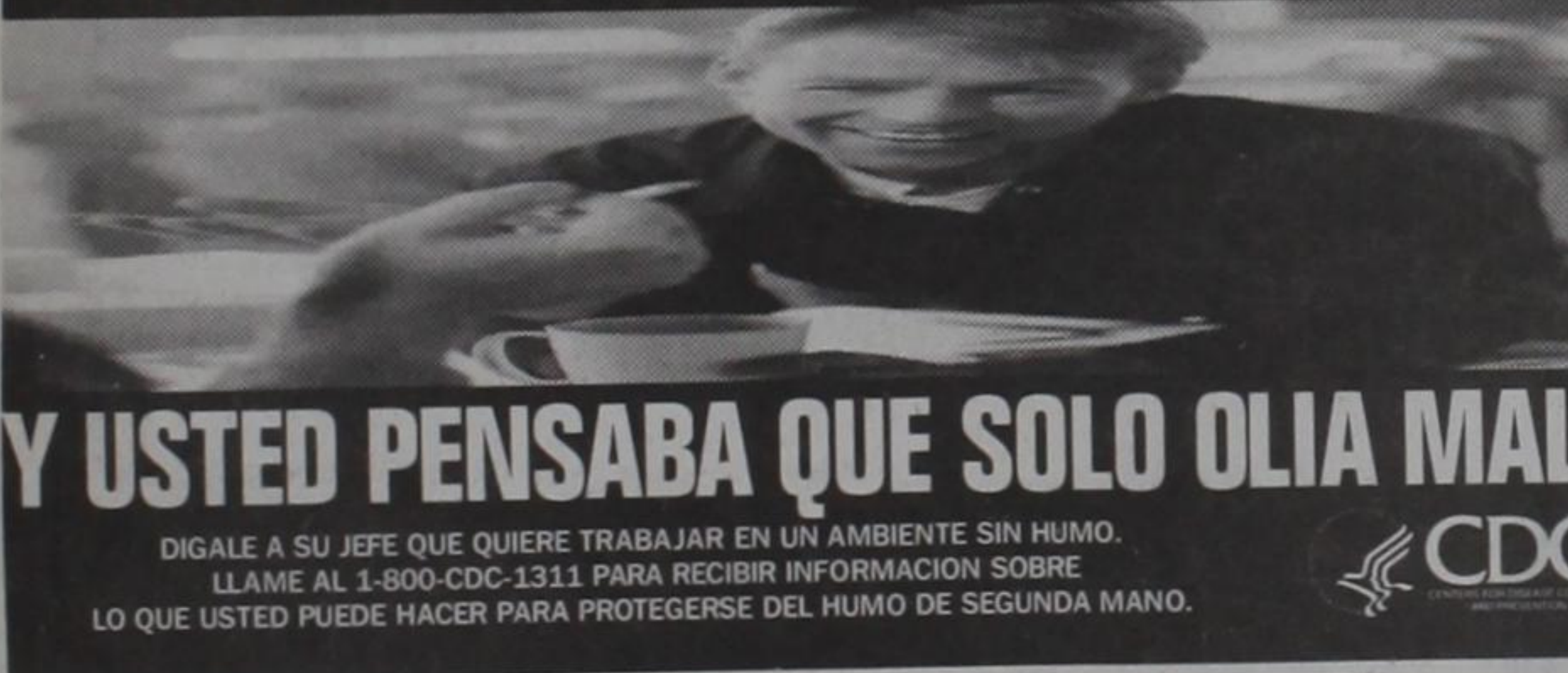
El Fondo Latino Unido de Los Angeles, lanzado en 1990, se enfoca sobre los servicios sociales y la atención humana. Ha concedido más de \$180,000 a 40 organizaciones latinas basadas en la comunidad.

Otros nuevos grupos comprensivos incluyen al Fondo Hispano para Desarrollo de la Zona Metropolitana de Kansas City; al Fondo Hispano del Condado Lorain, Ohio; al Fondo de la Comunidad de St. Paul, Minnesota, a la Fundación Comunitaria de El Paso y a la Fundación Comunitaria de Puerto Rico, en San Juan.

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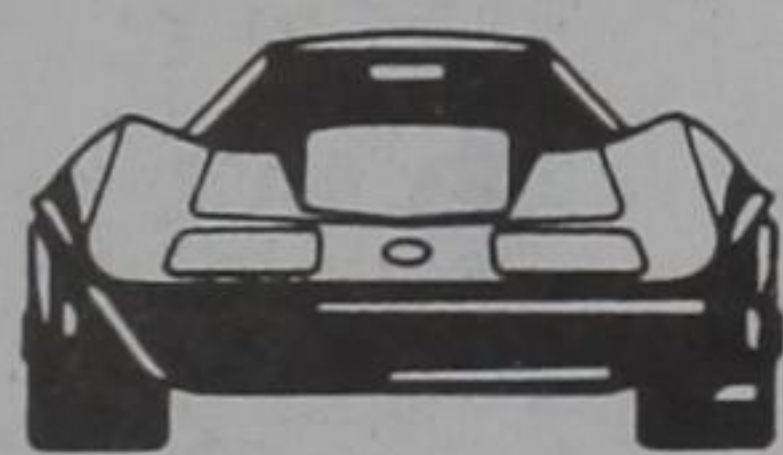
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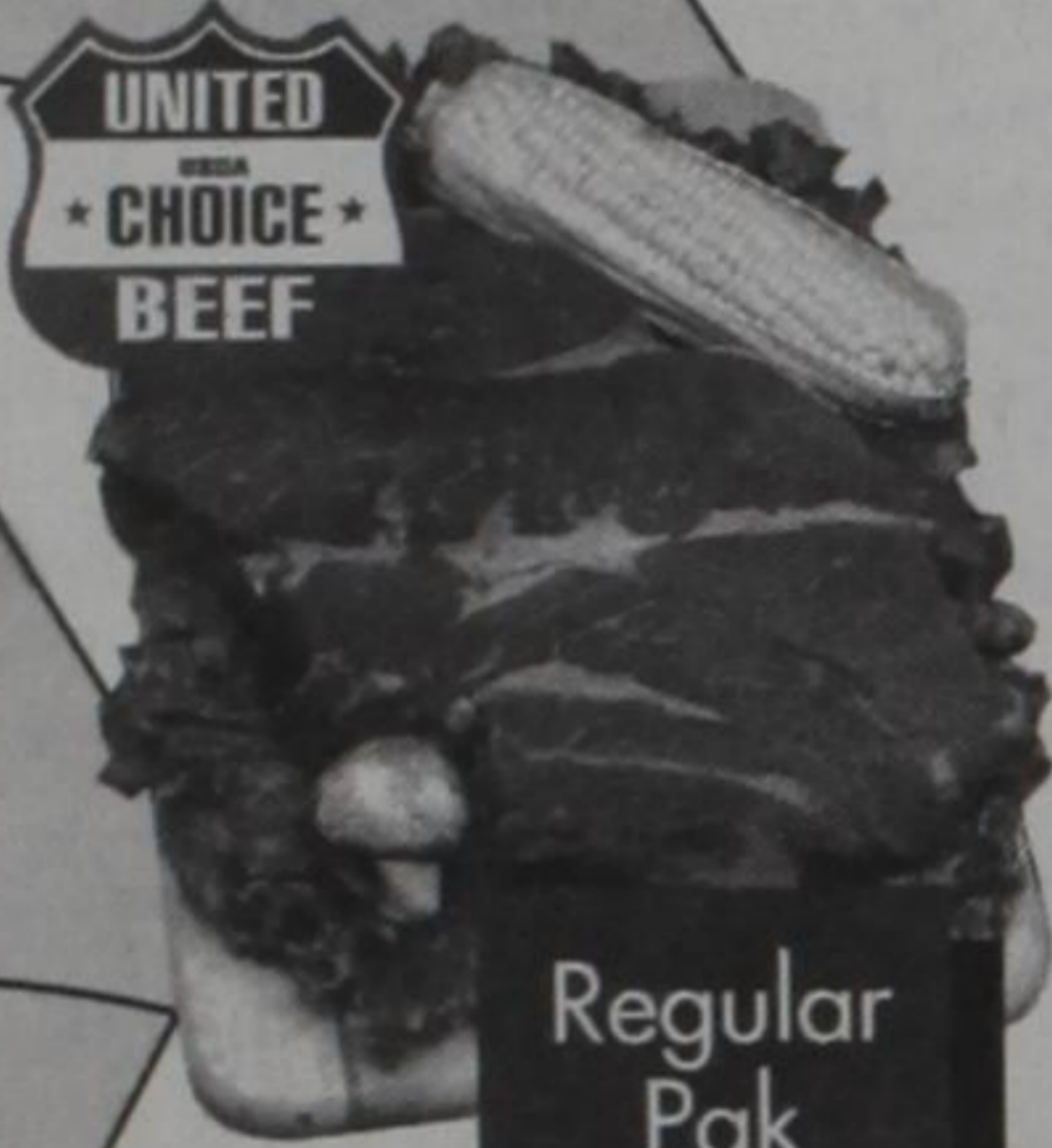
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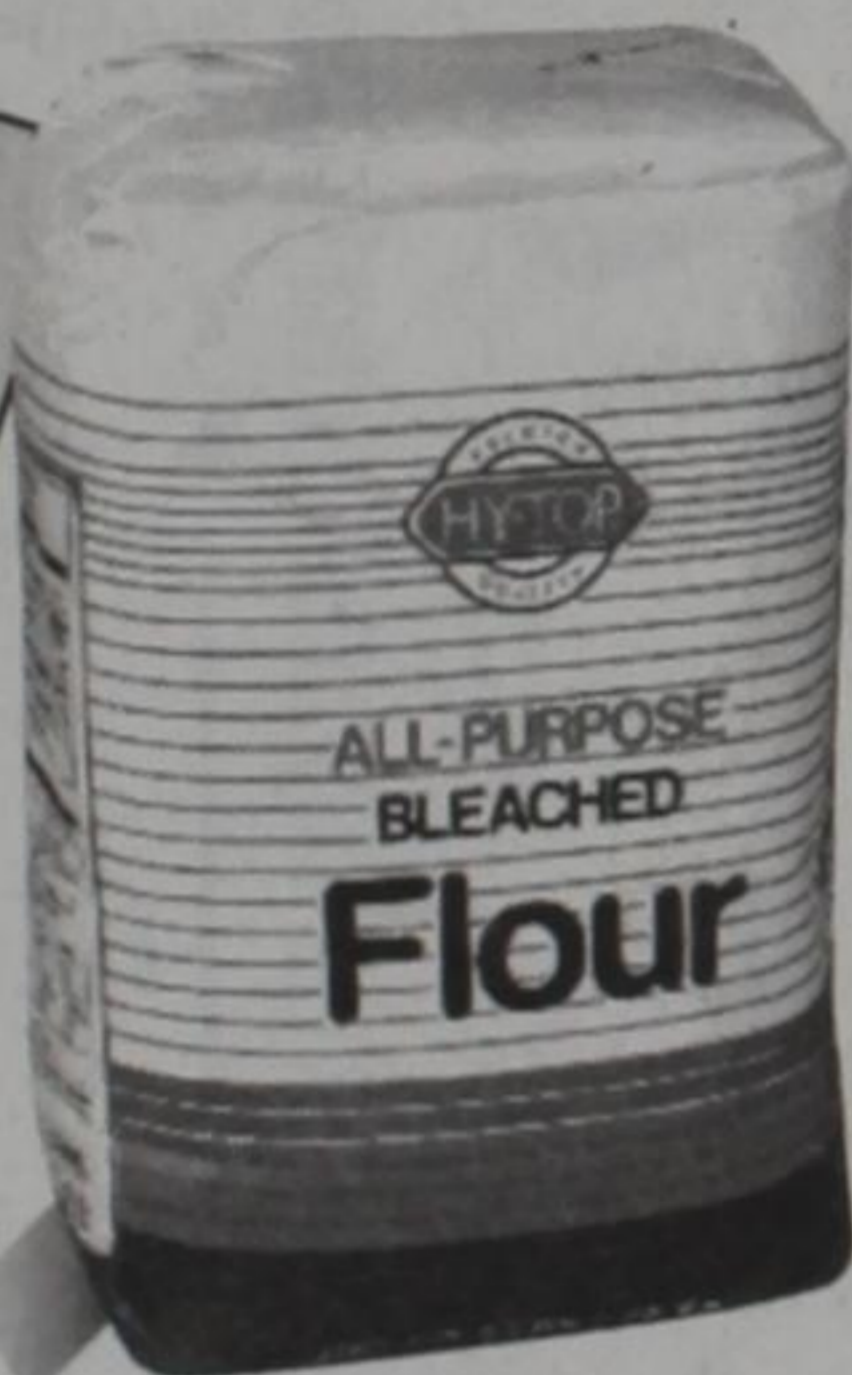
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