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Maine Statewide News Letter (January 1985)

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MAINE STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER

H.O.M.E. has now produced the Maine Statewide Newsletter for 18 months. It has been both a rewarding and frustrating experience: Rewarding for the opportunity it has provided to be of service to liberal-left sentiment in the state; frustrating because of the financial burden it has imposed on the very important social services H.O.M.E. provides.

With a certain reluctance, H.O.M.E., has decided to give up the Newsletter. It does not wish to see the newsletter end publication. The Maine Statewide Newsletter is therefore seeking motivated individuals who believe in the need for and goals of this publication.

Ideally, individuals taking responsibility for the paper will have some alternative press publishing experience, strong writing and editorial skills, an artistic sense and the time necessary to produce the paper on a regular monthly basis. Political contacts around the state would be an important plus. Finally, cohesive political perspectives are a must for the job. A confusing editorial stance can only discredit the left.

With the money brought in from the recent subscription drive, there is funding for at least one more issue of the Newsletter. With a revised format, two issues or more could be published with current funds. It should be pointed out, however, that H.O.M.E. was never able to launch an effective subscription drive owing to a severe labor shortage. Given sufficient time and energy, the Newsletter should bring in around \$300 per year to the publisher.

Again, H.O.M.E. regrets having to give up the Newsletter at this time. It is important, however, for us to keep an eye on the direct goals of H.O.M.E. and not be sidetracked by necessary, though not directly related, activities. The Maine Statewide Newsletter, unfortunately, fits into this latter category during times of tight money and labor. We offer our aid and encouragement to those individuals interested in assuming responsibility for this important endeavour.

ADOPTION INFORMATION MEETINGS

There are a number of misconceptions about adoption in Maine. The Growing Thru Adoption information meetings are designed to overcome these misconceptions and to answer questions about the adoption process.

Each adoption agency in the state has its own set of eligibility requirements. The minimum requirements include being a legal resident of Maine, being over 21 years of age and if the applicants are married, they must have been married for at least 2 years. You do not have to be married to adopt a child in Maine. Beyond these requirements the

agency will want to know that there is a strong motivation to adopt a child and that there is sufficient economic and emotional support for the child. There are no income requirements set by the state, but all agencies require that prospective adoptive parents demonstrate their financial stability.

"What type of children are available?" is one of the most common questions asked at Growing Thru Adoption information meetings. It is true that there are very few caucasian infants available, but there are literally hundreds of thousands of older caucasian children, foreign-born children of all ages and special needs children here and abroad.

As mentioned in the information meeting announcement, Growing Thru Adoption specializes in placing the children who wait. The availability of children is often dependent on a number of changing factors. At the information meeting, specific, up-to-the-minute information is given regarding the children who are available. Details about domestic and international adoptions are discussed.

In addition, the agency offers post-placement services for families who have adopted a child via another source, but still need to fulfill the state's requirement that a postplacement study be done. Examples of such cases include private independent adoptions and families who have moved from other states with their adoptive child prior to the adoption being finalized.

Other common questions that are asked include those about fees and the length of time it takes to adopt a child. Here again all agencies differ, but Growing Thru Adoption's sliding fee schedule and general time frames are provided at the information meeting. Specific time frames for any given child are highly variable and difficult to predict. Even during the process there may be unforeseen events that hasten or delay the placement.

Participation in a Growing Thru Adoption information meeting does not obligate anyone to pursue ad with the agency. Should prospective adoptive parents desire to start the adoption process, application forms will be available. Any additional questions regarding the application process usually can be answered at the meeting or they can be dealt with privately at a later date with a social worker. The agency holds personal info., in the strictest confidence. Contact: Jim Kupel, 65 Central Ave., Box 7082, Lewiston, Me., 04240 or call: 786-2597

David Greenberg and two others are forming a Maine "tour" to Nicaragua. With a few more joiners, rates would be significantly lower. They hope to go about March for 1-2 weeks. To plug into this, contact David Greenberg, RFD 2 Box 370, Bucksport 04416, 469-3157.

Coalition cites flaws in GNP response

The Natural Resources Council of Maine joined with other members of the Penobscot Coalition on October 23 to respond to Great Northern's recent filings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). In mid-October, the company produced nearly 100 additional items of information cited in FERC's deficiency letter of July 17.

NRCM and Coalition members pointed out the substantial weaknesses and unanswered questions contained in Great Northern's filing. Specific questions were raised regarding the company's assertions that:

- The current landlocked salmon fishery, considered by most experts to be the most productive fishery of its kind in North America, will be more productive when dammed;
- Despite wiping out four and a half miles of the finest whitewater in New England including Ripogenus Gorge, the Cribworks and Little and Big Ambejack-mockamus Falls, there will be little or no loss experienced by the whitewater rafting industry;
- The biomass cogeneration alternative (like the one in which S.D. Warren is using to reduce its energy cost by two-thirds) would not produce requisite savings.

NRCM's Executive Director Brownie Carson went on to say, "This is simply not an issue of 'jobs or the environment' as Great Northern wants the public to believe. The Big A Dam is more a case of a large multi-state corporation wanting to confiscate a prized public resource for its own private profit."

Carson concluded, "The issue that concern us should concern all the people of Maine for it is their resource that may be needlessly wasted if Great Northern is allowed to have its way."

The Coalition once again invited the company seriously to explore alternatives to the Big A dam and vowed to fight this ill-conceived project every step of the way.

Big A slide show scheduled for Boston AMC

Mark Ishkanian will give a talk and slide show on the efforts to protect the Penobscot from the Big A Dam on Wednesday, December 12 at 8:30 p.m. The presentation will take place at the regular monthly meeting of the Boston Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club at the Christ Episcopal Church on Highland Avenue in Needham. For more information, contact AMC Chairperson Shirley Cowles at 617-449-3009.

from: Me. Environment

SUBSCRIPTION

Subscription rates are \$4 per year. Anything above that would greatly be appreciated as the extra goes toward a college fund. So anything you can spare is appreciated.

Yes, I would like to subscribe to the MSN.

_____ New _____ Renew _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip Code _____

Central America

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 to think twice (or 3 or 4 times) before further militarizing an already sensitive situation, especially in Nicaragua or 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 willing to engage in legal protests and those willing to risk arrest, to indicate how massive the opposition is.

The "contingency plan," which is being coordinated nationwide, will begin with a decision that the U.S. has acted aggressively, 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.

Nonviolence training is being offered to those who sign the pledge. It can be arranged by calling David Neufeld at 774-9042 or Larry Dansinger at 827-3107. Pledge forms are available from: Fran Truitt, Witness for Peace, RFD 2 Box 422A, Ellsworth 04605, 422-9007, Maine CALC, PO Box 110, Stillwater 04489, Maine Coalition for Peace and Justice in Central America, 40 Garland St., Bangor 04401 or the Maine Freeze Campaign, Box 3842, Portland 04104.

Peace & Justice

It's frustrating when there are important actions which happen and only a small group of people respond. People in the Bangor area have recognized that with the Charles Howard case, the ERA, and the arrest of seven Bangor Peace Initiative members at the Air National Guard Base. Wouldn't it be nice if people who were primarily involved in other issues could respond and actively support other groups when there are crisis situations?

That's the idea behind the proposed Bangor Peace and Justice Council, which will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 30, 7:30 PM in the Bangor Theological Seminary board room (Library Building). The hope for the council is to provide communications with other groups, mutual understanding of issues and concerns, mutual support, shared resources, and eventually, working together on several projects or activities as a coalition.

To help set up or work with the council, contact Karen Harlan, 11 Old Mill Rd., Orono 04473, 827-3107.

Smoking

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 for smokers, toxicity, and other issues.

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 of their major upcoming goals will be the passage of a law in the next legislature something like the resolution passed recently by the Maine State Nurses Association. 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 or their plans for legislation, contact the MSNA, PO Box 2240, Augusta 04330, 622-1057.

A.D.C.

Aroostook Draft Counseling (ADC) has opened up "shop" on the winter solstice and will be on its way by January, 1985. 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 (UMFK) to offer similar information and services to Aroostook college students. He hopes to hear from other active or potential counselors about draft/registration and counter-recruitment in their areas and to help create a network.

Financial support for the fledgeling ADC is of course appreciated. To connect with ADC: Lee Armen, RFD 4 Box 202, Houlton 04730.

Union Carbide

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 listed on the Boycott Census' list of companies being boycotted. We're not sure of the reason. We hope to have more details on this next month. But you can find out more about this existing boycott by writing: Boycott Census, RFD 1 Box 3445, Norway 04268.

In the meantime, the major consumer products brands from Union Carbide are: Eveready Batteries/flashlights, Prestone Anti-Freeze, Simoniz car waxes, and Glad plastic bags/wrap. Most of what this \$9 billion company makes is sold industrially rather than directly to the public. But there are a few things you may want to stay away from, anyway.

Seabrook

The house of cards that kept construction going at the Seabrook nuclear power plant site appears ready to collapse. With the Maine Public Utilities Commission in the lead and Vermont following quickly behind, both state agencies are telling investors to get out. Maine's PUC has set mid-January as a deadline for "sell-out or pull out."

The public appears to be bystanders in this drama, but ratepayers can be involved. Several Maine groups, including the Maine People's Alliance and Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee (MNRC) have been involved in pressuring for an end to utilities' involvement and the 3 Maine utilities appear willing to bend to public pressure.

Activists from around New England have been meeting in recent months under the old "Clamshell Alliance" umbrella to exert public pressure for utility pull-outs. Another meeting is scheduled for Jan. 12, 10-3 at the Nashua (N.H.) public library. To find out what Maine ratepayers can do to help, contact the Maine People's Alliance, Box 2490, Augusta 04330, 622-4740 or the MNRC.

In another nuclear power development, the MNRC has collected about 40,000 signatures but needs at least 46,000 (plus a few thousand more for a cushion) before January 23. HELP!!! Lots of effort to get a public vote for waste disposal will go down the drain without more signatures.

If you can help collect signatures in your town or area: Alva Morrison, MNRC, PO Box 2627, Augusta 04330, 622-4395.

M.O.M.

One holiday gift we forgot to mention last month but which is still available for other celebrations (birthdays, summer, impeachments) is T-Shirts from (not for) MOM. MOM is Midwives of Maine, and their shirts (which have their name on them) are in sizes S, M, L, and XL for \$7 in blue, yellow, and red.

MOM also published a list of midwives (at least nine in different parts of the state), runs workshops on homebirthing and baby care, and lobbies for the rights of childbirth consumers.

To get a T-shirt or to find out more about MOM: Jill Breen, RFD 1, St. Albans 04971, 938-4129.

Solar Energy

The Maine Solar Energy Association (MESEA) is currently developing a speakers' bureau of people available to speak on various aspects of energy conservation and renewable energy. Speakers will be available to talk to local school, church, or civic groups. If you would like to schedule a talk for your group (kids especially need to know about and understand solar energy), contact Sandy Dickson, Port Clyde 04855 or call 372-8067.

HEAT

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 lay brick outside, it's not too early to get the booklet (\$15) and talk to Cheryl or Albie Barden for tips and advice, arranging a workshop, or attending a week-long course on how to build a masonry heater.

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 Co., 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 in the same list? There is also an emphasis on Maine publications, including such notables as the Maine Land Advocate, Richard Barringer, Jeff Faux, and David Vail.

~~Bo Yerxa~~ happily has 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 are arranged in categories such as politics, sports, the arms race, and many more.

You can get a personally signed copy for \$11.50 (postage and taxes included) directly from Vic Runtz, 101 Royal Rd., Bangor 04401 or check your local bookstore.

women

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 Main St., Rockland 04841, 596-0040.

"Think Spring"

In spite of cold and snow, January is also a time to "think spring" with another version of the Agricultural Trade Show, with a special day again set aside for MOFGA (Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Assn.). This year the show will be on Jan. 22-24, at its traditional location at the Augusta Civic Center. The MOFGA day will again be the first, Jan. 22 (although there are good educational events on all three days). And of course there are the free potato chips, seed companies, purveyors of agricultural equipment, and the fair atmosphere.

Highlights of the MOFGA day will include workshops such as "How to Save Your Seeds" with Will Bonsall, "Four Maine Farm Communities: Going, Going, Gone?" on the loss of Maine farmland, "The Common Ground Country Fair, 1984" slide show, "Implementing the 'No Spray' Register" with a panel of regulators, farmers, and lawyers, and "Appropriate Technology: Hand Tools that Work" with Jack Kertesz. Workshops begin at 9 AM, usually last one hour, and end at 4:30 PM. Something for everyone.

January is also the time for MOFGA's annual meeting, to be held on Sat., Jan. 12 from 10 AM to 3:30 PM at South Parish Congregational Church, Augusta. Besides 9-10 social hour and various progress reports, there will be a potluck lunch and a speech by Meredith Murray of the Natural Resources Council of Maine.

For schedules for either event: MOFGA Box 2176, Augusta 04330, 622-3118.

South Africa Resources

Recent events in South Africa (arrest and detention of leaders of the anti-Apartheid movement) and the US (arrest at the capitol of black and white anti-racism leaders and congresspeople) have pointed up the terrible system under which millions of black South Africans live.

People are urged to write especially to Secretary of State George Schultz, Dept. of State, Washington, DC 20520 urging US pressure to end the detention of South

For more information on the problems in South Africa, contact the American Committee on Africa, 198 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10038, 212-962-1210. One contact for resources in Maine is Ivan Suzman, 105 Pine St. #3, Portland 04102, 774-9833. He has spoken and also has films and slide shows on that issue.

Grand Opening in Brunswick

So far the Brunswick Peace Center has been mostly a group of committed people, a newsletter, and a series of gatherings and activities, but soon the Center will have a "center" as well, an office space at 18 Center Street in Brunswick. The grand opening is scheduled for Friday, January 4, 5-8 PM, (Merrymeeting Consultants). It will be a potluck and a bring-your-own-beverage. The Peace Center could use a few furnishings also, such as lamps, a file cabinet, a phone, bulletin boards, file folders, office supplies, and firewood. Call 729-8102 if you can contribute anything.

M. L. King Birthday Coming Up

Again for 1985, a number of groups in Maine will be celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday with various events. So far Maine CALC has heard of definite plans in Kennebunk, where a spaghetti dinner (Jan. 13) and evening entertainment will be given at 6:30 PM at the Kennebunk Unitarian Church, and in Machias and Bangor, where potlucks and sing-a-longs of peace, justice, and civil rights songs will be offered. The Bangor event will begin with a workshop! discussion on racism in Maine today at 4 PM on January 20 and then move into a potluck supper, to be followed by songs and M. L. King readings. The Machias event will be on the evening of Jan. 13, location not yet determined.

Organizers hope to repeat an event at the governor's mansion in Augusta and are encouraging other peace and justice groups to sponsor similar events to set the tone for official celebrations, which begin in 1986. Find out if a celebration is being organized in your area, or organize one yourself (it's easy!!!) Me. CALC
PO BOX 110 Stillwater Me
827-3167

Don't Forget

Don't forget Susan Savell's "Music for Peace" tour, including performances on December 14 (8 PM, First Parish Congregational Church, Saco), January 18 (8 PM, United Baptist Church, Lewiston), and January 27 (3 PM, Wedeen Theater, UMPI, Presque Isle). People representing groups in these areas are needed to take and sell tickets for these performances. If you can help out, contact Susan Savell, Biddeford Pool 04006, 282-0752.



PORTLAND FOLK CLUB

The Portland Folk Club proudly presents Priscilla Herdman in concert for her first Maine appearance on Saturday January 26th, 8 p.m. at the Moulton Theater of Westbrook College. Admission is \$6/\$5 in advance with tickets available at Amadeus Music, buckdancer's Choice and Gallery Music \$3 for Westbrook College Student. Call: 773-9549 for more info.

Priscilla is best known for her moving interpretations of traditional and contemporary Australian songs, including poet Henry Lawson and singer-songwriter Eric Bogle. Her most recent album, Seasons of Change, features songs by Stan Rogers, Si Kahn, Utah Phillips, Dave Mallett, Fred Small and other contemporary singer-songwriters. The New York Times described her as having "one of the clearest and most compelling voices of contemporary folk music."

The Portland Folk Club is a community based organization dedicated to providing information about traditional style music and dance in the greater Portland area, and to promoting interest in these activities.

CALENDAR

SUN MON TUE WED THUR FRI SAT

Jan. 4--Brunswick Peace Center opens, 18 Center St., Brunswick, 5-8 PM. Peace Center, Box 975, Brunswick 04011, 729-8102.

Jan. 5--Maine Coalition for Peace and Justice in Central America meets, 10 AM, St. Mary's, 41 Western Ave., Augusta. Call 942-4055, 743-2125, 773-8904, or 549-7516.

Jan. 7--Meeting of Maine Project on Southern Africa in Cundy's Harbor. MPOSA, c/o Ivan Suzman, 105 Pine St., Portland 04102, 774-9833.

Jan. 8--"My life as an Arms Controller" at CONA, 7:30 PM, Damariscotta Baptist Church. CONA, c/o Eipper, Walpole 04573, 563-1378.

Jan. 9 (and Feb. 13)--La Leche League workshop, 9 AM, Riverside Dr., Augusta. Call 685-9049 or 622-3570.

Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31--Bach Flower Remedy Workshops, 12-2, \$35. Alexandra Bottinelli, 60 Old Colony Lane, Cape Elizabeth 04107, 799-8616.

Jan. 12--Seabrook opposition meeting in Nashua, N.H., 10-3. MPA, Box 2490, Augusta 04330, 622-4740.

Jan. 12--New England War Tax Network meeting in Nashua, N.H., 10-5. Francis/Elaine McGillicuddy, 62 Avalon, Portland 04103, 797-5684.

Jan. 12--MOFGA Annual Meeting, Augusta. MOFGA, Box 2176, Augusta 04330, 622-3118.

Jan. 13, 18, 20 (and other dates)--Martin Luther King Birthday Celebrations around the state. Maine CALC, PO Box 110, Stillwater 04489, 827-3107.

Jan. 18--Susan Savell's "Music for Peace" concert, 8 PM, \$2-4, United Baptist Church, Main St., Lewiston.

Jan. 19-20--Food Abuse Workshop w/Maddy Spadola, 9-5, 72 Front St., Bath, \$45. Maddy Spadola, 140 Washington St., Camden 04843, 236-9022.

Jan. 22--MOFGA Day at Agricultural Trades Show in Augusta. MOFGA, Box 2176, Augusta 04330, 622-3118.

Jan. 23--Deadline for signatures for MNRC Waste Disposal referendum. MNRC Box 2627, Augusta 04330, 622-4395.

Jan. 27--Susan Savell's "Music for Peace" concert, 3 PM, Wedeen Theater, UMPI, Presque Isle, \$2-4.

Jan. 30--Bangor Peace and Justice Council meeting, Bangor Theological Sem. Library, 7:30. Call Karen Harlan, 827-3107.

Jan. 30-31--"Home and Community Family Life Education" workshop, All Souls Unitarian Church, 11 Kling St. Augusta. Family Planning Assn of Me., 12 Pike St., Augusta.

NRCM identifies top ten issues for 1985

NRCM's Issues Steering Committee has outlined the Council's high-priority issues for the coming year. Five issues requiring specific action were listed.

• **Big A Dam:** Great Northern has filed its application to construct the Big A Dam with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC is expected to accept the application in late 1984 and NRCM will intervene in the proceedings soon thereafter. The Council will also take a leading role in the intervention before the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission.

• **Toxic air emissions:** The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) backed off its proposed rules on hazardous air emissions. Instead, the Department sought to have the Legislature adopt a program outline. The Legislature, however, only established a panel to review the health risks of hazardous air emissions and required the DEP to conduct an inventory of such emissions in Maine. NRCM will continue to work toward implementation of the 1984 legislation as well as getting the toxic control program back on schedule.

• **Water quality reclassification:** DEP is revising the water classification scheme. NRCM is concerned that the water quality gains which have already been made be protected by law. The Council will monitor events and develop a strategy for continuing the improvement of water quality.

• **DEP evaluation:** DEP is currently undergoing a performance audit evaluation. NRCM will testify at these legislative hearings.

• **Hydropower development regulations:** A joint committee of the Land Use Regulation Commission and the Department of Environmental Protection has proposed regulations based upon NRCM's proposal of November 1983. A public hearing on the most recent draft will be held in late 1984. The Council will work for the strongest possible regulations.

Policy development issues

The Steering Committee also targeted five policy development issues which will be of great concern to the Council in the coming year.

• **Public lands management:** Now that major land swaps have been completed, putting some 450,000 acres under the management of the Bureau of Public Lands, decisions must be made about how best to manage these holdings. To focus attention on this important task, NRCM will hold a conference on public lands in the spring as well as develop management initiatives.

• **Groundwater protection:** NRCM will work for adoption of a comprehensive state groundwater protection plan, opposing any reclassification downgrading groundwater resources.

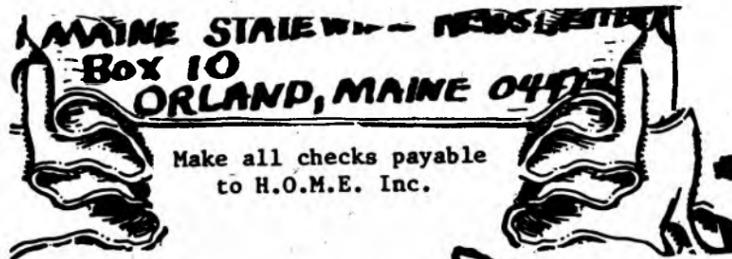
• **Hazardous and toxic materials:** NRCM is undertaking a study of Maine's hazardous waste and hazardous matter control statutes.

• **Forest policy:** With the completion of the Forest Policy Study, the Council will monitor activities of the Legislature's Forest Practices Committee, continue efforts to reduce the use of chemical insecticides in favor of Bt in both state and private spray programs, and compare the environmental soundness of private programs with the state program.

• **Peat:** The future of the Northern Maine Peat Project remains uncertain, but it appears that a major peat mining application may be submitted to DEP in the coming year. The Council hopes to initiate a peatland preservation system that will lead to the protection of Maine's most significant bogs.

The second half of the steering committee report provides a comprehensive listing of environmental issues which are of continuing concern to the Council. The listing identifies staff and directors who have primary responsibilities concerning each issue.

Copies of the report are available at the NRCM office.



Make all checks payable to H.O.M.E. Inc.

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Jan 25