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Maine Statewide News Letter No. 60 (February 1985)

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Number 60

"All the News that Fits to Print"

February, 1985

WELCOME BACK INVERT!

Hello, all you INVERTs and extroverts, and welcome back to the Maine Statewide Newsletter, after a short break. As you may have noticed, it is back in the hands of good ol' INVERT, with which most of you are familiar from our past 3 3/4 years of printing this folksy, down-home newsletter (because we know you're down-home and folksy, each and every one of you). Our thanks to HOME Coop for giving us relief this past 15 months.

Some things never change, like INVERT's subscription price of \$4 or whatever you can afford. (Where else can you get a monthly subscription to anything for \$4 these days?) We'll be going at this for all of 1985, so we do hope you'll support the MSN again. We hope to follow you into old age, even. The MSN will continue to be a mixture of the serious and not-so-serious news of progressive and social change events and organizations in Maine. Your contributions are very welcome!

Feminism, the nuclear freeze, environmentalism, alternative education, South Africa and Central America, cooperatives, poor people and the budget, solar energy, organic farming, lesbians and gay men, appropriate technology, labor, food and hunger, and many more topics will all appear on these pages. Where else could you find such a variety? So read on, get educated, and get involved.

Deadline for all articles, as in the past, is the 20th of the month. All March articles or information must be received by Feb. 20. Mail them to: INVERT, PO Box 110, Stillwater 04489 or call them in to 827-3107.

COLBY CONFERENCE CONVENES

A statewide conference/teach-in on Central America and the US relationship to it will be held at Colby College (Lovejoy Hall), Waterville, on Feb. 22 (snow date: Feb. 23). The event, originally scheduled for an earlier date but now finalized, will feature an evening debate between US ambassador to El Salvador Robert White and (tentatively) Undersecretary of State Craig Johnstone.

The conference will begin with films and workshops on "direct action" and teaching about Central America from 10 AM to noon. Following lunch, the film "Covert War" on current conditions in Nicaragua will be shown, accompanied by a discussion. A panel of experts on El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and a US AID (Agency for International Development) official will discuss the US relationship to Central America at 3 PM.

Dinner will be available about 5:30. A speech by a Mayan Indian from Guatemala or another person with personal experience to share is tentatively set for 6:45, with the debate to conclude events at 8 PM. (Cont. on P. 2)

→ Included in this mailing should be a Maine Statewide Newsletter subscription form and return envelope. Whether you feel guilty for not contributing in 1984, or you are excited about another year of the MSN or you want to support INVERT, or whatever the reason, we urge you to fill out the subscription form and return it (with or without money) to INVERT. Our goal for 1985 is 1,000 subscriptions and \$4,200. Won't you help us get the new year off to a good start with this great bargain resource?

ENDING HUNGER MUST BE A COOPERATIVE EFFORT

(2)

The Fedco Warehouse on Reynolds Rd. in Winslow (not the Troy Grange as was previously announced) will be the location for the Federation of Cooperatives annual conference on February 9-10.

"World Hunger" will be the theme of some of Saturday's films and workshops. A "Food First" slide show and speakers from anti-hunger groups in Maine will be featured. How can we alleviate the hunger and malnutrition in the world? What can the "fats" of the US do to redistribute food? What can the "thins" do to feed themselves, in spite of pressures (from developed countries) and temptations (cash crops bring foreign currency) to do otherwise? There will also be workshops on the "nuts and bolts" of running a coop. Then the fun begins with traditional BSing followed by a Maine foods dinner. Songs and a dance will top off the evening.

Registration begins from 11-noon. Meals from Sat. lunch to Sun. lunch will be included in the \$5 (one day) or \$10 (both days) registration fee. And if you're a kid, it's much less. Overnight housing and child care are available by pre-arrangement.

Sunday will consist of two meetings: The first one will be the newly created Fedco Warehouse Cooperative (it was not a cooperative before) in the morning and a special meeting of the Federation in the PM. The Federation must decide whether to become a division of the warehouse or to become an independent nonprofit educational organization, promoting food and cooperative education.

The coop movement has stabilized in the past few years after seemingly limitless growth in the 1970's. It still represents an exciting challenge with lots of delicious benefits. Try a taste? For specifics: Federation of Cooperatives, Box 94W, Winslow 04902, 800-543-3326.

The Federation will also be hiring a person or two to do coop education and administration. Deadline--Feb. 8. Contact Fedco for more details on this job.

Cont. from P. 1)

All events except for dinner are free. For dinner reservations or more information: Bea Edwards, Colby College, Waterville 04901, 872-3562.

A similar conference will be held the following wee at Bowdoin College on Mar. 1-2, with speakers on US policy options for Central America and a performance of the play, "A Peasant of El Salvador." For more info: Kris Jones, Bowdoin College, Brunswick 04011, 725-8731 x728.

•• FAMOUS FILM FESTIVAL ••

The Maine Peace Action Committee, UMO's peace and justice group, is again sponsoring one of their famous film series--each Thursday evening for 5 weeks, 7 PM at 100 or 101 Neville Hall (English/Math). The films are: "Hearts and Minds" (Jan. 31); "Salt of the Earth" (Feb. 7); "El Salvador: Another Vietnam" (Feb. 14); "America: From Hitler to the MX" (Feb. 21); and two films on South Africa (Feb. 28). They even have free cider, donuts, and coffee! All free, with a stimulating discussion to follow. For more information or a schedule: MPAC, Memorial Union, UMO, Orono 04469 or call 581-3866.

~ HAVE YOU GOT WORMS ? ~

Red Wiggler Worms. No, this ain't a start-your-own-worm-farm ad. It's a reminder that Organic Growers Supply Inc., MOFGA's (Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Assn.) annual cooperative soil amendment order is here again. Organic fertilizers, pest treatments (with additives), and other gardening aids and accessories are all sold by pre-order to groups and then broken down at distribution depots around the state, from Berwick to St. Agatha. Orders over \$200-600 get 5-15% discounts. All orders are due March 1, with delivery about April 13-17.

Order forms are available in any Maine Organic Farmer and Gardener newspaper or by writing to MOFGA, PO Box 2176, Augusta 04330, 622-3118. (P.S. Those red wiggler worms are great for keeping your humus or compost loose.)

Coming up: MOOSE TUBERS--all the taters, onions, asparagus, and Jerusalem artichokes you could ever want--and more. Order forms (due Mar. 19) from Moose Tubers, Box 1010, Dixmont 04932, 257-3943.

- DON'T DESERT THE CENTER -

Help Judi Schwartz! Actually, it's all the women of Mt. Desert Island who need help, informing the newly organized Bar Harbor Women's Center, which will open in mid-February in a room at the YWCA on Mt. Desert St. in Bar Harbor.

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The Center needs womenpower from local women, resources, and ideas and offers for programming. They hope to compile a sourcebook of services by and for women in the area, and, through a newsletter, tell local women about events of interest. If you can help or want to find out more about the project: Bar Harbor Women's Center, PO Box 475, Bar Harbor 04609 or call Judi at 288-4610.

A COLD WIND BLOWS A DRAFT

Aroostook Draft Counselling (ADC) has opened up shop and will be on its way by January-February. Counselor Lee Armen has most of the information young men will need to decide whether or not to register for the draft on their 18th birthday and what a hitch in the military might do to/for them.

Although Lee can cover the Houlton area, he is looking for contacts especially around Presque Isle (UMPI) and Fort Kent to offer similar information and services to Aroostook students. He hopes to hear from other active or potential counselors about draft/registration and counter-recruitment in their areas and to help build a network. Financial support would be appreciated. Lee Armen, RFD 4 Box 202, Houlton 04730.

A TURN OVER FOR NEW LEAF

Looking for resources on women in art, domestic violence, or incest and the prevention of child abuse? New Leaf Books has book lists on each of these three subjects available just for the asking (and a self-addressed, stamped envelope).

And if you're a frustrated investor, New Leaf is looking for people with venture capital to make a socially responsible investment in a young and growing (not to mention consciousness-raising) business.

For details: New Leaf Books, 438 Maine St., Rockland 04841, 596-0040.

- BEAUTIFUL BLACK BOWDOIN -

One place in Maine where Black History Month (February) will definitely be celebrated is Bowdoin College, where a whole slew of black speakers and artists will be presented. Lecturers will discuss art, politics, and literature, along with rock/jazz and choral music performances.

Harold Weaver begins the series on Feb. 4 with a lecture/film on Paul Robeson, followed two days later by NAACP (national Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People) director Benjamin Hooks. The Rev. Timothy Wright Concert Choir performs sacred music on the 18th, while rock/jazz musician Toshi Reagon gives a concert on the 20th. Trudier Harris lectures on Afro-American literature the next day, the 21st, and David Driskell will talk about black art on the 28th.

Times and places vary, so contact the Afro-American Studies Program, Bowdoin College, Brunswick 04011, 725-8731 x272 for specific details. Join Bowdoin in celebrating Black History Month.

CHARLIE HOWARD REMEMBERED

On April 24, 1985 the first annual Charles O. Howard Memorial Scholarship will be awarded. This scholarship was established by the Gay People's Alliance in memory of Charlie Howard, a gay man whose murder in Bangor exemplifies the active bigotry against lesbians and gay men in Maine.

The scholarship will be awarded to the writer who best articulates, in essay form, the importance of civil rights for gay men and lesbians. Essays are to be written in a manner which meets university standards. The selected essay will appear in Univ. of So. Maine publications.

A \$300 scholarship will be awarded to the USM student winner. The GPA is funding it, but is seeking donations from people throughout Maine to subsidize the scholarship. Donations can be sent to GPA, 92 Bedford St., Portland 04103, 780-4085.

The memory of Charlie Howard will live on as a symbol of civil and human rights for lesbians and gay men. The scholarship will help to promote that goal at USM and in the Portland area.

IF YOU'RE NOT BOOKED UP YET...

Feeling cold? Want a nice warm fire to snuggle up to? Then build your own! Maine Wood Heat Co. will help you build a masonry heater or "Russian Fireplace" with its Finnish Fireplace Construction Manual 1984. Although it's a bit cold for laying brick outside, it's not too early to get the booklet (\$15) and talk to Cheryl or Albie Barden for type and advice, arranging a workshop, or attending a week-long course on how to build a masonry heater.

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The 65-page manual leaves few unanswered questions--specifications, technical drawings, progress pictures, and step-by-step procedures. Masonry heaters, in essence, are traditional heaters from Europe and Asia combining fast, efficient burning of fuel, even heat, facilities for cooking, aesthetically pleasing design, and enough of a heat source to heat the whole house. Check it out.

For a copy of the manual or details on masonry heater workshops, consulting services, design work, materials, etc contact Maine Wood Heat, RFD 1 Box 640, Norridgewock 04957 or call 696-5442.

Bo Yerxa has produced a "Bibliography on Land and Sustainable Development," about a 50-page list. It is a "must" for anybody interested in or involved with rural development, land trusts, land use, bioregionalism, or ecological economics. Where else could you find Saul Alinsky, Vine Deloria, Frances Moore Lappe, Hazel Henderson, and Henry George all lumped together. There is also an emphasis on Maine publications, including such notables as the Maine Land Advocate, Richard Barringer, Jeff Faux, and David Vail.

Bo will happily share his bibliography (please send \$3 or more) with anyone in Maine. It is, of course, selective, but also very broad, enabling readers to find enough good books on any subject to get a clear sense of any land or ecological development issue. Write Bo Yerxa, Box 301 Indian Township, Princeton 04668 or call 427-3819.

And on a lighter note, there's Here Today, 25 years of political cartoons by Vic Runtz, maverick of the Bangor Daily News. Conservatives and liberals alike are not spared from Runtz' satire. Over 400 cartoons in categories like politics, sports, the arms race and more. Send \$11 (post incl.) to Vic Runtz, 101 Royal, Bangor 04401.

xxxxx PERSONALS oooooo

Welcome to the Maine Statewide Newsletter "Personals" column, but please NOTE: INVERT reserves the right to refuse all persons in bad taste (or that taste bad). No names, dates, places, or genders are allowed. But we do want you to meet each other. So get it together and write a personal today! Each , or . or : counts as one letter. Numbers don't count. We do count letters and have a special category for characters.

Soft moonbeams on a dumpster speak, turtles splashing gayly, laughter peals from ripe bananas, I think of love daily; Searching for a partner still, on roads hot topped and muddy, hear my plaintive call and say, "I'll be your good buddy." PO Box 110-CB, Stillwater, Me. 04489.

Pat--meet me at the Central America conference at Colby on Feb. 22. I'll be wearing an "Arms Are for Hugging" T-shirt. Don't forget the leaflets.--Lindsay.

One hip cat seeks another hip cat for meooowwing together, a few purrs, and sharing an occasional bowl of milk. Tender Vittles eaters, Garfields, and those who miss the litter box need not apply. PO Box 110-Cat, Stillwater 04489.

WASP (white and single person) into poetry, simplicity, contradancing, long walks, woodsplitting, and organic food seeks significant other who enjoys European vacations, TV, the bar scene, disco, and conspicuous consumption. Carnivores and Republicans are OK. Box 110-WASP, Stillwater 04489.

SWM, 37, who likes MPBN-ATC, L.L. B., MSN, member of NOW, MOFGA, BAGLS, and INVERT segs DWF, 25-60, into HBO, R & B, RR², and MBTA for R & R, LSD, TLC, and ETC. Box 110-ABC, Stillwater 04489.

Send your personals (remember the restrictions) to INVERT, PO Box 110-Blind Box, Stillwater, Me. 04489.

i.i.c.d. in D.C.??

Are you willing to pledge to resist any effort by the US government to invade Central America? Are you willing to take action--either legal forms of protest or, for some, committing possible civil disobedience--to demonstrate your strong opposition to an invasion, combat troops in the area, or escalated bombing by US (supported) planes?

In order to pressure decision-makers not to further militarize the sensitive situation in Nicaragua and El Salvador, a coalition of groups in Maine are distributing "A Pledge of Resistance" for a "contingency plan" by those opposed to further US intervention. People are being urged to sign the pledge, both those who will engage in legal protests and those willing to risk arrest, to indicate how massive the opposition is.

The nationally coordinated "contingency plan" will begin with a decision that the US is acting aggressively (invasion, bombing, etc.), followed by a gathering locally in a designated church or community hall. People who have signed the pledge will join protests and vigils locally and in Washington, DC. There will also be civil disobedience at the White House and by occupying congressional offices in Bangor and Portland.

Nonviolence training is being offered to those who sign the pledge and to those who haven't but want to learn more about what they can do. It can be arranged by calling Jim Donovan at 772-0714 or Larry Dansinger at 827-3107. Pledge forms are available from: Susan/John Silverio, RFD 1 Box 169, Lincolnville 04849 or call 422-9007, 942-4055, 743-2125, 296-2952, 767-4193, 872-8114, 763-3885, or 725-7675.

Trainings for this month are in:
Feb. 3--Bates College, Lewiston, 12-6, call Judy Kohin, 784-0368.
Feb. 9--Peaks Island, 10:30-4:30, call Annie Romanyshyn, 766-2887.
Feb. 24--First Methodist Ch., Bangor, 12-9, call Peter Millard, 866-3503.
Mar. 3(tent)--Farmington, call Bob Parnes, 778-9241 or Al, 293-2390.

THE UNIQUE NATURE OF MAINE

5 The Maine Audubon Society is offering a whole host of Sunday events, field trips, courses, and workshops during February and throughout the winter. Why, there's something for just about everyone!

Sundays at 2 PM in Luther Bonney Auditorium at USM, Portland, will find the following lectures:

- Feb. 3--Freshwater Wetlands
- Feb. 10--Marine Life below the Surface
- Feb. 17--Secrets of the Salt Marsh
- Feb. 24--Year-round Sunspaces

Then the society is sponsoring five field trips throughout February. They include a weekend of cross country skiing at Philbrook Farm, snowshoeing at Gilsland Farm, a Boston museum tour, skiing through the apple orchard at Pettengill Farm, and backcountry medicine workshop at Gilsland. The field trips range in price from \$8-140.

A course titled "Homework: Guidelines for Building Your Energy Efficient Home" will be offered on Monday evenings from Feb. 11-March 18, at aught by Brian Kent. There will also be four shorter workshops in February:

- Feb. 2-(1-5)--Window Insulation
- Feb. 2 (9:30-11:30)--Winter Ecology-Wildlife
- Feb. 9 (9:30-12:30)--Winter Ecology-Botany
- Feb. 16 (9:30-11:30)--Winter Ecology-Energy Conservation

Each workshop will meet at Gilsland Farm in Falmouth and will cost \$7 (members) or \$9 (non-members).

Maine has some of the most beautiful winter nature on our planet and all should be encouraged to become more aware of it. For a complete list of events or details on specific ones: Maine Audubon Society, 118 Old Rt. One, Falmouth 04105, 781-2330.

BUTTON/STICKER CORNER

"Another Friend of Charlie Howard," lavender and pink button, \$1 from BAGLS buttons, PO Box 1805, Bangor 04401.

• MSN LEGISLATIVE PAGE - - 112TH SNEAK PREVIEW •

It's too early to predict what will be the hot items in Maine's 112th legislature, but here's a sneak preview of a few bills considered to be high on the "controversy" list.

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**House speaker John Martin believes that most Maine people don't want a "pay phone in every home" and will be introducing legislation to postpone New England Telephone's "local measured service" plan for at least a year. It is scheduled to go into effect in July if not blocked by the legislature. One group supporting this bill is the Maine People's Alliance, PO Box 2490, Augusta 04330, 622-4740.

**The Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance will be leading the fight for a "lesbian/gay rights bill" in its 5th attempt at passage. The death of Charles Howard, a gay man in Bangor, has provided awareness about the question, but the defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment in November demonstrates that more active support is needed before the bill can be passed. The MLGPA will meet on Feb. 24, 1 PM in Chase Hall, Bates College, Lewiston to plan strategy. MLGPA, PO Box 108, Yarmouth 04096 or call 947-0700 (Marty).

**An acid rain control bill should have the support of Gov. Joseph Brennan when it is proposed. It will place a maximum level on sulfur dioxide emissions from any industry in the state. Maine hopes to set an example for mid-western states to take similar action. Maine Audubon Society, 118 Old Rt. One, Falmouth 04105, 781-2330 and the Natural Resources Council of Maine, 271 State St., Augusta 04330, 622-3101 are working on this bill.

**Rep. Harlan Baker of Portland will be introducing a bill for divestment of all public money, including the state retirement and pension funds, from investment in any company (such as Mobil Oil) which has economic ties to South Africa or Namibia. The bill would give the state two years to sell all stock in those companies, although they could reinvest again if the racist apartheid system were ended. To help lobby for this bill: Ivan Suzman, MPOSA, 105 Pine St., #3,

Portland 04102, 774-9833.

** A fight may be brewing over attempts to repeal the final two years of the minimum wage hike from \$3.45 (this year) to \$3.65 in 1987. The Maine AFL-CIO is strongly opposed and will be leading opposition, along with the Maine Women's Lobby, Box 15, Hallowell 04347, 622-5798. Maine AFL-CIO, 72 Center St., Brewer 04412, 989-3630.

**A bill to reinstate medicaid funding for abortions only in cases of rape or incest will be supported by Maine NOW (National Organization for Women). Legislative coordinator Joanne Dauphinee, 87 Sunset Strip, Brewer 04412, 989-3306 has specifics on this.

**The Women's Legislative Agenda Coalition has a package of bills it will be supporting. The bills can be generally categorized under the headings: Economic Equality, Equal Rights in the Workplace, and Domestic Safety. A more detailed listing of WLAC bills next month, but, in the meantime, contact the Maine Women's Lobby (address above) for a complete list. Ta ta till next month.

One issue dear to the hearts of occupational safety and health advocates is smoking in the workplace. And 18 groups have formed the Maine Coalition on Smoking and Health to explore and expose issues like safety hazards, rights of non-smokers, health plans, and toxicity.

The coalition consists of groups as diverse as the Maine Labor Group on Health, the Maine Dept. of Human Services, the Maine Medical Assn., and GASP of Maine. One major goal will be the passage of a law in the next legislature something like the resolution passed recently by the Maine State Nurses Assn. That resolution said that employers should be required to have a written policy prohibiting smoking in workplaces except in designated areas.

For more specifics on the coalition: Maine State Nurses Assn., PO Box 2240, Augusta 04330, 622-1057 or Maine Labor Group on Health, Box V, Augusta 04330, 289-2770.

ANNUAL BOYCOTT REVIEW

Charles Boycott was an English land agent in 19th century Ireland who was ostracized for his refusal to reduce rents. He gave his name to a tactic of economic direct action at the point of consumption. Over the years this collective refusal to buy has become an important weapon in the struggle by working people to gain basic rights and improve working conditions.

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Two longstanding boycotts of this type involve farm workers. These are among the most vulnerable and exploited members of our workforce. They spend long hours in backbreaking labor in return for very low wages. They have inadequate fringe benefits and sometimes endure filthy living accommodations and pesticide-related health risks.

Because of their mobility, they tend to fall through the Reaganite "social safety net." Because of their lack of a community base, it is difficult for them to organize or lobby to obtain legal rights. Some are illegal aliens and, therefore, are reluctant to confront authority.

The California-based United Farm Workers recently renewed its boycott of table grapes and Chiquita bananas. The renewal came as a response to Cal. Gov. George Deukmejian's campaign to cripple California's Agricultural Relations Board, which guarantees farmworkers' right to organize, supervises their efforts to bargain collectively, and judges complaints of unfair labor practices. The board's budget has been cut by 27% and an anti-labor legislator with no experience in labor law was appointed its top prosecutor. The results have been disastrous for farm workers, and they are mobilizing to save their union and preserve gains won over the past 15 years.

Meanwhile, the UFW continues its boycott of Red Coach and other brands of lettuce grown by Bruce Church. Since 1979 Church has remained adamant in his refusal to bargain with his employees. For more information on UFW boycotts and activities: UFW, La Paz, Box 62, Keene, Cal. 93531.

Out in the Midwest, members of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee have been waging an equally long and bitter struggle

to win a contract from the Campbell Company. FLOC is focusing on Campbell's soups, Pepperidge Farm products, and other food items for this boycott. For details on the campaign and a complete list of this corporate giant's many products, contact FLOC, 714½ S. St. Clair, Toledo, Ohio 43609.

President Reagan's gutting of the National Labor Relations Board provided the model for Gov. Deukmejian's similar efforts in California. In theory the NLRB is the chief legal means by which working people can protect their right to form unions and seek redress for grievances. NLRB decisions are now more subject to endless delays, and those few which are handed down tend to be in the employer's favor.

Therefore, workers often have to depend on other strategies to win their rights from an employer. In 1977 Brewery Workers Local 366 of Golden, Colorado launched a nationwide boycott of Coors Beer. Millionaire conservative Joseph Coors, the company head, is a committed foe of unions whose idea of employee relations includes use of a lie detector test for union activity.

When the boycott began, Coors was the number 1 seller in its home state. It has since slipped to third place, commanding only 22% of the market share. Attempts to make money by moving into new markets have backfired as novelty wears thin and boycott information takes effect. Meanwhile, a massive advertising and promotional campaign consumes more than 10% of gross revenue.

Boycotts have also been put to imaginative use by a variety of non-labor groups, especially when environmental of life issues are involved. A case in point are the boycotts of fish from and products made in Japan, the USSR, and Norway. Japan and the USSR are the only two nations which still hunt whales on a large scale, while Norway manufactures much of the hardware used in the hunting and processing of these nearly extinct mammals. For details, contact the Animal Welfare Institute, PO Box 3650, Washington, DC 20009 (general boycott) or (Cont. on P.8)

Humane Society of the US, 2100 L St. NW, Washington, DC 20037 (fish).

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Similarly, anti-apartheid groups are coordinating boycotts of banks and corporations dealing with South Africa and of entertainers who have performed there. There is no short list of either, unfortunately. For each of these three lists, write to INVERT, PO Box 110, Stillwater 04489 (include a stamp).

The very nature of the modern multinational corporation, which so often makes the boycott seem an attractive weapon, also makes boycotts difficult to implement effectively. Multinationals are not only extremely powerful, they are diversified as well. Wounding the corporate head may involve attack on a number of limbs.

An ambitious boycott of General Electric products called by Citizens Against a Radioactive Environment (CARE) (3960 Winding Way, Cincinnati, Ohio 45229) and Mobilization for Survival, (853 Broadway, #219, New York, N.Y. 10003) attempts to use this diversity to advantage. The effort here is to pressure GE to phase out its Nuclear Energy Group, which itself is immune to consumer action by boycotting GE and Hotpoint appliances which account for 24% of corporate profits.

GE has been involved in some aspect of nearly every major missile system in recent years and also engages in extensive overseas arms sales as well, ranking 7th of the top ten in arms exports. In addition, GE mines and mills uranium, makes fuel rods and nuclear cores, and handles nuclear waste. Last year, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ordered all utilities operating GE-made boiling water reactors to check for welding cracks. This stress corrosion cracking, caused by a combination of water pressure and corrosion from chemicals in the cooling water, has been an extensive and continuing problem with GE reactors.

An effort with a corporate target closer to home has been mounted by the Scott Boycott Committee (RR 4, Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia, Canada). Through a boycott of Scott paper products (which include Cashmere, Cottonelle and Duvet bathroom tissues,

Viva and Scott paper towels, and Scotties facial tissues), the committee hopes to alter the Scott Paper Company's policies of clear-cutting and pesticide use in the forests of Canada and the United States.

And in case you are incensed at Union Carbide because of the chemical leak in India which killed over 2,000 people, you might also be interested in knowing that Union Carbide is on the boycott list, because it refused to clean up uranium tailings at its site in Colorado, causing environmental pollution and health hazards to the people and land of that area. You can find out more about this existing boycott by writing: Future, PO Box 2625, Denver, Colo. 80201.

The major consumer products produced by UC are: Everready and Energizer batteries and flashlights, Prestone anti-freeze, Simoniz car waxes, and Glad plastic bags and wrap. Most of what this \$9 billion company makes is sold industrially rather than directly to the public. But these products are ones you can buy or refuse to buy.

This brief survey of boycott activity is far from complete. For fuller and more detailed information on these and other boycotts, consult the Boycott Census, published every two months or so and available for \$2/year (or make an offer) from RFD 1 Box 3445, Norway 04268.

Finally, here is a list of some boycotted products you can cut out and put on your refrigerator:

General Electric (and Hotpoint)
Coors Beer
Scott Paper products
R.J. Reynolds Tobacco
Fish from Japan, Norway, and the USSR
Banks, Corporations, and Entertainers doing business with South Africa
Chiquita Bananas and non-union table grapes
Bruce Church ("Red Coach") lettuce
Union Carbide (Eveready, Prestone, Glad)
Campbell's products--Campbell's Soups and mushrooms, Pepperidge Farm breads, Prego, Vlasic, V-8 Juice, Swanson Franco-American, Bounty soups, and more.

~RESPONDING TO INCEST~

The Family Planning Assn. of Maine will be conducting two workshops in February. The first, "Responding to an Incest Victim in a Short-term Counseling Session" is aimed at nurses, mid-level practitioners, and ob-gyn workers who are care-givers for women seeking health services. Participants will learn how to spot clues indicating that a woman may have experienced incest, ways of responding to the woman, and recognizing when a referral is necessary. Barbara Dunlap Warren will be the trainer for the all-day Feb. 5 workshop.

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A second workshop will be held on "Adolescents in Trying Times" on Feb. 28 by Gloria Melnick. Both workshops will be at All Souls Unitarian Church, 11 King St., Augusta. For more info: Family Planning Assn. of Maine, PO Box 587, Augusta 04330, 622-7524.

♪ SWING TOWARD SPRING ♪

"A folk-music lover's delight" is one way to describe the Mid-Winter Music Fest, a benefit concert for the Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee, also sponsored by the Portland Folk Club. The 8 PM concert, at First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland, will feature Dave Mallett, Salem Street, Devonsquare, Les Kerts, and, last but not least, Katherine Rhoda.

Tickets are \$5-7 and are available from Buckdancer's, Amadeus, and Gallery in Portland or Mac Bean's in Brunswick. Charlie Ipcar has details at 80 Quebec St., Portland 04101 or call 773-9549. A great cure for cabin fever!

TERRORIST OR PATRIOT?

Is Raymond Levasseur really the "Terrorist" the government claims he is, or is he a political prisoner like Soviet dissidents and others protesting their government's policies? Mary and Cameron Bishop believe the latter and are willing to speak to groups about Levasseur and the "Ohio Five," people who they believe are scapegoats because of their opposition to the US government.

The Bishops are seeking speaking engagements anywhere in Maine. Are you interested in hearing their side? If so, contact Mary/Cam Bishop, RFD 1 Box 580, Dixmont 04932, 257-4805.

CALENDAR (continued)

(Note: Listings with numbers following have more details on that page number)

Feb. 15--S/HE (dramatic reading) w/Ted Bookey, 8 PM, \$4, All Souls Unitarian, 11 King St., Augusta 04330, 685-4787.

Feb. 16-17--Breathing Work workshop (9)

Feb. 19--Speaker on the USSR, Kennebunk Unitarian Ch., 7:30 PM, Kennebunk Forum, 38 High St., Kennebunk, 985-7620.

Feb. 23--Africa One Dance Theater, Colby College (Strider), 8 PM, 872-3192.

Feb. 23--Me. Freeze Campaign Congress, All Souls, 11 King St., Augusta, 9-5. MFC Box 3842, Port. 04104, 772-0680.

Feb. 24--Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance meeting at Bates Col. (6)

Feb. 22--Central America conf. (1)

Feb. 28-Mar. 17--Maine Women in the Arts exhibition, Performing Arts Cent. 25A Forest Ave., Portland 04101.

Mar. 1-2--Cent. Am. conf. at Bowdoin (2)

Mar. 2--Maine War Tax Funds for Life organizing meeting, St. Mary's Credit Union, 41 Western Ave., Augusta, 10-4. Elaine/Francis McGillicuddy, 62 Avalon Rd., Portland 04103, 797-5684.

• DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH •

A weekend workshop entitled, "Introduction to Breathing-Work: For Healing and Inner Transformation" is being offered on Feb. 16-17 by Nonie Valentine and Sherman Hoyt, local therapists and facilitators of the technique. The presentation will include an introduction to the work, its implications for self-healing and spiritual development, and a video demonstration of one group's experience. Similar to what is known as Rebirthing, the technique involves controlled breathing, evocative music, and body work in an atmosphere of support.

Valentine trained with the founder of breathing-work, Dr. Stanislav Grof at the Esalen Institute in California. The event will be held at Blueberry Cove Camp in Tenants Harbor from 9 AM-5 PM. For details, call 236-9711.

