Feb 12
Sunday
10 am
The Search for Intimacy: An exploration of the impact of advanced
capitalism on the nuclear family - for example, the increased
segregation of work, child care and family life (of husbands,
children, and wives), the public-private split and the sentiment­
alization of marriage. With the fragmentation of family life, we
wish also to look at the search for new forms of "family", for
example single parent families, "open marriages", communes, etc.

Feb 12
Sunday
6 pm
Feb 19
Sunday
10 am
Education and the Corporate State: An exploration of changes in
educational patterns for young and old - for example, increasing
demands for "performance" and education as "vocational training";
extended lengths of time required for such training ("lifelong
schooling" vs. lifelong learning); the fragmentation of higher
learning into isolated, esoteric specialties; education increas­
ingly defined by technical, bureaucratic and corporate require­
ments, i.e. the "professionalization" of more and more fields of
study; the creation of two distinct, unrelated dimensions of
life, "public" and "private".

Later
April
10 am
In April we propose to focus from a similar perspective, on
changes in political life and participation, work, and reli­
gion, (Editorial note: today's service indicated that the
topics to be discussed in April will probably be politics,
work, and technology. Not much interest was shown in religion.)

There will be a potluck dinner
for Unitarian singles next Sunday
evening, at six pm, on the 12th. The
potluck will be at Ruth Hersko's home,
3508 Tallyho Lane, Right near the
Cuba Club on Universtiy Ave., just
inside Shorewood. For more infor­
mation, please call Ruth at 233-
7229. Hope to see you there!

Liberal Religious Youth (LRY)
will be holding a conference over the
weekend of March 30th to April 2nd at
the First Unitarian Society. Any per­
son who would like to attend a work­
shop of the conference itself (this
invitation is extended especially to
highschoolers), may contact Kathy
Eisner at 233-3179.
Motorcycles, music, ancient arts, and Women's Rights were the topics upstairs, but did you know what was going on downstairs in January? Unless you have a direct line to a child, you probably missed hearing about the juggling, clowning, and mime sessions led by Joe Goldfield and Janet Evans, or the dancing and music led by Ruth and George Calden, Hermine Davidson, and Dodie Chapru. The smell of baking cornbread, though, was a good clue that all was well downstairs.

For the spring semester we welcome as teachers Shirley Lake, Betty Hill, and Pay Cautley (K, 1, & 2 with "The Haunting House"), Diane Miracle and Linda Plum (3, 4, & 5 with "People and their Cultures"), and Dorothy Lee, John Siegfried, and Mike Briggs (middle school, "Law and Social Change").

Marian and Helen Briggs will continue doing an excellent job of entertaining/teaching/caring for the preschool age children. Many thanks to all our teachers.

Hearty thanks are also due to Rose Smith, who has done a thorough and professional job of reorganizing the RE library. She requests that anyone who has any library books at home please bring them back long enough to be catalogued! She has also found a handsome book of poetry called Sunshine Days and Foggy Nights (by James Kavanaugh) with no indication of ownership. Does it belong to you? If you have any suggestions of books which our library shouldn't be without, please tell Rose or Shirley Lake or Joan Hall. We'll try to fill in the gaps.

Remember that an election primary is coming up soon. Your opinion is registered only when you VOTE! The date of the primary is Tuesday, February 21st. You may vote between 6:00 am and 8:00 pm at the polling place in your district. Vote for the candidates and the issues of your choice.

Because she wants to be able to take some courses next year in addition to her fulltime job, Veda Nomura has decided not to continue as RE Director. The RE Committee, therefore, is beginning its search for a new director. Anyone who is interested in the job, or who has a suggestion of a candidate, is invited to talk to any member of the RE Committee (Veda, Shirley, Joan, Galen Smith, Pete Huth, Kristin Slabaugh, or Bob Michler). Details about salary and responsibilities are available from Veda. Since a candidate chosen this spring will have the benefit of working with Veda and being introduced to the program gradually, we hope to fill the position within the next few weeks. Let us hear from you!

An LRY conference in Columbus, Ohio, February 17th-19th will offer such workshops as "Mr. Natural vs. the Potato Chip Zombies". Any interested young people may contact Veda at 233-6424. The registration fee is $9.00 per person, and each group of Lryers must be accompanied by an adult.


Henry Pratt brought before the Board a proposal made by Al Nettleton that a survey be made of the whole congregation concerning the newspaper strike and all the ramifications for our future social actions.

The Social Action Committee has three new members, Rod Stevenson, Terri Laurence, and Julie Bonser. Contact Betty Jallings with any suggestions or comments about Social Action.

RE needs HELP! Wooden puzzle pieces are missing and a skilled person is needed to help replace them. Please contact Shirley Lake with suggestions.

Membership Committee co-chairs are Fran Remeika and Avis Parrish. Being considered are a new directory, up-to-date membership lists, and the membership book.

This article was paraphrased from notes submitted by Rachel Siegfried, Sect'y.
"The Board decided that, rather than have another general membership meeting to further debate the issue of by-laws revision, there instead should be a presentation of various sides on disputed points in the pages of Prairiefire and then, later on, a discussion of the issues at a regular Sunday morning service in six to eight weeks." -Henry Pratt

"The issue to be discussed is (1) whether the society wishes to take stands on social/political issues; we further wish (2) to define the means by which such stands could be taken; and (3) we wish to identify the kinds of issues on which the Society may wish to take a stand." -the Board

Should Prairie Society take stands on social/political issues?
What are the means to be followed when taking such stands?
What kinds of issues?

YES, Prairie Society should consider and take stands on social/political issues.

I would maintain that we would have to completely become a secret society, undiscovered by any of the Madison community, to succeed in avoiding taking stands on social/political issues. Regardless of the presence or absence of votes on such issues, we have an image in the community. This is a consequence of individuals as well as from the program(s) of the society.

It also appears to be impossible to define where social/political and non-social/political issues begin and end (witness the fact that our recent debate was over the purchase of advertising services). Much of the business of the society has social and political overtones: renting space at Portal Foster Center, teaching sex education, purchasing stereo equipment made in Japan, purchasing printing of the newsletter from a non-union (self-employed) printer, etc.

At the present time there is no prohibition on the society's adopting or defeating, social/political resolutions. The present rules of the executive board do require that an effort be made to publicize the vote by which the resolution was adopted, to assure that any minority is given recognition (there is also nothing to prohibit voting to include the text of a minority report in a resolution). However, the issue is clouded by providing autonomy to the social action committee and allowing them to maintain their own funds and issue statements in their own name.

Unless adopted for all actions of the society, I would not like to see a special definition of majority applied to voting on social/political issues. The problem would be in defining what was such an issue.

What kinds of issues? What would we prohibit? Perhaps only the direct endorsement of political candidates (since this is a very traditional restriction among similar groups). How about abortion rights, J. P. Stevens boycott, Nuclear power plants, Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, Madison's urban sprawl problems, air quality standards, education of the developmentally disabled — what is on your mind? Some will give us time for clear study, others will be more urgent.

But, we are also not required to take social/political stands. Under the present rules a majority can rightfully say that a resolution is not the business of Prairie.

My recommendation is that we address such issues when they are strongly enough felt to be introduced. I recall clearly David Lisman's statement that collective action may be the only salvation in our increasingly complex society. -Al Nettleton.
(Discussion of this issue was to be between Al Nettleton and Charlie Davidson. The article has been delayed once, due to lack of preparation. It is being published now even though it is not completed.)

—the Editor

(The printer Al is thinking of was Brian Yocum. The printer now is Econoprint. Notice that no social action committee was asked if a different printer could be used. Editorial ease dictates who gets to print the PF. Econo-print is easiest, so...)

Middle-schoolers meet at 2259 West Lawn Avenue at 10:00 am. Teachers: John Siegfried, Dorothy Lee, and Mike Briggs. Topic: Responsibility and Freedom.

Hermine Davidson—a candidate for school board. She has taken a stand in current issues facing Madison taxpayers. Find out what she has to say by calling her at 222-4280.

All the teaching slots in our Sunday School are filled. Thanks are extended to Shirly Lake and others involved in this task. Luck is wished to the new teachers and supervisors for the upcoming semester.

Board meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:30 pm. Place to be announced in the PF for those interested in attending. General public welcomed.

Prairie Unitarian-Universalist Society
c/o Preston Miracle
3980 Plymouth Circle
Madison, WI 53705

Prairie Unitarian-Universalist Society
c/o Preston Miracle
3980 Plymouth Circle
Madison, WI 53705

Prairie Unitarian-Universalist Society
c/o Preston Miracle
3980 Plymouth Circle
Madison, WI 53705

Prairie Unitarian-Universalist Society
c/o Preston Miracle
3980 Plymouth Circle
Madison, WI 53705