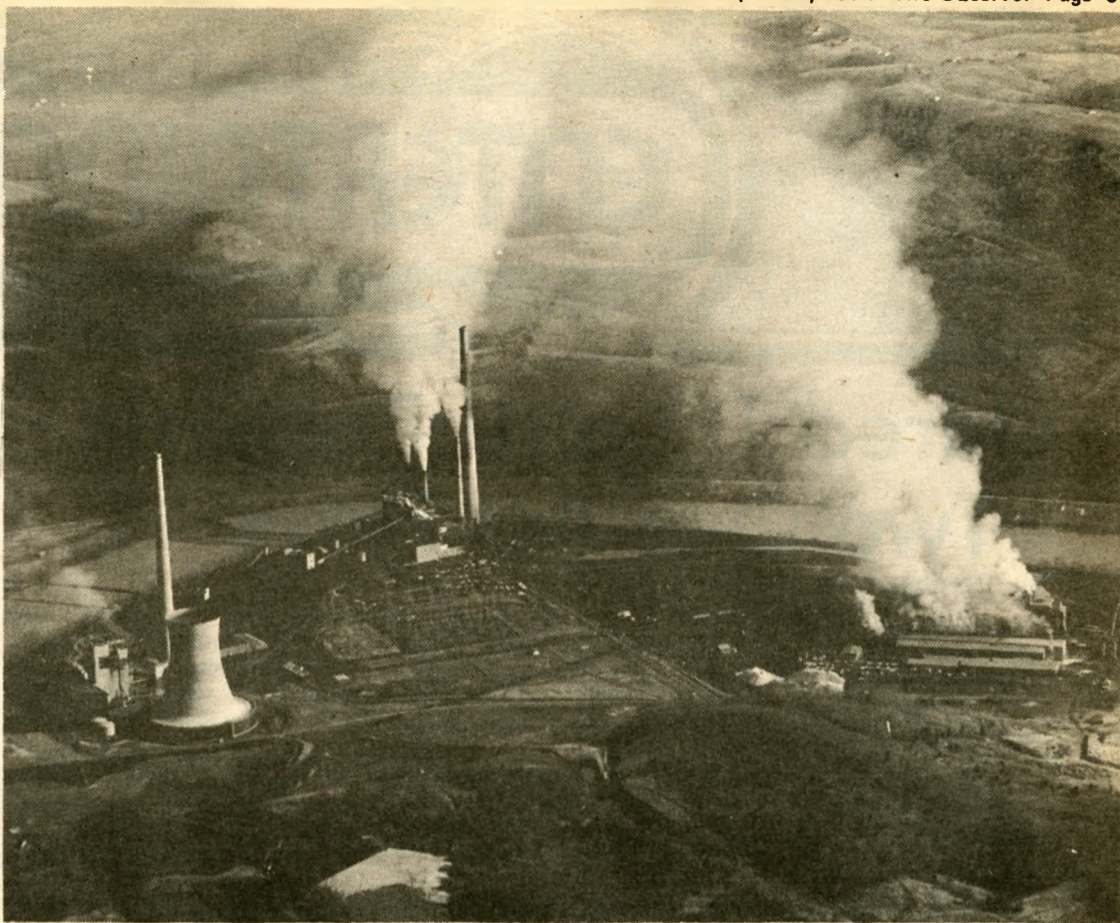


Week

Highlighting the week here in Cleveland was Ralph Nader, consumer advocate, who is spearheading the drive to establish the Ohio Public Interest Action Group (OPIAG). Hopefully, this group will be able to represent the interests of the public.

So, one year and one day later, THE OBSERVER wishes Earth Week a happy birthday, and to OPIAG, THE OBSERVER extends its best wishes for a successful existence. To ECO-FREAKS everywhere, this newspaper dedicates these two pages in the hope that they will provide a suitable springboard for the Eco-Freak's outlined activities.

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"Power plants contribute nearly 50 percent of all sulfur dioxide and 20 percent of nitrogen oxide emissions in the nation, which are estimated to cause billions of dollars in crop and property damage and wreak untold injury on human health."—Federal Power commission. An electric plant of the Ohio Power Co. in Southern Ohio is shown here. Keith Roberts

Earth March held; Nader speaks at Tri-C

By DAVID R. PIERCE

Throughout March and April, Ralph Nader's Ohio Public Interest Action Group (OPIAG) has been organizing a state-wide fund-raising drive to create a financial base from which to operate. The fund drive has been taking place this week, Earth Week.

Last Saturday, April 17, Earth Marches were held all over Ohio. The march in downtown Cleveland drew approximately 1000 college and high school students and community supporters in the rain. Each marcher was sponsored at \$2.00 per mile walked. The total course of the march was five miles.

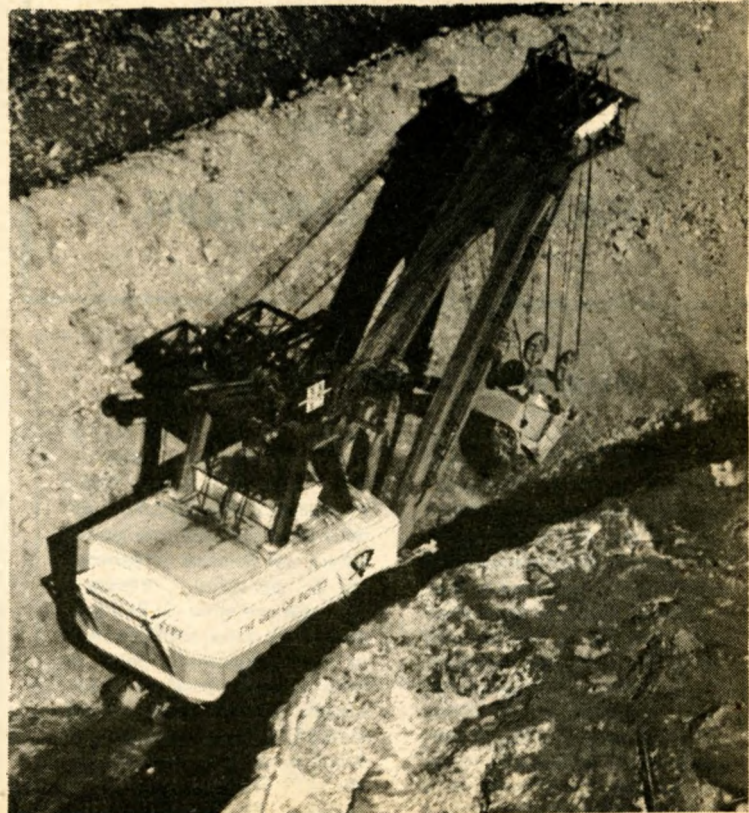
Monday, April 19, Ralph Nader, famous consumer advocate and recently-turned eco activist, spoke in the Cuyahoga Community College gymnasium. Speaking before 4000 college and high school students and community people, Nader outlined the philosophy behind OPIAG in three speeches. OPIAG will serve as a professional representative for voiceless citizens. He said OPIAG will speak for those people who are affected by pollution and consumer fraud and for those who are sensitive to these problems but have no outlet for their concern. OPIAG will provide these people with the needed methods and strategies to solve their problems. Nader believes there is a need

to move towards tapping unused talent, especially old people, housewives, and students. He believes the country has the resources to solve its problems, but there is a need to create the means to bring these resources to bear on the problems. OPIAG, according to Nader, is the means. It will be established by a large number of people giving small donations to the group will have no ties to any particular donor, giving OPIAG an independent base to attack the establishment.

All this week, door-to-door canvassing has been going on. This method of fund raising is particularly relevant to Nader's philosophy behind OPIAG. Students go door to door, explaining why Ohio needs a public interest pressure group and what it can do. This brings the level of contact down to a personal one-to-one level. Finally, a donation is requested. The donor accepts this representation of OPIAG, giving a small donation, usually ten dollars.

This Sunday, April 25, at 3 p.m. in Strosacker Auditorium, an exciting and varied concert will be held. A Bach Benefit for the Biosphere will be performed by members of the Cleveland Orchestra. Interpretations of Bach will be performed from Renaissance music to jazz. Tickets are \$1.50 for students and \$3.50 for non-students, all proceeds going towards OPIAG.

Nader believes the country has the resources to solve its problems, but there is a need to create the means to bring these resources to bear on the problems. According to Nader, he believes OPIAG has the means.



The Gem of Egypt, eight story tall dragline, operating north of Hendigsberg, Ohio in Belmont County. The dragline can be seen from Interstate 70.

ans policy

of the federal government's new served notice today that he would ny industry in the fight against

d his new post last December, is Magazine as saying,

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irst, there won't be any economy. n up by making it unprofitable to elshaus said.

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sors, picking on everybody, putting pposite—they want us to pick on

Students go door to door, explaining why Ohio needs a public interest pressure group and what it can do. This brings the level of contact down to a personal one-to-one level.