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VOL. 1 No. 5 JUNE 1980 "THE PATH NOT TAKEN"

CABBAGES AND THINGS

Farmers markets have long been going in Maine, but they have really mushroomed in recent years. Lettuce look at their importance, and how a market is organized.

Farmers markets provide (1) Fresher, cheaper, more nutritious food, usually with fewer or no chemical treatments; (2) A financial boost for Maine farmers and gardeners; and (3) A move toward greater food self-sufficiency for Maine by providing a local market for farm products.

A farmers market is easy to organize. It can be an open market, an outside area where anyone who wants to can sell, as in South Paris or Bangor. Or it can have membership dues and rental space like in Rumford or Lewiston/Auburn.

The organizing steps as described by Charles Gould are:

1. Locate interested farmers with products to sell.
2. Find a location - parking, neighboring businesses, and indoor space (in case of rain) are helpful.
3. Public relations with town and/or business officials can insure a location.
4. Establish costs (for insurance, publicity etc.), day(s) and hours of operation, and possibly space allocations.
5. The group may want to arrange for insurance, incorporate, and have by-laws.

WHAT? ANOTHER RATE HIKE?

What? Another electricity rate hike? Didn't we just have an increase last year? Can we afford to pay this latest proposed price boost?

Those who can't afford higher electric bills, cannot afford not to give their support to the Maine Citizens for Utility Rate Reform (MCURR), an intervenor against CMP's latest hike request. If this request is approved, rates will have jumped 82% per kilowatt/hour since 1978.

There are lots of reasons for opposing the latest increase! The first target is the present \$5.70 base rate. (What every user pays in addition to the per kilowatt hour charge). This is a high rate, penalizing small users and discouraging conservation. Other reasons include: (2) the fact that residential rates are 4½ times larger than industrial rates; (3) that rates ought to be inverted, where customers pay a

continues on page 2

continued from column 1

6. Publicize through newspapers, radio, flyers.

Last year there were 26 farmers markets throughout the state. This year promises to have even more. For written or verbal help, contact Charlie Gould, Cooperative Extension Service, 918 Sabbatus St., Lewiston 04240 or call 783-8301.

continued from page 1

higher rate the more money they use (to encourage conservation); (4) that \$4½ million of the increase will pay for a nuclear fuel contract for the Sears Island nuclear plant that was never built; (5) that \$3½ million of the increase will pay for engineering studies for the Sears Island nuclear plant that have not and never will be used; (6) that \$1.9 million will go for construction work in progress (CWIP), some of which will go to the Seabrook Plant; (7) that \$1 million will pay insurance premiums for Maine Yankee (new insurance since Three Mile Island); and (9) that \$5-6 million will be used for higher profit (from 12% to 14%) for stockholders.

Anyone living north of Portland willing to come to the PUC building, 242 State St., Augusta on Friday June 27, at 9:30 am to testify against the rate hike are desperately needed. People in the CMP service area who simply can't afford the increase are encouraged to come. A second hearing will be held in Portland in August for Portland and York County residents.

Much of this \$35 million appears to be going not for increased costs but for management mistakes, preferential treatment for industry, and into stockholders pockets. (This stockholder-author doesn't want to make money that way) It may cause low-income people to cut back on necessary electrical use. Come to the hearings and state your opinion.

Bruce Reeves at MCURR, RR2, Gardiner 04345, 582-5236 or 289-3771 is the person to contact for more details.

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#### Good Though

We received a request for a recipe for Moose Turd Pie (see newsletter #4). Does anyone have a recipe they'd like to share? Please send it to INVERT.

#### Maine Energy Savers

The Maine Friends of the Earth branch is compiling a book of first-person accounts of ways by which people in Maine (and Northern New England) have lessened or done away with their use of utility produced electricity, from the small energy saving hints or devices to the larger wind, hydro, or other system. If you would like to add information to this collection, please send them your articles, journal notes, drawings, photos. Send to: Friends of the Earth, 61 Maine St., Brunswick 04011.

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#### It's a Coaled Cruel World

"Whew!", thought many people back in 1976 when Central Maine Power (CMP) announced its intention not to build a nuclear plant on Sears Island, but to build a coal plant instead. But coal plants have their problems too, and the Energy Resources Council, P.O. Box 2, Stockton Springs 04981, wants to make sure that any generating facility there is both environmentally and economically sound.

The Council has questioned CMP's claim that the power will be needed by 1990, pointing to figures showing electric demand will be only about 25% what CMP claims it will need. (assuming the 1979 figure of 1.8% growth in usage is maintained). This is without consideration of cogeneration that many Maine industries are currently considering.

They are concerned about the use of a non-renewable energy source, coal, and a lack of cogeneration potential. And they are wondering why conservation (such as timers on electric water heaters, and hydro development) wouldn't be a cleaner and cheaper way to go. If coal is used, they suggest that fluidized bed combustion would be superior to coal gassification which CMP is presently considering.

Contact them if you can assist the Council in their efforts.

Thanks for feedback sheets. Another is included this month. Can anyone give us advice on layout? Please keep them coming.

One article last month was written for publication, then changed by those doing the newsletter. Please let us know if you'd prefer us to print exactly what you've written so we don't mess it up.

It was also pointed out that there are organizational viewpoints on controversial issues that are not presented in the newsletter. We're not all of one mind. Tell us about things your group is doing if the viewpoint hasn't already been expressed.

We now have 285 subscriptions and \$1,170.50 in contributions. Last issue cost about \$175 again.

Our deadline for the next issue is June 20th, with production the week-end of June 20-22. If you can help produce it (gas expense supplied), contact INVERT, RFD 1, Newport 04953 or call 938-2219.

Sheila Garrett, Sandy Kaplan, Nancy Button, Judy Barrows and Larry Dansinger were among those helping to put this issue together.

# A BAZAAR DAY IN WATERVILLE

For a day of fun and fancy, come to Hungry Chuck's bazaar and rummage sale Saturday, June 7th, from 10 AM to 5 PM at the old St. Joseph's School parking lot (near the Boys/Girls Club lot) in Waterville. A nutrition booth, whole wheat donuts, quality rummage, energy information, and a children's production of "Peter and the Wolf" (for kids of all ages) will be part of the potpourri.

Rurik Spence (872-7922) or Hungry  
Chuck's Coop, 110 Pleasant Street,  
Waterville 04901, 873-3110 has details.

Looking for ideas to get people thinking about nuclear power? Here's one the Franklin County Clamshell is trying: One of the members who owns land on a main road in the Farmington area put up a billboard made of two 4' by 8' pieces of plywood looking something like this:



While political billboards are only allowed three weeks before an election, this is considered by those who put it up to be educational and thought-provoking rather than political. Three weeks before the Sept. 23rd nuclear referendum, however, "Vote Yes on the Referendum" will be added. Details from Franklin County Ciam, RFD Box 64, Temple 04984.

Or if you're in a sewing mood,  
try this:



on T-shirts, jeans, dresses, or for patches on a quilt. "A picture is worth a thousand words."

Moving for the summer? Let us know your new address. Every change of address card you send saves us 25¢.

## A Choice, Not an Echo

Maine voters will have more than a choice between a Democrat and a Republican in the voting booth this November. At least three other parties will have candidates for president and vice president. (if he can get on the ballot, John Anderson will be a candidate. The Constitution Party, Box 500, Bangor 04401, is also looking for new presidential timber since their former standard-bearer, Meldrim Thompson, is running in New Hampshire instead.)

The Citizens Party (Citp) features energy critic Barry Commoner as the presidential candidate and Ladonna Harris (Americans for Indian Opportunity) for VP. As with other parties, Citp emphasizes their platform for change, seeing both major parties as being unable to support necessary economic, environmental, and social changes.

Among recently adopted party platform planks are; (1) Stabilizing prices in the necessities; (2) Decentralized economic planning; (3) Phase out of nuclear power and all-out development of solar; (4) public control of energy. They consider their platform neither socialist nor communist, however.

The Citp will hold a statewide party convention to increase awareness and to build local party organizations. It will be on Saturday, June 7th at Jewett Hall, UMA, Augusta. Contact State Chair Carolyn Britt, Citizens Party, Box 2041, Augusta 04330 for details.

For the first time since 1940, Communist Party (CP) candidates will be on the November presidential ballot in Maine. Running under a slogan "People before Profits" will be the team of Gus Hall (Pres) and Angela Davis (VP).

Their program calls for (1) Nationalization of the energy complex; (2) slashing the military budget; (3) quick approval and funding of the Indian Land Claims settlement; (4) no cold (or hot) war; (5) outlawing all forms of racism and discrimination; (6) stopping

proposed tuition increases at the Univ. of Maine; and (7) support for Salt II, for a shorter work week with no cut in pay, and for laws outlawing runaway shops.

Through speaking engagements, literature distribution, and press coverage, the Maine Hall-Davis campaign committee is hoping to reach Maine voters with their program.

To arrange a speaker, obtain literature, or for more information, write The Hall-Davis Committee, P.O. Box 5166, Station A Portland, 04401.

The Libertarian Party (LP) offers a somewhat different viewpoint, focusing their platform on opposition to the draft and to excessive military spending, a huge tax cut, and support for civil liberties and human rights. Unlike the Citp and CP, however, Libertarians want government out of peoples lives much more - no control of (or subsidies for) energy companies, and no price controls. Business should be deregulated so that a free market economy can operate.

Presidential candidate Ed Clark would like to see the elimination of the minimum wage (causes teenage unemployment), less printing of paper money (causes inflation), decriminalization of many victimless crimes, and neutrality in all foreign affairs (US no longer a policing agent).

An extensive 6 page 1980 platform of the Libertarian Party, and a series of interesting pamphlets on various issues is available from Charles Jacques at the Party headquarters, 23 North St. #3, Portland, 04101.

If the anticipated race between Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan is between "two greater of lesser evils", then the Citp, CP, and LP, may provide real choice in the voting booth.

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Wanted; Kangaroo suits to wear in court during hearings on pesticide spraying. (this is a serious request) If you have suits or know where they are available, contact PEST (protect our environment against sprayed toxins), Steuben, 04680.



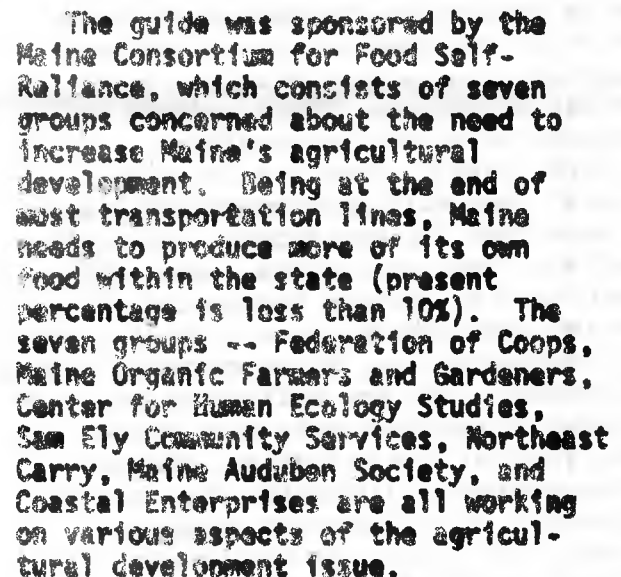
## 4

The purpose of CCLT, founded in 1978, was to build low-cost, energy efficient homes on land owned by the Land Trust. The land trust was conceived to provide access to people at low cost while protecting the land itself from speculation and exploitation through long-term, low-cost leases to those living on the land.

The Farmers Home Administration (FHA) in Maine has objected to CCLT's efforts. First an agreement to finance CCLT's first house was withdrawn. Mortgage financing of the same house was refused until appealed to Washington. (The owner's credit was good; apparently being a single parent receiving AFDC was a strike against her.) It was finally approved, but only on condition that the house be moved to privately owned land. Negotiations drag on. A solution now would probably set no precedent and leave no one happy.

## LOCAL PRODUCE BUYING GUIDE

The guide includes tips on buying patterns, an extensive list of growers who have sold to coops, and a list of last year's farmers markets and who to contact.



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Interest rates may also force them to sell their existing house as well. Anyone who is interested in their efforts or who would like to help can contact Dick Tracy, CCLT, Box 161A, Bucksport 04416 or call 469-7961.

## Native American Mobilization

Akwesasne Notes, a native american newspaper published in New York State, is starting a phone tree. The intent is to create a chain of people that can be rapidly contacted in cases of "extreme danger" to Native Peoples. These folks can then be in touch with media, friends, government officials, in order to draw attention to the situation and promote beneficial and benign outcomes. Public support for Native Peoples has averted bloodshed in the past.

"Part of the problem for Native Peoples has been the lack of information reaching the media on a regular basis. To the extent that we can develop our Network of aware individuals within the media, we may be able to count on our ability to generate public pressure on the powers that would oppress us."

Please contact Akwesasne if you'd like to be part of the Emergency Phone Tree or if you know writers or editors likely to print articles on native american situations. Their address is Akwesasne Notes via Roosevelttown, New York, 13683. They are in need of callers - who call government officials (no more than 5); activators - who call 5 callers; head activators - who call 10 activators, giving background info and names/phone numbers of officials to be contacted. (A. Notes contacts them); and dynamos - who are willing to in emergency situations make many phone calls, monitor the situation, and act as peacekeepers. Currently they are in need mostly of callers and dynamos. For more information contact Robin Glassman, Waite, Me. 04492 or project coordinator Mary Munoz, P.O. Box 21, Woodstock, NY 12498.

The spring issue of Akwesasne Notes contains an article on Maine Passamaquoddy and Penobscot land settlements that were just finalized this month. They don't look favorably on the agreement, feeling the tribal councils have given up their

## Free Form Verse

How are do we want to take it? It don't take much to help, no years of practice to drop your load and smile .....help a brother find a way. Sure some of us have been getting ready for the storm a long time, but its never too late to pick up where you left off. Child we must go forward, all we've ever had is each other, help in your own way.

Is it wrong to trust the earth? To trust the gift of life? All things in time go back to the earth....even aluminum siding.

Is it wrong to feel repulsed by a wheezing, smelly, noisy machine? A machine that needs other machines to survive? The machine becomes the master, aren't we the ones alive?

So, you say, what of the benefits of machines?....the miracles that come to your senses.....

all the magic i see is that these technical wizardries are only echoes of the times when God walked the earth with his people

we chain the lower classes to the numbing stench and screams of factories to support our habit.

we are junkies  
power junkies

who sees these things?

If the working class could only see beyond their trance.

Sure people die in the change, people die freely.

I'd rather die a free man with a fresh breeze on my face than in a chlorinated, sterile cubicle surrounded by dying cities filled with choking smog and delirious, reeling, broken remnants of human beings.

Doug Crate  
140 Fern St.  
Bangor 04401

(((((tribes rights as Native Peoples in exchange for government programs. Copies of the paper are available on request from them. Donations are appreciated.

### Working Women's Rights Project

Among the most poorly paid and exploited groups of workers in Maine are clerical and office workers, most of whom are women. Besides limited potential for job advancement, they are often subjected to sexual harrasment, discriminated against in maternity benefits, and denied their rights as workers.

To provide women office workers with information on their rights and to assist them in asserting those rights, the Working Women's Rights Project (WWRP) has been formed. With assistance from the Maine Civil Liberties Union, Diana Fried of WWRP will be arranging (usually lunchtime) meetings for office workers with attorneys, human rights advocates, and former or current activist clerical workers. Written information will be provided for office workers as well. With almost 50,000 Maine women working as clericals (over  $\frac{1}{4}$  of all women workers in the state), the need for such information and education is great.

The WWRP will begin with meetings in Portland and surrounding areas in Cumberland County. It has received assistance from the Maine Commission on Women, the Maine Women's Lobby,

(continued next column)

AFL-CIO Occupational Safety and Health Project, and the Bureau of Labor Education. It hopes to spread its information, and possibly its services, to other parts of the state. Its major goal, besides workers' rights, is to help women participate more in decisions which affect their working lives. Evening discussions and a one-day conference in the fall, as well as lunchtime meetings, will help to spread the word.

The WWRP wants to hear from clerical workers in Cumberland County who want information and who would like to help set up and/or attend informational meetings. It's also looking for people to help facilitate the meetings or who want to help in some way. If so, Diana Fried, MCLU, 97A Exchange St., Portland 04101, 774-5444 wants to hear from you.

A handbook for and about Working Women in Maine, by writer Jo Josephson of Temple, will soon be available for such groups of clericals. More on this handbook in a future issue.

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Fans of Lesbian/Women's music should mark June 28 on their calendar as the tentative date of a concert by Alix Dobkin in the Belfast area. Write to Maine Lesbian Feminists, Box 125, Belfast 04915 for details.

MAINE STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER subscription/feedback form. Here is our omni-present subscription form for those who would like to keep receiving the newsletter but haven't written in yet. On the other side is a feedback form to let us know what you're thinking about the newsletter. Our address is INVERT, RFD 1, Newport, Me. 04953.

△ Enclosed is \$4 for one year (12 issues).

△ I don't have the money but I like the newsletter. Please keep sending it.

△ I would like to contribute articles.

△ I would love to help produce the newsletter.

△ I am not interested. Please take me off the mailing list.

△ Other stuff \_\_\_\_\_

My correct  
mailing  
address is: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there others you know  
who would like to receive the  
newsletter? Please attach  
their names and mailing address.

Do we have your  
correct address?  
The Post Office  
charges us 25¢ for  
each incorrectly  
addressed newsletter.



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S. O. S.

S.O.S. means Save Open Space, a community arts program in Bangor. For the last three years Open Space has been a place for local artists to display their works and has recently included a display of photographs of social criticism/commentary, and a showing of the film "With Babies and Banners" with commentary by film editor Mary Lampson. (Harlan County, USA)

Open Space is almost broke, however, and will have to at least move out of its present storefront to an office unless immediate financial support is forthcoming. Efforts have begun to raise money and revitalize the membership. If you're interested in helping out, contact S.O.S. Committee, Open Space, 186 Exchange St., Bangor 04401 947-3536 by June 1st if possible.

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We didn't have room for a list of fund-raising resources. We'll try to have it in next month's issue.

it in next months issue.

The more you can tell us about how we're doing, the happier we will be.

- |       |              |        |                  |       |        |            |
|-------|--------------|--------|------------------|-------|--------|------------|
| WOMEN | GAY          | HEALTH | FOOD/AGRICULTURE | LABOR | HUNGER | ANTI-DRAFT |
| LAND  | NON-VIOLENCE |        | NATIVE AMERICAN  | OTHER |        |            |

7. What do you think of the layout and appearance?

### We goofed again!

In our last newsletter (#4), we said that Accion helps to start small businesses. Not true. They do provide technical assistance to small businesses that have started and are struggling to keep going. Check out their information by writing to: Accion, P.O. Box 147, Pittsfield 04967

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Parlez vous Francais? If the answer is "oui", there are two sources of socially relevant Maine news written in French. FAROG Forum, put out by the University of Maine's Franco-American Program, is written by students. Its focus is on the preservation and expansion of Franco-American language and culture, which has been gradually disappearing as older, French-speaking Mainers die and younger residents fall victim to our unilinguist schools and society.

Articles in the Avril, 1980 issue include the annual Franco-American festival in Lewiston, (July 21-27), the separatist movement in Quebec, campus events, and "What it means to be a Franco-American". To get a copy, write to FAROG Forum, 208 Fernald Hall, UMO, Orono 04469. Although copies are given out free on the UMO campus, money for the newspaper, (the cover price is \$1.00) or at least for postage would no doubt be appreciated.

The second publication is Northern Lamda Nord's newsletters for gay men, lesbians, and others interested in activities in the gay community of Aroostook County and Northern New Brunswick. This is not merely a French translation, but separate articles written especially for French-speaking readers. Their newsletter is available from P.O. Box 990, Caribou, 04736.

Get Organized!

Attention rural organizers; Are you tired of big city advice that doesn't fit your organizing situation? North Country Institute is planning a rural organizing training conference for June 26-29 in Newbury, Vermont. (near the New Hampshire border) Topics include organizing strategies, action campaigns, union organizing, and leadership development. Cost of the session is \$200 (includes everything), but make them an offer if you can't afford the whole amount but want to go. Contact Ellen Fleishman, NCI, 8 N. Main St., Concord, N.H. 03301 or call 603-225-2097.

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Hardscrabble Hill

Late June begins a schedule of workshops at Hardscrabble Hill in Orland. Hardscrabble offers opportunities to develop new ways of thinking, releases for the emotions, and practical skills for rural living. Workshops, which run from one day to a week, include Women's Carpentry (June 29-July 4), Rage and Creativity in August, and a poetry workshop in September.

For more information or a schedule or sessions, contact Gayle Dawn Price, Hardscrabble Hill, Castine Road, Box 62A, Orland 04472 or call 469-7112.

For the working Woman or Man

Those interested in Maine labor issues have an excellent resource in the Bureau of Labor Education, 128 College Ave, Orono, 04473, 581-7032.

Among their books and pamphlets are, "Collective and Contract Maintenance in Maine State Government", "Recognition: A Source Book on Labor for Teachers and Students", "A Worker's Guide to Labor Law", and "A Worker's Guide to LSHA". They also have available the Directory of Maine Labor Organizations. They'll help arrange for films, speakers etc.

Calendar of Events

May 29-30 - Blaine House Conference on Families at Jewett Hall, Univ. of Maine, Augusta. Contact: 289-2636.

May 30-June 1 - Coastal Congress in Freeport (various locations). Meeting of Natural Resources Council, Maine Audobon, and Maine Coast Alliance. Contact NRCM, 335 Water St., Augusta, 04330, 622-3101.

May 31-June 6 - Lewiston Energy Fair. Focus on Alternative Energy. Contact Dan Holman, Community Alternaty, 197 Lisbon St., Lewiston, 04240, 784-7057.

June 7 - Hungry Chuck's bizarre rummage sale.* Waterville.

June 7 - Citizens Party State Convention. Jewett Hall, UMA, Augusta.*

June 11 - Sunrise '80. Workshops and demonstrations on solar energy from 8:30 to 5 at the Augusta Civic Center. Registration \$10. Contact Rick McGinley, OER, State House #53, Augusta, 04333, 800-452-4648.

June 14 - Maine Workers Health & Safety Conference, 9am - 3 pm. Hilltop Conference Center, UMO, Orono. Contact Maine Labor Group on Health, 9 Green St., Augusta, 04330

June 20-22 - Cuba: Current Perspectives at World Fellowship Center, RD Box 136, Conway, N.H., 03818.

June 21 - Gay Pride Day. Picnic in Hancock County. Contact Downeast Gay Alliance, Box 594, Bar Harbor, 04609.

June 22 - Storefront Food Coops meeting at Rising Tide Coop, Route 1A, Damariscotta 04543, 563-5556.

June 24 - St. Jean Baptist Day. (write FAROG Forum* to find out why this is a special day.)

June 26-29 - Rural Organizers Training session in Newbury, Vt.*

June 27 - Public hearing on CMP rate hike request at the PUC in Augusta.*

June 29-July 4 - Women's Carpentry at Hardscrabble Hill.*

* - More details in this newsletter.

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The deadline is rapidly (June 1) approaching for food booth reservations for the Common Ground Country Fair, Maine's Celebration of Rural Life. This year Maine produced products will be used whenever possible. Other organizations can get lots of exposure by having informational or display booths at the fair. (expected attendance is 20,000-30,000) The deadline for exhibitors and organizations is later than June 1. Contact the fair at P.O. Box 188, Hallowell 04347 or call 622-3118.

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