

SPECTRUM

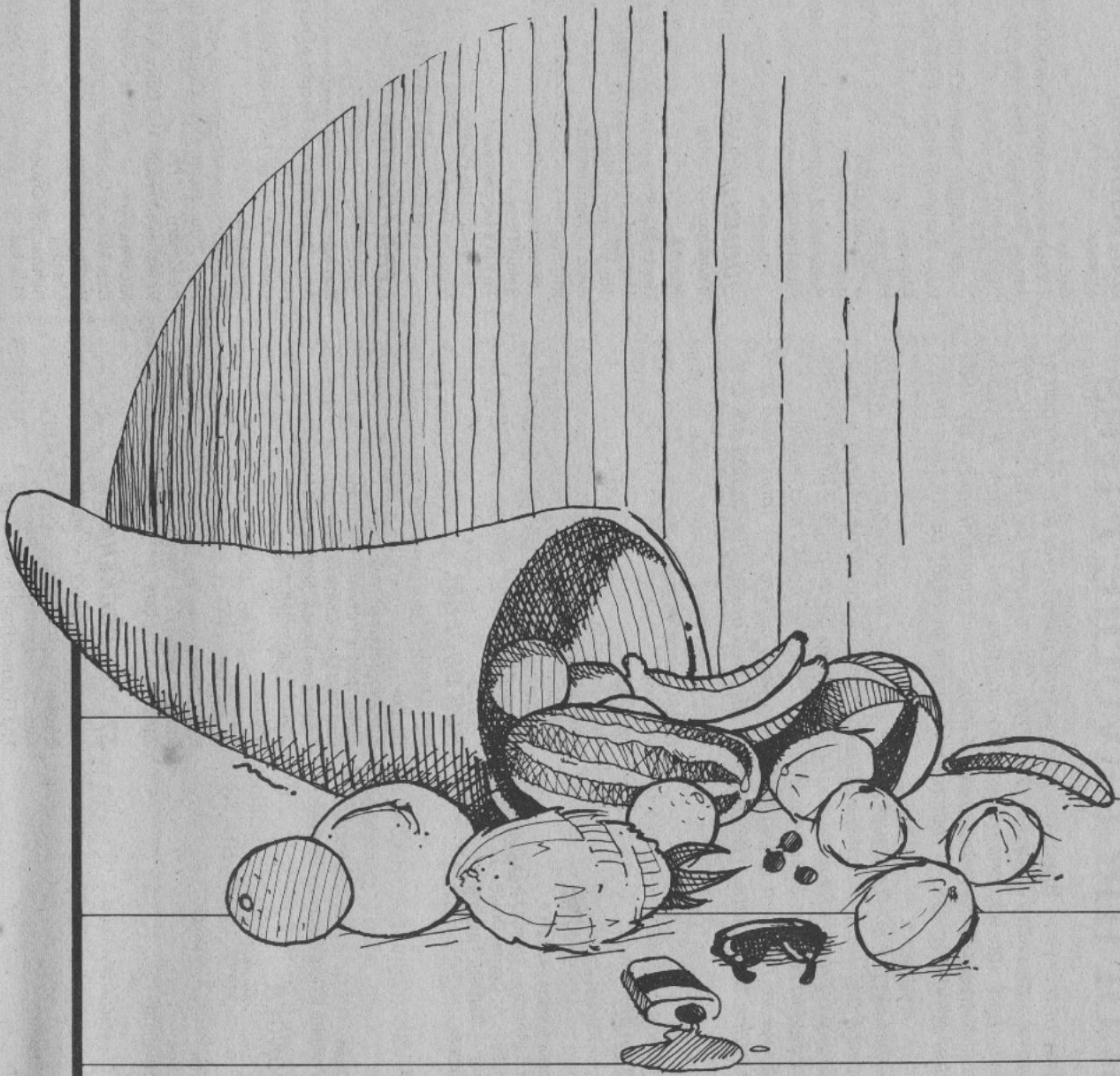
A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

November/December 1982 Issue No. 35

FREE

I N • T H I S • I S S U E

Behind the Scenes in the Book Co-op's Closing • Activist Frank
Wilkinson • New Local Publications • Jazz Singer Pam Laws



Frank Wilkinson

The Making of A Lifelong Activist Part I

by Clare Raulerson

Frank Wilkinson does not travel light. He arrived in Tallahassee with a suitcase, two battered Samsonite briefcases, a maroon leather briefcase that he said was a gift from the Southern California ACLU, a box of NCARL literature and an overcoat — a reminder that he had gotten on the plane to Florida that morning in Eugene, Oregon.

NCARL is the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation, formerly the National Committee to

End the House Un-American Activities Committee, Joe McCarthy's forum during the 1950's. NCARL has offices in Los Angeles, Chicago and Washington, D.C., and its staff and volunteers monitor Congress, watching for encroachments on the First Amendment, for unconstitutional proposals, and for the resurgence of HUAC or any similar organ.

Wilkinson was the executive director of NCARL for more than 20

years. Now retired, he travels across the country alerting people to bad legislation, encouraging them to get involved in the legislative process, and speaking about his own experiences with HUAC. During the last 20 years, Wilkinson has averaged at least 110 days of travel each year, never speaking in less than 20 states.

Wilkinson was in Tallahassee at the end of October under the sponsorship of the Center for Participant Education and the local

ACLU chapter. While his central concern was the damage that could be done in December when the "lame-duck" session of Congress begins, he also spoke about his life and his work.

What follows is his account of how a graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles, heading for the Methodist ministry, ended up walking into federal prison for refusing to testify before HUAC.

I was born in a little resort town in Michigan. My father was a medical doctor who moved to the west after World War I. My family were all very conservative, middle-class, Beverly Hills Republicans.

My schooling began in Beverly Hills, California, where I went to junior high and high school. My last three years at Beverly Hills High School, I was extremely conservative. I was the head of Youth for Herbert Hoover. I was the first president of the Hollywood Young People's Chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, working to keep the 18th Amendment — prohibition. I was very active in the Hollywood Methodist Church. Everyone assumed I was going to be a religious person and a religious leader.

At the University of California at Los Angeles, I became active in Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity from my freshman year on through. In fact, I was sort of illegally recruited to SAE when I was still in high school. There was a great deal of competition between the fraternities and they would offer you a sort of political advancement if you joined one over another. I was very, very active in a lot of very, very unimportant, frivolous campus activity.

I graduated from UCLA and decided I wanted above all to be a Methodist minister. I remember my fraternity brother Lloyd Bridges said to me in the last few days of school: "Frank, you really ought to be a Methodist minister." And I remember saying to Lloyd "Bud" Bridges, "Yes, yes, I guess so. I think so. I'm going to the holy land and study."

My family had the means to send me on a trip to the holy land, and I left with another fraternity brother who was also planning to be a minister. We took off on this trip planning to go around the world, I guess, but the target was the holy land. We had read Richard Halliburton's book *The Royal Road to Romance* and we had a lot of silly ideas in our head. Halliburton was a character in the 1930's who went around the world on very little money, and swam across the Bosphorus, took elephants over the Alps like Hannibal did, and claimed he swam in the Taj Mahal. It was a romantic way to travel.

Just before we left, I was invited to a Baptist seminar at a YMCA camp



photo by Jill Guttman

"I was very impressed by the idea that Christian people were doing something about the poor. I was impressed by this because I had never seen poverty in Los Angeles..."

up in northern California. And it turned out a woman by the name of Jane Addams had died. She, as I later understood, was the founder of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. She had died that summer and we went up there to attend a retreat where we sat in a chapel and heard the life of Jane Addams.

I was simply fascinated when I heard this woman had moved into the slum areas of Chicago and had developed Hull House and was doing settlement house work there. The person who was conducting this service was another settlement house worker from England who was working in Soho.

I was very impressed by the whole idea that Christian people were doing something about the poor. I was impressed by this because I had never seen poverty in Los Angeles; I had never seen a slum. So when I left on my trip from LA I decided that I wanted to see, almost like Jacob Riis, the great settlement house worker in New York at the run of the century, said in 1905 when he talked about "how the other half lives."

continued on page 10

On the Road to HUAC

1932-1936	Frank Wilkinson goes to college at UCLA where he is president of Students for Herbert Hoover. On his way to Europe for a "grand tour" he stops in Chicago to meet Jane Addams' Hull House and see poverty for the first time in the streets of Chicago.
1939	Wilkinson becomes a member of the Los Angeles Citizens Housing Council. The council launches the initial slum clearance program in LA through a low-rent, integrated public housing program.
1943	Wilkinson becomes manager of the Watts area Hacienda Village and Avalon Gardens Housing Office. He is also the manager of the Ramona Gardens Development.
1949	LA becomes the first city to qualify under the Housing Act of 1949. City Council signs the contract for a 10,000 unit low-rent, public housing project.
1950-1953	The LA real estate lobby and the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> attack the public housing project. Nevertheless, the project proceeds. Wilkinson is the Housing Authority expert witness in eminent domain proceedings against the slum landlords. As an expert witness, Wilkinson documents the exact degree of rat infestation, lack of toilets, high disease rates, etc. In the eminent domain proceeding to take over the Chavez Revine site for 3500 low-income housing units, attorneys for the slum property owners ask Wilkinson to give the "names of all organizations, political or otherwise, of which you have been a member, commencing with the days of your schooling at UCLA." Wilkinson listed his academic and professional organizations related to his qualifications as an expert witness, but he refused to answer further.
August 28, 1952	The LA City Council invites HUAC to come to LA to investigate the Housing Authority.
October 1952	The California HUAC forces the discharge of Wilkinson other key Housing Authority Personnel.
1953	Chavez Revine is given to Walter O'Malley and the Brooklyn Dodgers for a ballpark for the new Los Angeles Dodgers.
1956	When subpoenaed by HUAC at their LA hearings, Wilkinson, at the behest of ACLU, makes a constitutional challenge on First Amendment grounds. He refuses to answer any questions. The HUAC does not contest this.
1958	But, two years later, when Wilkinson does it again at the HUAC hearings in Atlanta, HUAC takes the case to court. Wilkinson and the late Carl Braden are found guilty of contempt of Congress in a 5-to-4 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court. They both serve a year in federal prison.
1960	The National Committee Against Repressive Legislation (NCARL) begins as the National Committee to end HUAC. The organization is immediately labeled a communist plot.
1969	HUAC retreats a bit. Committee adopts a new name: the House Internal Security Committee (HISC).
1975	HUAC/HISC is finally eliminated as a permanent standing committee.
1981	Alabama Senator Jeremiah Denton brings back HUAC under a new title: the subcommittee on Security and Terrorism in the Senate Judiciary Committee.
1982	Now there is a move in the U.S. House of Representatives to reinstate HUAC and bring back more than 750,000 files on American citizens and organizations sealed and sent to the National Archives when HUAC was dissolved.

Spectrum's Evolution

by Geoff Andrews

Free speech and a free press, those sweet sounding ideals, do not exist. There's no free ink and paper, nor free supplies and equipment, and precious little free time.

Spectrum's yearly production costs about \$5,000, almost 80 percent of which pays the printer. Another 15 percent is budgeted for graphics facilities, and the remaining few dollars cover the postage for more than 200 subscribers, photographic film and developing, gasoline, and miscellaneous. At least another \$5,000 worth of skilled labor and energy is donated annually and credited by listing the names of those generous persons in our pages.

Spectrum is dependent on the good will and good sense of a few regular advertisers. Two defunct co-ops in town used to help support us. Other businesses go through changes and our advertising dollars dry up. We constantly scramble to make ends meet. You know the story, I'm sure.

With a steady circulation of 5,000 copies and, presumably, a readership of at least 5,000, *Spectrum* has a potentially broad base of financial support: You don't need a calculator to figure that one *Spectrum*-year costs somebody a dollar.

If you pick up and read this paper regularly, and if you like what we're doing, don't keep it to yourself. Send us a little token of your appreciation, or cooperation. We'd rather depend on you than anyone else.

A broad base of contributors is very stable and desirable. We ask you, please, for your support. Send your donation to: **Spectrum, 625 E. Brevard St., Tallahassee, Fla. 32308.**

• • • LETTERS • • •

Twenty years ago, starry-eyed and idealistic, I spent my spare time picketing segregated restaurants (remember those?) and was labeled "communist" for having the gall to criticize the values of others. Today, jaded and cynical, I spend my spare time picketing abortion clinics and am labeled "fascist" for having the gall to criticize the values of others. Communist to fascist in only twenty years — how can they call me inflexible?

Last summer I attended the Feminists for Live convention in Milwaukee. There I met Juli Loesch, the national coordinator of Prolifers for Survival, an education and action group opposed to both abortion and nuclear arms. We talked about how the Left has, by supporting abortion, abandoned its most sacred principle: respect for all human life — no matter how powerless, troublesome or insignificant. We both have a history of activism in leftist causes — civil rights, anti-war, the environment — yet because of our out-of-step stand on abortion we have been shunned by the liberal community. I told her that I felt that I had been forced into the arms of the New Right because, irony of ironies, I have discovered that liberals are absolutely intolerant of any opinion that conflicts with their own. They are, it seems, even more close-minded than conservatives. I told her about my twenty-year journey from communist to fascist. "Ha!" she hooted. "I've been called both in one day!"

The labels don't discourage her. She sees Prolifers for Survival as a bridge between those opposed to killing by abortion and those opposed to killing by nuclear arms. Her motto, "Ban the Bomb, Not the Baby," summarizes what she claims is a consistent stance in favor of protecting life at every age and every stage. She argues that a genuine movement to defend life defies traditional political categories. "We're not so much interested in 'Right' and 'Left' as we are in right and wrong," she insists.

Juli is currently on a ten-city speaking tour of the Southeast and will be in Tallahassee on Monday, November 15. She will be the guest of WFSU-TV's "Newsmakers" program at 7:30 that evening. That same evening (no time to lose!) she will speak at the FSU School of Library Science, Room 006, between 8:30 and 10:30. The title of her talk, which is sponsored by the FSU Student Government, is "Nukes and the Next Generation." It is free and open to the public.

Juli is a splendid lady: funny, funky and profound. I hope that everyone, regardless of his or her position on either issue, will be open-minded enough to hear what she has to say.

Juli is more optimistic than I about the prospects of cajoling both pro-life bomb fans and pro-abortion no-nukes into considering the hypocrisy of their positions. Perhaps she is right. In its last newsletter, the Tallahassee Peace Coalition quoted a poem by Algernon Black: "We are all of one life, we share a common origin and a common destiny...Every life is precious..." Hanging in the office of Big Bend Right-to-Life is this poster: "We need heart more than steel, love more than goods. We need peace." The common ground is there; it just needs to be cultivated.

Sincerely,
Rosemary Bottcher

Rosemary Bottcher is a community columnist for The Tallahassee Democrat who describes herself as a "polite activist." She included this note with her submission to Spectrum:

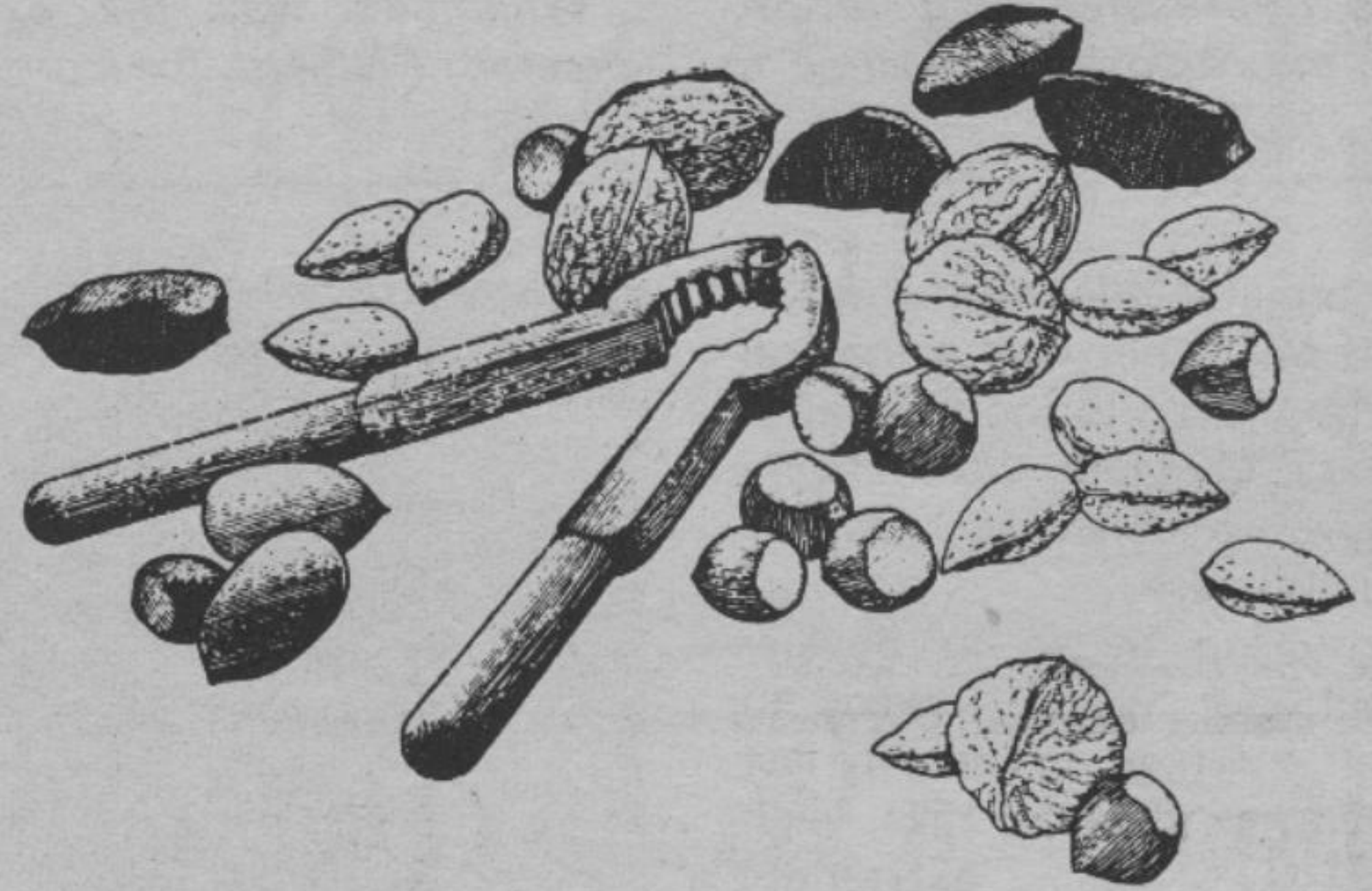
"I ask you to print this even though I realize that I enjoy a position of prominence on your shit list. 'Spectrum' means 'a range of values, ideas...'"

SPECTRUM

A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

Published every six weeks

625 E. Brevard St.
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SPECTRUM Collective

Larry Teich • Louise Beauchamp • Tana McLane • Vicki Mariner • Frank Brown • Carmy Greenwood • Geoff Andrews

With Help From:

Lisa Krehbiel and Amy Arbogast

Front Cover Design: Darryl Miner

The next issue of *Spectrum* will appear on December 9, 1982. Watch this space for our 1983 printing schedule.

Article and announcement deadline is two Mondays before our printing dates, but we like to receive them earlier. Please contact us at 224-7222 when you're planning to do an article that must be turned in late so we can plan for it. Thanks.

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, 625 East Brevard St., Tallahassee, FL. 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, please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope with a note telling us to return your material.

Advertising Sales:

Larry Teich — Call 224-7222 for advertising information.

Announcements

Monday, November 8, 7 p.m. — Potluck supper and meeting of the Tallahassee Peace Coalition. Workshop: "Living in the New Age." First Presbyterian Education Bldg. (110 N. Adams St.). "Spiritual Perspectives on Peace" will be the topic of the Dec. 13 meeting.

Tuesday, November 9, 7 p.m. — Gordon Adams of the Council for Economic Priorities and author of *The Iron Triangle* will speak on the relationship between arms manufacturers, the Pentagon, and Congress in influencing foreign policy and weapons development decisions. Bellamy Bldg., Room 126.

Thursday, November 11, 7:30 p.m. — A nationwide convocation on solutions to the nuclear arms race, sponsored by the Union of Concerned Scientists, will feature locally the film "No First Use: Preventing Nuclear War." Following this half hour film will be a discussion led by Dr. Hans Plendl, FSU Dept. of Physics. Bellamy Bldg., room 126.

Monday, November 22, Jose' Bonino will speak on "The Role of the Church in Latin America and Liberation Theology." 8:00 p.m., 126 Bellamy Bldg.

Tuesday evenings, November 16, 23, 30 and December 7, 7:00-8:00 p.m., you are invited to attend the lectures of the FSU Peace Studies course, "Peace, Justice and Conflict: Survival in the Nuclear Age." Call the Tallahassee Peace Coalition office (222-5845) for a listing of topics on those dates.

John Healey, executive director of Amnesty International, will speak at 8:15 p.m. in 128 Diffenbaugh, FSU, on November 10. Amnesty International is a world-renowned organization which works for the release of prisoners of conscience who are being held without charge or trial or being inhumanely treated. The lecture will involve the role of AI in the 80's in light of the political situations in many countries.

CPE's International Film Series presents "Love and Anarchy," a passionate portrayal of an anarchist group's attempt to assassinate Mussolini. The main perpetrator, Tunin, falls in love with an outside party, a young prostitute, and the resulting conflict leads to an explosion of passions felt far beyond their private lives. The film is free and will show at 7:30 p.m. in Moore Auditorium, November 17.

Bill Sutherland, South African Representative and co-worker with the American Friends Service Committee, will speak on the American influence and role in the political changes in South Africa and how the development of new governments will change the world political scene. He will appear at 126 Bellamy at 8:00 p.m., November 18.

A Greek pacifist leader struck down by a speeding truck in front of hundreds of witnesses leads to a full-scale investigation of the government and public officials in "Z." The mysterious deaths of friends and witnesses of the dead man point to an incredible web of deception and murder in this terrifyingly real portrayal of government scandal. The film is free and will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in Moore Auditorium, FSU, November 24.

Holly Near, a feminist singer-songwriter, will be performing her mellow blend of folk music and dreams for the future peace and enlightenment of the world at 8:00 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Auditorium, FSU, December 7.

"Alambrista" is a humorous, compassionate look at the disillusionment a young migrant worker suffers when he crosses the border illegally to attain the "land of opportunity." He finds himself in a world unaccommodating and incomprehensible and longs for the land and family he left behind. The film is free and will be shown in 101 Carraway, FSU, at 7:30 p.m., December 8.

Spectrum's Winter Book List

The next issue of **Spectrum**, which will be appearing December 9, will contain our traditional Winter Reading list, this time with a twist. We're soliciting little nutshell reviews of **books** written or published by Tallahasseeans since mid-1981. We're limiting the list to see what we get — which we believe will be a lot.

The books can be fiction, biography, prose, philosophical or technical, environmental, poetry chapbooks, etc. Anything, so long as the book is in published form and is accessible to our readers.

Since our collective is small and busy, we would be greatly helped by reviews written by YOU. Writing these little reviews shouldn't be hard. Include the title, author, publisher (note which is local), price, length and where available. Also included should be the type or subject of book, what readers can expect to find and whether you enjoyed or gained from it. Keep it brief, one typewritten, doublespaced letter-sized sheet only, and we'll do the rest.

Send your reviews to **625 E. Brevard St., Tallahassee, Fla. 32308.** If your book has a great cover you'd like us to use with your review, send a copy.

We'll take your word for the interest factor of your books. Just let us know by November 25.

Conference on Hazardous Waste

The Florida Public Interest Research Group, the Big Bend Sierra Club and the Wakulla County Citizens for Planned Development are sponsoring a free Hazardous Waste and Groundwater Conference Saturday, November 13th, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Leon/Lafayette Room on the second floor of FSU's student union.

Featured speakers will be Jay Lehrer of the National Water Well Association, Ellen Silbergill of the National Environmental Defense Fund and several area and state experts. Workshops and panel discussions will be included. For more information contact Doug Alderson, 644-2826.

Are you concerned about toxic wastes leaching into our drinking water? Would you like to know more about this growing problem and what can be done about it?

Fasting for a World Harvest

by Jeff Thompson

During Oxfam America's annual Fast for a World Harvest on the Thursday before Thanksgiving, more than half a million Americans will give up their meals for a day and donate their food money to people who are struggling to overcome hunger and poverty.

Two pounds of grain are produced each day for every child, woman and man alive on our planet. Yet this resource is so misallocated that 15 to 20 million people die each year from hunger-related causes.

Oxfam America is a non-profit, international service agency which funds self-help development programs in 26 Asian, African and Latin American countries. They also provide aid when disaster strikes and development is simply not possible. When a disaster is over they remain to follow up with programs designed to promote self-reliance. It is

noteworthy that Oxfam America has a strong focus on women's self-help and development.

The name "Oxfam" comes from the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief, founded in England in 1942. Oxfam America, based in Boston, was established in 1970 to respond to the desperate conditions in Bangladesh. There are currently six autonomous Oxfams around the world; they often collaborate with each other by funding specific parts of large development programs.

If you wish to participate in this year's Fast for a World Harvest, simply give up your meals on Thursday, November 18th, and mail to Oxfam the approximate amount of money which you did not spend on food for that day: **Oxfam America, 115 Broadway, Boston, Mass. 02116.**

Banquet Will Demonstrate Hunger

by Jeff Thompson

To publicize this year's Fast for a World Harvest, there will be a 'Hunger Banquet' on the preceding Sunday at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Meridian Road. If you wish to attend, please obtain tickets in advance at the Information Desk of the Leon County Food Coop, 649 W. Gaines St.

Thirteen percent of the people at the banquet, representing the residents of high income countries, will receive a full course meal. Twenty-seven percent of those attending, representing the residents of middle income countries, will receive a bowl of rice with sauce and some juice or tea. Sixty percent of those at the banquet will receive a bowl of rice and some water.

A Hunger Banquet is a way to translate statistics into human terms. It will be a consciousness raising experience for the participating adults and children, and it will help publicize the following Thursday's Fast for a World Harvest. Local media will be invited to observe, participate and pass the message on.

After the banquet there will be a half-hour film, entitled "Underdevelopment and the Dispossessed." Produced by Radio Quebec, the film analyzes the relations between rich and poor nations. It describes the impact of colonialism in creating a global economic system which works to keep the Third World poor and dependent.

...

Hunger Banquet. 5:30 p.m., Sunday, November 14th at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 2810 North Meridian Rd. \$2 for adults, \$1 for children. Tickets at the Information Desk of the Leon County Food Coop, or call Jeff Thompson at 877-1765 (mornings), 878-1490 (evenings).

making connections

by Louise Beauchamp



It's a funny question, one that has no answer.

Governor Bob Graham was on a campaign tour in Miami last month, heading back to his car, when he was stopped by 91-year-old John Moore, who wanted to make a suggestion. If you really want to combat crime, Moore advised the governor, just start castrating the murderers. That'll stop 'em.

Graham was apparently embarrassed and brushed off the advice, turning back toward his car. I can't blame the man. The last thing he needed was to get involved in a street corner argument with some crazy old agitator. And can you imagine the reaction if he actually tried to push such a law through the male-dominated Legislature? "Graham Recommends Castration," the headlines would chortle.

But wait a minute. This is the same governor who wants us to *kill* more murderers. What I want to know is this: why is it OK to kill them and not OK to castrate them?

Beats me. Like I said, it's a funny question, one that has no answer.

Just Ask Alice

He had some innovative ideas, this fellow Skip Bafalis-rhymes-with-Alice who wanted to be our governor, and we're lucky he didn't get a chance to try

them out. Consider this one, outlined in two separate interviews with reporters from three different newspapers:

"I feel strongly that the Aid to Families with Dependent Children could be dramatically cleaned up if I were able to administer it as the chief executive of this state," Bafalis said. His proposal would "train mothers on AFDC to run daycare centers...at very low cost to other mothers, who in turn we're going to utilize in a number of different areas."

And what would those areas be? Would he give them job training in high-technology fields, to enable them to earn decent salaries and support their families? Well, maybe. "One such area is home health aides," Bafalis continued, "to help elderly people who can't do their own cooking, washing and shopping. That's the kind of innovative thing I'm talking about."

See what I mean? It takes a truly visionary man to look at unemployed women and see potential cooks, maids and nurses. Aren't you sorry you didn't give him a chance?

Feeding the Hand that Bites You

Florida's defense industry is booming, according to the latest Pentagon report. We got more than \$6.7 billion in federal defense spending last year, up 31 percent over the year before and moving us into fifth place nationally. Almost half of that went into high-technology weapons manufacturing, and that part of the Florida budget is growing faster than any other. It's one of the clean industries that we're trying — successfully — to recruit.

Unfortunately, reports a Michigan research company, Floridians pay more than \$7.2 billion in defense-related taxes, for a loss of nearly a half billion. Tallahassee's share of the loss

is \$30 million.

It's like the old coin-toss trick: Heads they win, tails we lose.

Stillborn in Jacksonville

The Clinch River Breeder Reactor really did break ground in September, as reported in our last issue. It was hurried into the world by the premature approval of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which allowed it to begin construction without fulfilling the usual licensing requirements. According to a news report, the project director at Clinch River was so excited that he went out the night before and cut down the first tree with his own little chainsaw.

Now the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board has given the Westinghouse Company approval to build floating nuclear power plants at a manufacturing site in Jacksonville. It's about to break water, you might say. The idea of offshore floating plants was conceived fifteen years ago as a way of circumventing environmental and safety objections and making nuclear plants cheaper, but it's been held up by licensing problems ever since.

There's a good deal of doubt, however, that the plants ever will be built. The original orders have been cancelled and new ones are not in sight. Of the 1,500 Jacksonville workers once poised for action, most have shrugged their shoulders and gone on to other jobs. Only about 160 remain to come to the victory party and smoke the celebration cigars.

CPR For Nuclear Power

It is no coincidence, of course, that Clinch River and the Jacksonville plants have both received NRC approval now, after years of trying. Relaxing the nuclear regulation process is a high priority of the Reagan Administration.

We need more "discipline" in the licensing process, explained Shelby Brewer, an assistant secretary of energy, as he unveiled the administration's plan for sweeping changes in the process. It's a safe word — everybody wants more discipline these days. Here are some of the

changes designed to bring order — and quiet — back to the licensing decisions:

- "Pre-approval" of plant designs, allowing the NRC to approve the designs before they've been drawn.

- Early site approval, authorizing the NRC to designate "suitable" locations even when no one has decided to build a plant there.

- A grandfather clause, holding existing plants immune from new safety improvements.

The timing of these changes does have its coincidental aspects, though. On October 1, just two weeks before Brewer announced his plan for a field day on nuclear power, the nation's first nuclear power plant closed down for the last time.

We will spend at least \$66 million over the next five years to tear it apart, piece by piece. The radioactive bits and pieces will be trucked from Pennsylvania to Washington (the state, not the state of mind) and buried. It will be the first of many.

A Fond Farewell

So long, friends. It's been good to know you.

Every day brings new information, so much that many items never make it into this column. I had planned, if there were space, to say something about G. Ray Arnett, our new assistant secretary of Interior for fish and wildlife, a hunter and sports fisherman who brags about his on-the-job safaris. You might have been amused to hear that Republicans in California have asked Reagan not to campaign back home, for fear of sending more Democrats to the polls. I wanted to send a shiver up your spine by telling you how the Pentagon is using video war games to train its officers.

But there wasn't space or time, and this will be my last regular column for *Spectrum*. My professional circumstances are changing, and I will no longer have access to the newspapers that are the foundation of what I write here. I may be back someday, but only if they get a new cartoon to run at the head of the column.

You've been a great audience. Thanks for listening.

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Intentional Community

More and more people are unable to become home owners, a by-product of Reaganomics, soaring interest rates and high mortgage costs. What are the alternatives to a three-bedroom, concrete block house and \$800-plus mortgage payments each month? **The Best Investment — Owning Land in a Loving Community** describes the methods Miccosukee Land Co-op residents have developed to reduce living costs without also reducing the quality of their lives. **The Best Investment** was written by David W. Felder, a philosophy professor at FAMU, and published by Wellington Press in Tallahassee. The book details the underpinnings of an intentional community, from home construction to raising livestock, and also includes an exploration of the interpersonal dynamics of community living.

The Best Investment can be purchased for \$8.50 at 2nd Story Books downtown, at the Unicorn Shop on Tennessee Street, or from the publisher for \$10 (Wellington Press, P.O. Box 13504, Tallahassee, FL 32308).

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Nothin' But Blue Sky

by Irwin Blue Sky Friedman

When I first heard those words, Blue Sky, I knew they were the right ones. How that blue sky covers everything as it permeates our very lives. It's there watching our confusion, our meandering towards self-destruction, the grief and sadness that one finds in every corner of the earth. It's also there observing the great joy of life, the wonder of birth and death, the laughter of children engrossed in their own merriment, the tears of parents watching their young ones grow up and become independent beings. The Blue Sky philosopher is always questioning and observing life, finding that the purpose of living is to understand life.

Now this phrase, "understanding life," means something different to every person. And to the Blue Sky it means something different in every moment. The Blue Sky has been silent for many eons, but the time has come for us to glimpse into what the Blue Sky has observed up until the moment.

It should be said that the Night Sky also has its share of insights into this "understanding life," but the writer is usually asleep, or somewhere between sleep and Macon, Georgia, during the Night Sky so that the Night Sky observations are left to our nocturnal friends.

I was asked the other day as to where the sky starts. I said it starts below our feet and engulfs us as it continues spaceward for quite a ways. In fact, I climbed into the elevator of the new Capitol and cautiously crept toward the windows of the top floor and I can verify that the Blue Sky does reach the top floor, too.

Now the Blue Sky has been silent so long because it feared that its insights and revelations would become a bestseller and then a boring class that would be required for all entering freshpeople at the universities. But the insights the Blue Sky has to offer can not be put into words or tested because they're constantly changing, as is life itself.

But how can this be? The Blue Sky wishes to speak out

on every aspect of human life, even sexual relations. What's that? You mean you and Night Sky ... Okay, I'll set it straight for you, B.S. (Oh, by the way, Blue Sky doesn't mind if we refer to it as B.S., of course not to be confused with university degrees or processed bull's food), says that true love is a love that asks for absolutely nothing in return. To give love in such a way is almost foreign to our planet, but that's the only love Blue Sky and Night Sky have known. They only see each other twice a day but their love is so pure, it usually leaves us in awe as we watch their mingling of spirits.

Now Blue Sky has asked me to ask you (not to be confused with a former Florida governor) to give some written input as to whether you would like to continue to read the ramblings of Blue Sky as it thinks about everything from acorns to cars to zephyr bars and gives us its BS comments. Just five letters to the editor before each publication would be fine. And ... what's that Blue Sky? ... OK ... B.S. says four-letter words are fine as long as the writer understands their meaning.

So before the Night Sky is upon us, let me write down this brief insight from Blue Sky:

*People are grand, people are fine
They live on this earth for a very short time
They struggle to work and they worry to sleep
"Why did my daughter go marry that creep?"*

*But crying is fun and laughter is glad
And biting those fingernails isn't so bad
So let it all out and embrace all you see
For the Blue Sky is you and the Blue Sky is me.*

Magnolia Warehouse Job Opening

Magnolia Warehouse, a large cooperative distributor of natural foods in the Southeast, is a not-for-profit and collectively-run organization. We serve co-ops, buying clubs, storefronts and restaurants. We are currently seeking to hire new workers. Below are the job description and benefits you can expect on the job.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Line Functions:

Shipping goods to customers
Pick up/receivable reconciliation
City desk and order entry
Some picking and confirming orders
Filing/membership mailings and support

Discretionary/Support Functions:

Tours/walk-ins/customer requests
Correspondence/national liason

PREFERRED QUALITIES

Friendly, knowledge of natural foods, self-starter, communication skills, comfortable working with numbers, management skills, work well under stress

BENEFITS

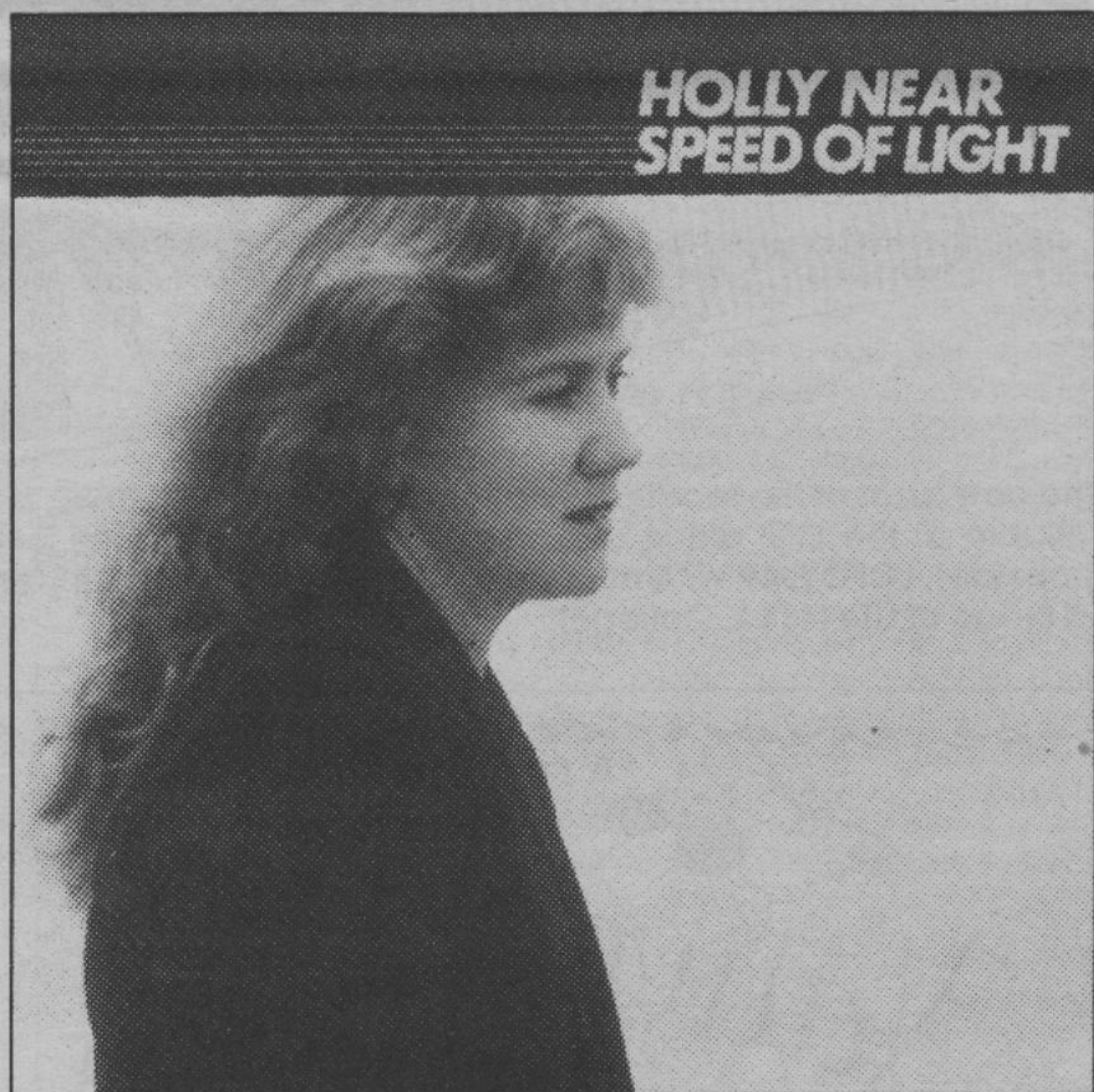
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Please send all inquiries before Nov. 19, 1982.
Applications must be received by Nov. 19, 1982.

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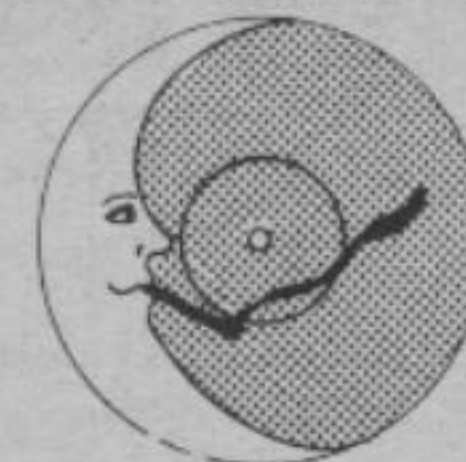
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Workshops: Saturday, Nov. 13, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Delegate Assembly: Sunday, Nov. 14

Will be held in Pensacola at the University of West Florida, Bldg. No. 78

Information & registration forms at Leon County Food Co-op. Members may apply for financial assistance to the conference. 222-9916.

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Pillory Talk: The Scarlet Anchor
 TAMPA—The upstart CBS-affiliated newsmen here will wear an emblem of his contract to show his status for the duration of his contract. The Little Current has for a recent sea-related article. The Little Current has learned.
 WFTS's Hugh Smith said he can't imagine what let him to desire me. I'm a big husband, secretary died, leader, who turned out to be a politician. "I'm just a dirty disgusting practice that I just fell into. Smith said."

The Little Current
 September 24, 1982
 50c
 Circulation 108
 Vol. 1, No. 2
 Watching the Watchdogs

Free Press Waxed
The Prince and the Papers
 SARASOTA—Big Corporations now control virtually every daily newspaper in Florida. A Little Current survey has found.
 The Sarasota Herald-Tribune, one of the last independent home-owned papers in the state, succumbed last week to the New York Times. Most other papers are owned by either the Gannett chain, Cox Newspapers, the Chicago Tribune or the Hearst group.
 Chester spokesman Tom Casey says the big boys of newspaper reality really only do a brief job that the old-fashioned newspaper men of days gone by. He said that the chains were planning a way museum to honor the old era. Some of Florida's old independent editors will be represented at the museum with wax replicas.

Late Sports News
Lewis Retains Title
 TALLAHASSEE—Garry "The Phantom" Lewis has retained the Heavyweight Championship of the World with a unanimous decision over the Montreal Mauler, Ralph H. Smith. The defeat was a major setback to the Mauler's career. He had hoped to move up in weight and challenge in the super-heavy division's Championship of the World. However, H-bomb announced in his dressing room that he is retiring from fighting. Rumors are he will become manager of Palmetto, Fla. I saw H-bomb million civic center a structure H-bomb retained who he regarded as Lightweight Speaker of the World.

Effects of Corporate Ownership

Help Wanted
 Let us keep bringing you our view of Florida and the world. We have no backers or owners. We're just two little writers trying to practice our craft out from under the oppressive thumb of the corporate giant. Support us by subscribing to The Little Current. It's 50 cents an issue and that includes postage each week. Subscribe for any number of issues by sending us your name, address and check to The Little Current, P.O. Box 531, Tallahassee, Fla. 32302.

A Garbled Tail
 DOG'S HEAD HARBOUR, N.H.—Since John Irving wrote "The World According to Garp," he seems figure it's okay to take all the credit for the success of the novel. What else could he be doing posing for national magazine advertisements as a sleazy wedding officiant.
 We're talking about an obscure photo-graph and not just because of the Garpish judge Don't worry that Anne Ledwith's camera is stealing credit here. Irving's coverage of Irving's novel was because the patella of bones. His own pages of ranting in the telling, entails the bones in the telling.
 Only when Robin Williams takes the story into his own hands does Garp escape Irving's endless prose narrative. His wonderful expressive face says more in a few frames than Irving's prose does in 50 staidy pages. Williams not only gives life to Garp, Irving has no right to walk around publicly in wedding clothes. Only Williams can do it.
 "I'm flying," Williams says as the movie concludes. The film was more convincing. We're all terminal cases. It's John Irving's case that wants were never spoken.

More Bafflement
 FORT MYERS—Skip Baffles-us has announced he will no longer donate corporate money with the price because he doesn't want to subsidize our punches. Baffles-us is reportedly concerned that Harvard Square has some agents in Florida to study the corporation's campaign for governor. Said our source, "Skip's apparently raising out of ways to bar the president. He through this might provide some new ideas."

New in Town: "The Little Current"

by Tana McLane

If you haven't read the latest issue of The Little Current, you're not alone. Up till now this little newsletter, which combines political satire, movie reviews and humorous economic graphs, has been available only to a very few fortunate enough to be aware of its existence.

Written and published by two (anonymous) local writers, The Little Current is presently putting together a fifth issue. It's composed of only one letter-sized sheet of paper typeset and laid out to resemble the front page of a tiny newspaper. One of the writers, who consented to an interview, explained that they took their original inspiration from another small publication called I.F. Stone's Weekly, which Stone published himself for close to thirty years. Like Stone, the publishers of The Little Current wish to have a voice that is an alternative to the Big Press.

The writer explained that almost every newspaper in the country today is owned and controlled by large corporations like the railroads and insurance companies. This ownership influences the news we read as corporate politics dictate the papers' economics. Rather than merely critique the news we read, though, the hope of The Little Current is to expose the limitation of the reportage we receive. No longer, she said, do we have locally owned and controlled newspapers with the best interests of the community at heart. Though the small papers may well have represented the good ol' boy power structure of a community, it was still superior to what we have today.

The writers of The Little Current have a talent for scanning the state and national news and reworking the quotes and telling

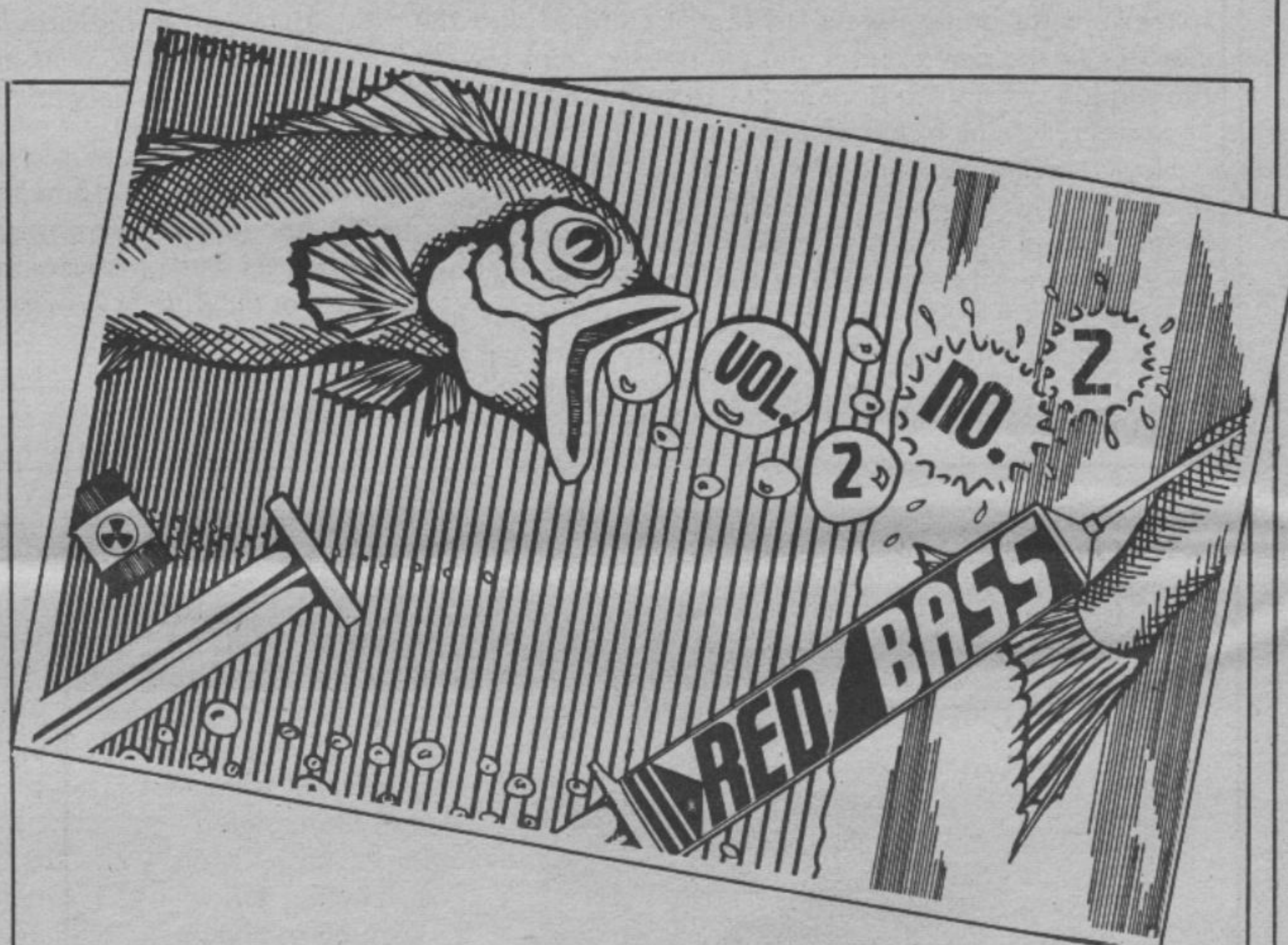
of the facts so that the articles at first reading seem delightfully ridiculous. But reality lurks beneath the humorous surface, and the articles often say what's really going on far better than the fluff we read in the dailies. So far in its short career, the paper has poked delicious fun at Skip Bafalis — "Skip Baffles-us" — and U.S. Senator Paula Hawkins. "Garp" and "E.T. — Extra-Terrible" have been reviewed, as well as a pseudo-film called "Calhoun County Line," which wove together the incredible and horrifying stories of a babysitter who has children die in her care and a medical doctor who stabs himself, et al. It's just the kind of bad taste one is amazed to find oneself chuckling over. But then, news is often in bad taste.

The Little Current will soon be expanding to a second side — a

serious side, for serious commentary. While the writers claim to have no particular political bias (they want as wide a readership as possible — even a few Republicans!), it's obvious that they do have a point of view. It is precisely this point of view they hope to magnify as the paper grows.

The future of The Little Current is in the hands of its readers and future readers. The writer and her partner are beginning to market the paper more widely. They have a growing list of subscribers. They need more.

 If you want to receive future issues of The Little Current, send \$5.00 for a year's subscription to: The Little Current, P.O. Box 531, Tallahassee, Florida 32302. Back issues are 50 cents. The Little Current is also available exclusively at 2nd Story Books, 114 E. Jefferson, above Radcliffe's.



The new issue of the local political/arts magazine, RED BASS, is now available at the CPE office (251 Union - FSU), Luney Tunes (648 W. Tennessee), LCFC (649 W. Gaines), 2nd Story Books (114 E. Jefferson) and Bread of Life (111 E. College).

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Leon County Food Co-op Active Idealism in Hard Times

by Jack E. Baker

I would like to thank everyone for participating in the Leon County Food Co-op, the assistant co-ordinators, the staff, the people working in committees. Without the participation of the member/owners the food co-op could not continue to operate.

Reading "Trouble in River City," an article in the last issue of *Spectrum*, I was reminded that these are hard economic times. The closing of Good Life General Store and Co-op Books and Records are sad reminders of how tough these times can be. Still, I remain in a positive, idealistic frame of mind, believing that this will not only carry us through but also help us to continue to grow.

The food co-op was founded and has thrived on this idealism, active idealism in the form of participation. People helping people. Our logo "Food for People not for Profit" echoes with this idealism.

The participation committee of the food co-op met in September and October at Grass Roots Free School. The thrust of this committee is "participation in the food co-op at all levels". From this we formulated our mission statement, which is our reason for existing, and indicates our broad philosophical operational base. Our mission statement is "The Member Participation Committee exists to encourage, facilitate and maintain optimal member participation in the

operation and development of the corporation, Community Interests, Inc., doing business as the Leon County Food Co-op."

We envision that the Members Participation Committee will someday be able to orchestrate the participation of committees, assistant co-ordinators and walk-in workers. Thus we will know how many people are participating in what areas at any given time. More importantly though, we will know how many people are needed in what areas. Being more aware of our participation energy needs at all times will help us (all the member/owners of the food co-op) to meet our needs more effectively and efficiently.

Currently, we need assistant co-ordinators in almost every area at a variety of times. Assistant coordinators are people who work for a designated time each week (usually two hours; for example, Monday from 12:00 to 2:00) in a designated area such as produce, stock, childcare, clean-up, information, receiving, repack, cheese or register. There are also several "special" AC positions such as signmaker, bookpersons, herb persons, typists etc. A key for anyone wanting to share their energies at the food co-op, whether as AC's, storefront workers or committee persons, is to simply find a need and fill it.

Becoming an assistant coordinator is

relatively easy. The most important thing about becoming an AC is being able to commit yourself to the block of time in which you would like to work. For me, this has been really easy because ultimately I'm working for myself. As a member/owner it is my store. Along with being committed you need to have worked in the food co-op at least eight hours and have attended an orientation session (orientation is worth two hours work

credit). Then simply find a need and fill it.

If you are interested in becoming an assistant coordinator, working on committees or sharing your energy at the food co-op in any way whatsoever, please speak to the info AC at the information desk. They will be glad to help you plug in.

Remember, without the participation of the member/owners the food co-op could not continue to operate. It's our store.

Board Elections in December

by Jack E. Baker

According to the bylaws of the Leon County Food Co-op (Section IV-A-1), "The BOD (Board of Directors) acts in the stead of the membership to oversee the financial condition, maintain organizational functioning, supervise paid employees, and set the formal policies of the corporation." The bylaws go on to enumerate five more authorities and duties in Section IV-A-2 through 6.

Operating in economic (or Reaganomic) times such as these, the role, the authority and duties outlined in the bylaws become increasingly more critical to the continued operation and development of the Leon County Food Co-op.

Currently, two of our eight Board seats are vacant. This means that the authority and duties stated above are now being performed with 25 percent fewer people and energy than ordinarily called for. This condition of shorthandedness has existed since the last membership meeting, when the last round of Board elections took place.

Needless to say, it was a sad round of Board elections. We needed three new Board members. Unfortunately, there was only one person nominated. To make matters worse, only 50 people voted during the two-week voting period.

This month nominations are being taken to fill three seats on the board, the two existing vacancies and the seat of one board member who has completed a two-year term. You can nominate yourself directly, be nominated by someone else or nominate someone else yourself.

If you want to nominate yourself, simply go to the information desk and tell the information AC that you would like to do so. The info AC will take your name and phone number and give you information about seeking election such as candidate application form, director job description, and recommendations.

Next you will be contacted by Robin Schafer, a current board member on the Elections Committee. Robin will answer any questions that you might have.

You or your representative must attend the membership meeting to announce your nomination; this is a good time for you to introduce yourself to the members. You are also requested to complete a candidate information form which will be posted in the storefront during voting so that the members know who they are voting for.

At the membership meeting the nominations close and the voting begins. Voting continues for two weeks by secret ballot in the storefront.

The "dates to remember" for the upcoming board elections are as follows:

- November 20 — nominations begin.
- December 5 — nominations close and voting begins.
- December 18 — voting period ends.

If you plan to nominate yourself, it is recommended that you attend a member orientation session and a board meeting. This will better familiarize you with the operation of the co-op. Of course, even if you don't nominate yourself to the board, it is recommended that you attend an orientation session and a BOD meeting because you will be voting for the new board members.

The importance of the BOD to the operation and development of the Leon County Food Co-op cannot be emphasized enough. So if you feel you might be interested in seeking election to the board, check into it. And when the time comes, exercise your right and responsibility to vote.



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Sat. 10-6

You are invited to
the Leon County Food Co-op
Autumn Membership Meeting
& Square Dance
on Dec. 5
at the
Greater Leon Arts Center
127 Monroe St. (old library)
Meeting 4:30 - 6:30
Square Dance — 6:30 - 9:30
Donations accepted

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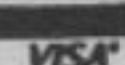
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The Book Co-op:

What Happened?

Summer of '82 saw the closing of Co-op Books and Records, a unique and important organization unlike any other in the U.S. The shockwaves caused by its closing are rocking us now, but its demise was years in coming.

Rick Johnson, a witness and actor in the play, served as board member and as community observer throughout the time the Co-op met its climax and began its slide into history.

What follows is a candid interview with Rick on this subject. SPECTRUM publishes this in effort toward naming what went on behind the scenes before it is glossed over and forgotten. We don't doubt this article will elicit a range of responses concerning, as it does, so volatile a topic. Please make your responses in writing and we'll publish any and all views in the next issue, out Dec. 9.

Spectrum: What caused the collapse of Co-op Books and Records? Some people say it was the state of the economy. Do you agree?

Rick Johnson: Hardly. It's not that easy to bankrupt an interesting bookshop and a discount record store located on the edge of a major university. Many others have survived and they don't have the advantage of an abundant supply of volunteer labor, low overhead and a choice location. Not all of them are chains, either.

S: If not economics, then what?

RJ: Malice, stupidity, and paranoia. In a curious way, the Co-op's success led to its downfall. In 1977-78 progressive social movements enjoyed a tremendous renaissance in Tallahassee and, as part of that, the Co-op's membership burgeoned. Most of these newcomers and a substantial portion of the old guard wanted to broaden and deepen the role of the Co-op and influence its direction. Another faction felt its power threatened by these developments and launched a vigorous campaign to purge the organization of "undesirable" elements — old timers and newcomers alike. Naturally, a split resulted and it was all downhill from there. Sure, financial problems eventually led to the doors being closed, but those problems would never have arisen if the organization's most talented managers, directors, members, and volunteers hadn't been denounced and driven out.

S: Was there a specific incident that ignited the powder keg?

RJ: Yes. It was in June, 1978, at a board meeting. A director expressed concern about the rapid growth of the Co-op and proposed that we cancel the January elections and establish ourselves as board members for life, with authority to pick our successors as vacancies arose. When four of us attacked the proposal, there obviously weren't enough votes to pass it so it never became a formal motion. At that same meeting the proposal's author promised to "cleanse" the board of our influence. In that task, he finally succeeded.

S: How was it accomplished?

RJ: They held a series of secret meetings to draw up a mimeographed slate of candidates which was secretly circulated before the election — almost exclusively to persons subject to the discipline of cadre organizations.

For example, the Iranian Student Organization was holding a meeting that day which included people from as far away as Tampa and Gainesville. More than thirty of them arrived at the meeting with five dollar bills and copies of the slate. They paid their dues on the spot, copied the slate onto a ballot, and left. They had been lied to and manipulated. This was the most extreme example, not the only one. Then the slate organizers nominated as many non-slate candidates as they could so the unorganized vote would be spread out as much as possible. The slate was elected, but only by 7-15 votes out of 197 cast. Prior to this, no more than about 50 people had ever shown up for an election before.

S: Was the new board supported by the members?

RJ: No way. The rigged election, though technically legal, outraged the community. On top of that, the new board proceeded immediately to overrule some decisions that had been voted on by the general membership. That wasn't legal, and due to the general dissatisfaction, the board was ousted and a new election scheduled. However, by this time so many people had quit the Co-op in disgust that it was too late to save it.

S: The new election didn't help?

RJ: No. Not that many people showed up, despite some election reforms. People had just withdrawn their energy. A puppet board was elected, with a few exceptions, but the exceptions resigned before long. Doug Nargiz, the record store manager, and Ronda Hansen, the bookstore manager, were harassed out of their jobs and the Co-op never had capable management again. The old volunteers quit and much of the alternative community ceased being comfortable shopping there. The people who took over never realized that they needed the support of the local progressive community to survive. They thought that if they seized the power positions the money would just keep rolling in automatically and they could spend it as they saw fit.

S: You have been quoted as saying the board's dominant faction was hypocritical, that they exempted themselves from rules they demanded others obey. You have even questioned their sincerity. These are serious charges.

Can you cite examples?

RJ: Sure. Look at the external appropriations issue — it was a power trip from the start. The board gave away money — theoretically \$500 per month, but in practice always more — that we couldn't really afford to spend. Groups they favored or who they thought could advance the interests of the dominant clique got their money with hardly any scrutiny and anyone who raised a question was browbeaten as a racist or imperialist or fascist or whatever, even when the expense was frivolous and the accusation wild. Less favored groups with better proposals were expected to grovel and debase themselves for a lousy fifty bucks so these windy buffoons could get the ego gratification of humiliating them with degrading interrogations.

"It's not that easy to bankrupt an interesting bookshop and a discount record store located on the edge of a major university."

After I was voted off the board I stayed on the personnel committee for a while. We were supposed to locate and screen prospective employees but I was always a minority of one. I've sat there and watched them demand a certain analysis of Albania or Angola from a confused person applying for a minimum wage job as record store cashier.

We had an affirmative action policy, but like all rules, some people were exempt from it. When Ronda was driven out of her job as bookstore manager, Hartmut Ramm, a white male, was the heir-apparent. I was about to start the process our policy required —

advertisements and a good faith search for equally qualified minority or female applicants. He almost certainly would have been hired anyway, because we had these rules we had adopted and they had been strictly applied to all other positions, and — who knows? There might have been somebody else out there equally or better qualified. Anyway, the board violated the rules they were so proud of and hired him immediately.

S: Some critics identify the group that took over as Maoists, while others say they were relics of the Sixties who failed to change with the times. Can you support either description?

RJ: The first conditionally, the second not at all. Scholars describe early and late, agrarian and industrial, and various other types of Maoism. We're dealing here with a uniquely American juvenile form, Mickey Maoism. You have all the pettiness, exaggerated rhetoric, and intolerance of Maoism, but none of the humility and soul searching. As for being Sixties people, that's a misconception. These folks were involved peripherally or not at all in the Sixties. Sixties politics were spontaneous, inclusive, open-minded, principled — they had none of that spirit. They were more like the types from the Thirties that Orwell ridiculed.

S: What's an example of that?

RJ: Well, in early 1979, an affirmative action plan was proposed as part of an election reform to provide representation for women and minorities. At first the Maosketeer leadership opposed it as

continued on page 10

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Frank Wilkinson, from page 1

Anyway, I started out from LA to see poor people. I got to Chicago Hull House in the summer of 1936. While looking for Hull House I came across Maxwell Street in Chicago and there I encountered this unbelievable poverty. Thousands and thousands of people unemployed, miserable conditions, eating out of garbage cans. I took all the money I had planned to use for the first couple of months of my trip and would take the people at the back of restaurants, eating out of garbage cans, around to the front and buy them a meal for ten cents. It took me about ten days of feeding poor people on my own money for me to realize I wasn't making much of a dent in the problem.

From that point forward my life changed. The Halliburton *Royal Road to Romance* was gone. I was changed. I wanted to seek out poverty, see it and live with it. I went almost immediately from Chicago to live in the flophouses of the Bowery in New York, sleeping overnight in crowded rooms — terrible, filthy rooms. One hundred men sleeping in one room, sleeping on cots, and half of them vomiting during the night. I paid ten cents a day for my food and slept in a different cot every night. Here I was, trying to simulate the life of a male derelict in the Bowery of New York in the summer of 1936, the seventh year of the Depression. I didn't even know there was a depression when I left college.

I did this for 30 days before I managed to catch a freighter to Europe.

(Wilkinson traveled through Portugal, was in Spain during the time of the Spanish Civil War, crossed northern Africa and traveled through Egypt on his way to Jerusalem. He arrived, by plan, on Christmas Eve.)

I arrived in Jerusalem filled with this wonderful nostalgia for Christmas Eve, my head filled with Christmas carols: *Silent Night, Holy Night, O Little Town of Bethlehem*. I was so moved! I'd seen the poverty

everywhere else in the world, but somehow I thought that when I got to Jerusalem and Bethlehem there wouldn't be any poverty. This was, after all, where Christ was born.

That night I went out to the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, about seven miles outside of Jerusalem, to the site of the manger, and I found I couldn't get into the church because there were so many beggars outside. Beggars going barefoot and wearing gunny sacks.

I was so shocked. I was angry and frustrated that this abject poverty could exist here; here, 2,000 years after Christ, after 5,000 years of Judaism, or after 12,000 years of

"I wanted to seek out poverty, see it and live with it."

Mohammedanism — all three Western religions have their central places right here in Jerusalem. I was shocked at the disparity between the teachings of Christ and the practice.

It launched me into another simulation drive. I moved into the *souks* of Jerusalem, as close as I could get to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which is close to Golgotha where Christ was crucified. And I moved in with eight unemployed beggars — actually, they were serfs. Their Arab landlords had sold their land to the Zionist groups moving in and had taken the money and gone to Cairo to live like kings and left their serfs behind.

I lived for 16 days with these Arab people and paid 15 cents a day, and found I was feeding all nine of us for the 15 cents. I struggled with my Christianity under these conditions. We had one bowl of food a day and we all ate out of a common bowl. There was no toilet, no heat, no windows. There was just this 1,500-year-old room.

And every night I would go into the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and

watch the priests walk around and around as they do, and their vestments would be dripping with gold ornaments.

I decided I did not want to be a Methodist minister. I decided I wanted to do something about building the kingdom of God here on earth.

After 18 months, I returned to California. My mind was blown wide open. I'd seen the real world. I'd lived for three months under Hitler. I lived for three months under Mussolini. I went and lived in a Warsaw ghetto. I saw all these things with my own eyes and learned and learned and learned.

I came back and my own Hollywood Methodist Church could not grasp what I was talking about. They literally patted me on the back and told my family, "Don't worry about Frank. He will be all right." That was in 1938, 44 years ago. I was 23 years old at the time and they were telling me I would be "all right" and here it is 44 years later and obviously I am not "all right." And no one would be all right if they came from my background and saw what I saw.

It's just my good fortune that Monseignor Thomas J. O'Dwyer, the archdiocese director of hospitals and

charities, heard about me and listened to me and then told me, "You didn't need to go so far to get so excited."

And he took me in his car and drove me to the Watts ghetto and showed me the housing problems. Then he hired me to become his secretary in a citizens' movement to clear the slums of Los Angeles. And I became manager of the first integrated housing project in Watts in 1942, exactly 40 years ago this summer.

In the next issue: How the largest integrated, low-income housing project in LA became Dodger Stadium; defying HUAC and going to prison; NCARL and the FBI; and the resurgence of HUAC.

NCARL has information about the upcoming "lame duck" session of Congress. One potential threat is criminal penalties for interfering with the construction of a nuclear power plant. For more information contact: NCARL, 1250 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 501, Los Angeles, California 90017.

Book Co-op Closing, from page 9

"mechanistic" but before long they embraced it and set up a committee to hammer out details. For weeks they floundered and finally John Buckley and I had to write the damned thing for them and it was adopted. They they claimed it as their own and went around telling people who didn't know better that we had opposed it all along.

The phrase "full spectrum of the left" — their motto — was another example. It meant exactly the opposite of what the words say and it was used most frequently when they were purging somebody. The narrower the spectrum became, the more they called it "full spectrum." A person who only agreed with them 99% was considered as much an enemy as one who disagreed totally.

S: You speak of purges. Did the board actually vote to expel members?

RJ: No. They discussed it, but it never happened. Instead they had a system of harassment and character assassination that many people found so frightening and demoralizing that they just drifted away. In some instances, they would designate a target victim and surround that person physically, shouting insults and accusations, drowning out any effort at self-defense. This worked pretty well on some of the vegetarians, pacifists, and feminists who opposed them. Unfortunately for the Maosketeers, it's not a tactic that can be used on the IRS and big corporate creditors.

S: When did the financial crisis become apparent?

RJ: That's hard to say because the records were always so bad, even before the purges. Judging from cash flow, I'd say late 1979, about six months into the puppet-board period.

S: How did they respond to the financial crunch?

RJ: At the management level, they began trying to give the customers what they wanted, which was, I suppose, a

hard decision. At the board level the search for scapegoats accelerated. I had quit participating about this time, and so had nearly all the other Committee for a Democratic Co-op people. The result was predictable: the board members began attacking and defaming each other. That amused me in a perverse way, but it's not really funny. In a short time they destroyed a proud, vital institution that was a positive influence on the lives of thousands for 12 years.

In the final months, Carmen and Bill, who hadn't really been part of the earlier unpleasantness, labored heroically to save the Co-op, but it was too little, too late. The debts were too crushing and the community too alienated. Those who responded to the urgent appeals at the end were pretty half-hearted and desultory about it. Those board seats had once been so hotly contested, but in the last year or so, they couldn't even find someone willing to fill the vacancies. At long last, they got their wish: nobody wanted to challenge their domination of the Co-op.

S: Could this happen again? Are there lessons to be learned from this?

RJ: Yes and no, to both questions. Forces like the Maosketeers always arise in times when mass movements are growing. I saw the anti-war movement fractured by a similar formation a generation ago. Progressive folk are gentle and respectful by nature. Most of them have no stomach for combatting brutality, slander, and deceit especially when it seems to come from within. But the alternative is to watch the fruits of our labor bled dry and cast aside by parasites whose cynical "rule or ruin" philosophy is unrestrained by any known moral principle. If enough of us had the courage, perseverance, and humor to defend the Co-op for as long as it took back in 1979, without descending to the level of our assailants, it would still be thriving today.

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Last of the Favorite Fives

Back in May of this year, Spectrum gave several pages over to a collection of book and movie lists called *Your Favorite Five*. Coordinated by Pat Seery, the *Favorite Five* had its beginnings in conversation and became a yearly compilation gathered from a large circle of friends and acquaintances. By 1982 this collection filled two and a half tabloid pages in eight point type (that's small!).

Realizing that even with this much space allocated to the project, we would have excluded many more people — and many more kinds of people — than were included, we provided a form on the Spectrum page (page 2 of that same issue) for interested readers to submit their *Favorite Five* books and movies.

Since May we've received ten more entries and, before any more time slips by, we're printing them here. The italicized phrases under the names are self-descriptions.

LISA KREHBIEL

indescribably pernicious

Books

Beasts and Super Beasts — Saki
The Wizard of Earthsea — Ursula Le Guin
Sherlock Holmes — A. Conan Doyle
A Distant Mirror — Barbara Tuchman
Candide — Voltaire

Movies

King of Hearts
Being There
Fantasia
Dawn of the Dead
The Fearless Vampire Killers

SARA BRUNGER

a cute, caring conservationist

Books

The Thorn Birds
The Razor's Edge
Nero Wolfe (anything)
Cannery Row
Raising Your Consciousness Level

Movies

Chariots of Fire
From Here to Eternity
South Pacific
The Black Stallion
Casablanca

ROBERT BRUNGER

cheerful, but earnest, "Sahara Club" type

Books

The Alexandria Quartet
War and Peace
The Plague

Sand County Almanac
Walden

Movies

Gal Young 'Un
I Will Fight No More Forever
Casablanca
Dr. Zhivago
Yellow Submarine

BOB BROEDEL

science activist

Books

Autobiography of Malcolm X
Sisterhood is Powerful (Morgan)
Red Star Over China (Snow)
Einstein on Peace (Nathan and Norden)
Global Reach (Barnett)

Movies

Reds
Missing
Norma Rae
State of Siege
Jane Fonda movies

STEVE BROCKERMAN

student of objectivism — egoist

Books

Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand
The Fountainhead by Ayn Rand
Ninety-Three by Victor Hugo
The Count of Monte Cristo — Dumas
This Perfect Day by Ira Levin

Movies

The Fountainhead
North by Northwest
Raiders of the Lost Ark
Superman
Rocky

DAN EISENBERG

bisexual — sex is fun!

Books

T.E. Lawrence, Seven Pillars of Wisdom
James Herndon, How to Survive in Your Native Land
Joy of Gay Sex
Kurt Vonnegut, Breakfast of Champions
Isaac Asimov, Foundation Trilogy

Movies

Bananas
American Graffiti
Breaking Away
Satisfiers of Alpha Blue
Pink Flamingo

JUDITH LYONS

a community woman

Books

Green Mansions — Hudson
The Lord of the Ring — Tolkien
The Women's Room
Alice in Wonderland

Movies

An American in Paris
Being There
To Kill a Mockingbird
Les Enfants du Paradis
Modern Times

KERRY DEXTER

visual artist

Books

American Exodus: A Record of Human Erosion (D. Lange and P. Taylor)
Voices From the Mountains (Guy and Candie Carawan)
The Bible
Sing Your Heart Out, Country Boy (Jeanne Helleman)
Vincent van Gogh: The Complete Letters

Movies

Coal Miner's Daughter
Paddle to the Sea
Missing
Bonnie and Clyde
Thin Ice

JASON ORION McEACHERN

tall, smart and adventurous 9-year-old

Books

The Narnia series
The Pippi Longstocking series

Who's Got the Apple?

Misty of Chincoteague or Charlotte's Web
Jennifer, Hecate, MacBeth, William McKinley and me, Elizabeth

Movies

Raiders of the Lost Ark
Time Bandits
Star Wars
The Empire Strikes Back
all Woody Allen movies

DENISE VANDERGRIFT DIXON

a turtle-sponge

Books

The Road Less Travelled
Johnny Got His Gun
The Snow-Walker or A Man for All Seasons
Slaughterhouse Five
Alice in Wonderland

Movies

My Dinner With André
Repulsion or The Wild Child
Harvey
Being There
Up in Smoke

ASHLEY MORRISSEY

ephemeral, dreamy; a spirit in the material world

Books

Pentimento
Even Cowgirls Get the Blues
Gift From the Sea
The Probability of the Impossible
My Antonia

Movies

The Seventh Seal
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter
This Property is Condemned
Gallipoli or Some Like It Hot
Hearts and Minds

BRIDGET BALTHROP MORTON

a fierce lover, almost adult

Books

I and Thou — M. Buber
Anne of Green Gables — L.M. Montgomery
Gift From the Sea — A.M. Lindbergh
complete poems — e.e. cummings
Zorba the Greek — Kazantzakis

Movies

A Thousand Clowns
Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner
The King and I
Coming Home
Bugsy Malone

Herpes Self-Help Group

by Zoe Kopp, R.N., Health Director

Herpes is the fastest growing venereal disease in the country today. Due to the conflicting information about it and the traumatic effect it has on those afflicted by the disease, many self-help support groups have sprung up around the country to aid individuals in coping with the disease.

Beginning Monday, November 1, the North Florida Women's Health and Counseling Services will offer an ongoing Herpes Support Group which will be open to men and women.

If you or your group would like any further information about herpes or the support group please feel free to call me at 877-3183 for more information.

Herpes Support Group

for women & men with herpes

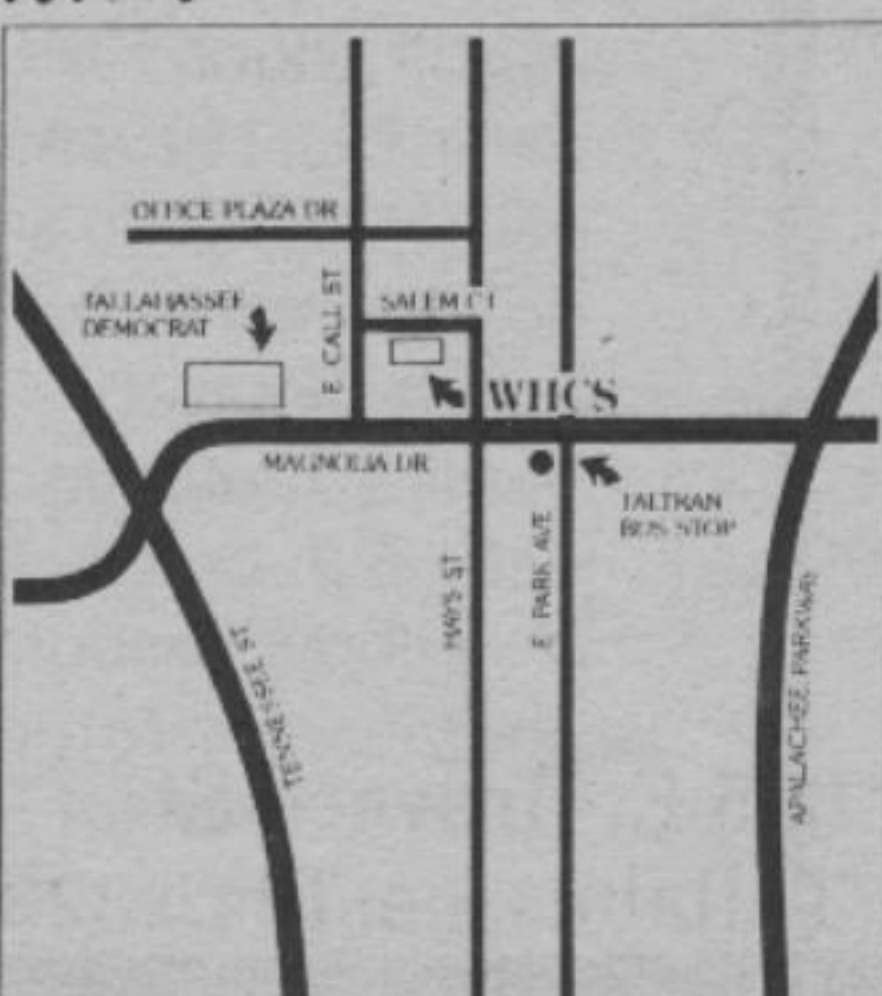
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