

SPECTRUM

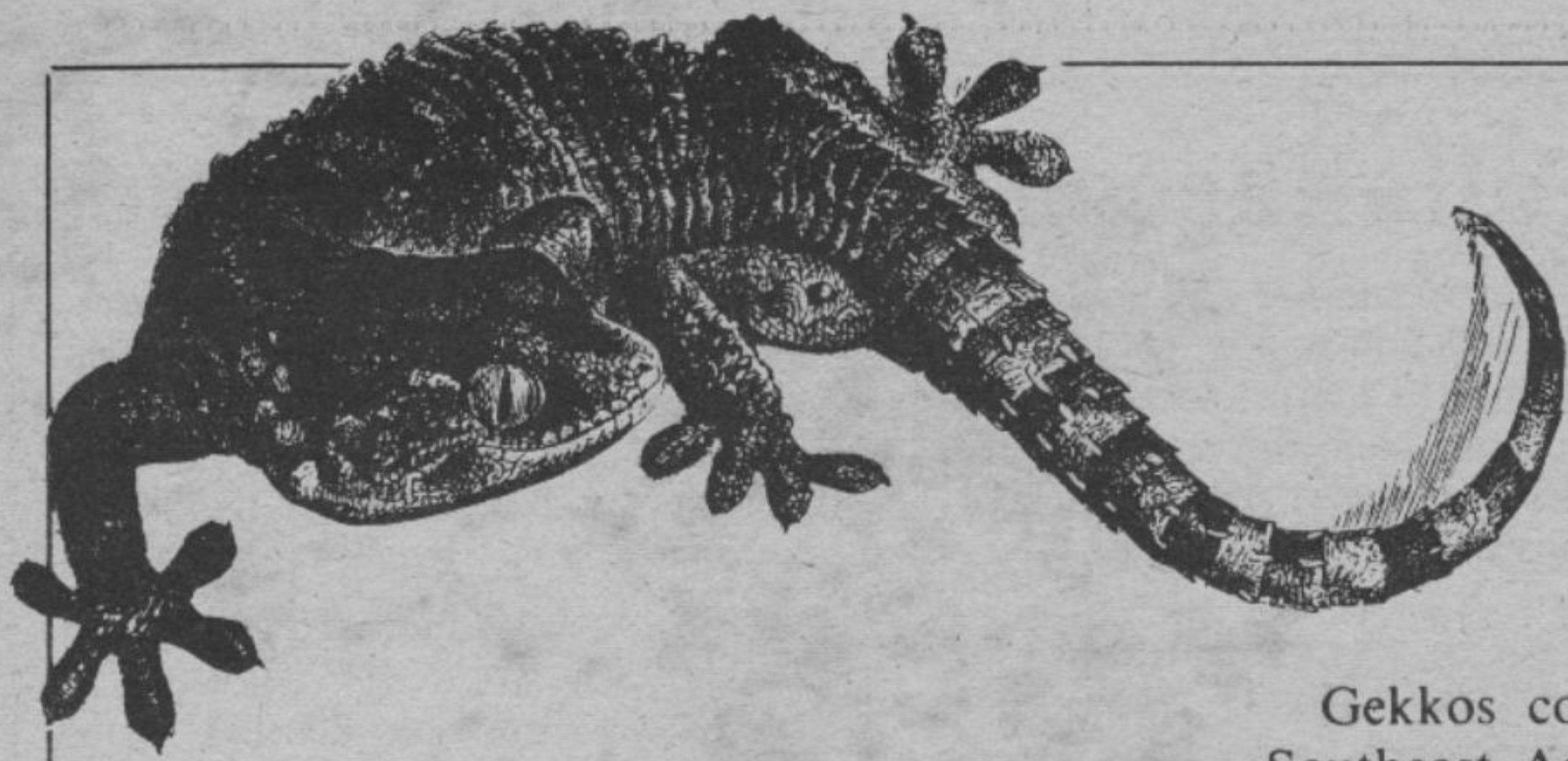
A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

August Eve, 1981 Issue 25

FREE



Inside:
Women and Wilderness
Lowdown on Reagan's
Cabinet
No-toil Gardening
and forthcoming
community projects



Natural Roach Killer

by Louise Beauchamp

Most of us try to be philosophical about roaches.

We try not to think of them as diabolical creatures sent here for no reason but to torment us. We just wish they wouldn't settle in *our* kitchen.

For more and more of us, filling our homes with poison is not a very attractive alternative. We do all the right things — keep the cracks filled and the kitchen clean, and engage the enemy one-on-one wherever he appears — but in Florida there's not much escape. When things get unbearably bad, we spray and try not to worry about it.

There is a way out of the war between the Humans and the Roaches.

It's not foolproof. You have to be able to stand a few roaches and you can't set off a bomb if the house gets fleas.

But it *is* inexpensive and poison-free. Best of all, it completely removes the human from the field of battle.

That was my main objective in buying a Tokay gekko. More than I dislike roaches, even more than I dislike poison, the thought of being actively engaged in a never-ending war is depressing.

A gekko isn't just a casual way for a human to opt out of the chemical war. He requires it, for any human poisons would kill him as well. The gekko's job is to eat roaches and the humans can please stay out, thank you.

Gekkos come from somewhere like Southeast Asia, and can be bought at pet stores for \$12 - \$15. The House of Pets on Tharpe Street has trouble keeping them in stock, they sell out so quickly.

If you go to buy one, be prepared, for they are lizards about a foot long. This is no little green chameleon. They mean business. Their mouths are about as big as their heads and on each foot are five suckery little toes to let them run up walls and windows in pursuit of roaches on the hoof.

Fortunately, gekkos are very shy. Most of them hang out behind the refrigerator all day long and only come out after dark when the roaches are doing their thing. You might surprise a gekko by walking into the kitchen late at night, but he'll slither behind the stove quicker than you can move.

Other pets are not a worry with gekkos, unless they happen to be mice on the loose. I'm not sure I can imagine my gekko, Zeppo, taking down a whole mouse, but I've heard that it happens. Cats and dogs don't seem to

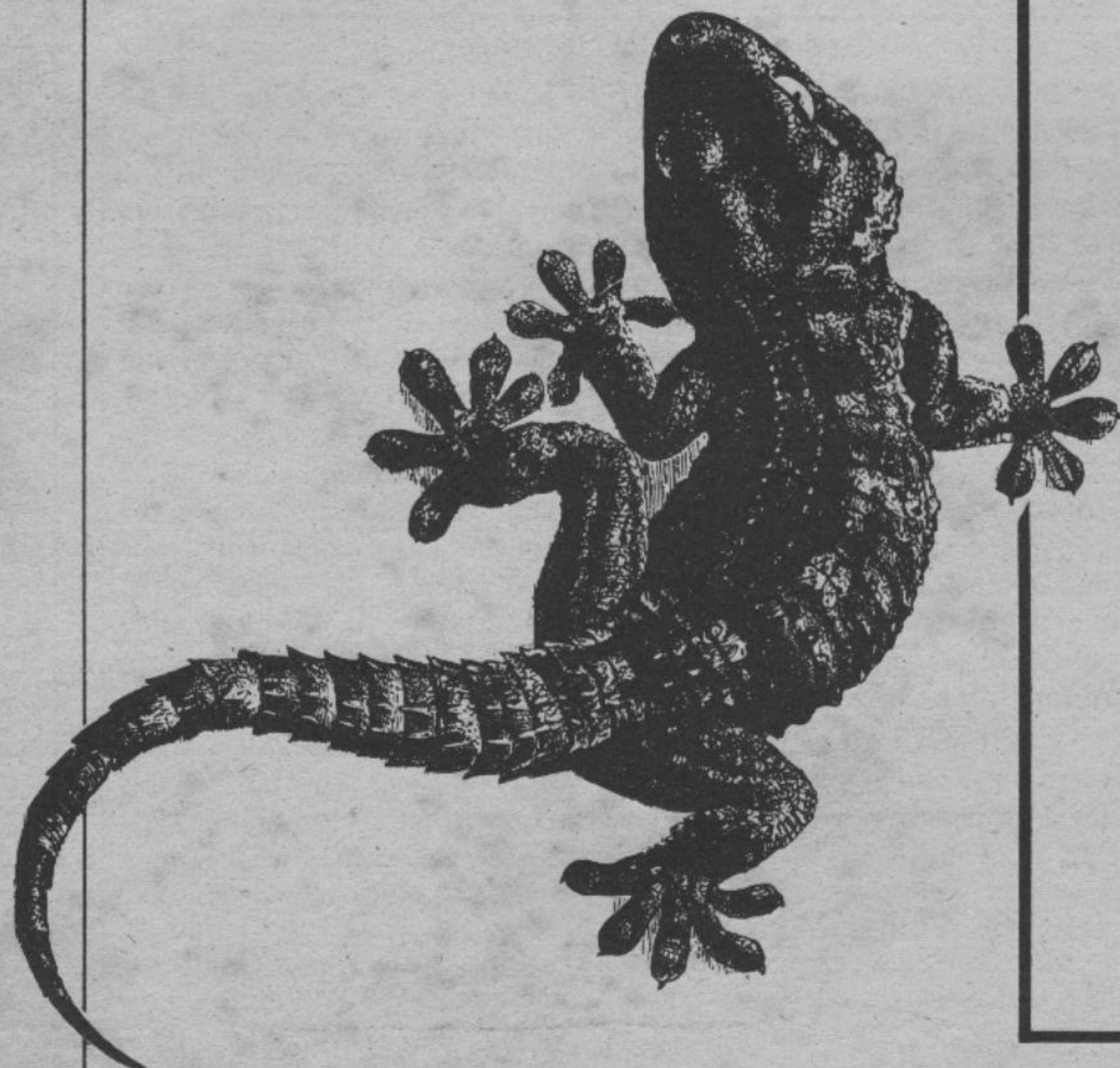
pay any attention to him, and he's quite able to escape if they do.

Once you get used to the idea, gekkos can be very entertaining and, in an odd way, reassuring. I live alone and used to worry sometimes about noises in the night, but nowadays I just figure that it's only the gekko.

One night a friend and I walked into the dimly-lit kitchen and surprised Zeppo on the window screen. For once he paid us no attention, seeming to be fascinated by the moths outside the window. For fifteen or twenty minutes he strutted about on the screen in his sinuous way, red and blue spots glowing dully and his twenty tender little toes gleaming.

Like I said, he doesn't do a perfect job. My kitchen is like a roach motel, with tongue-in-groove paneling on the walls and ceiling. Zeppo works overtime and there are still always a few roaches around.

But the population is tolerable and it's constant — it doesn't grow with my neglect. Instead of worrying if it's time to spray again, I never think of it any more.



Prospects for the old Shady Lunch

by Rosemary Havalak



Subject: A community kitchen facility that could be used by local groups to put on fundraisers, have dinners, meetings, etc.

Subject: A certified kitchen that could accommodate three or four small independent wholesaling operations, enabling new businesses to begin locally producing breads, convenience foods, ethnic foods, etc.

Subject: A healthfood restaurant, juice bar, or sandwich shop right around the corner from the food co-op.

Subject: A wholegrain bakery storefront, or a local tofu producer.

Subject: Office space for businesses like Canopy Federal Credit Union, or a barter/exchange office.

Subject: A mini-mall housing art studios, craft galleries, and small retailing businesses (low overhead, night security watchperson...?).

Subject: Possibilities, possibilities, a multitude of possibilities.

I think it would be a great place to work!

Some of you may already be familiar with the real estate that this

exuberant article is describing — the old Shady Lunch Restaurant on All Saints' Street, one block east of Railroad Ave.

Some of us feel that the old restaurant and adjoining house have the potential to draw customers and provide services to both universities, our co-op area, downtown traffic and stateworkers, not to forget close proximity to the new civic center.

There are numerous assets as well as drawbacks to be discussed, but it is feasible that we could create livelihoods and provide goods and services for our community using this choice location.

Is there community support for such an undertaking? Let's have a meeting over dinner and get something going.

Covered dish at the restaurant on Thursday, August 6 at 6 p.m. until... Meeting to begin at 7 p.m.

Come check it out and tell us what you think. Get in touch with Rosemary (386-7800), Doug Weaver, or Jerry Johansen, if you want to know more or have something to offer and can't make it. Thanks.

SPECTRUM

A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

FREE

August-Eve, 1981
2105 Autumn Lane
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What SPECTRUM Is:

SPECTRUM is an open forum for the Tallahassee Community. Emphasizing events, developments and activities in the alternative/progressive/cooperative culture here, we encourage people to participate with contributions of articles, labor or advertisements.

Writers and artists cannot be paid. Articles and artwork are printed on a space-available basis.

Views expressed by the writers are not representative of SPECTRUM or of any particular organization unless identified as such. Our goal is to provide an open forum for the community, but the staff does bear certain legal and moral responsibilities for the content of the publication. Therefore, we reserve the right to withhold from publication any material that is libelous in tone. The SPECTRUM collective also reserves the right to withhold material referring to specific individuals until they have had the opportunity to review and respond to all articles in question.

Submissions Guidelines

SPECTRUM cannot continue without your interest and participation. We have no reporters and are totally dependent on members of the Tallahassee community to submit articles informing the rest of us as to what's happening. Artwork and photos are encouraged, also. Send submissions to SPECTRUM, 2105 Autumn Lane, Tallahassee, 32304. Articles should be no longer than 3 doublespaced, typewritten letter-sized pages. All material must be signed and include a phone number and address so we can contact writers when revisions or clarifications are needed. If we have no contact information, or if time is exceedingly short, we will edit to our discretion. If you wish original art or photos returned, you must provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope with a note telling us to return your material.

Advertising Sales:

Larry Teich — Call 575-2934 for advertising information.

Tallahassee CISPES Activities

The Tallahassee Committee in Support of the People of El Salvador, CISPES, is part of a national network of El Salvador support groups that has been working to end US military involvement in El Salvador, and to aid the people of El Salvador.

The people of El Salvador, a Central American country the size of Massachusetts, are trying to throw off 50 years of military rule and violence. In October of 1979, a civilian junta came to power pledging to halt violence and corruption, and to bring about a redistribution of national wealth. This junta fell apart in six weeks as most of the civilian members resigned. Repression by the military and security forces escalated, killing 13,000 Salvadoreans in 1980 and 8,000 in the first quarter of 1981. The Archbishop Oscar Romero, 4 American nuns and 6 leaders of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) — a coalition of the people of El Salvador opposing the junta have been assassinated. Resistance to the military has grown with popular guerilla forces holding 12 zones, mostly in northern El Salvador.

Since its beginning earlier this year, Tallahassee CISPES has been working to inform the community about events in El Salvador, and to support the Salvadorean opposition to the junta, the FDR.

CISPES will sponsor a talk on Friday, July 31 at the clubhouse of Westview Apartments (located at the intersection of Tharpe St. and Ocala Rd.) by Doug Mac Hugh, who taught in El Salvador as a Peace Corps Volunteer. People are invited to attend and are encouraged to contribute to a pot-luck dinner.

CISPES needs help in informing the community about El Salvador, and in raising funds for medical aid to El Salvador. Please contact CISPES if there are any groups or organizations which may be interested in viewing a slide-tape presentation about El Salvador or listening to a speaker. CISPES can be contacted through CPE at 644-6577 or Co-op Books at 222-6677. CISPES has been holding weekly work meetings at 7:30 on Tuesday nights in room 64 of Bellamy Building.

community announcements

The Tallahassee Feminist History Project is still at work. Project members decided to take the summer off, but plans for fall will be gearing up soon. It was decided at a recent SPECTRUM meeting to devote the entire December SPECTRUM issue to the Feminist History Project publication. The absolute deadline for articles is November 23. All who have committed themselves to writing an article will be contacted in early September. For those who are interested but have not signed up for specific articles, contact Sherry Rauch at 224-8299. Artists and photographers are still needed.

An alternative boy scout troop? Is there enough interest to start something? Call Paul at 222-1886.

Interested in a land community south of town? 17 adults and 5 children have purchased 43 acres of land off of Oak Ridge Rd. 6 miles south of Tallahassee in Leon County. We are looking for co-op oriented people to purchase small acreage tracts that adjoin our properties. The land is nice and is less than \$2,000 per acre. If interested, call Joe Gaudino at 385-4869 or Jeff Blair at 878-5201.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL USA, Tallahassee group 193 meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm at Terrell House, 115 W. Call St. Contact P.O. Box 186, Tallahassee, Fla. 32302. Everyone welcome.

WOMEN-ATTENDED CHILDBIRTH - I would like to listen to women who have given birth with the aid of a midwife and/or other women attending, for the purpose of collecting personal accounts of these experiences for my Humanities dissertation on this topic. I am a member of the Florida Midwives Association. All information will be treated confidentially. Please, call me at 385-4315 to arrange a time at your convenience. Debra Susi.

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Observance

Children's Workshop: In remembrance of the bombing of Hiroshima (August 6, 1945) the Tallahassee Peace Coalition presents a youth workshop, "Building A Peaceful World," on Thursday August 6, 1981 from 10-12 noon in the Westminster room of the First Presbyterian Church. We invite youngsters from the ages of 10-16 to participate in a varied program whose aim is to inspire and provoke ideas on the creation of peace on a planet preparing for war. There will be leaders from the Coalition to share information in an imaginative and entertaining manner. The children will also be engaged in an art experiment and other participatory projects.

Surely the youth of our community need to think constructively about the possibilities of peace in a nuclear age, where war becomes unthinkable.

Adult Workshop/Sharing: There will be an adult workshop at 7 pm on the evening of August 6th (at the same location as above). The evening will enable us to gather in memory of those who suffered at the dawn of the nuclear age as well as to explore our own feelings about the future of our planet. This evening will provide a special moment for us to listen, contribute and create. Please join us. For further information call the Coalition at 222-5458 during office hours.

PEACE WITNESS in recognition of the anniversaries of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings and a gathering for a freeze to the nuclear arms race will be held at the G.E. nuclear weapons plant north of St. Petersburg, Fla., Sat., August 8, 1 p.m. For information, contact the Sunshine Action Group/American Friends Service Committee at 130 19th Ave. SE, St. Petersburg, 33705, or call 1-813-822-5522.

Anyone from Tallahassee interested in participating in the Peace Gathering and Witness and sharing a ride there—call or come by the office. We should be back in Tallahassee by the evening (Saturday, August 8). Our number is 222-5845.

SPECTRUM's Evolution

by Tana McLane

Despite the "elegant" conservatism of these times, we at *SPECTRUM* hope to continue putting out this paper through the coming months. We feel the work we do and the information we print is important stuff, adding to the cacaphony of progressive voices throughout the land. You may not agree with us on every point — we don't even agree with us on every point — but hang in there with us as we trek along, and eventually we'll have something for everybody who's listening in.

Lately we've had the good fortune to receive some good new energy in both writing and directional ideas (witness the spice added to these pages by our newest contributing writer, Louise Beauchamp — "Bee-chum"). Some

of our recent collective meetings have been quite exciting, also. We've been talking about expanding the scope of *SPECTRUM* to a more regional publication — more of the same, from other towns, with some additions and improvements. More about this later when we've discussed it more and reached some decisions. You'll be the first to know.

The next issue of *SPECTRUM* will note our third birthday. Three years of this hobby that has involved many people and a few dedicated fanatics. In realizing this, I wish to say here that it is also the third birthday of another life-in-community experience — and the conscious end of that experiment. Autumn Lane, a group house for all this time, is closing itself down.

SPECTRUM and Autumn Lane

began in almost the same moment, with roots in the months and years before that fateful September. Generally during that time, there was a stable group of unrelated adults trying to live together, struggle with each other, and live their lives in ways that alligned their private experiences with their politics. Wasn't always easy. Autumn Lane is /was no more important than any other alternative living arrangement (which are all important, of course, as challenges to the dominant culture that insists on more conventional groupings), but it feels like a very special experience, in all. Life there saw a melange of home-created appropriate technology experiments (we lived a summer with solar-heated inside showers); gardening efforts; meetings; some of the most vigorous

intellectual discussions on everything, but especially on issues of radical feminism; a home birth; and the consciousness-raising experience of living with a publication that has an energy and identity of its own.

SPECTRUM is not merely the product of Autumn Lane, though. *Au contraire*. It comes to you from the labor of the sales and production crew and, of course, our contributing writers.

Our next publishing date is September 16 (get your articles in), and by then our address will be different. To those of you we exchange publications with, we hope to send out change-of-address forms. And we'll print all the new information about how to get in touch with us in that issue.

See you in the fall.

In and About the Reagan Cabinet

by Louise Beauchamp

An incredible thing happened last month.

At the annual meeting of the American Medical Association, delegates were presented with a report calling for civil defense efforts to prepare for the possibility of nuclear war. They rejected it.

Instead they adopted a resolution pointing out "the catastrophic dangers to all life in the event of nuclear war" and supporting "efforts for the prevention of such a nuclear holocaust."

Meanwhile, back on the farm in Orlando, newspaper columnist Charley Reese has called for a massive civil defense mobilization. He thinks the arms opponents are crazy. "Amazingly," he writes, "some of them are doctors."

The CIA flap happened so fast many people might have missed it. Here's a brief recap:

On Tuesday, July 14, the Washington Post published an article accusing Max Hugel of unethical wheeling and dealing on Wall Street. Hugel is the new deputy director of operations for the CIA, appointed by the new director William Casey. He is a former Reagan campaign manager.

Hugel resigned the same day.

Also on Tuesday, a two-month-old federal court ruling came to light naming Casey himself as one of eight businessmen who deliberately misled investors in a failing company in New Orleans. Casey is another Reagan campaign manager.

On Wednesday, Reagan issued a statement of "full confidence in William J. Casey."

But also on Wednesday, another court ruling came to light, this one a year old. It found that Casey and the other company directors didn't just mislead investors. They drove the company "deeper and deeper into debt" by managing in a "pattern of self-interest."

By Thursday, Reagan was claiming that he didn't know anything about Casey's legal problems when he picked him to head the CIA.

Seems like I heard that line about

eight years ago.

The same Casey who withheld the pertinent data from his corporate investors has moved quickly to do the same in his new job at the CIA. He has shut down the information sources that provide journalists with unclassified briefings on a number of worldwide subjects.

It's with the full backing of the White House, of course. The administration is also thinking about relaxing the FBI and CIA restrictions on searching, wiretapping and spying on American dissenters.

Saying that the government's role should be restricted to high-risk, exotic research projects, the Reagan administration has cut in half the funding for the Solar Energy Research Institute in Colorado. Its director has been fired and the staff will be cut by a third on September 30.

With enough neglect, solar research could indeed become an exotic, high-risk field that no private industry would touch. Maybe then we can get some decent funding for it.

It's a wonder that Ronald Reagan ever located Sandra Day O'Connor, the nominee for Supreme Court Justice.

Before the election his supporters carefully put together a file on 400 of the most qualified Republican women, to be used when making Presidential appointments. On Inauguration Day, the file disappeared. It has never been found, and it wasn't even missed until nearly all the appointments had been made.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee may have refused to recommend Ernest Lefever for the State Department post of human rights advisor, but no matter. Instead he has simply been hired as a consultant by the same department and Secretary Haig is considering abolishing the position of human rights advisor.

It will be appropriate if he does. There will be no human rights advising going

on anyhow.

The June/July issue of *Backpacker* magazine contains a striking example of how half-truths can be used to manipulate public opinion.

Backpacker thought its readers would be interested in the views of our new Secretary of the Interior, so James Watt was invited to submit an article. He did, and here is how it begins:

"As the English found out 200 years ago, an American denied his freedom is an angry American indeed. The modern result of such treatment in the West takes many forms, one of the most obvious being the so-called 'Sagebrush Rebellion.'

"As one who took part in a few skirmishes in the Sagebrush Rebellion, I believe that these popular uprisings will subside as we who now manage government take the time and make the effort to work with people, consult with them, and treat them as friends and neighbors rather than adversaries..."

"Rebellions succeed only when there is something to rebel against. It is my intention to make the partnership between the citizen and his government real rather than theoretical. That will do more than anything else to defuse the Sagebrush Rebellion — by making it unnecessary to the objectives of the men and women of the West."

He never explains what the Sagebrush Rebellion is all about, and the innocent reader is left to imagine a heroic group of environmentalists protecting their land from rape and pillage. The truth is quite different.

The Sagebrush Rebellion is a collection of mining, drilling and grazing interests that have been "denied the freedom" to work on federal lands. Their specialty is bringing court cases against power plant emission controls, strip-mining regulations and grazing quotas.

The Rebellion's principal arm in court is the Mountain States Legal Foundation, formerly directed by Watt. Its major funding comes from a multi-millionaire of the New Right.

The innocent reader may soon be able to rest his backpack in the comforting shade of an oil well, courtesy of the Sagebrush Rebellion.

To further confuse the issue, a true "popular uprising" has begun in California and has been labeled the Seaweed Rebellion. Its goal is to stop Watt in his plans for offshore oil drilling.

Watt is unperturbed, and has vowed to proceed in California, the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic coast. The protest, he said, is a "classic example" of "narrow political interests" versus the "broad public interest."

These are evidently not the people he was talking about when he vowed to "treat them as friends and neighbors rather than adversaries."

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Resources for the Parent/Child Relationship

by Tana McLane

Becoming a mother is an experience far broader and far more inclusive than either the process of pregnancy or the act of giving birth. While those developments are wondrous and bring profound changes to a woman's life, it is when she realizes the ramifications of bringing a child into the world that she is truly transmuted into a mother. The baby arrives, and shortly she realizes the awesome pleasure and responsibility for helping the young one to survive, grow and become rests largely in her hands. For me, this has been the strongest change I have ever made.

I am a reader, churning through countless books on whatever subject is intrinsic to my current development. I am also grateful that I live in a time and have become a mother in a time when the very processes I go through are being charted by other women who have already tread these roads. Nothing helps like hearing or reading about the experiences of others' very like your own: how they coped and how these experiences added richly to their lives.

So, I would like to share seven books that have been immensely helpful to me in these first seven months of my son, Kevin's, life; the first seven months of my life as his mother.

First, once you have given birth, you come into the realization that you are now a mother-parent. There is a baby now filling your life. Simple as that sounds, it is always profound. If you are a first-time parent, you quickly realize that there is much that no one ever told you about a baby's needs, how to fulfill those needs, how to understand a newborn's primitive communications, and how a baby's body/mind/spirit develops. I highly recommend two books that are comprehensive guides for learning about this strange and interesting time, that will help you to increase your awareness as a parent (for mothers and fathers), and help your baby feel that s/he has some effect on her/his environment — through you, in your attentive responses:

Your Baby and Child, by Penelope Leach (Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., \$9.95, paper).

This book is the encyclopedia on early child development, as far as I'm concerned. Leach has organized an incredibly succinct body of information, complete with diagrams, suggestions, and how-to's on everything for the first five years of life. She concentrates heavily on the early newborn period, a time that can be overwhelming in its "differentness" from anything else you've ever experienced. Everything she suggested that I have tried has worked and made Kevin happier, proof of its helpfulness. Required reading; own your own copy and read it late at night or any time you need guidance.

The Well Baby Book, by Mike Samuels, M.D. and Nancy Samuels (Summit Books — a Simon & Schuster Division, \$9.95, paper).

Another excellent resource on infancy, by the co-author of *The Well Body Book*. It is a bridge between natural things to consider and do for a well baby and explanations of orthodox medicine. Real good in that it often explains both sides of medical issues, and demystifies much that you'll experience in the hands of doctors. An excellent section on breastfeeding, nutrition and child development, as well as in-depth information on the emotional aspects of rearing a child. Good skimming for what's appropriate to the moment.

After you've had your baby for awhile, you may begin to notice yourself as a person again, and to wonder who you are now that everything in your life has changed radically. Post partum takes everyone by surprise, no matter how many babies they have had. It transforms our sexuality, our relationships with everyone around us, and makes us aware of everything on entirely new levels. It can be a mixed time of extreme joy and confusion. You may wonder how you can embody so many contradictions at the same time. It helps to know that all this weirdness is normal, and that everyone's been there before who's ever given birth. Three books I highly recommend as pieces fitting into a whole, focusing on the process of becoming a mother/parent are:

Ourselves and our Children, by the Boston Women's Health Book Collective (Box 192, West Somerville, MA, 02144, \$6.95, paper).

This marvelous "experiential" book interviews parents of every age talking about children of every age. It is progressive in its outlook. It deals also with parenting gay children, society's impact on families, divorce and other issues parents face in the long process of rearing whole people. It is also a book that helped a lot when I was pregnant and trying to come to grips with my decision to bear a child and with what lay ahead.

The Post Partum Book, by Hank Pizer and Christine Garfink (Random House, \$9.95, cloth).

This little known book has been a tremendous help to me during the adjustments I have gone through in this time. It deals with the entire complexity of feelings and developments new parents go through during the first year of a baby's life. It deals well with the feelings and responses of fathers in a way no other source I know of has. At least a smattering of everything important about post partum is to be found here.

The Mother's Book, edited by Ronnie Friedland and Carol Kort (Houghton Mifflin Company, \$8.95, paper).

Another experiential book much like *Ourselves and Our Children*, but with essays. This book has been the key to some new understandings I have needed to find. Just about every thought I have had along my way is explored within this book, especially in the area of my creative self, my sexuality, and rearing an "only" child. I highly recommend this book. It is just out and speaks to the times we find ourselves mothering in. It recognizes the whole woman who must deal with her self as well as her children, and who hopes to make good sense of that experience. It is a book to read several months after the baby comes, when the basic tasks of taking care of the baby have become familiar and you begin to look outward again toward the rest of who you are.

And, of course, as your own experience of parenting begins to unfold, you will look around for guidance in child rearing itself. There is no one correct way to do anything concerning children, I am finding out. I've become a lot less judgemental about what parents do with their children to soothe them, to help them grow, because I am learning that parents must do what works.

A main concern of mine while raising Kevin is that he grow up as free of the patriarchal male role as possible, and that he be given the fullest range of expression of himself as a person as possible, without dogma and with little limitation. Patriarchal constructs injure all our children, male and female, and require them to shrink themselves to fit gender expectations. I want to see children grow into adults who are as broad as possible. Two excellent books dealing with this aspect of raising children are:

Right From the Start, by Selma Greenberg (Houghton Mifflin Company, \$4.95, paper).

This book is an exciting foray into a feminist view of child raising and is really easy to read. Free of rhetoric, it provides many answers and overall theory for dealing with children in a non-sexist manner, as well as specific ways to do such things as redefine fatherhood, break the housework/childrearing connection, and choose toys that are appropriate for child development rather than limited role playing. A must-read.

Growing Up Free, by Letty Cottin Pogrebin (MacGraw-Hill Publishing Company, \$15.95, cloth...soon to be out in paperback).

This fat book, hot off the presses, is subtitled *Raising Your Child in the 80's*, and that's what it's about. Pogrebin is the MS. editor who's responsible for the "Stories for Free Children" section. Her book is the non-sexist guidebook I wished for last year when I was pregnant. It is a 630-page book that I can hardly begin to do justice to here. It is simply the book every parent should be handed as soon as they realize that they are indeed becoming parents. Pogrebin has done eight years of research to bring us this book, and her stated purpose in doing so is to bring us a resource that will help us put our money where our mouths are — that is, raise our children in ways that reflect our new politics: our desire to raise children with a sense of themselves as equal people. She examines every important aspect of parenting, revealing the path which encourages such children, questioning everything from what we name our children, the effect of media on culture (images), to the subtle issue of how "different" to raise our children to be. The importance of this book cannot be overemphasized, and paying its relatively high price felt like tithing to a high order of parental wisdom, of which we all need a lot.

Parenting is largely a seat-of-your-pants, intuitive process, and I would not diminish the fun and importance of this aspect of it. Each of us has different children and we are different parents. But, hopefully, using some of these resources as guideposts will help us not only in dealing with our children and ourselves in our own private home lives, but will also, in time, provide a channel through which to begin the necessary dialogue in our community that we need in order to forge a link in raising children who may be the first step to a new society. As Letty Pogrebin said, "At this point in history, we cannot rear our children in a world free of sexism. But we can try our best to rear free children at the same time as we work to change the world. Our children cannot wait for the revolution." Amen.



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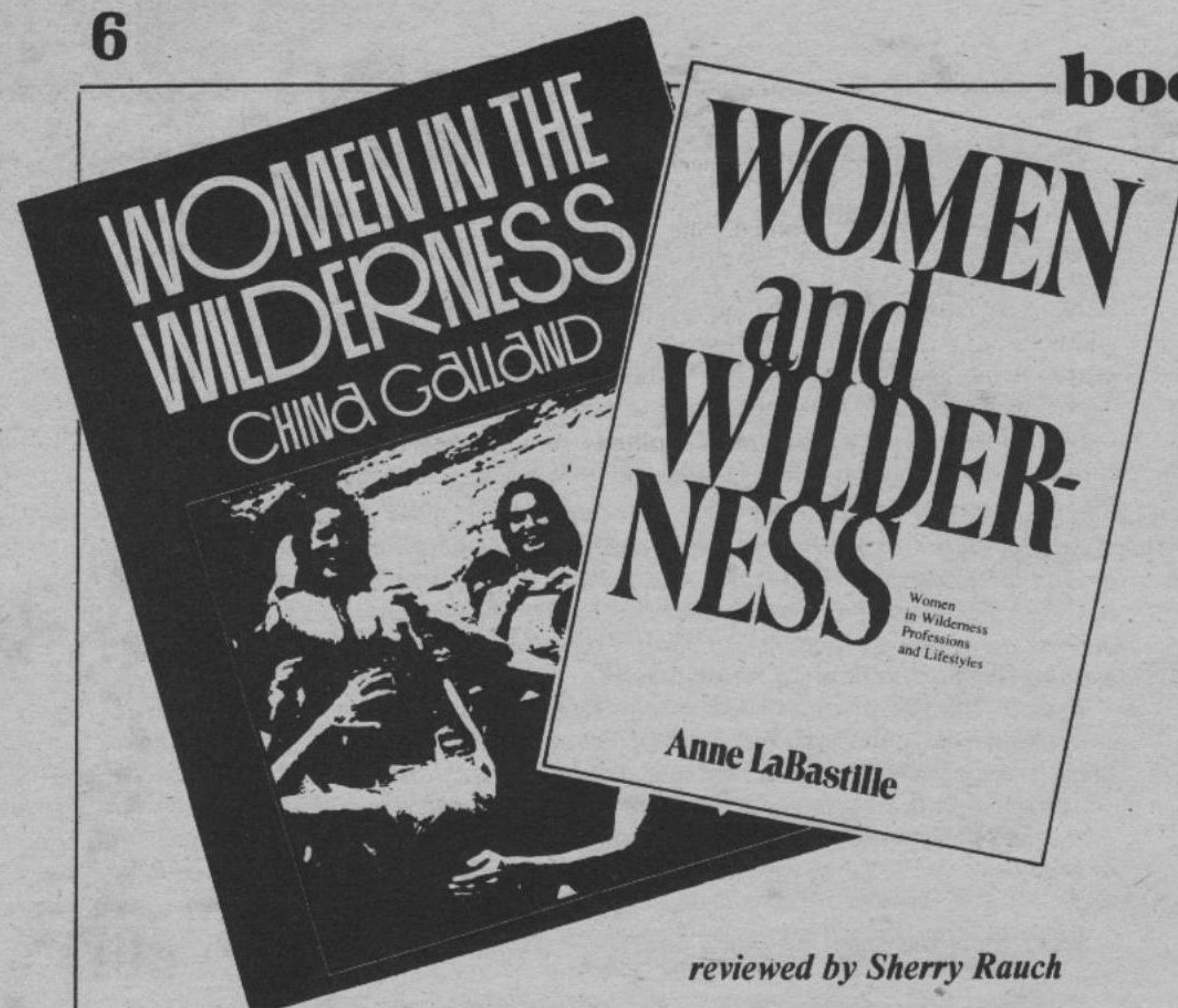
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reviewed by Sherry Rauch

When I said to a stranger at church one day after a sermon on the people following Moses into the wilderness:

"What does 'women in the wilderness' sound like to you?" And he said, "women who are lost and searching." No way were we lost! Not for a moment. We are women who are challenged and who are growing stronger day by day.

Laree Zierk, Participant in the first all women's Grand Canyon rafting trip

Most nature lovers have read or at least heard about the lives and outdoor experiences of Henry David Thoreau or John Muir. Many have seen the movie *Jeremiah Johnson*, about a man who shuns society to live alone in the Rocky Mountains. And everyone knows at least something about the early white male explorers that came to North America several hundred years ago. Rarely do we read about woman's relationship with the wilderness, her experience of living alone on mountain or island.

To fill this apparent void, two books were written in 1980; *Women and Wilderness*, by Anna LaBastille, and China Galland's book *Women in the Wilderness*. Both books provide the reader with a wide range of female outdoor experience, both offer inspiration and excitement. However, the two books were written from different values and assumptions, and it is these values and assumptions I wish to explore in-depth in this article. Although the two authors often cover the same areas, they come to different, and sometimes opposite, conclusions.

LaBastille's book *Women and Wilderness* is comprised of a few beginning chapters about how women viewed wilderness historically, both in literature and in reality. She then discusses her own experience of trying to become a professional in the outdoors and the obstacles she encountered. Part Two, the major bulk of her book, is comprised of interviews with fifteen women who have made their professions in the wilderness.

Part One of *Women and Wilderness* is disturbing at its worst and ignorant at its best. To begin with, the book starts off with the poem entitled, "Women" by Louis Bogan, the first stanza being:

"Women have no wilderness in them/ They are provident instead, /Content in the tight hot cell of their hearts/ To eat dusty bread."

She goes on to say that this may have been true when the author wrote the poem, or since European women came to North America, but that this has been changing in the past decade or so.

However, as any woman knows who had delved into "recent" women's literature about women in any given area, their apparent absence doesn't mean they haven't existed. It seems in LaBastille's case that she took the word of male scholars that, for the most part, these women did not exist, that women were frightened of the wilderness.

China Galland, on the other hand, starting out with the premise that there must have been women who loved the wilderness, found a doctoral dissertation entitled, "From Parlour to Tepee: The White Squaw and the American Frontier," by Dawn Gherman. Her dissertation examined the traditional image of woman on the frontier, contrasted it with what frontier women actually wrote about their experience, and showed the "differences between the way women recorded their frontier experience and the way men depicted them. There is often a wide discrepancy."

LaBastille also made the point that the West offered women the opportunity of "expanded roles," then quotes an article by J. Faragher and C. Stansell which said that, although the frontier, "in breaking down sexual segregation, offered women the opportunities of socially essential work," women were reluctant to accept the new roles. What is socially essential work? What is more essential than food preparation, child rearing, nursing the sick, etc.? And whose role was expanded? Was the frontier men's role to be expanded also, taking more responsibility for traditionally female work, or were women expected to still do that work plus work that men considered socially "essential"?

LaBastille minimizes the dual role of mother and adventurer in her interviews with the fifteen women. For example, she mentions that one of the women she

talked with didn't enjoy "going camping, hunting or backpacking with her babies when it meant having to change diapers in the woods, so she stayed home until her kids were at least partly grown." This seemed a significant point in discussing women in wilderness since most of the women interviewed were mothers, but LaBastille did not analyze it any further.

Her discussion of Native American and black women should also have been more extensive. The only Indian women mentioned were ones that helped white male explorers. How Native American women dealt with the wilderness, their skills, lack of fear, and spiritual connection with the world deserved greater attention. Black women's unique experience was not mentioned at all.

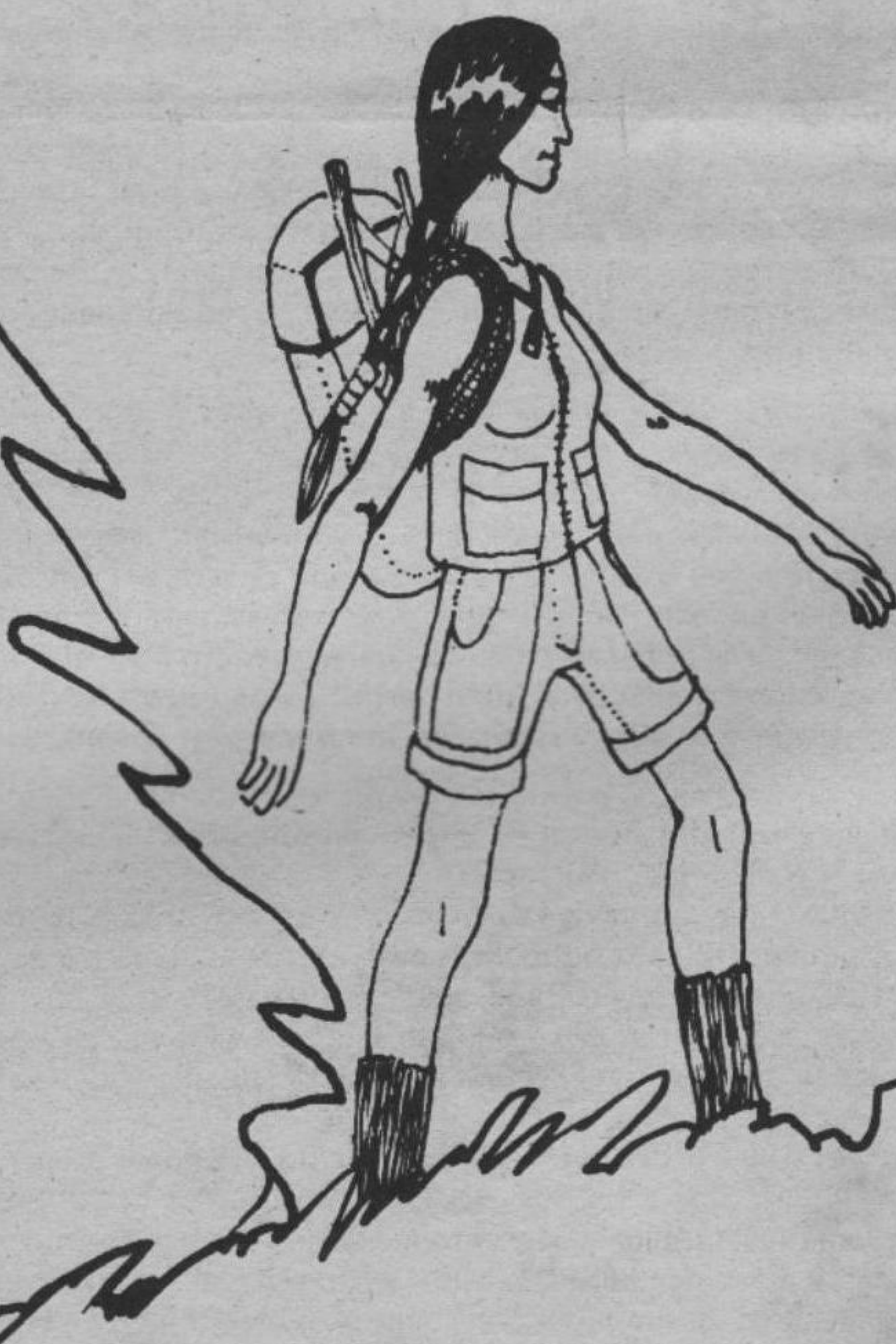
Galland dealt more extensively with Native Americans in general, and women in particular. She looked to the Indian experience for richness of culture and connection with the earth:

"It is the Native Americans who developed a spiritual practice from this land, and their mountains, their rivers. In a belief akin to Taoism they hold that the natural world is sacred and that we are inseparable from all that grows around us."

She vividly describes a ritual she took part in with several Souix women in a sweat lodge, a wilderness experience in an Oakland back yard. The woman in charge of the ceremony said in the beginning of the ritual:

"We are inside the womb of our mother. When we leave this womb we will be as we were when we left our mother's womb, newborn. We enter this lodge to purify ourselves, to pray for our people, to offer pipe. Hey Tekansile! Grandfather, Mother, we greet you, we give thanks for this life. Metakwease (meaning, all my realtions)."

Galland does not deal much with black women, either, although she does mention Billie Mason, "who crossed the continent on foot with her daughter and established her own homestead in California in the 1860's," and Rosalie Moore,



a modern woman involved with rafting and backpacking. Moore describes her experience:

"I feel alone quite often; my path is a particularly individual one. I know that I'm one of the few black people you've seen in the wilderness and that's how I feel, too. I have to stop and ask myself from time to time how come I've made my life away from other black people?... Gradually I've become more aware of how some of the aloneness that I encounter is self-created. And then some of it comes from following my own particular path, like going into the wilderness. That's just plain me."

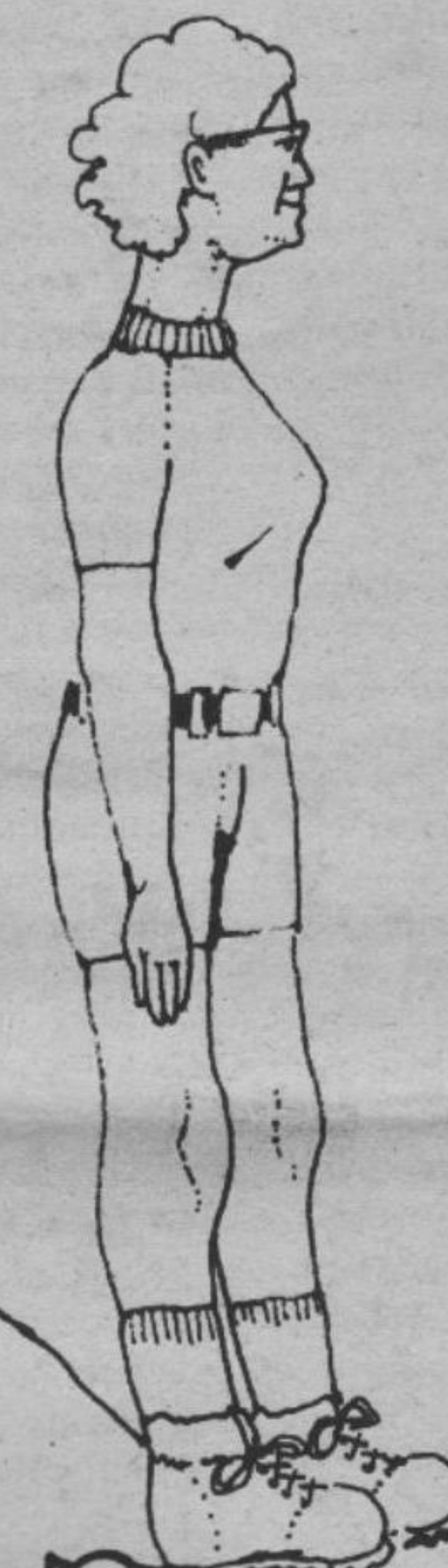
Whereas Galland seemed interested in a variety of women's experience with/in the wilderness, LaBastille chose to focus on white, often academically educated women.

LaBastille is more in her element when she discusses her experience in the chapter, "The Making of Professionals." In this chapter she discusses both her

excitement and frustration at trying to make a career in wildlife conservation. Although she says she was often encouraged by men, she goes on to say:

"My interpretation of the treatment we all received is that when a woman is inexperienced, young, and eager, men professionals are pleased to help her learn basic skills and knowledge almost as if she were a little sister or protege. But once she demonstrates her competence and determination to succeed in an all-male domain, she meets resistance and even jealousy."

It is in part Two that LaBastille is at her best, both as a writer and as an environmentalist. Her obvious delight in each woman is contagious and her brief sketch of each woman's work, personality, and how she became the woman she is today gives just enough information for the reader to begin dreaming of her/his own possible adventures. The women interviewed included a freelance writer/biologist in the Aleutian Islands, an environmental activist, a woman who lived by herself on one of Georgia's barrier islands, and a log cabin builder.



The concluding chapter of *Women and Wilderness* contains several of LaBastille's overriding values that run throughout the entire book. For instance, she consistently emphasized each woman's relationship with men, to the point of making the following homophobic remark:

"I did not notice any bitterness in these wilderness women toward men. Regardless of marital status — some were single, some divorced (up to four times), and some widowed — all but one of the profiled women clearly enjoyed heterosexual relationships."

And what if they didn't enjoy heterosexual relationships, but rather lesbian relationships — would this invalidate her wilderness experience? She also makes the assumption that lesbians are "bitter" toward men.

Another major theme in the book was the "burden of proof" imposed on the women by the outside world, as well as by the women themselves. The best example of this is in the discussion of encountering men in the wilderness, the threat of being raped or molested. Of the women she interviewed,

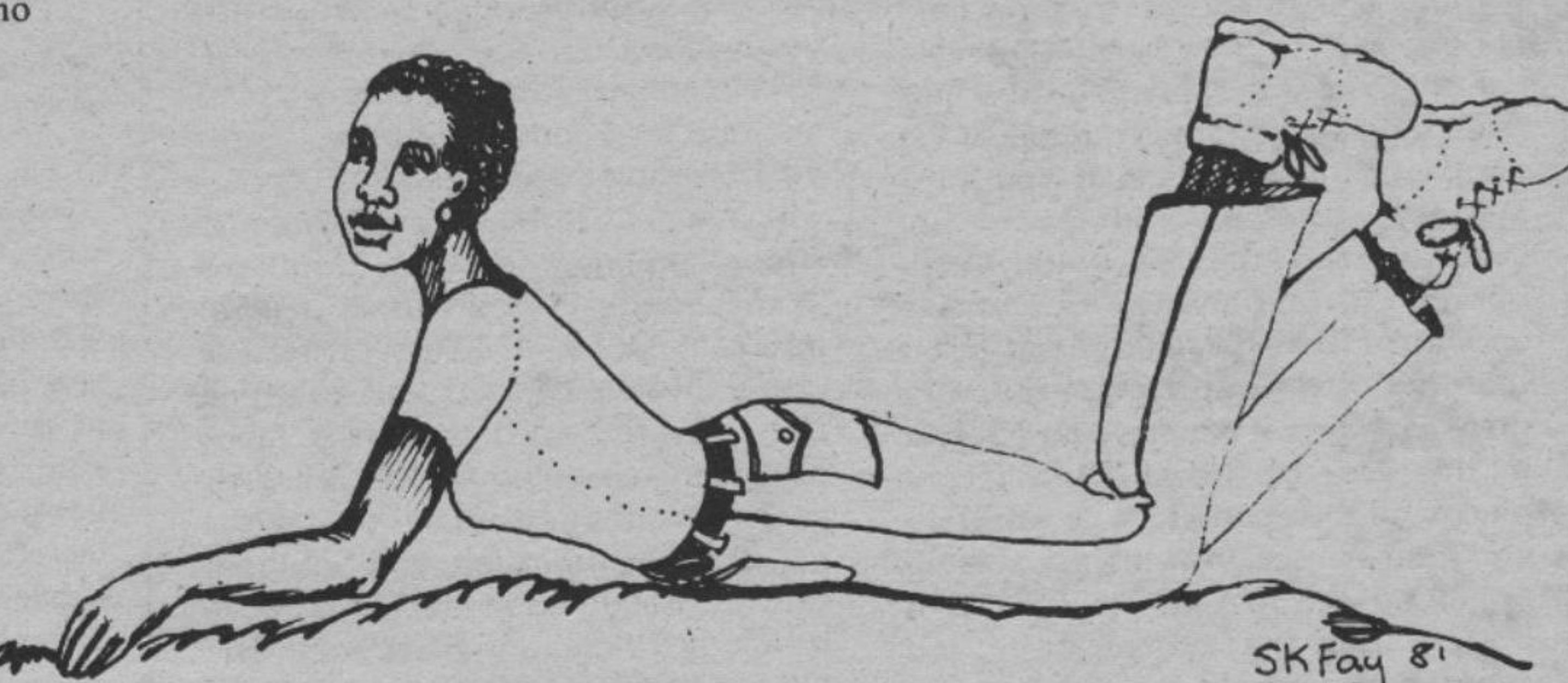
"...a good many stated that if a woman acts professional, competent and polite, men will normally respond in kind and treat her with respect and courtesy."

It would seem that men should treat women with "respect and courtesy" regardless of any display of credentials. The constant proving of oneself was never examined as a social phenomenon in women's lives.

China Galland's book *Women in the Wilderness* is different in both format and content from LaBastille's. To begin with, the book is written in the form of a rutter, "a book kept by a ship's pilot for navigation in the days before there were reliable maps of the world, in the thirteenth through the sixteenth centuries." Galland expands on the idea of the rutter by including her personal feelings and inner processes as well as descriptions of actual wilderness trips.

It is her content, however, that qualitatively differs from that of *Women and Wilderness*. LaBastille basically sees herself and the women she interviews as "exceptional" women. She went as far as saying one of the women was an "ordinary housewife" before the woman got involved in the outdoors. Galland focuses more on less outstanding women and how they can teach other new skills. Her philosophy seems to stem from what Adrienne Rich described as "creating the conditions for work":

"And beyond the exchange and criticism of work, we have to ask ourselves how we can make the conditions of work more possible, not just for ourselves, but for each other. This is not a question of generosity. It is rather what Whitman called the "hunger for equals" — the desire for a context in which our own strivings will be amplified, quickened, lucified, through those of our peers."



So while LaBastille writes about women trying to break into traditionally male fields, often being the only woman in a class or on an expedition, Galland describes all-women expeditions, the processes the women went through, how they literally led each other by the hand through experiences once thought of as frightening.

The first two chapters consist of excerpts from Galland's journal written during the Grand Canyon rafting trip and the ocean kayaking trip in the Sea of Cortez. The excerpts reveal the excitement of the women involved in the trips, how they pushed their physical capabilities beyond where they ever imagined they could, and the beauty of much of what they saw. But not all women were left with such positive experiences. Galland describes the following incident:

"...After dinner I am sitting in the boats with the guides when suddenly one of the women runs up along the beach screaming at the top of her lungs at us: 'I paid my money for you to make me happy, and I'm not and it's all your fault. Get me out of here. I want a helicopter.'

Here was a woman who had been talked into making the trip. I suppose she was suffering the consequences of not having made the decision for herself. Being with women only was a new and frightening experience for her, and the Canyon itself is an intense experience. Though I tried to talk with her, she refused to speak with me since I was 'responsible' for her unhappiness in having organized the trip."

Galland spends the rest of the book describing less obvious and sensational aspects of women wilderness. In her chapter "The Pattern of the Winds," she and her friends explore what the heroic means for women. A women's mountain climbing expedition is discussed, but so is the woman who raised her children alone, or the Argentine woman who has had five family members killed by the junta.

Galland also describes how she incorporated wilderness experience with special occasions, such as organizing a trip out to sea after the death of a friend's six-year-old child so that the mother could dispose of his ashes in the ocean he loved, or the building of a menstruation hut for her daughter at Point Reyes National Seashore. But Galland also believes you can have a wilderness experience in your own back yard:

"Do you know where the nearest park is and how to get there?... What plants and trees grow in your neighborhood? What birds and animals live by... If you have a back yard, you can sleep in it to begin with. Watch the moon, learn its phases... Go for a walk under the full moon with a friend."

Women have had and are still having an important relationship with the wilderness. Both LaBastille and Galland have significantly added to the exposure of this relationship. Galland, in particular, stressed the connectedness of all things. I believe she would appreciate the following passage from Susan Griffin's book *Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her*:

"...I love this bird, when I see, the arc of her flight, I fly with her with my mind, leave myself, die for an instant, live in the body of this bird whom I cannot live without, as part of the body of the bird will enter my daughter's body, because I know I am made from this earth, as my mother's hands were made from this earth, as her dreams came from this earth and all I know, I know in this earth, the body of the bird, this pen, this paper, these hands, this tongue speaking, all that I know speaks to me through this earth and I long to tell you, you who are earth too, and listen as we speak to each other what we know: the light is in us."

Progressive Periodicals Reviewed

Part I:

Last issue I announced that I wanted to start a resource list of alternative/progressive publications being read by our readers. Kerry Dexter was one of the first readers to respond, and here are the three nutshell reviews she submitted. Please consider this an invitation to participate in this ongoing project. Look for more next issue.

—Tana McLane

by Kerry Dexter

Modern Life and Work, published by Council of the Southern Mountains, Drawer N, Clintwood, Virginia 24228. \$5.00 for one year (11 issues).

For 25 years this magazine has been reporting on the struggles of the people of the Appalachian South for Dignity, justice, and economic security, and they've gotten very good at it. The articles are concise and full of facts, as well as first person insights from those personally involved. Even if you have no interest in this area of the country, recent pieces on the economics of workfare and food stamps, how the purchasing policies of the TVA affects the cost of power, and the organization and success of a newly formed hospital worker's union could give you ideas for application here in north Florida. The magazine also includes job listings with alternative groups in Appalachia; notices of conferences, meetings, craft shows, etc; book reviews and new book listings from the CSM bookstore, which carries a large stock of homestead/craft publications as well as regional material, and operates an extensive (and very efficient) mail order service. The magazines slant is pro-co-op, pro-union, anti-nuke, pro-grassroots action/involvement of all kinds. The articles are short and practical, and often include suggestions for local action and addresses of people to write to about pending legislation. The Council of the Southern Mountains is non-profit, hence the low subscription price, and for amounts ranging from \$10 on up, one can become a member of the council and support its work in addition to subscribing to the magazine. They will send a sample copy on request, and a donation to cover the cost of it would be appreciated.

Southern Exposure, P.O.

Box 531, Durham, North Carolina, 22702. Previously a quarterly, now changing to bi-monthly publication, new subscription price is about \$18 yearly (6 issues).

This magazine is the journal of the Institute for Southern Studies, a non-profit educational/research group which is concerned with reviving and strengthening progressive traditions in the South. In addition to general interest issues, *Southern Exposure* also publishes thematic issues which have covered such topics as labor organizing, worker health, nuclear power, working women, the sports industry, the new Klan, and Southern music. Each issue includes both scholarly articles and first person oral history type accounts from those involved in the subjects covered. Also included are book reviews, news briefs, and a bibliography of new books on the region. The publication is liberally illustrated with graphics and photography. The contributors represent diverse viewpoints, but the editorial tone is generally progressive. The Leon County Public Library subscribes to *Southern Exposure* and has a limited number of back issues available and it is also sold at the Book Co-op.

Koinonia Newsletter, Route 2, Americus, Georgia, 31709. Free, donations appreciated.

Koinonia Partners is a community of about 350 people living in rural Georgia not far north of here. They have been going for more than 35 years and "are committed to living out the radical teachings of Jesus...peace, human kindness, sharing and simplicity." They have operated low-cost housing construction projects for local low income residents, a child care center, a pottery and handcraft center. Their main form of self support is through mail order sale of peanut/pecan/granola products

continued page 10

An Instant Garden

by Bill Lyons

If you've been thinking about starting a garden but aren't sure about the work involved, the tools needed, etc., there is a way to start and maintain a garden with little work and virtually no tools.

The method was developed to conform to the principle put forth by practitioners of natural farming: that the soil must not be disturbed. It also utilizes one of our society's most abundant by-products: newspaper.

The basic principle is to cover a plot of ground where you wish to garden with thick layer of organic matter. The existing plant system is denied light and will die and decay under the mulch. The vegetables (or flowers) which you wish to grow are planted in the thick mulch, and as they develop send their roots down through the newspaper to the soil beneath which is enriched by the organic nutrients provided by the decaying plants and mulch.

It sounds simple, and it is.

To begin, just decide where you want to plant. Even a small area only 4 ft by 4 ft will grow plenty of greens. Make sure it has plenty of sunlight, or will have in the fall. A little shade at the height of summer isn't bad at all.

After you've determined where you want to plant, water the area thoroughly. If the weeds are tall, stamp or cut them down. At this point you can spread a little fertilizer on the ground in the form of table scraps, and if you have access to some, a few handfuls of rock phosphate or granite dust. Do not use chemical fertilizers, they'll just kill the earthworms.

Next, take sheets of newspaper, making sure to use only pages without color printing (these might have lead), and spread them over the area. Overlap the sheets to insure that no light can get through. Wet the newspaper down, also.

The next step is to spread a six-inch layer of mulch over the newspapers. The mulch may be composed of any loose organic matter such as grass clippings, hay, leaves, pine needles, wood chips, uncompleted compost. Just make sure to pile it on nice and thick.

Your planting bed is now ready. To plant seeds or seedlings in your garden you must have on hand a quantity of prepared compost. For those who are



not in the habit of making compost, you can usually obtain composted cow manure from a nursery, or even potting soil will do in a pinch. To plant, push the mulch aside and set the seed or seedling on the newspaper in a handful of compost (or whatever you're using). Tuck the mulch back around the plant or over where the seed will sprout, give it a little water and you're done.

The plant's initial growth will take place using the nutrients in the compost and then as it matures the roots will grow down through the paper into the soil beneath. Similarly with seeds; they will sprout up through the mulch and down through the paper to the soil. Observe your plants to see when they need water, and check the soil beneath the paper from time to time to make sure it is moist. The heavy mulch is good for conserving moisture and in this climate a well-mulched garden need hardly be watered at all.

With this type of garden you don't need to plant in rows. In fact, the best way is to plant randomly as if the plants were growing naturally. Don't bother about bugs and diseases. If a plant dies, just plant another. Keep recycling your kitchen waste by placing it under the mulch. It will decay quickly, providing nutrients to your plants. In a few months the newspaper will be gone (the mulch decays too, and you'll have to keep adding to it), and, from that point, simply plant seeds directly in the ground beneath the mulch.

Now is the time to begin a fall garden — something possible only in our benign climate. In August, plant snap beans, collards, cucumbers, onions, turnips, and tomatoes. In September, plant more of the same plus beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, endive, lettuce and mustard.

Note: This method is described in more detail in *Organic Gardening*, March 1981, p. 75. See also the books *Permaculture I* and *Permaculture II* by Bill Mollison.

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by Bob Hornyak

In April of 1981 Co-op Books and Records, Tallahassee's oldest co-op, completed a decade of operations — a considerable achievement in an economic system where 8 out of 10 small businesses fail. Its first decade has been characterized by rapid growth and expansion, tumultuous battles for control of the organization and, unfortunately, devastating losses. The co-op begins the second decade during the most serious economic crisis of its 10 year history, its survival in question.

The co-op was organized by a group of students, faculty, and community members who came together in 1970 to provide a local outlet for progressive and alternative literature which could not be found in existing bookstores. A non-profit corporation, Community Literature, Inc. was established, with starting capital of about \$1,000 raised by selling memberships. The co-op began business in April of 1971, Co-op Bookstore, a shoestring operation that was staffed solely with volunteer labor. Later, the floor space was expanded from 350 to 600 sq. ft., and records were added to the merchandise carried. With the addition of records, the name was changed to Co-op Books and Records, and the co-op was able to pay wages to some staff.

As a result of rising record sales, the record business was moved two doors away to its present location in a 1,500 ft. storefront called Co-op Records. The record store quickly grew to become the largest record store in Tallahassee, offering a wide selection of music at the lowest prices available.

Two years later, in May of 1976, the co-op set up a third business, Looking Forward Distributors — a record distributorship located at the present site of the Good Life General Store. This distributorship was formed to provide Co-op Records with a greater discount in obtaining records. In 1977, a warehouse with office space was purchased for \$148,000 at 730 W. Gaines St. Looking Forward used a part of this space, part was rented out, and a portion set aside as a Community Resource Center.

The three year period from 1974 to 1977 was marked by a phenomenal growth in income. At the end of fiscal 1974 (the co-op's fiscal year ends on March 31) Community Literature, Inc. had a total income of \$93,500. At the end of fiscal 1977, sales had increased to \$877,000. This was almost a ten-fold increase in 3 years. Sales would double again in the next two years and reach a peak of 1.7 million in the fiscal year ending March 1979. Almost overnight the co-op grew from a small storefront into a substantial business.

Unfortunately, sales were not the only aspect of the co-op's financial picture to change. Expenses also climbed dramatically, and the seeds of the current financial crisis were planted. Expenses grew in three different areas, mortgages and rent, payroll, and subsidies. These expenses would prove to be very difficult for the co-op to control.

Voluntary labor was replaced by paid employees, who ultimately filled 15 full time and part-time positions. Also, wages increased from a subsistence minimum wage level to a higher pay scale, especially for management. In addition, the number of managers was

increased to 4, which raised the cost of management to \$42,000 annually. The co-op warehouse was operated at a loss in cash flow in the amount of \$10-12,000 yearly, although some of this was accumulated equity. The record store rented additional space, which doubled its rent. Finally, the co-op began lending and granting funds to a variety of community groups and organizations.


From 1976 to 1980 the co-op poured approximately \$6,000 per year into community organizations.

All of these expenses were paid out of the profits generated by the record business. Because Co-op Books had never been a profitable business, it required subsidy from the record business. The funds for all of these expenses primarily came from the gross profit margin on record store sales, which amounted to only 20% of the store's total sales. The sales of the record distributorship, Looking Forward Distributors, generated little profit because it sold its records almost at cost. Thus, the burden of the expenses and overhead of Community Literature, Inc. was carried by the profit generated by sales at Co-op Records.

Two events contributed to a decline in sales at Co-op Records. First, record companies began escalating record prices during 1978-1979, pricing them out of the reach of many people. Secondly, a national record store chain opened a competing store a few blocks away from Co-op Records. These two events contributed to a decline in record store sales, and declining sales resulted in declining profits. Community Literature then crossed the line where expenses became greater than gross profits, and began to lose money.

Because of excessive overhead and decreased sales, the co-op began to fall behind in paying its suppliers, and eventually its suppliers stopped shipping records. The decreased selection, especially of new releases, further accelerated the decline in sales. Meanwhile, expenses remained the same.

The co-op was very slow to adjust to decreased income. Subsidies to community groups were not stopped until 1980. Other expense cuts were not completed until 1981, two years after the beginning of the financial crunch. The co-op warehouse was sold, which eliminated its operating losses. The record store reduced its space requirements, which slashed rent in half. The greatest savings resulted from reducing payroll to the equivalent of 5 fulltime positions, and none of which receive the wages that managers received two years earlier.



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Co-op Books needs investment to finance growth in textbook sales. With at least \$15,000, and preferably \$25-50,000, Co-op Books and Records could reverse the current decline and become profitable again. With more capital the recovery would occur more quickly and completely.

Thus, fundraising has now become the major priority of the co-op. The benefit held in May raised \$1,700, and there have been some small personal loans made. These monies have helped pacify creditors. Much more is needed, and the co-op staff encourages members of the community to assist and contribute what they can.



by Patience Ruth Gaia

ANNOUNCING! ANNOUNCING!!
The next quarterly membership meeting of the Leon County Food Co-op will be Sunday, August 2nd at the Miccosukee Land Co-op Community Center. Covered dish meal at 12:00 noon, and the meeting will be from 1 to 4 pm precisely, so that the land co-op's music and dancing benefit can begin at 4:00pm.

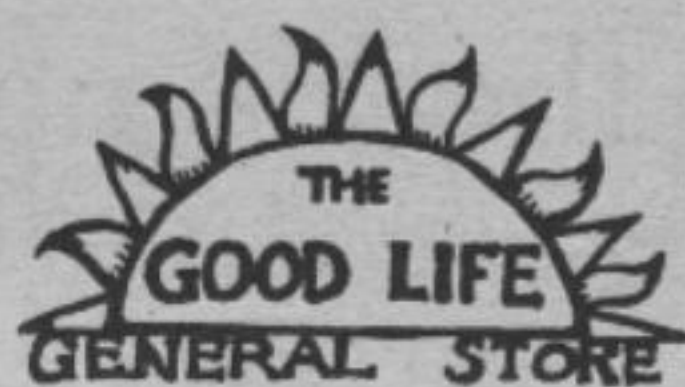
Some topics for the meeting are: presentation by the all-member workshop (AMW), finding an alternate delegate for the Magnolia Conference, finding an alternate recording secretary for the BOD meetings, reporting on our recently approved budget for the fiscal year 81/82, and election of four BOD members. So, come on out to the country this Sunday afternoon and enjoy! Childcare provided and carpooling available — check at the food co-op for more information.

Folks, our moratorium on loans, grants and donations is still in effect. We have a policy addressing this and we now have a budget to work with, but we still do not have an application and review process for considering requests. Again, we have had to deny even considering a recent request for a loan because we are not fully prepared to effectively, informatively, and

intelligently deal with the decision to grant or not to grant such requests. This task is moving slowly for us right now, so if you have the energy and desire to work on this issue, it would benefit us all greatly.

One of the major tasks we've been dealing with lately is our staff's pay and benefits. Rather than a merit raise this year, each of the staff will be getting a bonus in appreciation of the absolutely superb job they are and have been doing in the store. We are very happy to have such an effective, cooperative, and innovative group of people to run our co-op on a daily basis. So, to further compensate them for their work, we are putting together a benefit package to include better insurance coverage and clear policies on vacations, sick leave, leaves of absence, maternity/paternity leave, and educational benefits. All this should be coming together really soon. Maybe by the next BOD meeting!

And the next BOD meeting will be Tuesday, August 25th, 7:30pm at United Ministries Center. You can find (and post) the date, time and place of cooperative-related business, issues and events on the new calendar that is located on the inside of the front door of the food co-op. Check it out and see what's happening!!!



by Tom Kelley

The Good Life General Store Co-op now has a Troy Bilt, Horse Model rototiller. This fine machine will be available to members of Good Life for \$3.00 per hour or \$20.00 per day. It comes with a furrowing attachment which is real handy for planting potatoes, etc.

A new product of interest to gardeners and house plant enthusiasts is Safers Insecticidal Soap. This soap is a contact

insecticide. It effectively controls aphids, mealybugs, whitefly, soft scales, true bugs, earwigs, spider mites, and other insects. It is safe for beneficial insects, plants and, unless ingested, mammals.

Our next general membership meeting will be held sometime in September, so keep your eyes open for posters announcing this event. Four BOD seats and the position of secretary will be up for election. All members are urged to attend and consider running for the above positions. These positions must be filled in order for Good Life to continue to operation.



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Peacework in Tallahassee

by Ira Shorr

At times my preoccupation with political reality permeates my subconscious and won't let me rest even in sleep. Recently a two-headed Dan Rather gave me this scoop in stereo:

"Because the planet earth currently contains the equivalent of more than 1 million Hiroshima nuclear bombs, or some 13 billion tons of TNT, and because the button is in the hands of megalomaniacs like Alexander Haig, the National Wildlife Foundation has officially declared human beings an 'endangered species'. Save the Humans posters are being printed with traditional pictures of this ostrich-like species with heads buried in bars, beer cans and television sets."

Dr. Helen Caldicott (author of

"Nuclear Madness") feels "the majority of Americans are sound asleep" and thus apathetic when it comes to opposing the nuclear arms race. But Tallahassee has a cure for the comatose.

The Tallahassee Peace Coalition continues its evolution with the opening of our office in Room 15 of the First Presbyterian Church on the corner of Adams and Park. The office serves as a focus for community education and action on issues that relate to peace and justice.

The nations of the world spend over \$1 billion a day to prepare for war while more than 500 million people do not have enough food to eat. We are the ones who must change this focus from nukes to nutrition.

What the Coalition Does

What does the Tallahassee Peace Coalition do?

1. Hold monthly meetings. Pot-luck suppers begin about 7:00 pm at the United Ministries Center (548 W. Park Ave.) on the second monday of every month—the next meeting is August 10. Discussion of ideas and upcoming projects follows. Occasionally we view slideshows or films. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings.
2. Publishes a Newsletter. The Newsletter is published on the first Monday of each month. It contains articles on peace-related activities and concerns, especially in the Tallahassee area. Information and articles are welcomed (please have info in a week before publishing date). Subscriptions are \$2.50 per year. Send all checks and mail to: Tallahassee Peace Coalition, P.O. Box 20168, Tallahassee, FL 32304.
3. Outreach programs. A number of Peace Coalition members are willing and able to speak with churches, school classes, and civic groups on peace-related topics: the arms race; the draft and conscientious objection; military spending and the economy; nuclear power and weapons; foreign intervention (i.e. in El

Salvador); the social and psychological effects of militarism; and the establishment of a National Peace Academy. We have excellent slideshows on some of these subjects to go along with the presentation.

4. Draft counseling. Registration for the draft is now taking place. We are helping youths to think through their beliefs about war, to become familiar with alternatives to military induction, and to know their legal rights regarding registration (or non-registration), deferments and conscientious objection. "Conscientious Objection and the Draft" literature packets are available on request.

5. Peace Library. During the year-and-a-half existence of the Coalition, we have collected a number of books, periodicals and articles on peace and justice issues. About 30 current periodicals are either donated by individuals or subscribed to by the Coalition. Books can be checked out for personal research. Come by the office.

6. Networking. The Tallahassee Peace Coalition works with other national peace organizations in coordinating activities and programs. A number of campaigns are underway nationwide to reverse the trend toward military machoism: the Nuclear Freeze Campaign, Jobs With Peace Initiatives, National Peace Academy Campaign, stopping military aid to El Salvador, the World Peace Tax Fund, and others.

Office Hours: Monday, 9 am - 2 pm; Tuesday, 9 am - Noon; Wednesday, Noon - 2 pm; Friday, 9 am - 2 pm. Telephone: 222-5845.

We can use for the office: file cabinets, periodical shelves, bulletin boards, and, of course, financial contributions.

Periodicals, from page 8

which they grow and process at their farm. The newsletter reports on different aspects of their cooperative activities and self-sufficiency projects, often with practical details of difficulties encountered. Of interest to those concerned with co-ops, community and rural self-sufficiency.

Harrowsmith, Camden House Publishing Ltd, Camden East, Ontario, Canada K0K 1J0, \$10 for one year (8 issues).

This is commonly called the Canadian version of *The Mother Earth News*, but actually it is somewhat

different in scope. It is directed to back-to-the-landers and each issue has several good practical articles useful to the homesteader, but it also contains, for example, an investigation of "Quebec's answer to the Loch Ness Monster" and a long account of a backpacking trip to Canada's Yukon in a recent issue. There are also articles on home businesses and cooking/gardening sections. The magazine also maintains a book order department including Canadian alternative publications not much known in the U.S. Excellent graphics appear throughout, and *Harrowsmith* seems to be refreshingly without the shrill survivalist politics lately prominent in *Mother Earth*.

☆ Come to the Membership Meeting August 2

at the Miccosukee Land Co-op Community Center.

Covered dish at noon — meeting from 1:00 - 4:00

(Stick around for the Land Co-op Benefit from 4 pm on — music, dancing, & food)

On the agenda: An All Member Workshop presentation, 4 Board of

Director seats elected, plus more exciting business matters!

Childcare and carpooling available — call 222-9916



☆ Next B.O.D. meeting is Tuesday, Aug. 25, 7:30 pm at United Ministries Ctr. (corner of Park & Copeland). No one will be turned away.

Childcare available at the Food Co-op for shoppers or workers Saturday 10-12 and 4-6. If folks use the service we will consider increasing the hours child care is available.

Come to our enlightening
non-mandatory orientation sessions
and get work credit!

222-9916

M-F: 10-7

Sat.: 10-6

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Crusader for Local Ecology

by Ira Shorr

Apalachicola Bay looks like Florida should. There are no concrete artifacts to block its beauty. The Bay's wide expanse allows one to dream and take flight from the constrictions of urban disease. On a planet wasting away in its own pollution this pristine magnificence still allows on to hope. But the observer had best keep a watchful eye, this area is a war zone.

Robert "Skip" Livingston's office, in the basement of the biology building at Florida State University, is piled high with facts and figures. They translate into a decade of research on the Apalachicola Bay and the Apalachicola River that feeds it. Livingston has a cup of coffee in one hand and a telephone in the other. He is a large man with a gentle air.

Livingston reassures Charles Lee of the Florida Audubon Society. He agrees to help Audubon take an environmental stand and then offers a request of his own.

"I'm going to need you, Charlie. We just found out that Seminole Electric wants to put a power plant on the Apalachicola River. You know what that means, acid rain and all. Just be ready and I'll let you know when I find out more."

Livingston deposits the receiver and smiles weakly. He is the harried commander fending off assaults on the Apalachicola system. This is mission control and after ten years it's like the war has just begun.

Skip Livingston practices what he teaches. As a professor of environmental ecology in the Department of Biological Science at Florida State, Livingston literally leads students from the confines of the lab to the larger classroom of nature. Since 1971 some 850 undergraduate and graduate students, under Livingston's guidance, have participated in "The Apalachicola Experiment". From the fish in the bay to the forests that line it, Livingston and his students set out to research and document all they could find out about one of the most productive and unspoiled areas in America.

Apalachicola Bay, eighty miles southwest of Tallahassee, contributes 80 to 90% of all Florida's oysters and its fish industry adds \$50 million a year to the state's economy. Skip Livingston will be the first to remind you that this bounty comes from a renewable resource. "If we leave it alone it will keep producing," says Livingston. "Here is one river valley that hasn't been dammed, diked, ditched, drained or polluted."

It was the threat of such "progress" that inspired the scientist in Livingston to gather all the facts he could on the ramifications of change in the Apalachicola

valley. For him facts are power and he organized a lobbying effort to utilize scientific planning as part of a multi-disciplinary approach to development.

Livingston feels that the scientist's role has been woefully and willfully neglected. Once the resources of an area are located and understood, and the results of development are analyzed, then growth can take place without scarring nature. This might make us richer in natural resources but it often limits profits.

Since the early 1970's the Apalachicola system has been under the constant threat of man's insatiable appetite to shape nature in his own image. Shipping and industrial interests have lobbied ardously for massive damming projects that would turn the Apalachicola River into a barge canal, reeking much environmental havoc and seriously affecting Florida's fishing industry. The shippers had the money but Skip Livingston had the facts. The Apalachicola is still dam free.

Driving into Apalachicola is like wandering onto an old set of "The Twilight Zone". The old Gibson Hotel rests at the entrance to town with its greying red shingles spotted white. The front porch has been eaten away by time and the "closed" sign is redundant. A clapboard message in the center of main street reminds one "PTA Meeting Tonight." The only new buildings in town are the bank and a law office.

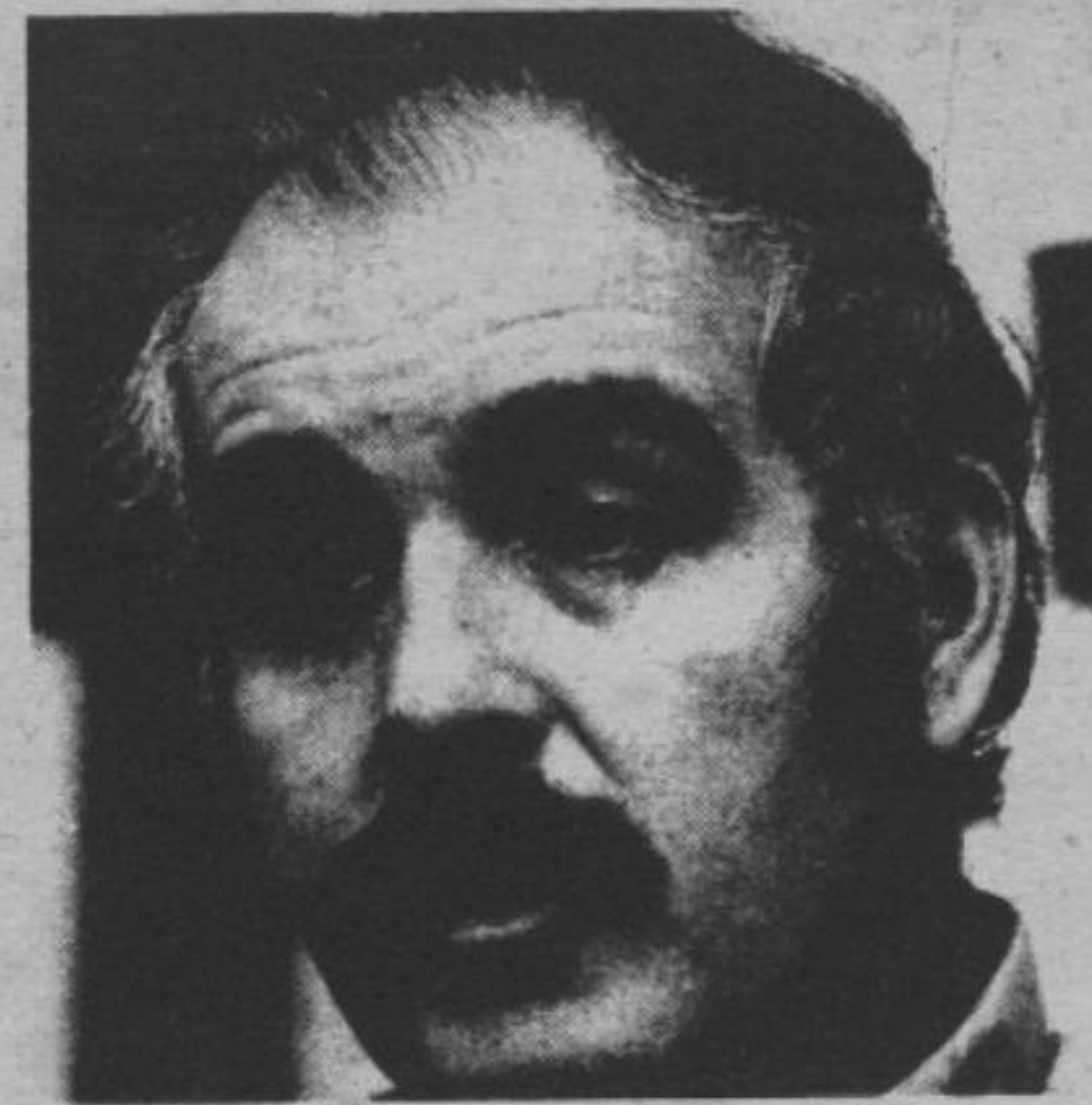
Most of the people I spoke with in Apalachicola were wary but not opposed to development. They expressed the need for more diversions and jobs so young people wouldn't feel forced to leave. They also said they were afraid that if development began it would spread like a fungus and leave the town looking like Cape Canaveral or Tallahassee. A fisherman whose experience could be read in the lines on his face spoke of the dead fish he had seen when DDT was used up-river. He wanted his water kept clean. One old man said, "Apalachicola can't get any better, it can only get worse."

Rosalee has lived in Apalachicola all of her 60 years and expressed her hope that if people from outside areas moved in they would respect the natural beauty. I asked her if she had heard of Skip Livingston and she thought for a moment and said: "Environment."

"My experience in Apalachicola showed me two things," says Livingston. "You have to have a firm, objective, scientific basis and you have to have the hearts and trust of the people who live in the area. If you don't you're dead."

Livingston worked hard to secure that trust by taking to the river and talking to

the people who made their living from it. He spoke of the importance of the entire Apalachicola system, the river valleys and associated wetlands, the swamps, marshes, oyster bars, flood plains and barrier islands; all working together to form an abundantly rich ecosystem. To the people of Franklin County (which encompasses Apalachicola) this was more



than an idealistic environmental generalization, it was their life blood Livingston was describing. They came together to help save the river.

With the help of Franklin County officials, Skip Livingston spread the word from Tallahassee to Washington. The Apalachicola Experiment (a term that highlights the uniqueness of this multi-disciplinary approach) has offered Florida environmentalists one ray of sunshine in a state that *Sports Illustrated* recently described as "going down the tube." In

1979 Congress established the Apalachicola River and Bay Estuarine Sanctuary. State and Federal monies have together been used to purchase over 240,000 acres. Despite these efforts Apalachicola is still on the cutting edge of developmental destruction.

The national message of the Reagan administration under Secretary of the Interior James Watt is sell the environment today and don't worry about tomorrow. In response to this threat environmental groups have come together to buck the tide. Livingston is part of a national team of ecologists who are struggling to keep North Florida safe from acid rain, population, pollution, and the selfish interests of industrialists.

The closer to home Livingston gets the more disenchanted he becomes. "I'll be honest with you, I sort of gave up on Leon County. There are too many Foreigners here and I don't believe people give a damn."

Livingston reiterates his frustration on the lack of scientific input in what he refers to as the county's "non-plan." He cites the over dependence on engineers who are not trained to recognize the impact of urbanization. But the ultimate responsibility lies with the public. "People will accept anything as long as it happens gradually," said Livingston. "A tree here, a lake there, and eventually you've got Miami. It's the American way of development."

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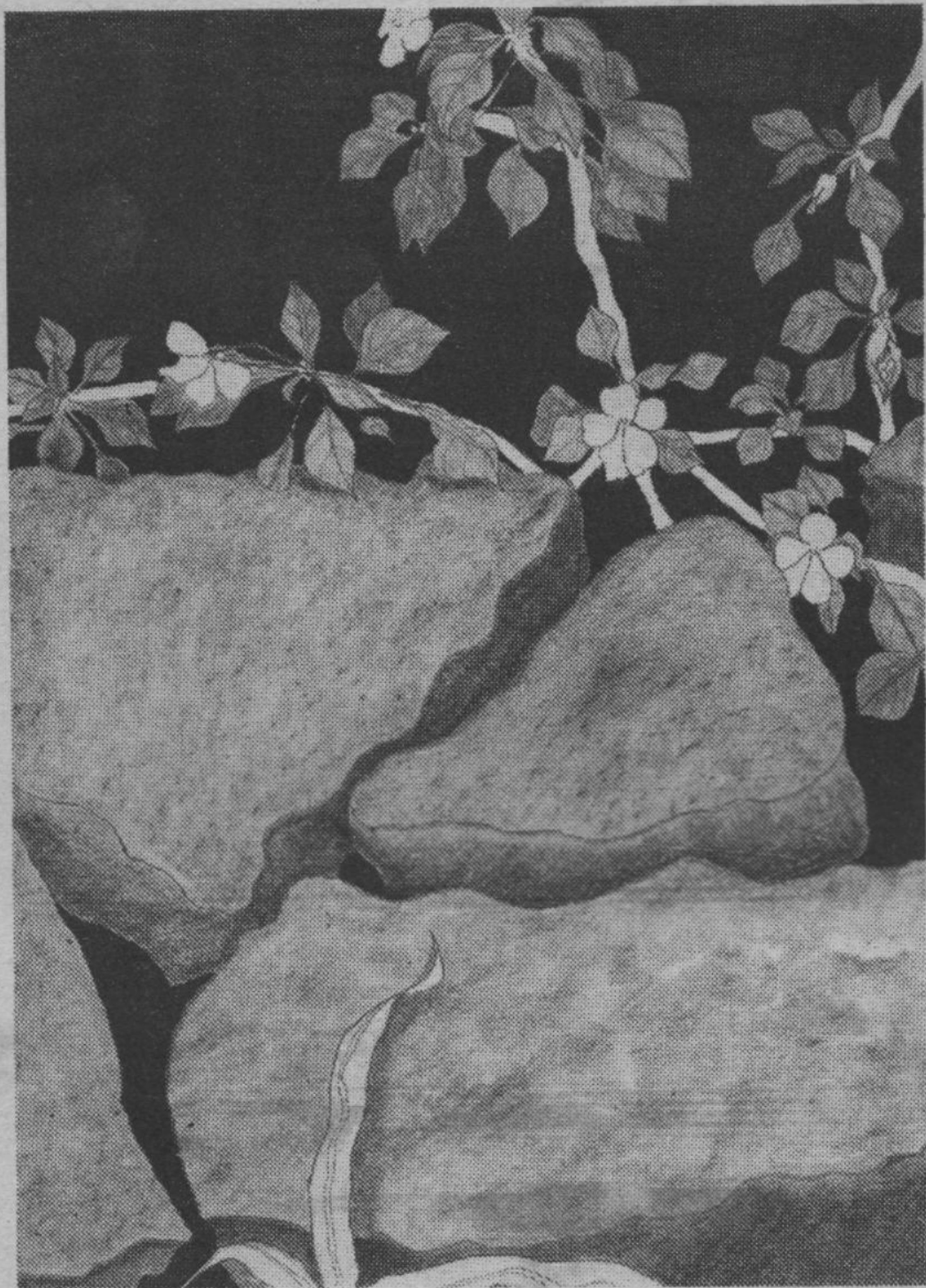
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