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Maine Statewide News Letter No. 2 (March 1980)

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NO. 2

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
PERIODICALS

MAINE STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER

LESBIAN/GAY SYMPOSIUM:

Workshops, dance, spaghetti -- no baloney.

Wilde-Stein Club (Memorial Union, UMO, Orono) will be hosting a Maine Lesbian/Gay Symposium March 21 - 23 at Bangor Community College. This is the 7th annual symposium; last year's program attracted over 400 participants. The event will feature workshops, films, a book & craft show and sale, and speakers Lucia Valestra (National Gay Task Force) and Steve Endean (National Gay Rights Lobby). Registration is \$5 and includes a spaghetti supper (meat or meatless) Saturday night followed by a dance. (Dinner alone is \$1, dance is \$2.) Child care is provided, housing is available (bring bedding), and the building is wheel-chair accessible.

WLBZ-tv in Bangor has offered to put people from Wilde-Stein on the air for a live discussion with Amy Ashworth and Dick Ashworth of Parents of Gays. Tentative air date is March 20.

Gay People's Alliance in Portland offers: a safe place for lesbians, gay men, and other interested people to socialize and organize; a speakers bureau; friendly ears to listen, and friendly voices to share experiences and give support; a bulletin board; discussion, study, and action groups; social activities, political actions, and special events. GPA is located at 92 Bedford St. in Portland, 04101; the phone is 780-4085.

MORE SPAGHETTI! On Feb. 29, 6 pm, State Street Church in Portland, AFSC and SANE will host "For Whom the Oil Flows...", spaghetti provided by Portland Friends Meeting (vegie or carnivore), music by Mike Nobel, info on Iran and Afghanistan by Joe Gerson, and "The Last Slide Show". Tickets are \$3. This is a sequel to last year's spaghetti supper titled "Where Have All Our Taxes Gone? - or - You Can't Eat an MX Missile No Matter How Much Peanut Butter You Put On It."

MANY ARE CALLED BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN: draft return meets resistance.

On February 10 about 250 people took part in an anti-draft demonstration at the Lewiston Democratic caucus, singing "We Shall Not Be Moved", "Where Have All The Flowers Gone?" and "God Bless America." A week later there was a 3-hour teach-in at the UMO in Orono; about 150 people came to hear speakers from Maine Peace Action Committee, Orono Friends Meeting, and the American Friends Service Committee. Topics covered included relation of the new draft talk to Iran, Afghanistan, and US foreign policy; how the draft system worked in the 60s and what the new draft may be like; women and the draft; and the need for a shift in national priorities away from military spending.

Tom Sturtevant of AFSC is working on a teach-in for people interested in doing draft counselling, and on out-reach projects aimed at high school students to counteract the military recruiting in high schools. His address is RFD 3, Winthrop 04364.

Ben Below (11 Elm Ct., Waterville, 872-6497) is working on an anti-draft rally to be held at the Statehouse in Augusta March 9 at 1 pm. (The date is tentative). The rally will feature speakers from Boston Mobilization Against the Draft, Institute for Policy Studies, and students from Maine colleges; there will be music as well. The rally may serve as a lead-in to a national anti-draft action March 22 in Washington -- no details are available on that yet, but Ben may have more details soon or learn more at the rally.

"I agree... 'the nation must now, and in the foreseeable future, have a system which includes the draft' Reforms must focus on drafting the youngest first, at age 19; and drastically curtailing deferments." Edward Kennedy, May 1969.

THE NEW FORERUNNERS

The new forerunner is the Youth
Who, tired of this society's use
And abuse of Nature, seeks a path
Back to the Earth, its rightful home
Its origin of Birth and sense of worth
Its link with true reality
The source of Strength and Unity
Of humankind with its extension
A soul of grass, leaf, tree and flower
The ultimate sustenance of our living hour
Who plow the earth and win their bread
with sweat

Symbolic, 'round me I observe
Yound people returning to the land
To harmonize with Nature and her ways
To build from scratch, houses, barns
and Life
The dignity of work by human hands
Rebuilding, restoring what waslost....

By Freda Anton Meredith, Dixmont

"It's complicated to live a simple life
these days. "

YOUR RIGHTS AS A TENANT

If you have Simone (or Simon) Legree
for a landlady (or landlord), what you may
need is a booklet entitled "The Rights of
Tenants in Maine. " It is available from
any Pine Tree Legal Assistance office.
(They have lots of them at the PTL office
at 61 Main St., Bangor 04401.)

THE THIEVES CONFESS

We stole a couple of things out of
other newsletters last time and didn't give
true credit where it is deserved. The
"Food for Thought" notice was filched
from the Food Mill Coop's "Crunchy
Times" of January, 1980. The bit about
Minerva and her coat of gold came from
Pine Tree Legal's "Capitol Comment, "
Vol. 1, No. 1 of 1980. Capitol Comment
is available from PTL, 39 Green St.,
Augusta 04330.

NUTS AND BOLTS, PART II

There are a lot of things we're still
trying to figure out with this newsletter.
There is the simple stuff like price (40
cents?) and Volume I, Number 2. Should
we make extra copies and distribute them
through organizations or coops?

How can we get a better distribution
of articles? A large number of our
articles the first two issues have been
on energy and "alternatives," a reader
suggested. Should we try for a more even
balance? We can't do it unless you send
us articles and resources on low-income
groups, tax movements, occupational
safety and health, community development
issues, ferry increases, urban sanity,
etc., etc. The newsletter is not copy-
righted, so feel free to reprint any
of our articles elsewhere.

Some of you didn't get a newsletter last
month. We still have a few copies left
and would be happy to send you one. Just
let us know. Some of your addresses
probably were not correct, so if you've
got a better address than what we're
using, please tell us.

As of Feb. 24, 1980, we've received
137 subscriptions totalling \$624 in do-
nations. It cost us about \$120 to do the
first issue, but future issues will cost
about \$150-175 because of increased cir-
culation (this one will go to about 1,600
people).

Deadline for the next newsletter will be
March 20th with production slated for the
March 21-23 weekend. We can definitely
use help that weekend and have some money
to help defray travel expenses for anyone
who comes to the Palmyra Dome to help
out. Call or write for directions. For
any general questions, information, or
feedback, contact INVERT, RFD 1, Newport
04953, 938-2219. Among those who helped
with this issue were Nancy Warren, Gust
Stringos, Sheila Garrett, and folks
from the Palmyra dome.

The Golden Rule: Those who have the
gold make the rules.

SUPPORT THE WABANAKI ALLIANCE!

After several years of publishing the Wabanaki Alliance (a paper by and about Native Americans) without cost to the subscribers, the paper is being forced to ask its readers for financial support.

Wabanaki Alliance is the only voice of Maine's Native American community. It has written about the land claims case, local tribal activity, and Indian causes nationwide. It has been a source of information, community, and support for Maine's tribes and White supporters.

Subscriptions are now \$5 a year, tax deductible. Write: Wabanaki Alliance, 95 Maine St., Orono 04473, or call 866-4903.

TAKING THE BOYCOTT CENSUS

In the past 10-15 years there have been many boycotts of products or companies due to poor treatment of workers, support of corrupt dictatorships and racist regimes, and other nasty acts.

Now there is a group that publishes an annual listing of all the boycotts going on and the reasons behind the boycotts. If you send a stamped self-addressed envelope to Boycott Census, 45 Carleton St, Brookline Mass 02146, they will send you the 1980 list.

Topping the list this year is The Guardian, a radical newspaper charged with very poor treatment of workers. Other heavies are the union-busting J/P. Stevens company, and Nestles (which markets infant formula in Third World countries in a way that leads to many infant deaths).

Also on this year's list: Florida (for the execution of prisoners), Campbells and Libbys and Standard Brands, and the states of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Florida again, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia for not ratifying the ERA.

Mark Boutiller, 4 Pleasant St., Orono 04473 (866-4068) has details about the J/P. Stevens boycott; Nestles information is available from Martha Payson, 257 Foreside, Falmouth 04105.

DOES YOUR COOP STOCK HOUSES?

Penobscot Area Housing Development Corporation (PAHDC) is looking for people interested in cooperative living to start a housing co-op.

PAHDC is a non-profit housing developer in Bangor run by and for low-income people. It sees housing co-ops as an alternative to high rents and mortgages. Housing co-ops eliminate the landlord's profit, through joint non-profit ownership and management.

Thousands of housing co-operatives exist already in the U. S., and nearly 15 per cent of recent housing starts in Nova Scotia have been cooperatives.

The co-op is set up as a corporation, and purchases all land and buildings in its name. A person who buys a share in the co-op becomes a stockholder, entitled to one vote in determining co-op policy. An occupancy agreement entitles a person to live in the co-op; how much it costs to buy in depends on the co-op.

PAHDC does not have a building yet; their aim is to form a conclave of prospective co-operators, who will then make choices about what kind of co-op they would like -- large or small, newly constructed or rehabilitated, etc.

For more details write PAHDC, 61 Main, room 66, Bangor 04401, or call 947-7404.

If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem.

NOTES FROM YORK COUNTY

Earth Day will be March 20 this year. 1980 is the 10th anniversary of Earth Day.

Some conservation groups have designated 1980 "the year of the coast," and plan a national campaign to educate people about the importance of protecting, preserving, and restoring our coast. Peak periods of action will be May 9-11, Aug. 2-9, and Oct. 3-5.

Women in the Kennebunk area have been doing a series of talks and film showings on health and genetic dangers of radiation. Upcoming events include a talk in March at the Newcomers Club in Kennebunk and an energy fair for Mother's day. Pat Jones, Box 126 Kennebunkport, 967-5653, has details.

NEW AGE IS HERE!

New Age Community Center (97 Danforth, Portland) is a non-profit resource center on "everything from acupuncture to Zen." The primary purpose of the Center is to make New Age resources available. Some of the resources offered are: a library with over 2000 New Age books (including science fiction!), a good selection of New Age magazines and newsletters, folders of articles and news clippings on topics of special interest, a bulletin board listing programs and events throughout New England, and a file of New Age individuals and groups in Maine. The Center's programs include courses, workshops, speakers, films, and social events. Membership in the Center is \$15, with up to \$10 barterable.

WHAT'S IN A NAME ?

Names, names. Ever try to name something? It can take days, even weeks. Well, here we go again, looking for something to put on top of page one. Since last month, the following names were suggested:

"Celebration"; "Maine Connections";
"In The Maine"; "Maine Stream";
"The Closing Circle"; "Outvert";
"The Maine Thing"; "Mainly Maine";
and "Alternatives".

Do any of these strike your fancy or turn you off? Send more suggestions so we have more to pick from. How about:
"The Progressive (of Maine)";
"Resource full";
"Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Maine";
or "The Palmyra Papers"?

And then there's the sub-title, or whatever goes with the name. Like "All the news that's fit to print" (New York Times); or "World's Greatest Newspaper" (Chicago Tribune). Hmm. How does "World's Greatest Newsletter" sound? How about something with a little more humility? "Out of the gutter and into the paper"? Too dirty. "The newsletter to end all newsletters"? "Freedom of the press belongs to those who own one"? Send your suggestions; winner gets a free subscription or something fabulous like that. Deadline is March 20.

PUTTING OUR TRUST IN FOSTER CARE

Wanted: foster parents for abused, emotionally disturbed, and mentally retarded children. Foster parents will live in a community environment (4 - 5 households) on land which will be put into a land trust. (The land has not been found yet.)

Plans tentatively include mutual support among parents within the community, collective efforts in gardening, building, buying necessities, transportation, etc., and an extended family of care for children. The emphasis will be on "holistic" care and therapy for the children, along with an ecological environment. Money is available to pay parents for their foster care duties.

For a more detailed description, or information about how you can help, get in touch with Marnie Walters and Herb Walters, RFD 2 Box 265, Waldoboro 04572, 832-7994.

CORRECTING THE CORRECTION SYSTEM

Could what happened in the bloody New Mexico prison uprising happen in Maine? The January issue of Maine Civil Liberties which came out shortly before the bloody riot examines the Maine correctional system and finds many of the same problems: old over-crowded facilities, sub-standard conditions, and a lack of meaningful rehabilitation.

The newsletter, published by the Maine Civil Liberties Union, also notes some encouraging developments: adoption by the Maine Sheriff's Association of a comprehensive plan to improve Maine's county jails; beginning of cooperation between jail officials and MCLU toward ending unequal treatment of women prisoners; passage of a bill to cut down on pre-trial detention in Kennebec County; and the filing of a number of suits against jail officials over substandard jail conditions.

To obtain a copy of the newsletter, or to learn more about the work of the MCLU, write them at 97-A Exchange Street, Portland 04101.

"While there is a lower class I am in it; while there is a criminal element, I am of it; and while there is a soul in prison, I am not free."

-- Eugene V. Debs

The Cumberland Bail Project provides support for the families of prisoners and helps provide bail money for people who have been charged with crimes. You can contact them at 155 Brackett St, Portland 04101, 775-0105.

A SCHOOL FOR HOMESTEADERS

Eddie Moore at Patchwork Farm, Box 56-A, Thorndike 04986, is hoping to open a Homestead School. The goal of the school is not only to teach people how to build their own homes, raise most of their own food, and train their own draft animals, but also to develop programs to share the work load and to purchase tools needed to run a small farm.

People get so caught up in making a living they sometimes forget how to live.

Some people are out to make a living, and some are out to make a killing.

THE ENERGY BUS IS NO BUST

The "energy bus" is an outreach effort of the Western Maine Energy Center. The bus carries a house built on the back with several demonstrations of low-cost solar energy and conservation techniques inside. The bus can be used for demonstrations at schools and churches. For more details contact WMEC, Dill House, U of Maine at Farmington, 04938. They have a toll-free number: 1-800-492-0611 ext. 327.

MUSIC FOR PEACE

Gordon Bok, Bill Bonyun, Joe Barth, Doreen Conboy & friends, John McLaren and Mandy McLaren will appear in a benefit concert Saturday March 22, 8 pm, Pickard Theater of Bowdoin College in Brunswick. Tickets are \$5; proceeds will go into peace work of the American Friends Service Committee.

COMPETITION (other newsletters)

Maine Peace Action Committee (MPAC), formed in 1974, meets every Tuesday at 4 in the Maples on the UMO campus in Orono. The February/March issue of their newsletter has just come out -- it contains 26 pages of articles on the draft, Afghanistan, Iran, Barry Commoner, J. P. Stevens, and Nestles, etc. If you would like to receive a copy or get on their mailing list, write to MPAC, Memorial Union UMO, Orono 04469 (and tell 'em INVERT sent you!)

MORE COMPETITION

Another newsletter just published is Maine Ploughshare from Maine's American Friends Service Committee. AFSC is involved in peace education, relief projects to Cambodia and other troubled places, opposition to the draft, re-ordering of federal priorities away from military spending and toward the funding of human needs. Several resources such as "War Without Winners", "The Last Slide Show", and "I Have Three Children Of My Own", are available through the Lewiston office, and many more may be rented from the film library at the Cambridge Mass. regional office (generally for \$5 - \$10 plus postage). If you would like to learn more about AFSC programs, or if you would like to be on the mailing list for their newsletter, write Deb Hibbard/AFSC, Box 7097, Lewiston 04240.

AN ALTERNATIVE TO MR. PAPERBACK

If really good books are hard to come by in your area because the book stores don't carry what you want, stop at Gulf or Maine/Friends of the Earth Bookstore (61 Maine St, Brunswick) next time you are through the area. The store has books on alternative energy, political stuff, farming and gardening, women's issues, labor, children's books, Native American, lesbian/gay, and other subjects of interest. There are discounts, co-op memberships, and used books for bargain hunters.

"Beware of all enterprises that require new clothes." -- Henry David Thoreau

Dear Editor: Just a comment on your first issue. It is a mistake to lump special interests such as labor unions, anti-nuclear power, and women's rights into the same grouping. By doing so you are very apt to alienate individuals with a strong commitment to a certain cause, but with an equally strong commitment against another -- or perhaps a general apathy for the others. It is one thing to print a newsletter on special or minority interests, and another to assume that your readership will be in agreement on all of them.

Rob Johnston Jr., Johnny's Selected Seeds, Albion 04910.

Last issue we had an article expressing the view that this newsletter can help create a statewide force by helping readers see how different issues are connected. I am another of the people who helps produce the newsletter, and I'd like to present a contrasting view that I see not as a contradiction of the previous one but rather as a necessary balance.

I see the newsletter as a bulletin board serving a wide range of individuals and groups, many of whom may have conflicting or even opposing interests. You can put up a notice describing who you are and what you have to offer, and you can look over what other folks have posted to see what if anything grabs you.

I am not that excited about a united family coming out of the newsletter. I think it is good to have disagreement among ourselves and a wide diversity of approaches to problems, some compatible and some in direct opposition. The anti-nuke movement is stronger for having the Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee, Safe Power for Maine, and Clamshell Alliance as separate entities rather than as one "unified" coalition, because no single approach can solve today's complex problems. The anti-nuke movement is also stronger for having in it people who feel Maine Yankee should be kept open as well as people who want it shut down immediately, because this leads to a better probing and understanding of the issues. I strongly oppose the draft -- strongly enough that I want to prison for draft resistance -- but I am pleased to hear of both pro- and anti-draft demonstrations because I believe that

there is a better chance for all of us to learn and grow when ideas come into conflict. (I would have included pro-draft contacts into the article I did on the draft if I had known any.)

This issue has an article on the Maine Civil Liberties Union and prisons. You may be interested and want to support MCLU; or you may not be interested, or even disagree with MCLU's approach.

Maybe the article on the Maine Woodsmen Association is more your cup of tea and you are glad for the chance to learn more about them at the annual convention; or maybe you are offended because you are Canadian, or by the sexism in MWA's name.

Some of you may be glad to catch up on Clamshell news; others may be bored stiff, or turned off because you feel the approaches mentioned in the article are poor ones.

There is an article on the New Age Center. Maybe you didn't know about New Age resources in Maine and will be excited to find programs near you; or perhaps you think most New Age programs are so much hogwash.

It is your choice; and it is good to have different people making different choices.

The newsletter should not be here to sell you on any of these viewpoints, or to mold you into a statewide force; it should be here to serve you by giving you the information to make your own choices, make your connections. For this reason I feel that in general articles should avoid slogans ("Nukes!") and sales pitches ("on...") -- so who is going to say "a mediocre film on..."?), and concentrate on giving out useful information on what you are doing, what you need or have to offer, objective descriptions of resources or events, who to contact learn from. Don't assume others are going to give your views an automatic right on.

Building a small closed circle of people who believe nukes/draft/sexism/imperialism suck is easier than creating a state-wide bulletin board where people of many different views can put up notices side by side without feeling awkward. If groups outside our usual orbit think being part of the newsletter means supporting a unified no-nukes-etc. line they will not take part -- and we will be the losers, missing connections we might have found.

PAYING CASH COSTS MONEY

Plastic money. We joke about it, but it's serious business. If you are poor or don't have a regular job, you probably can't get a credit card. And those who are well off and have credit cards can actually pay less than those of us who have to use the green stuff.

How can this be? A retail store, gas station, etc., must pay the credit card company (VISA, Master Charge) about 5 - 10 percent for the privilege of taking credit cards. This lowers their profits so they raise their prices. Cash customers must therefore pay more for their goods. But credit card users can wait 30-90 days before paying their bills. By holding on to their money, they can collect interest on it, thus making their cost lower than if they had paid cash.

One group countering this is Savings Plus, a nationwide profit-making group that arranges with businesses for discounts for cash customers. They are the opposite of a credit card company, charging businesses for their services in handling cash discounts. (Discounts are usually 2 - 5 percent). They take the discount and deposit that money directly into customers' bank accounts.

Although there are no Savings Plus programs in Maine, we don't need them to arrange with businesses for cash discounts. For more information contact Larry Dansinger, RFD 1, Newport 04953.

MONEY DOESN'T TALK? IT SWEARS

Grass roots groups and coops have been swearing for a long time because money was not there to organize people, run programs, and set up alternatives. More than one good organization has bitten the dust when the funds ran out.

To counteract this, a conference on fund-raising and money management is being organized for Saturday April 19 at South Parish Congregational Church in Augusta.

After an overview of what fund-raising and money management mean to progressive groups, there will be workshop sessions on financial planning, grant writing, local fund-raising, bookkeeping, scrounging, record-keeping/taxes/incorporation, fund-raising as an organizing tool, the National Consumers Coop Bank, capitalization, and sources of funds. Both professional and experienced non-professional facilitators will provide facts and advice. Various interest groups will meet after the workshops end for mutual assistance and follow-up.

The conference is being sponsored by a wide range of groups. A registration brochure will likely be included in next month's newsletter. For more information, contact Sandy Kaplan, 103 Ledge lawn, Bar Harbor 04609, 288-5426.

Don't look at what is missing.
Look at what is there.

For those of you who missed the first issue, or who forgot to mail in the form enclosed in that issue, here is a second opportunity.

Maine Statewide Newsletter Subscription Form

- Enclosed is \$4 for one year (12 issues). \$ _____
- I'd like to subscribe but I don't have \$4 right now. (Any amount is welcome) \$ _____
- I would like to contribute articles.
- I would like to help produce the newsletter.
- I am not interested. Please take me off the mailing list.

Comments on the newsletter are very welcome (as are addresses of people you know who might like the newsletter). There is blank space on the back of this.

Please fill in your address on the left (noting any corrections if we have your address label incorrect). If you would like to contribute articles or help produce the newsletter please add your phone number (if any) so we can get in touch more easily.

Return this form to: INVERT RFD 1
Newport, Maine 04953 (938-2219.)

MAINE INDIAN PROGRAM

The Maine Indian Program did a workshop recently at Maranacook High School in Readfield on "Learning and Teaching about Indians." Another of these workshops will be held in Houlton some time this spring. For those of you not living in the Houlton area, MIP has a 35-minute slide show on the Indian Land Claims case for showing to high school classes, church or community groups, followed by a discussion with a resource person from MIP. For more details or to arrange for a showing, write Maine Indian Program, 22 Riverview, Brunswick 04011.

WOODEN YOU KNOW IT?

The MWA is an organization of Maine woodcutters who believe that the only way to improve working conditions is to band together. Among their list of grievances are that woodcutters are too often: laid off; put on quota; put into bad wood; underpaid; threatened with replacement by Canadians; or put out of work by Canadians.

The annual meeting for 1980 will be Sunday, March 30 at the Bangor Civic Center. A film by Richard Searls will be shown at noon, and the meeting will begin at 1 PM.

The MWA newsletter is just out, and available from Bill Butler, Aurora 04408.

KEEP ON TRUCKIN' -- TOGETHER

In these days of high gas prices and energy crises, an empty truck going anywhere is almost sinful. So, the Fedco Warehouse in North Bassalboro is looking for monthly back-hauls to New York City, Boston, and Vermont for a 20-foot truck with a capacity of 18,000-20,000 pounds. This will be done on a non-profit basis at rates below usual commercial ones. Contact Tom Roberts at Fedco, Box 236, N. Vassalboro 04962 873-0716.

SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

For the next few months SWAP (Southern Woodcutters Assistance Project) will be working in the north-east to organize a United Woodcutters Association. The emphasis will be on organizing woodcutters as a force against the paper companies and building cooperative and service programs among woodcutters.

The effort of southern woodcutters to organize has a direct relation to the health of our regional economy in Maine. Industry has fled the northeast to capitalize on the cheap labor in the South. If you are interested in helping out, or in connecting the struggle in the South with the struggles in Maine (see WOODEN YOU KNOW IT, at left) write SWAP, Box 87, Thomaston Miss. 39171.

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTI-NUKE NEWS:

Clams Steam In Sauna!

CMP shuts down Maine Yankee,
and Clams shut down Portsmouth Office!
Anti-nuke activists plan 4 am action!

MAGIC (Maine Affinity Group Information Committee) met February 16 in Wellington to discuss what is happening in Clamshell, the current shut-down of Maine Yankee, progress of the referendum campaign, and anti-nuke strategy for the future. We also had time for some socializing, a pot-luck lunch, and an after-meeting sauna.

1. Clamshell Alliance update:

a. Clamshell has endorsed several actions for 1980, including the Seabrook Summer campaign and the May 24 Seabrook occupation, but is not calling or organizing any actions of its own so far.

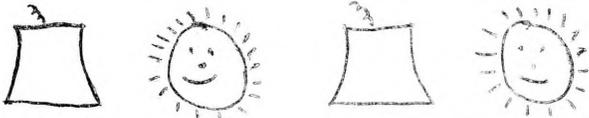
b. The Portsmouth office is being closed, old staff are being phased out, and a new office will open soon in Seabrook. The new office will be primarily volunteer, but will have the equivalent of one paid staff person (either 1 full-time or 2 part-time people) -- anyone interested in a staff job should write to the old office, 39 Congress St in Portsmouth NH, before March 6.

c. New England-wide Congresses are now supposed to occur every 4 months; so the next one is set for June 7-8 (possibly on the Seabrook site). Meanwhile the new ORC (Office Review Committee) is doing some of the things that Coordinating Committee used to do. Maine has had little attendance at recent Congresses.

2. Maine Yankee Shut-Down.

Maine Yankee shut down on January 13 for its annual re-fueling, which takes 6-8 weeks (CMP prefers not to publicize the exact date of re-opening in advance). We discussed possible actions in relation to the shut-down.

There is a higher level of radiation for 2 weeks following the shutting down or starting up of a reactor than there is from



normal operation. Therefore we decided to try to find housing to make available to anyone who would like to leave the vicinity during the danger period, and to publicize the availability of this housing. As this newsletter goes to press it looks like we will not be able to have housing ready for the re-opening of Maine Yankee, but we will try to have things ready for the next time Maine Yankee is shut down.

3. Three Mile Island Anniversary:

To commemorate TMI day (March 28), plans are being made for a coordinated effort throughout Maine. A tentative scenario for the day centers on dramatic readings from NRC hearing transcripts about the accident. (The Camden anti-nuke group has done these readings before and found them effective).

4 am (the time the TMI reactor went out of control) -- early morning presence at Maine Yankee.

Through the day -- a progression of readings around the state by local groups, at announced, pre-scheduled times.

In the evening -- a large gathering, probably in Lewiston or Portland area.

Copies of the script will be available at the next MAGIC meeting for interested local groups, and more details for the day will be worked out then.

4. The next MAGIC meeting will be March 9 (Sunday) at noon, 51 Howard St Apt 3, Lewiston, 784-7886. Minutes of MAGIC meetings, plus updates on nuclear power news, are available from Steve Webster, PO Box 1, Orono 04473 -- just send him a stamped, self-addressed envelope (contributions also welcomed).

Penobscot Valley Alliance has received a grant of \$524 to put together an energy conference at the UMC in Orono. April 19 is the tentative date for the event. For more information, or to offer assistance, or to find out how they did it, contact Steve Webster at the address given above.



UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS

Feb 29: "For Whom The Oil Flows..." a spaghetti supper with Mike Nobel, Joe Gerson, & "The Last Slide Show", 6 pm, State Street Church in Portland, \$3.

March 1: Conference on Direct Marketing, Jewett Hall, UMA, 8:30-4:30. Karen Charles, 246 Deering USM, Portland, 780-4423 for details.

March 1: disarmament mini-conference with Maryknoll missionaries, Newman Center, College Ave, Orono 866-2155.

March 5: Pat Garrett of Safe Power for Maine debates John Randazza of CMP on nuclear power, 8 pm, Colby College in Waterville, free!

March 7 and every other week: free films, Fare Share Coop, 7 Tanner, Norway 04268, 743-9044.

March 9: rally against draft/registration, Statehouse in Augusta, 1 pm. Details from Ben Below, 11 Elm Ct, Waterville 872-6479.

March 9: important MAGIC meeting, 51 Howard Apt 3, Lewiston 784-7880; work out details for Three Mile Island Day.

March 11: Salt of the Earth, part of labor film series, Little Hall Room 130, UMO 7:30.

March 11, 13, 14: "Protein--Beyond the Myths", part of 4-month workshop series. Hungry Chuck's Coop Store, 110 Pleasant, Waterville, 873-3110. (Carbohydrates are March 18, 20, 22; Fats are March 25, 27, 28.)

March 15: anti-nuke songs, entertainment by Bright Morning Star, 8pm, Bates Chapel, Lewiston. \$3. Free workshop at 2, Gannett Room in Pettigrew Hall. **New World Coalition.**

March 16: Coop storefronts meet 10 am at Second Nature, 146 2nd st, Hallowell 623-8397.

March 21-23: "Women And Life On Earth", U. Mass. Amherst, connects environment, energy, and women. Registration deadline is past; contact Cynthia Cole, Roberts Rd, N. Berwick 324-2561 if still interested.

March 21-23: Maine Lesbian/Gay Symposium at Bangor Community College. Write Wilde-Stein Club, UMO, Orono 04469 or call Gay People's Alliance at 780-4085 for details.

March 28: Three Mile Island Day; details to be worked out at MAGIC meeting March 9.

March 30: Maine Woodsmen's Association annual convention at Bangor Civic Center, a film at noon and meeting starts at 1. Open to all interested people. Bill Butler, Aurora 04408, 584-5311.

April 1: With Babies and Banners, labor film series, Little Hall rm. 130, UMO, 7:30.

April 12, 13: Cambodia Benefit Concerts arranged by Marshall Dodge and Bishop Frederick Wolf; Portland the evening of the 12th at USM, Orono 2-5 the 13th at UMO. Workshops, films, focus on world hunger.

April 19: Conference on fund-raising and money management for low-income groups and coops, at South Parish Congregational Church in Augusta, all day, starts 8:30.

April 26: March for a Non-Nuclear World, Washington DC. Steve Webster, PO Box 1, Orono has details. Possible bus down.

May 24: occupation at Seabrook, organized by Coalition for Direct Action at Seabrook, 595 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge Mass.

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