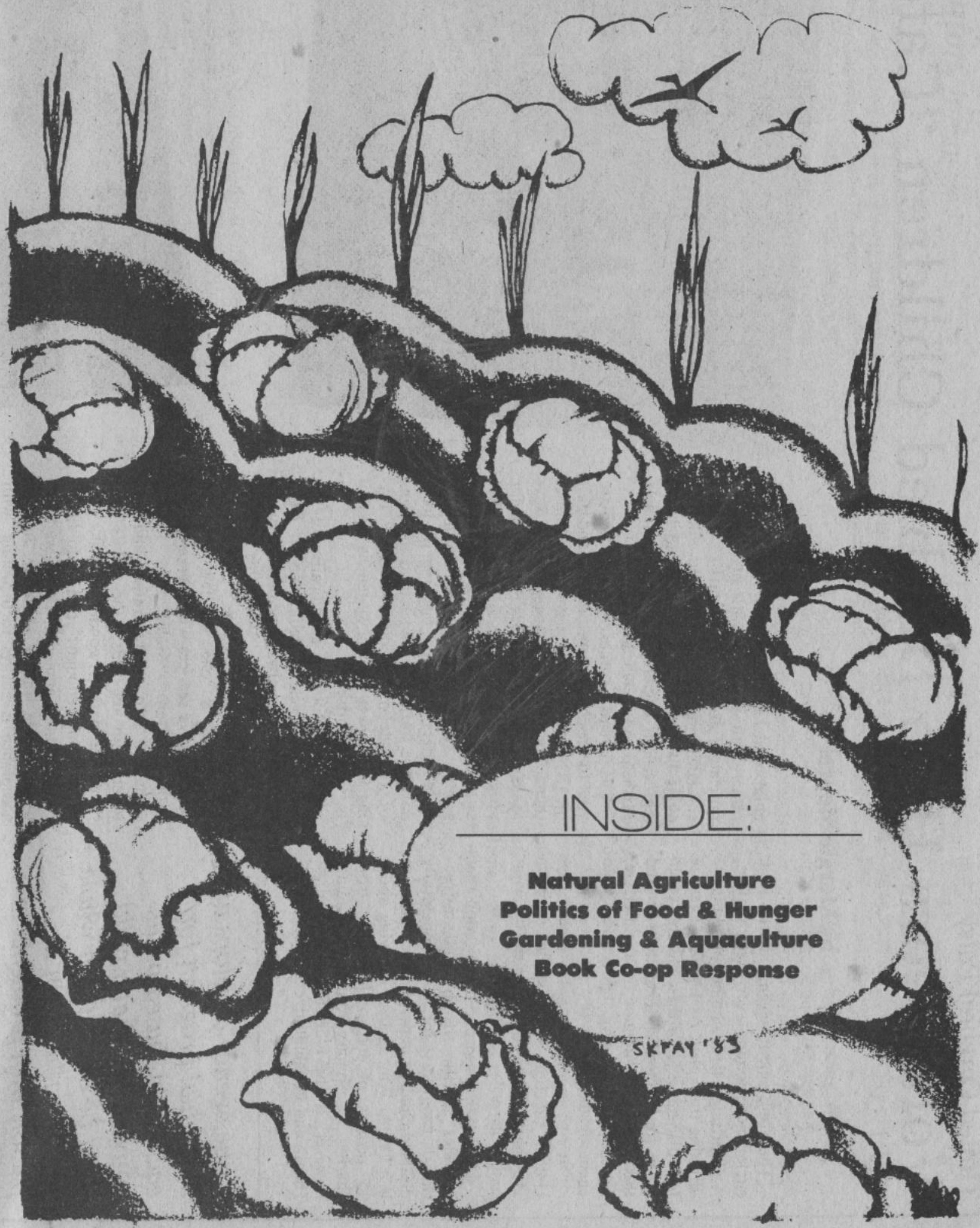


SPECTRUM

A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

Spring Equinox 1983 Issue No. 38

FREE



INSIDE:

- Natural Agriculture
- Politics of Food & Hunger
- Gardening & Aquaculture
- Book Co-op Response

SKPAY '83

gardening, food & hunger

by Morgan Bunch, coordinator of this section

Aquaculture, companion planting, government surplus food, gleaning, the world view, gardening-is-fun, hunger in Tallahassee, people will feed themselves, chicken tractors, federal priorities, mushroom compost, people are starving, let's build another nuclear submarine.

Cynicism comes easily when we think about the problem of hunger. "There just isn't enough food, and the problem can only intensify given increased population and decreased natural resources. There's nothing we can do." The problem is overwhelming. That doesn't mean there are no solutions, though. Frances Moore Lappe and Joseph Collins in *Food First* maintain that there is no need for people to be hungry. The resources for food production *are* adequate for the world's population. People *will* feed themselves if we can remove the obstacles we have allowed to be built with our tax and consumer dollars.

In order to remove these obstacles, we need to work toward constructing "a democratically-controlled, self-reliant economy at home." Collins makes some concrete suggestions: "Opt out of the 'food only for profit' system that creates scarcity. Organize a worker-managed cooperative. Grow some of our own food and get behind a network to directly link farmers to consumers in your area."

Grow some of your own food. Plant a garden. This special section of *Spectrum* includes articles to help you if you want to garden — where to go for information, books and periodicals that you may find helpful, articles on different aspects of fruit and vegetable gardening.

This special section also shows another side of the food issue besides "Hey, it's fun to grow a garden." Yes it is, but there are people in our world who are hungry, and we have to think about that, too.

Alternative High School Fish Growing Project

Aquaculture is Gardening Too

by Debi Powers

The School for Applied Individualized Learning (SAIL) has an aquagarden that was built entirely by its students and staff. The large solar greenhouse houses a fish pond and five intensive garden beds. Projections are that in 10 months the pond will produce 1500 lbs. of meat, and the intensive beds, 500 lbs. of vegetables.

The greenhouse extends the growing season. The pond holds heat and the temperature in the greenhouse does not fall below 55°. Upstairs, the temperature does not fall below 75°, which is excellent for raising seedlings. (There are plans to add a wood stove that will keep the water in the pond at 75°-90° — conditions that will allow optimal growth for the fish all year round.) Shade cloth and a ceiling fan are used to keep the greenhouse cool in the hot summer months.

The pond uses a natural recycling system to keep the water relatively clean. Denitrifying bacteria form a slime layer on the 17 tons of rock on the bottom of the pond and eat fish waste. So, instead of constantly flushing the water, only 50% of it needs to be drained and replaced about once a month to keep the nitrogen levels low enough.

Currently, the fish are being fed FRM fish food, but there are plans to produce supplemental feed in order to provide a

broad spectrum of protein. Science classes plan to raise worms and minnows to feed the fish.

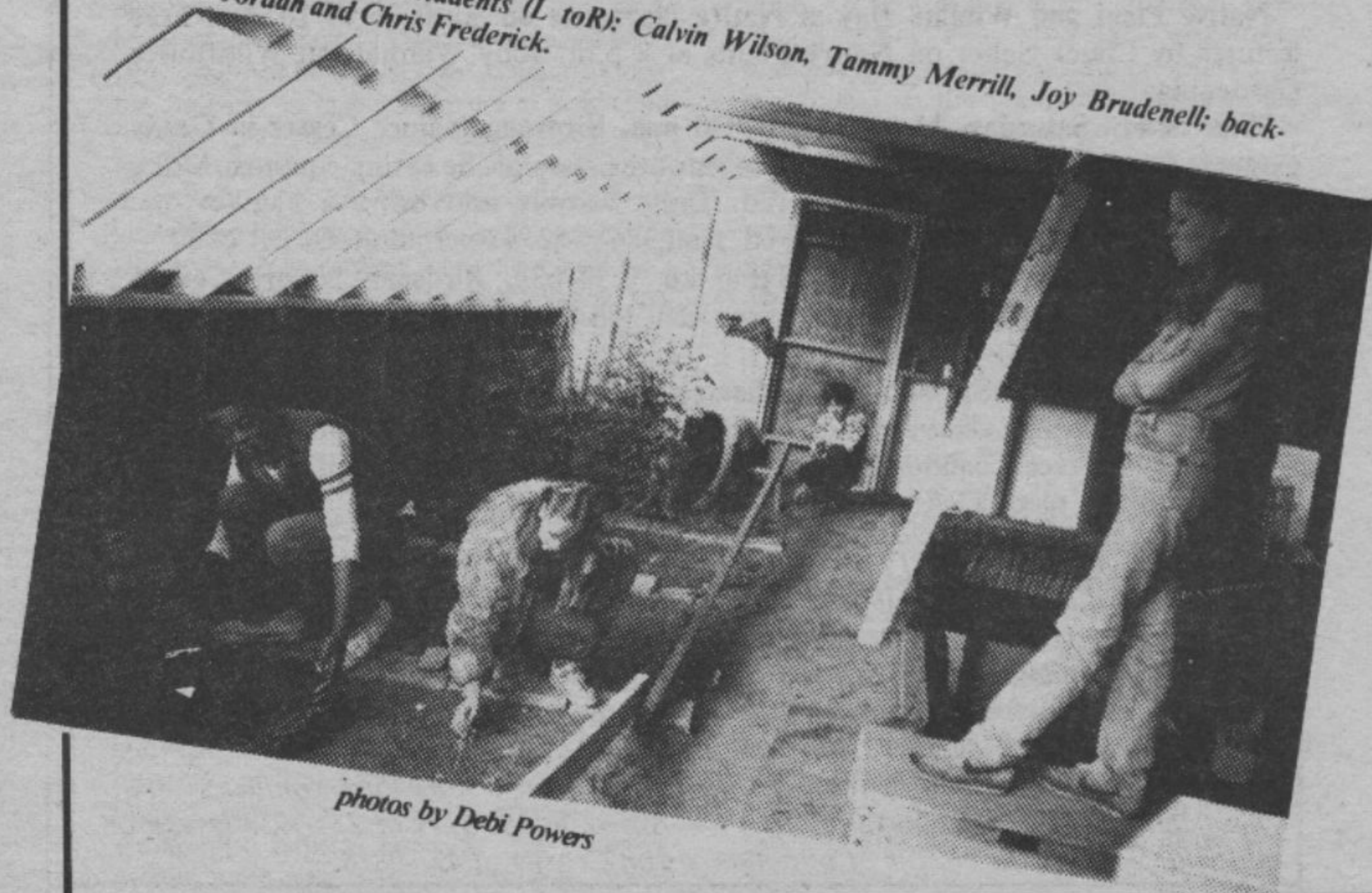
The SAIL aquagarden uses large catfish to help control disease. They eat sick fish, and thus eliminate the need for chemical controls for disease in the pond. Rock salt is used to suppress the growth of parasites and fresh water bacteria without stressing the fish.

Channel catfish are traditionally used in aquaculture, but SAIL is experimenting with a variety of other fish. For instance, it is the only non-governmental facility in Florida that is trying to raise striped bass. And SAIL's aquagarden may serve as a hatchery site for helping to reintroduce sturgeon into Florida waters after they have been virtually wiped out by the damming of our rivers. SAIL's first attempt to raise red fish failed because large catfish ate the small red fish. Hopefully, this experiment will be tried again with equal sized fish. The more types of fish that are raised in the pond, the more knowledge the students will have about aquaculture specifically, and biology, ecology, and chemistry generally. That type of "hands-on" experience with science is what Jeff Wilcox, initiator of the aquaculture project, wanted to offer SAIL students.



Intensive garden beds at Sycamore, Gadsden County.

SAIL Aquagarden students (L to R): Calvin Wilson, Tammy Merrill, Joy Brudenell; back - David Jordan and Chris Frederick.



photos by Debi Powers

*The Gardening, Food and
Hunger section continues on
page 5.*



Demonstrations Against Abuse of Research Animals

by Marc Paulhus

More than 100 animal-protection organizations in 11 countries are right now planning one of the largest, most visible mass activities ever undertaken on behalf of animals. On April 24, 1983, these organizations and their supporters will join in a protest against the excesses and waste involved in animal experimentation by demonstrating in peaceful mass rallies at four tax-supported regional primate centers. These institutions represent the largest individual block grant for animal use in the country and symbolize the massive use — and misuse — of animals by science.

At the New England Regional Primate Center in Southboro, Massachusetts; the Wisconsin Regional Primate Center in Madison, Wisconsin; the Yerkes Primate Center in Atlanta, Georgia; and the California Primate Research Center in Davis, California, mass rallies featuring speakers, performers, and animal-welfare officials will bring into sharp focus animal welfare concerns about the treatment of laboratory animals.

"The mobilization against primate centers will be a worldwide moral and ethical statement," explains Richard Morgan, national coordinator for Mobilization of Animals, the coalition sponsoring the primate center rallies. "It will give to the media, government and industry a sense that laboratory animal welfare is an issue that must be integrated into modern daily life."

The primate centers action will be a peaceful demonstration. The rally at each of the four locations will last from three to

five hours. Nationally known personalities from the entertainment and art worlds will be at each rally, as will be spokespeople for the major groups supporting the action. Literature on the Mobilization, the primate centers' activities, and the individual groups participating will be available at displays and booths. Every effort will be made by Mobilization organizers to ensure a controlled, lawful atmosphere while at the same time emphasizing the commitment of animal welfare supporters to ending laboratory animal exploitation and suffering.

"This will be a day on which everyone who cares about animals will come together, united for one purpose," explains Morgan. "This day represents the strength of the entire movement to the politicians, the public, and to ourselves. There is no moral alternative to ignoring animal welfare concerns — this is what our message should be. The Mobilization and other activities like it will bring animal welfare into the international spotlight."

The participation of individuals from Northern Florida is vital to the success of the April 24th demonstration at the Yerkes Primate Center. Car pools are being formed to depart for Atlanta from several locations within the state, including Tallahassee. Interested individuals or groups should contact the following office for more information: *The Humane Society of the United States, Southeast Regional Office, 325 John Knox Road, Bldg. E-203, Tallahassee, Florida, 32303, (904) 386-3435.*

community announcements

The Wellness Revolution is a film presentation designed to motivate people to take charge of their physical and mental well-being. Discussion topics will include tips on stress management, nutrition and exercise. Will be held Wednesday, April 20, 7-8:30 p.m., in the First Presbyterian Church; free.

How to Raise a Responsible Child, a lecture that will help parents to identify problematic behavior and learn how to act instead of react. Janice Tice will lead a six-week parent group on parent/child communication beginning in May. The lecture will be held Monday, April 25 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Leon County Public Library's Program Room; free.

Medical Self-Care series. The concept of the activated patient should be the wave of the health-care future. This course will be based on the writings of Keith W. Sehnert, M.D., author of *How to Be your Own Doctor Sometimes*. The class topics will be: basic anatomy and physiology, learning to identify medical problems, how to use a stethoscope and otoscope, staying healthy, common illnesses and injuries. Will be held Monday, April 25-May 23, 7-9 p.m. at the North Florida Women's Health and Counseling Service, and led by Zoe Kopp, R.N. The five sessions cost \$25.00 and pre-registration is required.

Psychological Self-Care is a workshop that will explore various approaches to preventive mental wellness. Topics will include: relaxation techniques, personal planning, journal keeping, mutual helping skills, exercises, and choosing a counselor. Will be offered Wed., April 13 - Fri., April 15, 7-9 p.m., and Sat., April 16 from 10:30-5 p.m. The leader is David Jordan and the workshop will be held at North Florida Women's Health and Counseling Services. The cost is \$30.00 for all four sessions and pre-registration is required.

Herpes Support Group/Class will again be offered. The topic for April is "Maintaining Wellness: A Look at the Relationship Between Stress and Illness." The topic of the class changes each month. Men and women with herpes and their partners are invited. The class is held the first Monday of every month from 7-9 p.m. at the North Florida Women's Health and Counseling Services. It is free. The leaders are Yanella Parra and Zoe Kopp.

Yoga for Women is offered every Wednesday, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, room 21, in the Annex. This course is led by Jan Godfrey and costs \$2.50 per session.

SPECTRUM

A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

Published every six weeks

625 E. Brevard St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(904) 224-7222



SPECTRUM Collective

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Geoff Andrews • Norine Cardea • Richard Fairlie

With Help From:

Suzy Fay • Morgan Bunch • Cheryl Dupre
Jerry Johansen

Front Cover: Suzy Fay

Publishing schedule for the first half of 1983:
April 28 (Th), June 16 (Th), July 28 (Th).

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.

Advertising Sales:

Larry Teich — Call 224-7222 for advertising information.

"The Ik," the prize-winning play on hunger, will be performed at the Chapel of the Upper Room on Jefferson St. by FSU, on March 24, 25 and 26 at 8:15 p.m. as a benefit for the Tallahassee Ministerial Association. For ticket information call 575-4340 or 644-6577.

Leon County Food Co-op membership meeting will be held March 20 at 4:00 p.m. in the FSU Student Union Ballroom, followed by films and games.

A Cooperative Early School benefit, Irish Dinner and music, will be held Wed., March 16 at the Senior Citizens Center (the old Armory) on North Monroe and Seventh Ave. For ticket information call 878-4563. \$3.50 adults, discount for kids under 12, and leprecauns.

Hummingbird Homecoming at Native Nurseries will happen on Saturday, March 12 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., on March 13 at 2 p.m. Free workshops on how to attract hummingbirds to your yard. Call 386-8882.

Native Plant and Wildlife Day at Native Nurseries on April 26 at 10 a.m. Free lectures by Chuck Salter on Native Plants at 2 p.m. Jody Walthall on Wildflower Gardening.

Star Study Saturday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. Birdsong Nature Center in Grady County, Georgia. Join Betty Komarek to learn the stars of the spring equinox. Milky Way and constellations will be served. Dress warmly and bring a blanket or sleeping bag. Pre-registration is required. Call 386-8882. \$3 per adult, \$1 per child.

Guided Nature Walk, Sunday, March 20, 2:30-4:30, Birdsong Nature Center. Explore the forests and fields of Birdsong. Call 386-8882 to register. \$3.00 per adult, \$1.00 per child.

Watch the booth at Springtime Tallahassee for Miccosukee Community Child Care Center. Will be selling veggie egg rolls and homemade french fries and apple juice.

Tallahassee Peace Coalition benefit will be held Saturday, April 23. This will be an Oriental Dinner, place TBA.

At last! The next issue of Spectrum is being planned to cover Tallahassee's diverse music scene. Take note, all you musicians, friends and families of musicians, critics, fans, club and studio owners and workers, dancers, shufflers, bouncers, composers, and cartoon characters—here is an opportunity to add your voice to the chorus of opinions.

Preferred format is a short blurb, two paragraphs max, in which you state your name, what you do, and what you think. Send all submissions to Frank Brown, 911 St. Michael, Tallahassee, FL 32301, or any of our normal submission routes. If you have a story idea, contact Frank Brown at 488-3111 or 224-9933 (eves), or Jim Crozier at 421-0818.

SPECTRUM's Evolution

What Happens Behind the Scenes to Determine What Will Be Published?

by Tana McLane

This issue of *Spectrum* has been a complex issue to put together. When Morgan Bunch again approached us about organizing a special theme issue on gardening, hunger and food, the collective thought it was a good idea, if the response was good.

The response was more than good. It was almost overwhelming. Saturday afternoon of production weekend saw us holding a hasty meeting to decide priorities as to what could be published, and in what order.

There was little we wanted to leave out, so the whole issue was re-thought, more

ads were sold, and four pages were added to our original twelve. What you see before you is the result of those decisions. We think it's a great issue.

Thank you, Morgan, for the effective solicitation of articles, photos, and art. Thanks for the writing and nit-picking you did. And thanks to all the writers who shared with us their philosophies, concepts and practical advice about gardening, hunger and food. We appreciate the opportunity to publish locally-relevant explanations of these issues and what we can all do — about growing some of our food and about helping hungry people to have food in Tallahassee and throughout the world.

When We Don't Publish Your Article

Spectrum is produced by a partisan editorial collective that, while having a broad politic, does also have its point of view. To some extent, the paper is a community bulletin board. But there is also a standard of quality and tone we'd like to present to our readers on issues we (and they) find important.

And, like any long running publication that solicits and spontaneously receives

continued on p. 14



More on the Book Co-op:

Letters Response to Rick Johnson's Interview

Editor:

I wish to add my voice, however belatedly, to those who, I trust, have spoken out against the "candid interview" with Rick Johnson which appeared in your November issue. If "candid" means forthrightly impartial, then your interview was the very opposite of candid.

The partiality surrounding and infusing the interview is not diminished by observing that the collapse of the Book and Record Co-op is a "volatile subject" and inviting "responses." What possessed the *Spectrum* staff to regard Rick Johnson's views as so authoritative as to warrant their presentation as the explanation ("What Happened," the interview is entitled) to which all other interested parties would have to respond (whereupon, if usual practice were followed, Johnson would be given the chance to respond to his critics).

Spectrum's characterization of Johnson as a "board member and . . . community observer throughout the time the Co-op met its climax and began its slide into history" is a deceptive embellishment of the fact that Johnson's involvement with the Co-op lasted barely two years: one year on the Board and one more on the periphery, fighting tenaciously, but in vain, to regain his seat. (What, by the way, is a "community observer," as opposed to a simple observer? Is this not a cheap device designed to inflate Johnson's importance?) Why did it not occur to *Spectrum* to solicit the views of the handful of Founding Fathers and long-time volunteers and Board members still living in the Tallahassee area? Why do these stalwarts find themselves in a position of having to "respond" to the splenetic outpouring of someone who indiscriminately tars his critics in the Co-op controversies as "maoists," even though that label was not adopted by, nor did it fit any of them? One hesitates to speak out against someone who uses McCarthyite tactics and is likely to have the last word.

One wonders about *Spectrum's* motives. Can it really have mistaken Johnson's diatribe, which really belongs to the literature of demonology, with an explanation? One need not be a Fullbright scholar to look for the clues to business failure in economic factors. Yet Johnson dismisses economic factors grandly with the breezy assertion that "It's not that easy to bankrupt an interesting bookshop on the edge of a major University. Many others have survived (alas, no examples), and they don't have the advantage of an abundant supply of volunteer labor, low overhead and a choice location." What, then, are the reasons? "The malice, stupidity and paranoia [sic]" of "juvenile . . . Maoist . . . parasites [who are] unrestrained by any known moral principle," Johnson tells his compliant interviewer. They lied routinely, manipulated others, harassed anyone not belonging to their conspiratorial clique, conducted purges, and on and on.

Never, not even in the most rabid Maoist tabloid have I read a more scurrilous attack by one leftist on other leftists. One is reminded of Stalin's judge: "Shoot the mad dogs." Not that Johnson considers his antagonists leftists. Certainly not. "Sixties people were spontaneous, inclusive, open-

minded, principled. Progressive folk are gently and respectful by nature." Like Johnson himself, no doubt.

The philosophical pivot of Co-op Books and Records was epitomized by the motto "All Points of View on the Left." This was working for paradigm examples of left causes (anti-war, anti-nuke, civil rights, feminism, not to mention the Co-op itself) that numbers in the thousands. Only the tortured mind of a sectarian true believer could come to terms with such an idiosyncratic conception of the movement.

Clearly, the Co-op motto was not what attracted Johnson to the Co-op. One wonders (though not, of course, the *Spectrum* interviewer) what did attract him. Whatever it was, it should come as no surprise that believers in the motto opposed Johnson's election to the Board, or that his vote totals in three failed attempts at reelection registered the accelerating disenchantment of the Co-op members, relatively and absolutely. Nor should anyone wonder that Board discussions during Johnson's tenure tended to degenerate into harsh, vituperous exchanges. That is not to say that there were no other fractious personalities on the Board, but none had Johnson's talent for abuse. His *Spectrum* interview is just another virtuoso performance.

Anxious, as he is, to slay his demons, Johnson passes on to the political crisis without a passing glance at the world of business. But his account of the crisis is so thoroughly distorted by untruths, hyperbole and one-sided reporting of facts as to render it, too, worthless. He is as blind to the virtues of his demons as to his sins and those of his angels. To take the most important example, there were two "slates" in the 1979 elections, not just one demon slate, as Johnson pretends. The one put together by Johnson's demons is accused of basing its strength "almost exclusively [on] persons subject to the discipline of cadre organizations." This is utter nonsense. There were not then, and there are not now, enough people in Tallahassee "subject to the discipline of cadre organizations" to fill a phone booth. Johnson goes on to claim that "the late organizers nominated as many non-slate candidates as they could so the unorganized vote would be spread out as much as possible." That is not only patently false, but absurd, since the demon slate's organizers knew that there would be few unorganized votes, and, indeed, as a statistical look at voter behavior the Co-op's unique aspect, to which I, for one, was drawn. The bookstore was scrupulous in procuring the literature of all progressive groups, and in its external appropriations the Board, during my association with it, gave the term "left" a broad definition. Since the term is vague, there were naturally discussions about which groups and activities belonged to its denotation. And people's criteria were undoubtedly colored somewhat by their political views. But, never was the line drawn as dogmatically as Johnson does in his interview. Never was more contempt shown for the spirit of "All Points of View on the Left." When Johnson claims that "These folks were involved peripherally or not at all in the Sixties," he blithely turns his back on a combined total of person-hours spent

Spectrum note: The November, 1982 issue contained an article by Richard Johnson titled "The Book Co-op: What Happened?" in which Johnson gave reasons for that co-op's demise. The article was submitted in a question-and-answer format, as a device to simplify and clarify his point of view on the issue. No one on the *Spectrum* collective interviewed him or submitted questions to him. When informed of the confusion caused by this paper's unclear explanation of what that article was, Johnson stated that he did not intend his literary device to mislead. *Spectrum* should have been clear in introducing the article as a self-interview, and we regret misunderstandings this may have caused.

In retrospect, this was a poor decision, no matter how hastily made. We hope to avoid such editorial gaffes in the future. However, we feel Johnson's article does represent a point of view worth noting. The following letter, in response to the previous article, represents another viewpoint. (Note: Hartmut Ramm was manager of Co-op Books from 1979-1980.)

Dear Friends (?),

Enclosed is \$1 with hopes you will send me a copy of the *Spectrum* that has an interview with Richard Johnson.

I have been told that, among other things, he takes credit for the affirmative action entry in the By-laws, that he discredits the Iranian students, etc. The affirmative action program was a product of Dev Mukhopadhyay. The Iranian students were Tallahassee locals. I'm hoping that the article/interview really isn't this bad and that (if it is that bad) you have made provisions for rebuttal.

Respectfully,
Bob Broedel

showed, most people did vote for one of two blocks — one corresponding to the demon slate and the other to the angel slate, which was composed of Johnson intimates and allies.

If that were all the evidence for the existence of a second (prior) slate, one could accept Johnson's (and the *Spectrum* interviewer's) glib omission. But, the fact is that in two public meetings first-hand testimony was given to the existence of (and I quote to the best of my memory) "a group of people who were getting together. . . to defeat some Board members and elect others." To be sure, the second slate was not passed around in mimeographed form, but a restaurant without printed menus is still a restaurant.

I bring this up not by way of explanation of the Co-op's decline, for I am not a demonologist. The squabbling between two shrinking clusters of antagonists did not enervate the Co-op, as Johnson solemnly asserts. That was the sound and fury, signifying very little. The quality of volunteer labor at Co-op Books remained more or less constant during 1979 and 1980, while the economic impact of volunteer labor increased due to long hours put in regularly by three exceptionally dedicated volunteers who took over the mammoth Accounts Payable.

But even if volunteer labor had plummeted, the effect would not have had great financial weight, for volunteers were only used in the Bookstore, not in the bread-and-butter operation, Co-op Records. The place to look for the cause of the Co-op's bankruptcy is obviously the Record Store and Looking Forward Distributors (LFD), where over 90% of the business was done in 1979. If one wants to pin the

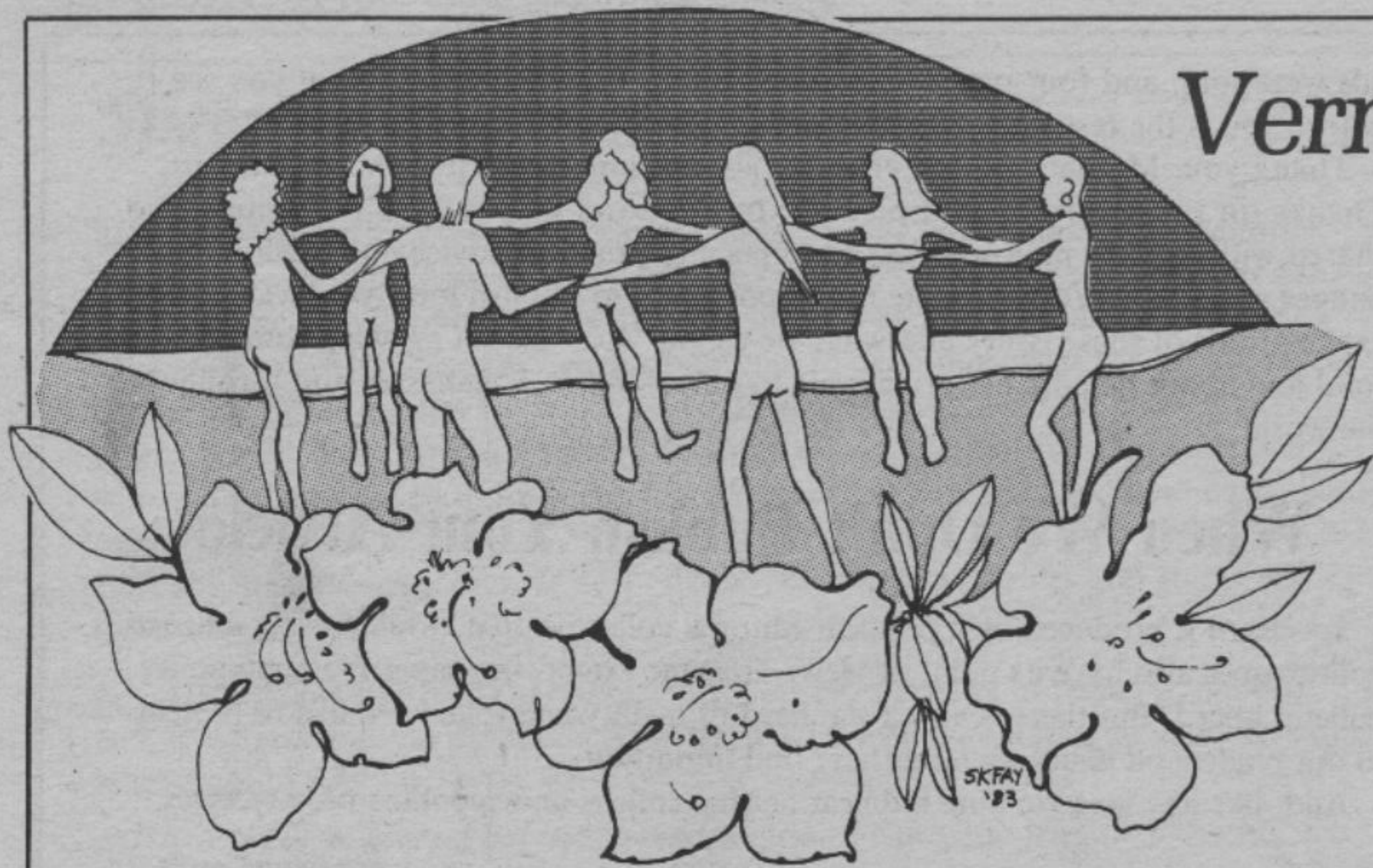
collapse on demons, one need not slander people. The real demons were competition by the well-heeled Record Bar, the obsolescence of LFD, and foolish decisions to expand by doubling the space rented by Co-op Records and the purchase of the warehouse. In comparison to these catastrophes, the cost of the Board's appropriations to progressive organizations, which dropped sharply after 1979, was of secondary importance.

The superior marketing resources of the Record Bar, the annexation of the neighborhood storefront for which the Record Store had little merchandise and a severe depression in the record business in general produced a sharp drop in sales and rise in costs. The Record Store was bled even more by the warehouse, acquired by the unanimous vote of the Board on which Johnson sat. Its high mortgage and chronic shortage of renters was like an open wound, out of which money flowed.

As for LFD, like independent bookstores and record stores, it was a vanishing species. As a viable institution in the volatile record market the LFD-type of distributorship had a half-life of only a few years.

In a word, the Co-op undertook an ill-advised expansion just as business was beginning to contract sharply. I do not exculpate myself or the other managers and directors for making bad financial decisions, as in the purchase of the warehouse. Far from it. I only insist that Board mistakes were generally bipartisan, well-intentioned and wholly unamenable to demonological analysis.

Hartmut Ramm
San Jose, Costa Rica
January 12, 1983



Vernal Equinox—

Demeter and Core: The Eternal Mother and Daughter

by Sherry Rauch

It is the Spring Equinox and seven women gather on the beach to celebrate. They stand in a circle, pink azaleas on the sand in the middle of them, their hair, their bare breasts free to the sea wind as the last lights of day are seen on the horizon. One by one the women call out their name and then their mother's name, their name, then their mother's name, their name and then the mother's name again. When all is quiet one woman tells why the Spring Equinox is celebrated: the coming of spring, the welcoming back of life.

When Demeter, the goddess of the cornfield, was young and gay she gave birth to a daughter, Core. They were together, the mother and daughter, during the early years of the daughter's life. When Core was a grown woman, Hades the god of the underworld, fell in love with her. Hades went to Zeus to ask if he could marry Core. Zeus, not wanting to offend Hades but also knowing Demeter would never forgive him if he gave his consent, decided to neither give nor withhold his approval. Hades was so angered that he abducted Core as she was picking flowers in a meadow.

"Demeter searched for her daughter day and night, refusing to eat or sleep. The only thing she could find out was that Hecate had heard Core cry 'A rape! A rape!', but had not actually seen her. Finally she found out that Hades had kidnapped her daughter. She became so angry that she wandered the earth forbidding the trees to bear fruit, the crops to grow, even the flowers to bloom. She vowed that the earth would remain barren until Core was returned to her.

"Eventually a compromise was reached whereby Core would be with her mother for nine months out of the year, but would spend the remaining

three in the underworld. Demeter, still sad and dejected whenever her daughter was gone refused to let anything grow in the months when she was not with her. Hence, we have winter when Core is in the underworld with Hades and spring and the return of vegetation when Core is reunited with her mother Demeter."

The women think of their mothers, of the times their bonds with them have been broken, have healed, only to be broken again. They cry, they sing, they howl into the night. But

"The women think of their mothers, of the times their bonds with them have been broken, have healed, only to be broken again."

finally they dance and celebrate because they also know there will be a reunion, will be a spring, for every year nature tells us so.

As the women leave the beach, one woman throws the azaleas into the ocean saying, "A la diosa, bendita sea mi madre."

I remember telling my mother the story of Demeter and Core. We were in the mountains, taking a walk at night, observing the multitude of stars we could never see in the city. When I finished we looked at each other and she smiled. The recognition was there. For all the times my mother cannot understand my choices in life, all the raising up of me to be the strong woman behind an even stronger man, she would never cease to fight for my spirit. If my spirit was to die, no one would grieve more than my mother.

Not all women are so lucky. Many mother-daughter relationships

are riddled with pain and guilt. Mothers have sometimes had a hand in killing their daughters, literally (female infanticide) or on an emotional and spiritual level (mothers that demand obedience to the fathers, in heaven and on earth.) Feminists know that this 'killing' often occurs because we live in a world that reveres men and their values — authority, dominance, and aggression — and subjugates and despises women and what they have come to represent — emotions and vulnerability. But this knowledge is frequently not enough to heal the wounds between mother and daughter.

The fact that some mothers have failed their daughters does not negate the mothers who, like my mother, did give their daughters physical, emotional and spiritual life. Nor does

In their souls men too, I believe, seek the Mother. But men deny their need and responsibility to maintain bonds with Her. Is not the oppression of women a denial that they are dependent on woman for life and that they hate her for this dependency? Isn't war a rather graphic indication of their refusal to see how all life is interdependent? (I am speaking here in generalities. I am not talking about the individual man who, despite a violent world which has taught him otherwise, may understand his relationship to the world.)

If men on a large scale did acknowledge those connections with all life, both women and men would not have to look to women to find the Mother. She would be there in men too, not only in their souls, but in their very real male bodies. Their sexuality, their penises would be associated with renewal and rebirth, a power that generates excitement as well as safety instead of the images and the realities of pornography — dominance and rape. The cycle would then continue: the mother gives birth to her children so that they will reunite with her, through each other, to create more life.

So this month on the Spring Equinox I will shout my mother's name, Barbara, and my name, Sharon, over and over again. I will rejoice in my connection to her. I am her daughter. And every time I see a flower bloom, a tree bud, or a child play, I will smile, knowing that nothing, really, can stop this rebirth.

it negate the fact that women continually seek connection with the Mother, if not with their own, at least with the life-giving force that mothers represent.

Often they seek this life-giving force in other women. No matter how much men have shared with women — economic bonding, intellectual pursuits, parenthood, sexuality, humor, compassion — a woman does not stop seeking the Mother until a woman, in her biologically akin body, can affirm her existence. "Yes, I love you for what you are and I will fight to the ends of the earth for your right to grow. My fulfillment as a person is contingent on yours."

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As the Worm Turns

Fruit Trees for Future Harvests

by Debi Powers

Fruit trees are an investment in the future. When I plant a tree, I dream about the future... what will this tree look like with a tall trunk and stretching branches? What will this hillside look like in the spring when all these trees are covered with blossoms and the sound of working bees is in the air? What will I be like when that many years have passed? Trees are planted with daydreams. The dreams are as essential as the strength to dig the hole and haul the water. You can not plant a tree unless you are a true optimist, unless you see a future worth being around for.

Fruit tree planting should take place when the trees are dormant, particularly if they are bought dry-root (without soil). Potted trees can be planted anytime, but it is less of a shock if they are planted before the growing season begins. There are two main schools of thought regarding fruit tree planting. Some think that you should fill the hole with rich nutritious compost to give your tree a good start. Others think that if you do that, the tree roots will stay right there where the nutrients are and not spread out much, particularly if the surrounding soil is relatively poor. I use the latter method in planting my trees. I dig a big hole in order to break up the soil, but don't add anything, except rock powders that break down slowly. The tree will then spend most of its energy and growth sending out its roots in search of nutrients, and developing a lengthy root system that will be particularly helpful during droughts. Feeding the tree through a top-dressing of rich compost or rotted manure and rock powders should occur early every spring or late winter at the beginning of the second growing season. Grass and weeds should be cleared around the tree, out to the drip-line. The top dressing should cover the ground out to the drip-line, also.

A thick layer of mulch is extremely important in order to preserve soil moisture, regulate soil temperature, and add nutrients as it decomposes.

Pests are a major problem for organic fruit producers in the South. Here are a few organic insecticides, although it should be remembered that even the tamest can be abused and upset the delicate ecology in the orchard.

Dormant oil sprays are safe and reliable protection. The oil layer works by suffocating pests. This spray is very effective in controlling mites which winter in the egg stage. It also helps against pear psylla, scale insects, aphids, thrips, mealybugs, and white flies, as well as the eggs of the codling moth, oriental fruit moth, cankerworm, and various leaf rollers. Fungus growth and fire blight are also cleared up. This spray should only be used when the tree is in the dormant stage because the oil can damage new leaves. Spraying must be thorough.

Diatomaceous earth is not a poison. Proper milling cracks apart diatom skeletons to expose microscopic needles of silica that are razor-sharp daggers that pierce an insect's exoskeleton, causing it to dehydrate and die. The most affected insects are the aphids, spider mites, oriental fruit moths, codling moths, and twig borers. This powder can be mixed with water to make a spray, and adding white pastry flour to the mixture will help it stick better. It will not harm bees, so it is one of the few things that can be used during blossoming.

Liquid seaweed will help control mites and aphids, will feed trees through the foliage, and can offer some frost protection.

Bacillus thuringiensis powder is a bacterial disease that will attack only worms. It can be made into a spray and will not harm bees.

Micro-fine wettable sulfur is a fungicide and is helpful in the treatment of mildew and scab. It can have a negative effect on beneficial insects. It should not be used within a month of using dormant oil.

Attracting or planting beneficial insects in your orchard is extremely important in order to keep a healthy balance between the predators and pests. Praying mantises, lady bugs, lacewings, and trichogramma wasps are commercially available.

With some hard work and a few dreams, you can reap a bountiful harvest in years to come!

Gardening
With
Wildlife in
Mindby the staff of
Native Nurseries

No matter where you live, city, suburb or country, your porch, yard or land supports many wild critters. The plants that surround your abode provide food and shelter for insects, lizards, frogs, birds, and maybe raccoons, bobcats, and deer.

The trees, "weeds" and grasses that grow voluntarily are an important aspect of habitat. You can cultivate and nurture these volunteers as you would anything you intentionally planted. You can also enrich the habitat by choosing to plant native or exotic trees and plants that will do well in your ecosystem, and provide a benefit for you and the wildlife in your yard.

For example, elderberry makes a great jelly for you, and 51 species of birds have been recorded feeding on them. Elderberry blooms are pretty in the spring also. This plant is a rapid grower

...elderberry makes a great jelly for you, and 51 species of birds have been recorded feeding on them.

and spreader so give it plenty of space.

Female wax myrtle berries can (with much patience) provide you with wax for candles, and provide warblers and ruby crowned kinglets with a favorite meal. Sweet gum sap can be worked in the mouth until it turns the consistency of chewing gum. Of course this should not be done often for the sake of the tree. In addition, goldfinches and Carolina chickadees spend a lot of time searching sweet gum balls for seeds.

Snake root can add a fun texture to your springtime chickweed and violet flower salad, and so says the wild boar! All wild foods should be nibbled like the animals do, a little today, a little tomorrow.

Grasses and legumes play a big role in providing seeds, insects, and shelter for

birds, deer, bobcats and other animals. In nature, prairies and savannahs provide this habitat. These open sunny areas resulted from fires due to lightning strikes. The fires stopped encroachment by hardwoods, and encouraged grasses, wildflowers, clover, and legumes such as partridge pea. We can emulate these lightning fires by learning to burn under proper conditions, or by mowing and harrowing uncultivated fields and yards annually. The time of year to do this varies from October to March, and the resulting vegetation varies with the time of year that the plot or yard was mowed, or worked. The results are that wildlife enjoy the fields and we can enjoy wildflowers and grasses.

Although the list is almost endless, here are a few other common native plants worth cultivating: pokeweed, american beauty berry, magnolias (grandiflora, pyramid and ashe) hollies, pines, gallberry, smilax, trumpet vine, coral honeysuckle, red maple, sugar maple, the tupelos, sweet gum, and on and on.

There are a number of introduced or exotic plants that have adapted to our environment, and that also provide benefits to wildlife. Nandina, a graceful upright shrub blooms in the spring and then berries in the fall. Several birds enjoy these berries, as well as the bright berries of the pyrocantha. These two shrubs and other winter holding berries like holly berries provide an important winter food source for mockingbirds, warblers, cedar waxwings and robins. Ligustrum can be susceptible to white fly infestations, but it does bloom nicely in the sun and the birds enjoy the dark blue-grey berries.

The number of plants that enrich the beauty of life is as diverse as the number of ecological niches that exist. Forest, fields, grasslands, swamps, sandy ridges, shorelines, and bays all contribute to the diversity of wildlife and human life. So, no matter where you live, you can add to diversity and contribute to the splendor that is nature.

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Gleaning: Revival of a Biblical Tradition

by Richard Fairlie

Gleaning — reaping surplus crops from the fields — has a history that extends beyond biblical times. However, even though recent industrial farming has yielded larger crops and larger surpluses, gleaning has dwindled.

But, a dire economy has convinced some senior citizens and state agencies that food on the table is better than crops plowed under, and gleaning has been revived.

Under a program organized by Faye Harrell of the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, area farmers open up their fields to gleaners after crops have been harvested. They pick what fruit and vegetables remain, and often produce that is too ripe for market, but not too ripe to eat.

Tomatoes, cucumbers, cauliflower, grapes, string beans and squash have been

harvested in the first two years of the project. Harrell hopes to add peaches to the list.

Only the disabled and low-income elderly are eligible for the project, however. Financial need is based on Title 20 guidelines. But anyone can volunteer to glean and donate the produce to those who are unable. "We've even had delinquent kids come out and pick for restitution and give the vegetables to the elderly," Harrell said.

Because many senior citizens do not drive, the gleaners are transported to the farms by van. Much of the work is done in the morning, before temperatures rise. And the working conditions are not unpleasant. "The farms are real clean, and a lot of the things that we pick are up high, so there's no stooping to pick," Harrell said. "Most everyone who goes

has a good time."

One such participant is Marie Bryant, who picked grapes two times last August. "It's a wonderful experience," she said. "All of us that went really enjoyed it, and I'm looking forward to it again this year." Bryant shared her gleanings with the senior citizens' center and other friends, as many do. She also made grape jelly.

Most of the gleaning is done in Gadsden County, but a few farms in Leon County also permit it. The Department of Agriculture solicits farms and orchards to get involved in the program.

But only a handful of farms are

"Farmers who open their fields to gleaners don't regret it..."

involved, according to HRS Direct Service Supervisor Steve Flourney. A lack of funding and organization are the most troublesome restraints on the project, he said. "Part of the problem is that there's no real group that have committed themselves entirely, no strong

leadership," Flourney said. "There is no state staff or funding for the project, so we get involved by getting volunteers involved." Farmers who open their fields to gleaners don't regret it, he said. "They realize it's a good program for the needy, and it doesn't hurt the farmer."

But Lowell Parrish, the Department of Agriculture Market Specialist responsible for locating donor farms, said that some farmers have had problems with individual gleaners. "Some people are coming out and harming the fields — they think they can just come out anytime they want and pick crops," he said. "The farmers are seeking organized groups to glean."

Without organization and volunteers, the future of the project looks grim. Flourney said the second year saw a small decline in farms offering their excess produce. "We want it to be successful and we want it on a volunteer basis," he explained. "If the right people were involved, it could blossom into something that could help a lot of people. There's no limit to how successful the (gleaning) program could be."

Chicken Tractors & Mushroom Farms

by Tom Kelly

A great thing for gardeners around here was the opening of a mushroom farm near Quincy. Mushrooms are grown in composted manure, and spent compost is available at Suber Nursery near Quincy.

Here are directions: Go west on I-10 to the Quincy SR 267 exit. Go left onto 267. Proceed 4½ miles to SR 65-B. Turn right. 65-B deadends into SR 65. Turn right. Go one mile to SR 65-A. Turn left. Suber Nursery is the first building on your right. They are open until noon on Saturday and are closed on Sunday. Five dollars per front-end loader bucketfull. Great stuff.

• • •

What is a chicken tractor? It's a portable chicken coop. The chickens get fresh greens and weed seeds and insects. You get weeds, insects and weed seeds removed, the ground fertilized and eggs. What a deal! The tractor is moved periodically as the chickens eliminate the weeds. My chickens never eat all the scratch feed, so whenever I move them, I shortly have a nice stand of wheat, rye, and corn coming up. Instant cover crop!

• • •

Periodicals of interest to gardeners: *The Gourd*, published three times a year by the American Gourd Society, P.O. Box 274, Mt. Gilead, Ohio. \$2.50/year. Articles on

all aspects of gourd growing, crafting, history, etc. The best part is the classified ads. An incredible number of types of gourds and their seeds are listed here. *Florida Market Bulletin*, 407 S. Calhoun, Room 428, Mayo Bldg., Tallahassee, FL 32301. Free bi-monthly to Florida citizens. If you want to know what's happening in Florida agribusiness, this will keep you up to date. Also consumer information, recipes, free classifieds. Again the classifieds are my favorite part. A great place to look for unusual seeds and plants. *Seed Savers Exchange*, Kent Whealy, RR2, Princeton, MO 64673. This is an organization devoted to preserving heirloom vegetable varieties. This genetic resource is of immense potential value to present and future generations. It would be a shame to lose it through neglect. Excellent information on saving your own seed, an important part of the gardener's art. Two issues at \$6.00/year. *The Henry Doubleday Research Association*, Convent Lane, Bocking, Braintree, Essex, England. An organic gardening organization based in England. The director is Lawrence D. Hills, a real authority on organic gardening and the poplizer of comfrey as a food fodder and medicinal plant. Their newsletter is not very relevant to us, as gardening in England is different than doing it here.

But it's worth joining to have access to the books and pamphlets they publish. I got the plans for the chicken tractor from them. *Acres, U.S.A.*, a voice for eco-agriculture. P.O. Box 9547, Raytown, Missouri, 64133. Monthly, \$9.00/year. Anti-chemical, anti-establishment. I'm really at a loss to try to describe this

radical/conservative? publication. Try it for a different point of view and interesting articles you'll probably never see elsewhere. *The Necessary Catalogue*, Necessary Trading Company, Newcastle, Va. 24127, \$1.75. The only mail order catalog I know of for organic fertilizers, pest control products, etc. Very complete.

Alternative Agriculture thru CPE

by Link Jarrett

Florida State University's Center for Participant Education (CPE) has sponsored a program of alternative agriculture (organic gardening) each year since 1972. The program operates on approximately 3 acres of land at the FSU Dairy Farm.

Each semester, a lecture about basic gardening techniques is given and small (average 30 ft. by 30 ft.) garden plots are available for individual use. The instructor for the program is available Sundays from 1:00-2:00 p.m. for technical assistance after the scheduled lecture.

Instruction for the program emphasizes the basics of: where to go to learn about gardening (county agricultural agent and Florida Department of Agriculture) through

written materials, climate, seed selection, soil analysis and preparation, pest identification and control, and mulching and composting. The importance of a soil and nematode test is stressed as an essential first step in the garden process.

The alternative agriculture program highlights the need for gardeners to use waste materials which are freely available (leaves, lawn clippings) in the mulching and composting process. Gardeners are encouraged to build compost piles and to mulch as appropriate.

Also stressed is pest control through non-toxic means, particularly mechanical ones for the small gardener (squish 'em).

Organic gardening requires a persistent commitment to a process. The grade in the alternative agriculture course is in the groceries — vegetables on the table.

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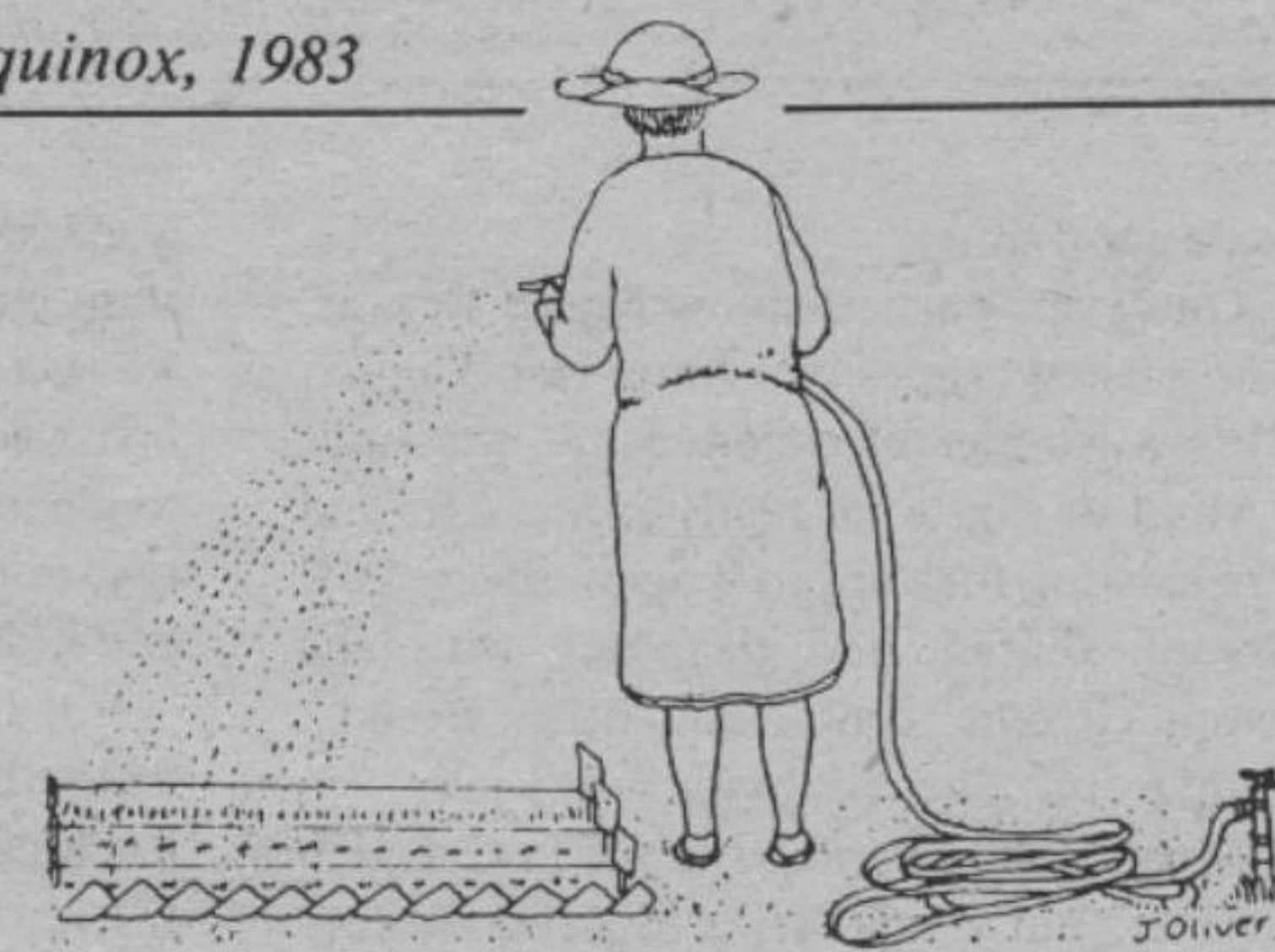
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Trade Lawn for Garden

by Dale Allen



For several delicious years, I have been growing two crops of vegetables a year in my front yard. In a space measuring roughly 30 ft. by 35 ft. (one-third of the yard), I have five beds devoted to vegetables (broccoli, peas, tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, onions, lettuce, turnips, collards, spinach, potatoes, carrots and herbs), one bed containing five asparagus plants, and one bed devoted to strawberries and red raspberries. In addition, I have a scuppernon grape arbor that gives me abundant late summer munching. From this small space I usually harvest between \$300 and \$500 worth of vegetables each year.

The most important single component of successful gardening is proper soil preparation. Give your vegetables good soil tilth, proper soil pH, and adequate soil fertilization, and your plants will do the rest. But don't let anyone fool you. This

first essential step requires considerable work. Unlike the unproductive drudgery of mowing your lawn, however, starting a garden is an investment in your own well-being.

The best way to start a garden is to talk to someone who has a garden. Learn how they started their garden, which varieties of vegetables they prefer, and what insect problems they have. You will find that all gardeners are delighted to share their special discoveries and secrets. If you only have a small space, consider raised beds. They really do pay off in greater yields per square foot. There are numerous excellent books available on raised beds as well as on other gardening methods.

Gardening is work, but with a direct payback. Start one this year. You can always regrow your lawn if you don't enjoy the results. If you do appreciate your garden, you'll never feel comfortable again without one.



Revolution and Food in Nicaragua

What Difference Could a Revolution Make? Food and Farming in the New Nicaragua, by Joseph Collins with Frances Moore Lappe and Nick Allen.

In July 1979, Nicaraguans toppled the Somoza dynasty and began a long struggle against the legacy of that regime — a legacy of widespread hunger, illiteracy, disease, and monopoly control of farmland and food resources.

What Difference Could a Revolution Make? tells the story of the new government's attempts to build a more equitable food and agriculture system and analyzes the dilemmas encountered in the struggle for social and economic change. Through his perspective as an unpaid advisor to the Nicaraguan government on agricultural policy, Collins provides detailed information

about the country's land reform and food policy, much of it available nowhere else.

The book is published by *Institute for Food and Development Policy, 1885 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103.*

Community Gardens

Does your group need a new project? Try starting a community garden.

The Florida Department of Agriculture administers a program in which organizations may use vacant public land to provide gardening space to the community. For a copy of the rules and regulations, technical assistance, and further information, contact **Lowell Parrish, Gardening Specialist, Division of Marketing, Mayo Building, Tallahassee, 32301, or phone 488-4034.**

Working to Bring Surplus Food to Leon County

by Rick Boling

Sharing the earth's bounty is an especially relevant thought as we approach spring with its living renewals, its plowing and planting, its dirty fingerprints and hopes for a good harvest. Food has become an increasingly important subject for discussion, as government policies throw more and more people out on the street, with empty pockets, empty stomachs and little hope of being caught by a shredded "safety net."

Right here in our own six-county area the number of nutritionally deprived people has ballooned to near 60,000, and the various charitable food distribution programs are falling far short of being able to meet their needs. Even with the many new local organizations, working tirelessly to increase food donations, the gap seems to get wider every day.

You may recall some months ago that our William Morris-Agency leader released some of the 1.6 billion pounds of surplus cheese, butter and milk being hoarded by the government to keep dairy prices artificially high. Knowing that his policies were creating huge crowds of new poor and hungry, the idea was that these "surplus" commodities might help take the edge off the nation's hunger pangs. Now this is all well and good except for one small detail. There was no provision made for actually distributing this food, except to regional warehouses!

Where is our share of this "free food?" In Jacksonville. How do we get it to the 60,000 eligible recipients in our area? Well, that's what I really want to talk about. The fact is that we need your help.

As of right now the Capitol Area Community Action Agency is doing what it can to move as much as possible to our area using volunteers, but because of a lack of funds we are missing out on much of what could be had. In order to address this problem the Tallahassee Ministerial Association has taken on the

responsibility of raising some \$7,500 to insure the rental of at least one large commercial truck per week. Because we never know when our allotment will become available, it is important that the funds be in place to rent these trucks on a moment's notice. If we don't get to Jacksonville quickly, our share will be given to someone else.

As a major fund-raising project, the Association has decided to sponsor three performances of a prize-winning play called *The Ik* (pronounced "eek"). This play is based on Collin Turnbull's best-selling book, *The Mountain People*, and tells the story of an African tribe in Northern Uganda who were banished from their traditional territory to make way for a national park, much as the common people of our country have recently been disenfranchised.

Originally nomadic hunters, the Ik were supposed to become farmers, altering their whole way of life instantly, and without instruction. Faced with drought, hunger and the cultural shock of displacement, the Ik fought for survival and won.

Not only will this be an exciting and important community event, but it will give you an opportunity to help provide for the hungry in our area, while treating yourself to a night of excellent theatre entertainment.

Performances will be held at the Chapel of the Upper Room (W. Jefferson, next to the Sweet Shop) at 8:15 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 24, 25 and 26. Tickets are \$5 for general admission, and \$2.50 for students and senior citizens. They will be available at the Leon County Food Co-op, the Presbyterian Campus Center, and Sears in Governor's Square. For more information call 385-2728. If you can help by selling extra tickets at your church, club or other organization, please call Rick Boling at 386-3490.

Natural Agriculture: Labor Intensive But Worth It

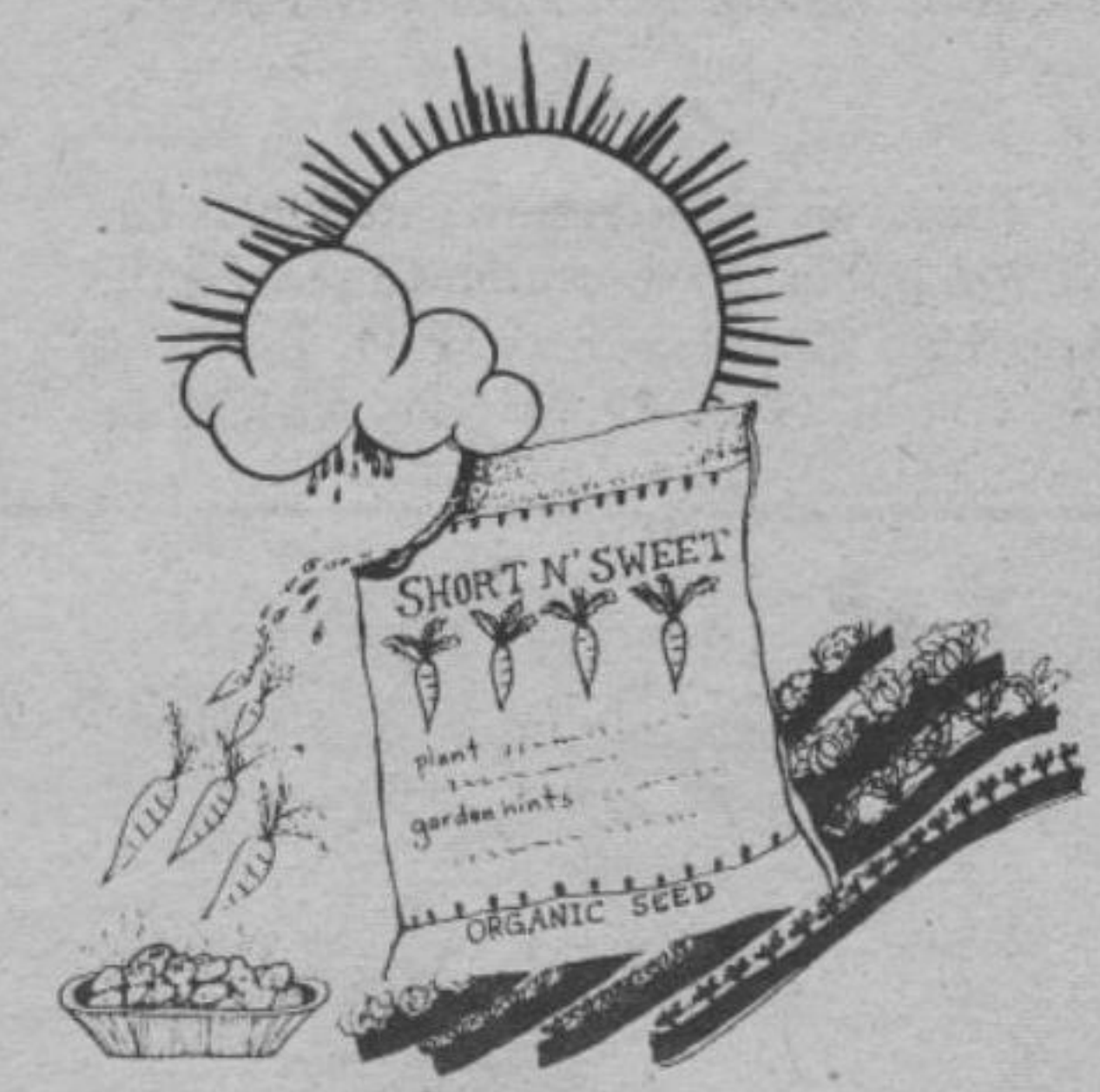
by Steve Fisher

Every day as our family sits down to eat, we thank God for the wonderful food we are able to grow. The collards and kale are so tender and fresh, the peas, carrots, and parsley so sweet, the radishes so perfectly tangy and the cucumber and lettuce so crisp. Those who have eaten an organically grown melon know what a very fine experience it is. It really feels good to know we can provide healthful food for ourselves while at the same time respecting our environment.

We don't have to use carcinogenic herbicides to control weeds. We don't have to pollute our waterways with poisonous insecticides and fertilizers and we all know that the picture-perfect fruits and vegetables which are so cosmetically appealing at the grocery store are waxed, dyed, gassed and chemicalized, leaving them literally tasteless.

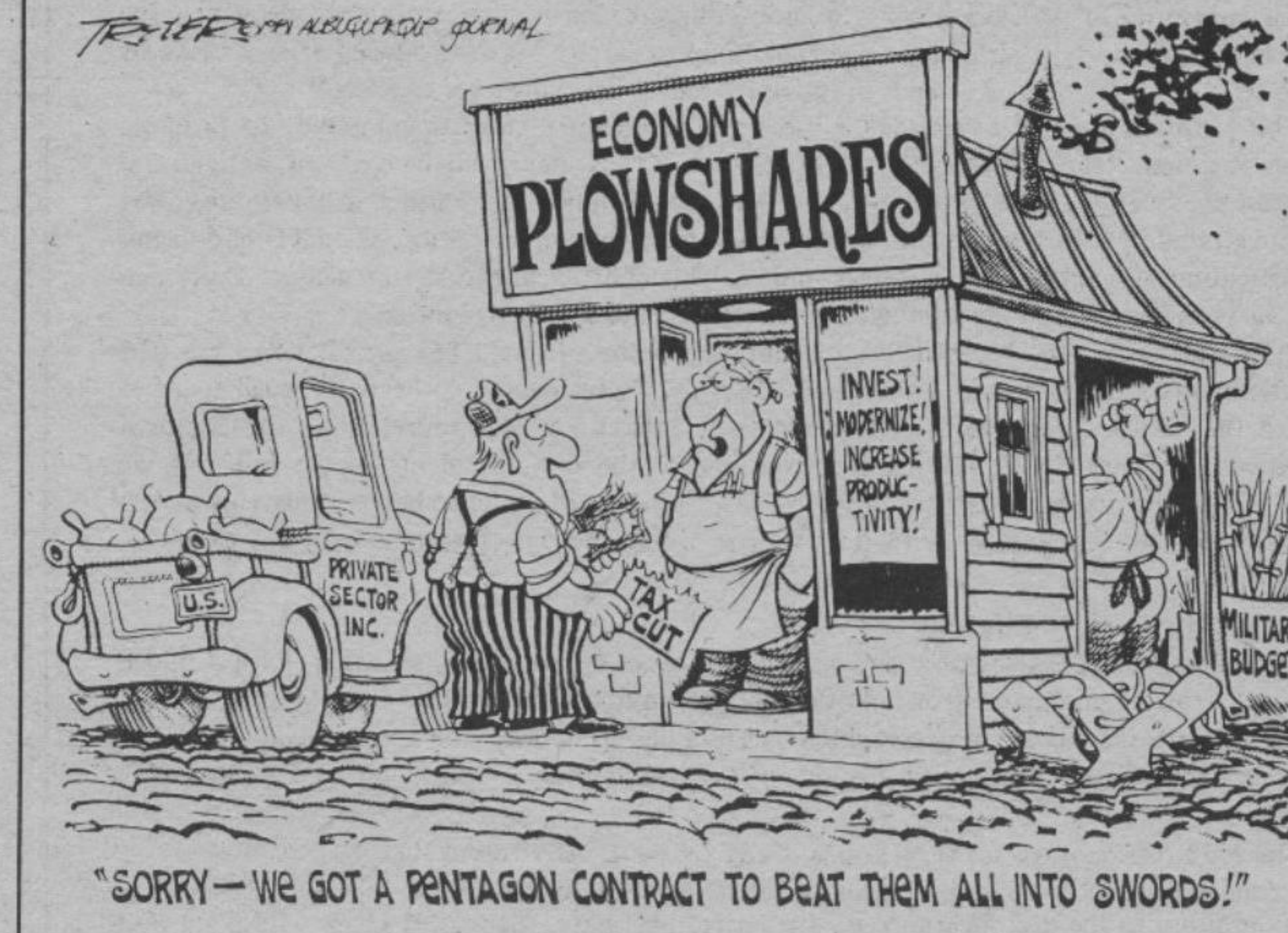
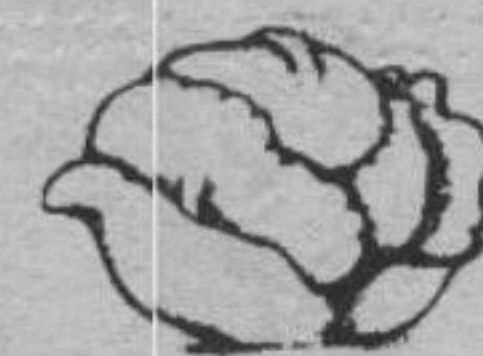
But we do have a choice! We can individually support natural agriculture by eating, buying, growing and sharing organically grown fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, seeds, and animal products whenever possible.

At our farm outside Quincy we are working to grow quality produce 12 months of the year. Working to grow the



vegetables, fruit, berries and nuts on our farm is labor-intensive and time consuming. But we find it a most fulfilling occupation, and well worth the extra energy it takes when we know it is contributing to the health of people and the honor of the earth.

If you are interested in natural agriculture, its applications, sharing your experiences or info about organic produce, call or write us at Fisher Farm, Rt. 1, Box 1026, Chattahoochee, 32324 (856-5966).



Federal Budget Priorities: Bread vs. Bombs

by Roger Peace

Domestic food programs have made dramatic gains toward the goal of eliminating hunger in this country. This has been documented in several studies, including comparative observations recorded by a team of Field Foundation physicians in 1967 and 1977. In 1977 they noted: "In fact, the facts of life for Americans living in poverty remain as dark or darker than they were ten years ago. But in the area of food there is a difference. The Food Stamp Program, the nutritional component of Head Start, school lunch and breakfast programs, and to a lesser extent the Women-Infant-Children feeding programs have made the difference." Since 1970, largely due to better nutrition, infant mortality among the poor is down by 33%, and outbreaks of diseases related to poverty and malnutrition are down by 50%.

For the last two years President Reagan and Congress have been slashing these essential programs. In fiscal year 1983, child nutrition programs were cut by \$680 million, Food Stamps by \$920 million, and supplementary food programs for women, infants, and children (WIC) by \$280 million.

Considering that some 15% of all U.S. citizens live below the official poverty level and that unemployment has been increasing recently, these cuts are hurting people. In 1982, 2 million people were cut off from Food Stamps, 15,000 schools and 3 million children were cut from the school lunch program (and all prices went up), and 400,000 families were eliminated from the rolls of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program (AFDC).

President Reagan proposes to continue slashing at these programs in FY 1984 by decreasing programs for the poor \$12.4 billion and decreasing all social programs \$28 billion. At the same time, he is proposing to increase military expenditures by \$22 billion. These military expenditures, along with an increase of \$10 billion in interest on government debt, absorb all the cuts in social programs.

What this amounts to is a massive transfer of funds from programs which serve people to those which feed the Pentagon and weapons contractors. President Dwight Eisenhower said it plainly: "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed ... We

pay for a single fighter plane with a half million bushels of wheat. We pay for a single destroyer with new homes that could have housed more than 8,000 people ..." Today, cutting the funds for one Trident submarine, \$2.5 billion, would restore all the money and services cut from the child nutrition, WIC, and Food Stamp programs mentioned previously.

If the Nuclear Weapons Freeze proposal were implemented this year, about \$6 billion would be released for refunding social programs and reducing the federal deficit. Over the next five years the Freeze would save at least \$84 billion in proposed nuclear weapons purchases.

What can one do about all this? Here are some specific actions you can take:

- Write your Congressional representatives and President Reagan regarding the transfer of money from social programs to the military — and let them know you are a voter. Senator Chiles is the ranking Democrat on the Appropriations Committee which sets the overall federal budget.

- Help people directly affected by our misdirected priorities here in Tallahassee by volunteering your time or making donations to one of the many service organizations in town — the Tallahassee Housing Foundation or Tallahassee Urban League, for example.

- Work to reverse our misdirected priorities by joining with the Tallahassee Peace Coalition and other national peace and justice organizations. TPC's address is P.O. Box 431, Tallahassee, FL, 32302 (subscription to TPC newsletter only \$3.60/year).

- Support the World Peace Tax Fund, which would allow those who are conscientiously opposed to war to have their tax money used for socially useful programs only, and support those who are now resisting paying taxes for war. Call Michael Lehman for more information on this at 878-3887.

If all those who are opposed to the misdirected priorities of the current administration would take a little time to act on it, we would see changes happen. Over the last two years we have seen the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign become a major focus for stopping the nuclear arms race. Today we have three Democratic candidates for President who fully support it (Cranston, Mondale, and Hart). Things can change.

Food Projects in Tallahassee

by Janiece Ray

Five bells had not long rung at St. Thomas More Catholic Church. A ragged man in a thin coat and sneakers walked the parking lot, long gray hair tied back. A young man lay on a propped Japanese motorcycle, his belongings tied in a duffle bag behind his back. Another man sat and scratched at the sidewalk with a stick.

They were waiting for 6 o'clock, when they would be served a hot meal — hot dogs, bread, beans, salad.

According to Dede Riordan of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, the number of eaters, mostly single males, has steadily increased since the dinner program began in August, 1982. About 45 are fed currently. The menu varies with donations, and is served daily at 6, noon on Sundays.

C.J. has a 10 hour-a-week job at FAMU and has no place to stay. He wanders around town by night and by day, sometimes sleeping at the bus stop, sometimes getting no sleep. He tells of raking a postage stamp sized yard for an aged woman for tea and talk and \$7. That bought two Burger King meals. He keeps repeating that he's "tired of being treated like a dog."

Then the wandering tree planter tells tales of McDonalds at closing, when they toss unsold hamburgers into the garbage. There are flashbacks from the Depression. And how do the hitchhikers along I-10 find nourishment?

Dr. Janis Thompson works for IMPACT, an organization which lobbies for social change from a religious perspective. In her book, *Hunger in My Community*, she defines hunger and tells what is being done and what can be done to eliminate it. She says, "Most people who don't have food are poor. You switch from an issue of hunger and food to an issue of poverty."

The 1980 Census shows 4,182 families

in Leon County below poverty level. That means 24,845 people.

In January in Leon County, 3,750 households (or 10,493 people) received food stamps, at a value of \$482,372. Gail McFaden of the food stamp program says, "We see more transients than we used to see. Word was out that Florida was a good place to find jobs." In order to receive food stamps, applicants must prove residence in Leon County, but that can be a car in a parking lot or camped on Lake Jackson, she says. It takes 30 days for paperwork after applying, or 3 days in certain expidited cases. For the interim, people are referred to emergency organizations.

IMPACT has initiated a project called Shop 'n' Share, where bins are placed near the exits of the four local Publix stores. The bins overflowed during Christmas, and even during the first week in February, 391 food items (mostly rice, cereal, beans, and canned goods) were collected. The Salvation Army receives the supplies the first week in every month, Catholic Social Services the second, Emergency Care Health Organization the third, and Urban League and Minority Pride Project share the fourth.

Are all of the hungry people being reached? Salvation Army's Captain Tom Vick seems to think so. "If they're going hungry," he said, "it's because they haven't asked anybody for help. The only time we had trouble meeting the need was during the holidays."

McFaden of the food stamp program thinks differently. She says a lot are hungry who don't come. "A lot are hungry who don't qualify, in fact. They may be cutting down on food expenses so they can meet other bills." Because of the stigma attached to charity and to avoid humiliation, many people don't ask for help. They get by, learning to suffer instead.

Stephen Gaskin Will Speak at Unitarian Church

by Anthony Gaudio

If the Hunger Banquet raised your consciousness on the plight of the malnourished, and last year's lecture by *Food First* author Joseph Collins informed you on the utility of massive governmental aid programs in dealing with the problem, but you heart tells you something must be done, the PLENTY Caribbean Project may be what you are looking for.

On Tuesday, April 5th at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 2810 N. Meridian Rd., Stephen Gaskin, Co-founder of PLENTY and the 1980 recipient of the Right Livelihood Award, will give a free lecture and slide presentation of PLENTY's activities in the Caribbean.

PLENTY was founded eight years ago by The Farm, an intentional community of 1000 "voluntary peasants" in rural Tennessee. PLENTY volunteers have carried out projects in village-scale alternative technology, health care, small farming and nutrition, water and communications systems in Latin America, Asia, Africa and North America.

Beginning in April, PLENTY will embark from St. Augustine, Fla., on a five-month tour of seven island nations bringing a multi-ton cargo of developmental tools, equipment and technicians on board the *Fri*, a 105-foot sailing vessel. The past ten years the *Fri* has been crewed by 200 unsalaried volunteers from around the world sailing in campaigns on behalf of the environment and world peace.

The *Fri* will carry PLENTY technicians who will remain after the ship's departure, living among the people and developing the projects in collaboration with them, training local managers and technicians for the future.

The *Fri* will be docked in St. Augustine until it departs in April and the PLENTY volunteers will be stopping here in Tallahassee en route from Tennessee.

The *Fri* will bring the following items to these groups: *St. Vincent* - Agricultural tools and seeds to a local farmers' self-help group; *St. Lucia* - Mechanical and woodworking tools for the St. Lucia Boys Training Center in Massade; *Dominica* - Woodworking tools, science equipment, a photo-voltaic array and a windmill for the Salybia School on the Carib Reserve. Outboard motors for the Carib Reserve; *Antigua* - Farming tools and a technical library for Seagulls Community Project, a farmers' group; *Haiti* - Vitamins, diapers and toys for the Home for Abandoned Children operated by the Sisters of Charity. Treadle sewing machines, cloth, utensils to a women's self-help group; *Jamaica* - Agricultural seed.

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World View on Food Production

by Alice Moore

"We have not inherited the earth from our fathers (sic), we are borrowing it from our children."

— Lester Brown, Worldwatch Institute

The science fiction movie "Rollerball" shows a world dominated by half a dozen giant corporations which exploit people and resources in a ruthless pursuit of profit. As so frequently happens in science fiction, this projection may not be so far removed from reality.

Look what they've done to my food, Ma

"Before our very eyes food is disappearing," charges Joan Gussow, head of the nutrition department at Columbia Teachers College. In its place the food corporations produce facsimiles like Pringles, and other "soylent green" formulations which do not rely heavily on food materials. In moving away from food to food products, the consumer lowered his or her nutritional intake, and raised levels of sugar, salt, fat, and other additives, which she says probably are related to our increased vulnerability to degenerative disease.

Another practice which has presented problems for the consumer is the regular feeding of antibiotics to animals to make them grow larger and faster. Many scientists believe that part of a population of bacteria resistant to modern medical treatment (strains of meningitis, gonorrhea, salmonella and others) originated from the use of antibiotics in animal feed.

"Conglomerates already control the nation's food supply far more intensively than most Americans understand," according to Daniel Zwerdling, a Washington reporter sometimes heard on public radio. In most food products — not many, *most* — two to four corporations already have seized control of the market. In this vast nation of 220 million people, only 50 manufacturing firms now control the means of food production."

Zwerdling points out that since food is about 20% of all consumer expenditures, this represents pretty tight control. And behind them, an entrenched political and economic system built over the decades insures that no FTC investigations will ever break up the conglomerates, nor a Congress beholden to business interests strike at their power.

John Blair, former chief economist of the Senate Antitrust and Monopoly Committee and author of *Economic Concentration, Structure, Behavior and Public Policy*, describes four types of agribusiness organization. The first, "vertical integration," controls food "from seedling to supermarket." He says integrators control 100% of sugar cane and sugar beets, 98% of fluid grade milk, 97% of all broilers, 95% of processed vegetables, 85% of citrus fruits, 70% of potatoes, 54% of turkeys, and 51% of fresh vegetables. Food processors are also among major corporate integrators. Four handle 50% of large volume sales.

Examples of "conglomerate concentration" of companies engaged in unrelated industries which share outputs are Greyhound in the meat industry and Boeing raising potatoes. Profits in one industry can subsidize another which may be losing money during a price war intended to put its competitors out of business. Twenty-five corporations most heavily into agribusiness inputs form an "aggregate concentration," with "communities of interest" interlocks and corporate ownership. The fourth type is "market concentration," the control of an industry by a small number of producers exclusively or primarily in that industry. The average is four firms.

Three acres and a cow

Once a nation of small farmers, America is expected to have fewer than 177,000 farms producing 90% of the country's total agricultural output by 1966. Some of the reasons have been fluctuating prices, reliance on synthetic compounds and machinery with ever increasing prices, cash flow problems and foreclosures, and competition of the independent family farmer with large corporations. In buying and selling, the farmer is often limited and dominated by a few major corporations.

Also, as the Government Accounting Office has found, government assistance programs have benefited the largest farms to the greatest extent. Many agricultural analysts agree that the agriculture colleges, experiment stations, and extension services benefit the larger, richer

farmers and industrial farm concerns, not the family farmers. Farm mechanization is a top research priority of the system. Fifty million dollars a year is spent to further mechanize the harvest. Interestingly, California's electronic tomato sorters were introduced after a strike by workers. Lorna Salzman of Friends of the Earth scores "socialism for the rich."

The *National Journal* notes that it has been Agriculture Department policy to promote these regional "super-cooperatives," and that it has never challenged an agricultural cooperative merger. The power of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives was demonstrated in the recent cut in Federal Trade Commission authority. The FTC had begun investigating agricultural cooperatives and had brought an antitrust suit against Dairymen Inc., a \$1 billion co-op that dominates milk sales from Indiana to Florida.

Most publicity was focused on exempting doctors from FTC jurisdiction, but the amendment Congress passed also ended the agency's oversight of the dairy business, and ended the antitrust suit against Dairymen Inc. Donald Randall, representing the National Independent Dairy Foods Association, was one of the few opponents of the bill: "If we don't have antitrust barriers raised by the FTC, there aren't going to be very many of us left before long. We were 8,000 in 1970 and we're 1,000 now. They (the co-ops) are eating us alive."

"Blame the culture, not the soil."

Farmland is disappearing at a rate of 3 million acres a year. Many a farmer, with a choice between growing crops and growing rich, has chosen to sell out to land speculators. The loss of fertile croplands to urban development is estimated to be 3 million acres a year. There is a further loss to deterioration and erosion of less readily arable land of about 5 million tons annually.

The 1978 National Agricultural Lands Study by the USDA found that 44 percent of farm and ranch land was rented rather than owned by its operators.

In addition to the disappearance of the agricultural base, the loss of crop, wild plant and animal genetic resources has escalated to the point that hundreds of species become extinct each year. Charles E. Little, president of the American Land Forum, says, "Chances are better than ever that the vulnerability of U.S. cropland to urbanization will not be recognized as an issue until well beyond the time that effective remedial action could have been taken."

Poison boomerang

Much has been written about the dumping of hazardous chemicals in the Third World and the damage to cultures of indigenous people from our export of the "The Green Revolution." Most readers are probably aware of the findings of David Weir and Mark Schapiro, authors of the *Mother Jones* article, "The Corporate Crime of the Century," which was awarded the 1980 National Magazine Award for Reporting, and also another award for "Best Censored" article of the year. This was expanded into their book, *Circle of Poison: Pesticides and People in a Hungry World* (1981). They documented the use of Third World countries as a dumping ground for pesticides banned or never registered for use in this country. The EPA has estimated that 14,000 farmers and farm workers are poisoned in the United States. According to the World Health Organization, someone in the underdeveloped countries is poisoned by pesticides every minute, and at least 5,000 a year die as a result. And as the authors point out, the circle of poison is closed as the lethal poisons come back to us in coffee, bananas, beans, peppers, etc.

Genetic collapse?

Of all impacts on global food production from our export of green revolution technology, some see reduction of genetic variability as the most dangerous of all. Along with the chemicals go single strains of high yielding varieties which replace indigenous varieties of rice, wheat, millet and hundreds of other crops. In tandem with this movement is the drive by agribusiness corporations to patent plants. As Ramsey Clark, former attorney general, points out, "Most R and D leading to patents is financed, in whole or in part, by the people. Yet all too often the fruits of those expenditures go to private interests, and rarely to the creator or inventor...We really need to examine why we would give away monopoly power to corporations for work that was the result of public financing."

Testimony before the Senate subcommittee considering amendments to the Plant Variety Protection Act in 1980 makes fascinating reading. This was to include six crops deleted from the original act and make them patentable for an 18-year period. The crops are tomatoes, okra, celery, peppers, cucumbers and carrots. Tom Sutton of Public Citizens' Congress Watch pointed out the "frenzied activity in seed company takeovers" in recent years. New owners of the seed industry are predominantly chemical and pharmaceutical firms, including Upjohn, Pfizer, Celanese, Ciba-Geigy, Union Carbide, Olin and Monsanto. Five companies now hold 30 percent of all patents. Three corporations hold 80 percent of beans, four hold 60 percent of lettuce, four hold 62 percent of peas, four hold 36 percent of wheat.

Catholic bishops in 12 midwestern states stated, "The control of seeds because it implies also the control of food production, and indeed, of life itself, should not be appropriated to itself by any company or nation."

Tom Sutton noted that although the main reason for seed company takeovers was probably their average 19 percent rate of return in recent years, "there is also a tremendous potential for seed coating and pelleting, utilizing the seed as a delivery system for chemicals and biologicals to the field."

So, what's the good news?

The good news is a recently formed National Endowment for Soil and Water Conservation by Congressman Ed Jones of Tennessee, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit and Rural Development. Also the International Organization of Consumers Unions recently formed a Pesticide Action Network through an international information-alert system called Consumer Interpol. And a study by the U.S. Office of Technical Assessment found wide use of integrated pest management practices, particularly by Great Plains wheat farmers. Best of all a Department of Agriculture study found a significant number of large farms, some up to 1,500 acres being farmed organically in the West and Midwest!

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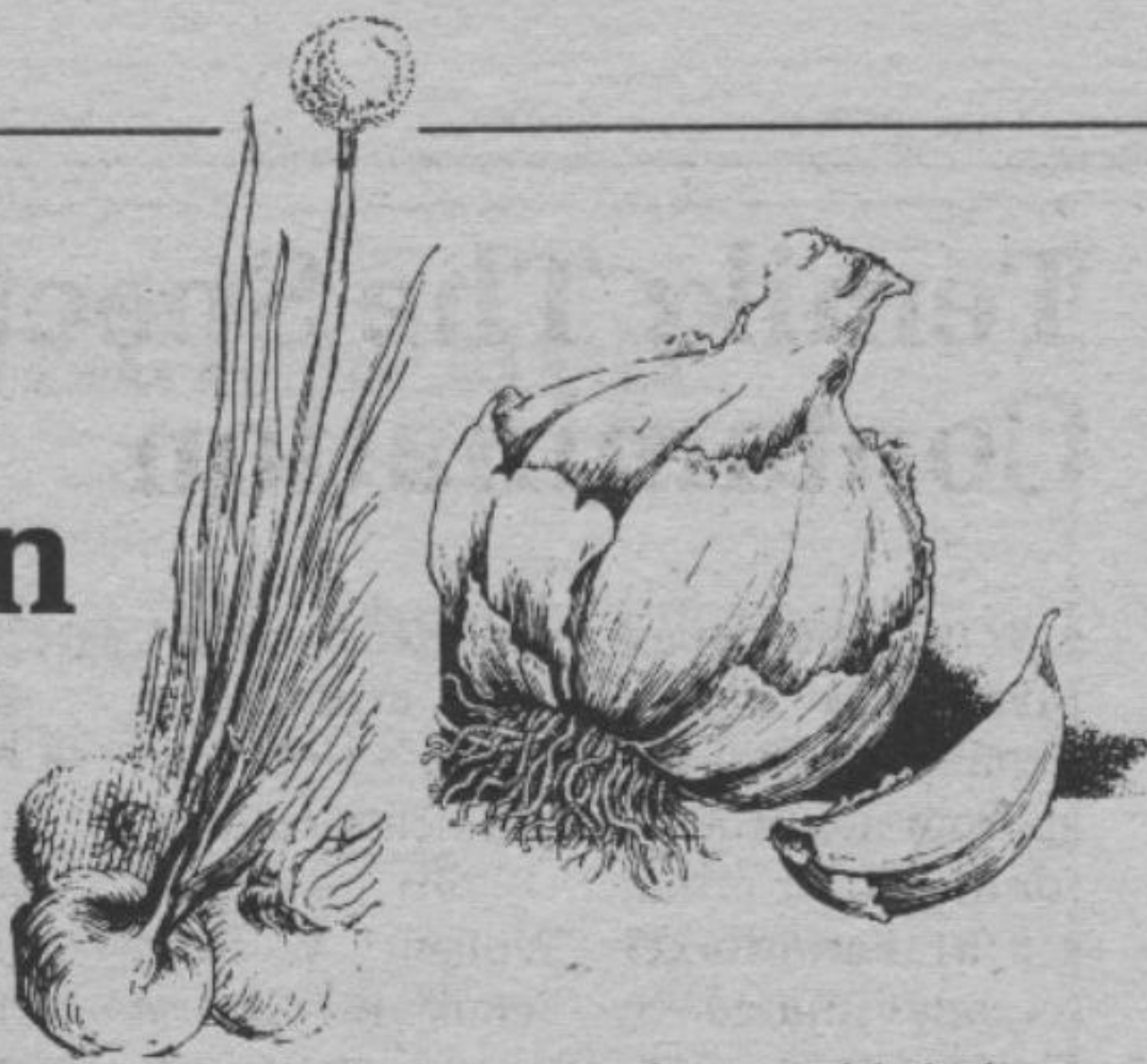
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Herbs As Companion Plants

by Susan O'Halloran



My first herb plant was a mint that had escaped from a garden and was growing wild in a pasture. That sprig of mint became an eager companion for my three tomato plants — and I unwittingly became an advocate of companion gardening.

No caterpillars dined upon my tomatoes that summer — and both of the garden neighbors flourished. Today, many of my 100 varieties of herbs keep company with the vegetables throughout the growing season for the same reason.

When herbs and vegetables are planted together in the garden, the amount of insect damage is reduced and the vegetables flourish. Since insects are attracted to plants by their odor, experts suspect that it is the strong fragrances and essential oils of the herbs that repel pests. The aromatic herbs mask the attracting odor of the vegetables and confuse the insects.

Certain herbs and vegetables are traditional good companions — both in the garden and the cooking pot. Basil is a perfect match for tomatoes. Savory is an excellent companion for all types of beans. Sweet marjoram is compatible with squash.

Cabbage and its cousins broccoli, cauliflower, and brussel sprouts like sage, southernwood, rosemary, or mint for neighbors. These strong-scented herbs help to deter the cabbage butterfly which spawns the hungry cabbage caterpillar. But be sure to keep these strong herbs away from the squash, cucumbers, melons, and other members of the cucurbit family. They prefer to grow near tansy, oregano, sweet marjoram, or nasturtiums. Tomatoes can also be planted with dill, beebalm, or mint.

Borage is also an excellent companion for the cucurbit family or any crop that requires bees for pollination. The delicate pink and blue flowers of borage attract bees to the garden. Other good bee herbs to space throughout the garden include hyssop, anise hyssop, catnip, thyme, basil, and sage.

Catnip will help to deter flea beetles from eggplant. These tiny black beetles

often riddle the young leaves with holes, but a few catnip plants nearby seem to discourage them. Anise and coriander will flourish from close contact with each other. They are also good neighbors for peas or other crops plagued by aphids.

Certain herbs provide special benefits for any nearby plants. Lovage and sweet marjoram are reputed to improve the flavor of nearby vegetables and should be interspersed throughout the garden. Camomile is also a good candidate for planting throughout the garden. It is known as the "plant tonic" because it keeps nearby plants and soil healthy and disease free. The roots of hyssop are also reputed to cleanse the soil around them. Yarrow is nicknamed the "herb's companion" because it increases the production of essential oils in other aromatic herbs.

Strong smelling flowers like marigold, nasturtium, coreopsis, feverfew, and pyrethrum serve as "floral pesticides" when planted in the garden border. A border of pungent herbs like catnip, wormwood, horehound, mugwort, and yarrow will also protect the garden against insect and animal pests.

Herbal sprays can also be employed for insect problems. Simply make a strong tea by boiling the herbs in water — good choices include yarrow, camomile, mint, and garlic. Steep until cool, strain, and spray on the plants. The strained herbs can also be used as a mulch under the plants.

Using companion planting for natural pest control benefits predator insects in the garden as well. Since chemical insecticides indiscriminately kill all insects, refraining from their use spares the ladybugs, praying mantises, and wasps. They will assist in pest control by eating many of the insects that dine on your vegetables. You can also do your share by hand-picking large pests and destroying them.

In eleven years of gardening, I have only used natural methods of pest control and have always harvested an abundance of fine produce.

Cooperative Extension Service—

Consult "the Experts"

by Morgan Bunch

Gardeners may occasionally feel the need to consult "the experts." One place to find them is in the local Cooperative Extension Service offices. Leon County's is located at 615 Paul Russell Road, 487-3003, near the Fairgrounds.

Soil testing, literature on a wide array of gardening related topics, and people to answer questions are three of the services the Extension office provides.

include a lime and fertilizer recommendation. (Note that a test for the level of nitrogen is not included.)

Your local Extension Service office will give you a soil testing kit which includes a soil sample bag, an order form with instructions for taking a soil sample, and if you are lucky, a small box to put your sample in for mailing, along with your \$3 fee.

For those of you who prefer organic methods, take your test results and use the suggestions in the chapter "Fertilization" in John Jeavons' book *How to Grow More Vegetables*, to develop your own fertilizer program.

Many pamphlets that home gardeners may find useful are available at the County Extension office. Single copies are free to Florida residents. "Organic Vegetable Gardening" includes information on how to make a compost pile, charts on the composition of various materials (but don't use sewage sludge on your vegies) and a section on fertilizers and insect and disease control. "The Vegetable Gardening Guide" includes suggested planting dates and a list of varieties of different vegetables which are recommended for Florida gardens.

If you would like a general education on all aspects of gardening, the Extension Service runs a Master Gardener program. You get 50 hours of training, and in return you give 50 hours of volunteer time helping with extension work.

Anyone who has read Ruth Stout's books will certainly be cautious about taking advice from "the experts." Organic gardeners should be aware that there is a distinct chemical bias to the information obtained from the Extension Service and that home gardening is a sidelight of the Service's main task of providing agricultural information to farmers and other large scale growers.



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Florida's Farmworkers — The Least Protected of All

by Carmy Greenwood

Florida's farmworkers do one of the most important jobs in our state — harvest our food. Yet, they live and work under some of the worst conditions, often without the assurance of even the basic civil rights that other citizens take for granted. And undocumented aliens are the least protected of all, ignored by authorities when the fruit is ripe, and then "selectively and capriciously" rounded up and herded away when growers have no more need for them.

Here are two locally produced publications which focus on Florida's farmworkers. The first is a one-time survey of the basic issues surrounding workers and their relationship to the state's agricultural system. The second is a bimonthly periodical which reports and comments on current and continuing concerns such as immigration, housing, pesticides, and hunger.

- "Farmworkers: Who Cares?" is a four part introduction to farmworkers, their work and life in Florida, Florida Agriculture and the legal system which protects its interests at the expense of workers, and the possibilities for reconciling workers and growers. It is a basic survey, perfect for study groups or personal study, as no prior knowledge of the issues is assumed. Published by Florida IMPACT, it is available for a nominal charge at 222 West Pensacola, Suite 125.

- *The Harvester* is published by the Association of Migrant Organizations.



This issue is titled "Immigration: Boiling Point in the Melting Pot" and focuses on resources available to illegal residents of Florida, and on their rights vis-a-vis the Immigration and Naturalization Service's Border Patrol. There are also articles on the pesticide Temik, migrant labor camp regulations, and the federal budget. A single copy of *The Harvester* costs \$1, and a subscription is \$6, from Suite 145 of the Petroleum Building at the Pensacola Street address above.

Temik: The Spectre of Contamination

by Ion Sancho

- 9/79 Nurseryman Paul Keller of Ft. Myers dies after extensive exposure to Temik, even though he wore all appropriate protective garments required for use of the product.

- 8/81 Farmworker William Wolford severely injured by Temik in Central Florida.

- Dr. Ted Goldfarb of Stony Brook University on Long Island has reported health data which conclusively links spontaneous abortions to Temik exposure in the Long Island Community.

Recent media coverage has raised the spectre of contamination of Florida's groundwater (that's our drinking water, people!) by Temik, a nematocide/insecticide marketed by Union Carbide Corporation.

Temik is currently being used in Florida by the citrus and potato growers of the state and at the present time is being considered by the Environmental Protection Agency for use on tomatoes.

Temik is buried beneath the soil and is absorbed in the fruit and vegetables, effectively killing the microscopic nematodes in the soil and the mites which attack the fruit. Since it works in the plants' root systems, it can not be washed from treated fruits and vegetables.

Unfortunately, Temik is proving its ability to leach into Florida's groundwater. We still need to learn a lot about the extent of contamination, the long-term effects on public health, and

how long Temik will persist in our groundwater, before we can know if and how it can be used safely.

Adding to this problem of contamination is Temik's extraordinary toxicity. According to industry testimony, it is the most toxic substance in use today in Florida — more toxic than parathion or DDT. It is dangerous at a level of only 10 parts per billion. Furthermore, Temik is one of the few chemicals that is almost as toxic when absorbed through the skin as it is when ingested directly.

Union Carbide Corporation is desperately maintaining that Temik poses no problem to Florida's drinking water — the same claim the company made in Long Island, New York. There, county health officials discovered 1,400 contaminated drinking water wells of private homes — leading to Temik's ban in that part of the state.

Currently, Secretary Doyle Conner of the Department of Agriculture, has been forced to "temporarily ban" the use of Temik on citrus, but he has lifted the part of the ban that originally applied to potatoes grown in St. Johns, Putman and Flagler counties.

Conner will be making a permanent decision soon on this issue and it is important that he hear from citizens who are concerned about the health hazards related to contaminated groundwater. Please write to him and stress your concern for your safety, for that of the people who grow our food, and for that of all our children.

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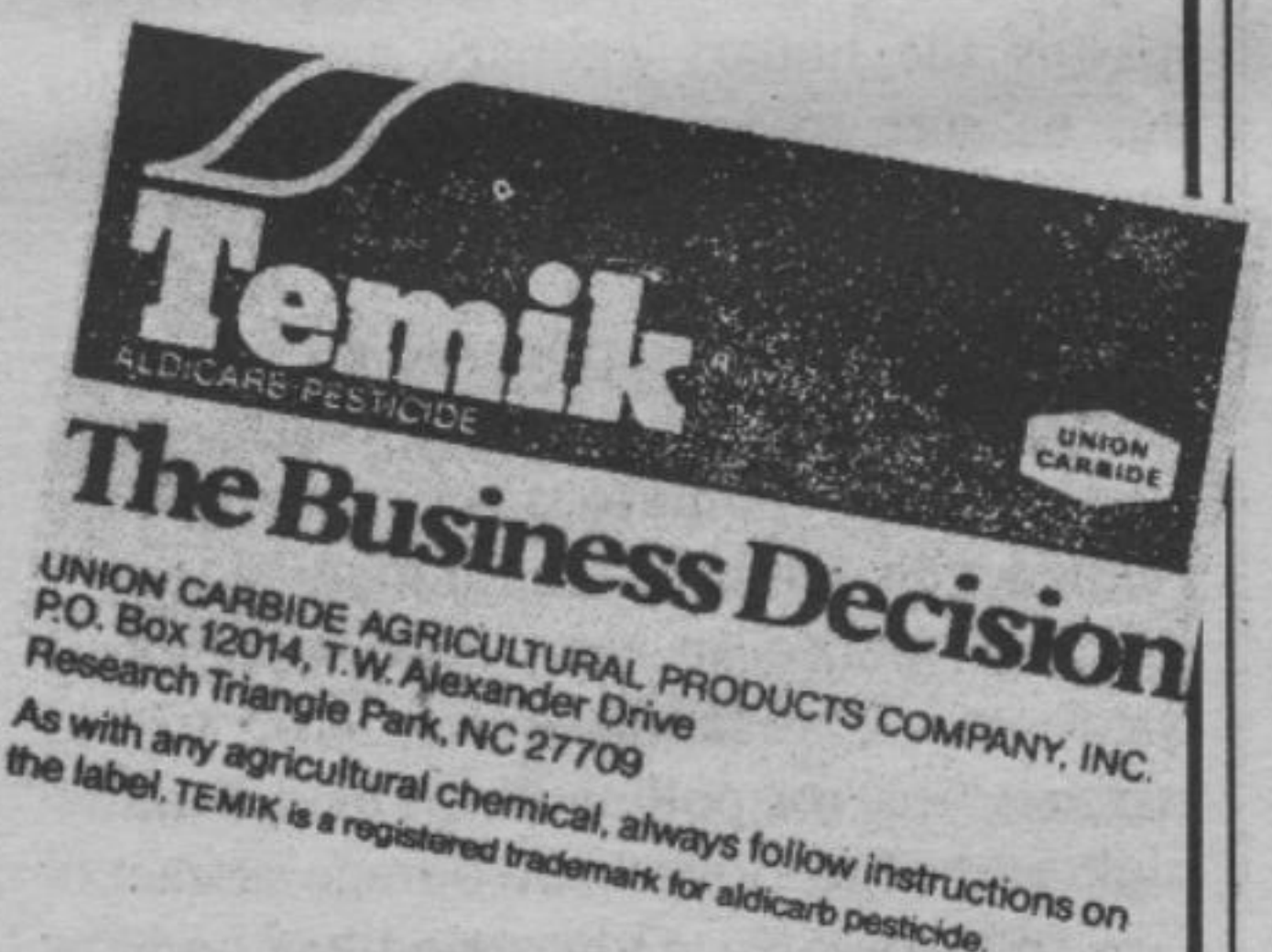
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Temik Ban Stays

Agriculture Commissioner Doyle Conner has decided to extend his January 28 ban on the use of the pesticide Temik for nine more months.

"Until additional data are developed that either exonerate the product or prove it a suspect pollutant, either environmentally or health-wise, prudence must dictate my decision," Conner said. "Therefore, the temporary suspension issued by me on Jan. 28 will be continued for the remainder of the year."



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Decision Makers We Never Elected

by Carmy Greenwood

Apparently, the favored tactic of the moment for the Reagan Administration is to bypass the legislative process and use administrative rule changes to realize its increasingly unpopular goals. We can try to keep an eye on our highly visible elected representatives and confront them with the power of the ballot and the wallet when they act against our interests, but it is all too easy for the furtive maneuverings of unaccountable, low-profile appointed officials to defeat our efforts. And all too often we learn of their actions after they are already faits accomplis. As evidenced by the recent tug-of-war between the Congress and the White House and Environmental Protection Agency, the inner workings of administrative agencies are not even as accessible as those of the legislative branch, even to legislators themselves.

stantial political advocacy, but would also not be allowed to communicate with any local, state, or federal elected or appointed official, if such communication might influence a decision. Non-profits would also not be allowed to participate in or support litigation in another's behalf. They would not even be allowed to communicate with the *general public* to advocate for a particular issue. One health center director said, "Given the broad definitions used by OMB in citing as advocacy attempts to influence the general public, I seri-

"What makes this so dangerous is that by using the regulation process, the President avoids the need for Congressional approval."

On January 21, the Office of Management and Budget issued proposed amendments to its "Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations." Current regulations already prohibit organizations from lobbying with federal funds. But these proposed regulations would so expand the restrictions on the activities of non-profits as to effectively put many of them "out of business."

The OMB claims that the purpose of the regulations is to "ensure ... that tax payers are not required, directly or indirectly, to contribute to the support of an ideological cause (they may oppose)." While that may seem laughable to people who are required to contribute to the support of legislators, presidents, agency heads, and weapons-delivery systems that they oppose, the reality behind it is nothing to laugh about.

According to Independent Sector, a national group that supports volunteer and not-for-profit initiative, the regulations expand the definition of political advocacy to include "traditional legislative and legal activities which Congress has not only sanctioned but encouraged."

Not only would non-profits not be allowed to attempt to influence an election or referendum, or support a political action committee or any other group that is engaged in sub-

stantly question whether or not I would jeopardize my grant by talking with my mother."

If non-profits still wanted to engage in "advocacy" functions, they would have to completely separate all their facilities and personnel, and be sure not to use anything or anyone paid for in part by federal funds for any "political advocacy activities," or those costs would be completely disallowed. According to the National Association of Community Mental Health Centers, most non-profits could not afford to set up separate operations. Their only option would be to surrender their First Amendment rights to freedom of speech. The OMB denies this. John Lordan, Chief of OMB's Financial Management Branch, has said, "We are not trying to tell you that you can't advocate, but simply what will happen if you do."

The regulations would limit, and perhaps destroy the ability of non-profits to carry out programs that serve the needs of the disadvantaged and disabled — work that necessarily

requires close contact with government officials and a role in decision-making. This enforced silence is dangerous, since the government depends on such groups to speak for the voiceless in our community. As one congressional staffer put it:

"This is a clear-cut case of the Administration's desire to implement the agenda of the New Right — and, it is, by far, the most dangerous move yet. Consistent with the goals stated in numerous New Right publications, the object of this regulation is to silence or eliminate organizations which, with their own (non-federal) money, choose to advocate for social programs. What makes this so dangerous is that by using the regulation process, the President avoids the need for Congressional approval. They obviously want this on the books before the 1984 elections."

The National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides is working to form a bipartisan coalition on Capitol Hill to try to curtail the increasing problems related to toxic pesticide use. Currently, their efforts are directed at a protest of the Environmental Protection Agency new list of restrictions on the use of its health and safety data about pesticides and herbicides, including a clause which, according to Coalition spokesperson Jay Feldman, would expose scientists to "trade secret" lawsuits by pesticide makers if they printed "more than one sentence from the data." Obviously, it is difficult to criticize data that cannot be exposed and explained in detail.

The changes were made at the request of nine pesticide manufacturers after legislation to the same effect was defeated in the House last year. Opponents claim that the EPA and the chemical industry have launched this new course of administrative action, after having failed in Congress,

in order to make it too dangerous for scientists to publicize criticism of pesticide makers or the EPA. The Agency is probably right to be concerned since, "EPA's own audits, the General Accounting Office, and an investigation of a major industry-contract testing facility, the Industrial Bio-Test Laboratories, Inc., all indicate a disturbing amount of incomplete, inadequate, and, in many cases, even inaccurate data supporting the registration of chemical products."

The National Coalition on Migrant Education wants to alert people to new regulations governing the Migrant Education Program. Under the U.S. Department of Education's new rules, many children now being served by the Program would be ineligible, since they would not fit the new, more restrictive definitions of "Currently migratory child" and "migrant agricultural worker." Also, the grant application requirements for information about the local program's assessment of student needs, staff training, interstate and intrastate coordination, and program evaluation have been eliminated.

The Coalition believes that the proposed regulations are contrary to legislative intent, since Congress passed the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act (ECIA), to replace Title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, without making any changes in the legislation governing the Title 1 Migrant Education Program, even though it made changes in many other programs. Opponents of the changes fear that the vague character of the new definitions, and the weakening of application requirements will result in a lack of continuity among the states in their migrant child education programs — continuity which is a must if they are to meet the educational needs of these students.


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Spectrum's Evolution, from page 3

dozens of articles for every issue, we are subject to the limitations of our editorial inches. Like all publications we are delighted to publish as many articles as we can. But there are people who have submitted articles to us who have never seen their work in print. What happens behind the scenes to determine what will or will not be published? What follows is a listing of kinds of article problems we encounter fairly often. We list them here as a helping device to all writers in order to provide you with some guidelines as to form and content of articles we feel good (and bad) about publishing. Here are the kinds of things we don't like to see. As with all rules and guidelines, there are exceptions.

1. **Articles that have no local relevance.** We do print articles of regional, national and global interest; our criteria is what can a local reader *do* about an issue. Use this as a forum to solicit *action*.
2. **Articles of no general interest to readers:** too obscure, too long or academic in tone. A newspaper publishes articles that initially grab a reader and challenges them to look further for more information.
3. **Articles that basically only say things like: "What we need is more commitment."** While this might be a good reminder from time to time, we believe *Spectrum* readers to be committed to many issues and projects. Interest them with *information*.
4. **Articles that are not well thought out or are not complete.** We get an unbelievable number of rough drafts and we have little time to do re-writes.
5. **Avoid jargon, rhetoric, "buzz words"** — even new age jargon. While no article is marred by a few of these, too many bore some readers while confusing others. There are specific words to describe all those things we take shortcuts to.
6. **Redundancy.** If an issue has been covered, try to shed new light on it, to increase awareness and motivation. If there's nothing to say, let it be.
7. **We don't accept ads-disguised-as-articles.** This means that if you're presenting a service, product or presentation that you will charge a significant amount of money for, we won't run articles announcing it. This applies to personal enterprises and businesses. We ask them instead to support us for announcing these things by buying advertising inches in *Spectrum*. We do run articles and announcements on benefits and other fundraising for community or political groups.

8. **Late articles for which we are not forewarned and for which there's no good reason for tardiness will be held for the following issue.** An exception to this would be a writer covering an event that occurs very close to production date.

9. And of course, there is always the article that strikes several or many of the collective members wrong. We argue these kinks out among ourselves, trying to decide the most appropriate course to take. If all or most of us are uncomfortable about an article, it is an easy one to not prioritize when it comes time to fill our editorial inches. We do not categorically delete any particular genre of progressive politics.

One last word about articles: we make every attempt to avoid printing articles whose intent is to oppress people, whether due to race, sex, religion, politics, or nationality. Our bottom line is that a person's body belongs to that person, and this includes on the issue of abortion rights. We also understand that language is one of the most subtle and pervasive ways to erode people, and we make every attempt to point out or delete words or concepts that tend to undermine any of us.

Please give us criticism on any of the points in this article.

We are a non-paid group of Tallahasseeans who have been meeting in some form or other for 4½ years. We are not professional editors or publishers. We work collectively on editorial decisions, and are open to absorbing new worker/members a few at the time. Some of us are professional layout designers and typesetters, and some of us have learned for the first time on *Spectrum*. We welcome any and all comments on all aspects of the paper, and especially relish comments in writing.

We'd also like readers to know that all letters written to *Spectrum* become the property of this paper and are subject to being published if they are useful to the ongoing community dialog of which *Spectrum* is a part.

•••

The way to submit an article is to turn it in to us before the deadline for each issue (the deadline is printed in the editorial mast on page 2 of every issue) to: the *Spectrum* basket at the Leon County Food Co-op, 649 W. Gaines St., Tallahassee or mail to 625 E. Brevard St., Tallahassee, FL 32308. Please type double-spaced on letter-size paper.

HEADLINES by Frank Brown

Tennessee Williams, famous American playwright, choked to death in his New York hotel room just days after a homosexual rights bill was defeated by the New York City Council. This was the seventh time such legislation has been introduced since 1971.

Williams, who's critically acclaimed plays include *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, died an embittered alcoholic. Williams was also a homosexual.

Homosexuals are one of the largest

groups in the U.S. who still must endure legal discrimination. New York, despite a homosexual population estimated at 1 million, continues to uphold this grand tradition of prejudice.

•••

Residents of Times Beach, Missouri were no doubt consoled by the Environmental Protection Agency's announced plans to buy their dioxin-contaminated homes and businesses, permitting them to move to presumably

less hazardous neighborhoods. But what does one do with a town in which dioxin levels are 300 times what the federal government considers "safe?" Why, turn it into a park, of course!

Fred Lafser, director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, may not have originated this spark of genius, but he was quick to perceive the plan's merit. If the town is allowed to be converted into a park, Lafser noted, the dioxin level may not have to be cleaned up to the extent which would

be necessary if there were people living there. Just when you were trying to get away from the dirty old city — don't drink the water in the park!

Perhaps this idea can be used to solve the problem of disposal of other toxic wastes. If people aren't living there, why not use state and national parks as burial grounds for industry's ever-increasing stockpile of hazardous materials? I'm sure James Watt would be delighted.

On a more sober note, the purchase of contaminated Times Beach, helpful as it may be, is crisis management, not environmental protection. If the EPA were doing its job properly to begin with, such steps wouldn't become necessary.

•••

The guerillas in El Salvador are winning their civil war. So, President Reagan and his advisors want to increase U.S. military aid to that country's faltering regime to \$110 million, almost twice as much as was earlier planned. If the Salvadoran government's torture and murders haven't been receiving much publicity lately, it's partly because U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Deane Hinton was told by the administration last November to refrain from making public criticisms of human rights "abuses" by Salvadoran security forces. Wouldn't want to prejudice the congress, now would we?

Hinton was gagged after making a speech containing "blunt remarks" about a decision by Salvadoran judges to clear a politically-connected army officer of charges implicating him in the murders of two American land redistribution workers and the head of El Salvador's land program.

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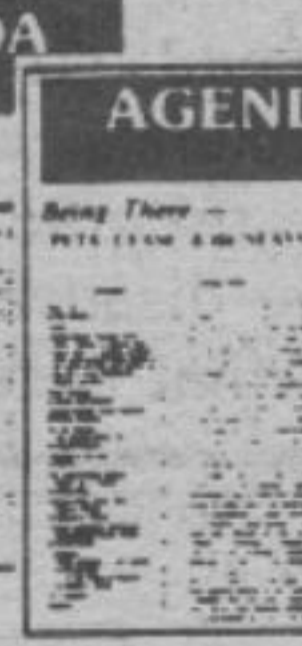

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United Cerebral Palsy

Volunteers Help Disabled Children "Catch Up"

by Margie Menzel

There are about seven children in a circle, more joining every few minutes. A surprisingly large number of adults are directing their play. As I watch, I realize how difficult it is for these children to do much for themselves. The adults around them, however, do not try to interfere. Instead, they give directions and encouragement.

"It's so easy to do it for them" says United Cerebral Palsy staffer Marilyn Urguhart. "You have to sit on your hands, hard."

UCP is a non-profit organization that provides specific therapy and instructional programs for developmentally disabled children under the age of five. It is a United Way agency, receiving about 15 percent of its total budget from charity. Its primary source of funding, however, is the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

...the agency develops an individual program for each child, based on its conviction "that a child must be treated as a whole person rather than a person with problems in unrelated areas."

UCP works closely with the Leon County school system. No one is ever turned away.

Three days a week, children come to the UCP building on South Gadsden for group activities. The staff also travels, in order to work with children outside of Tallahassee. Clients come from Leon, Taylor, Wakulla, Jefferson, and Madison Counties.

"One thing we do here," says UCP program director Bonnie Levy, is everything the child needs." That includes social work, speech pathology, behavior management, nursing, parent training, and physical therapy. Members of the staff are often able to fill in for one another at various functions.

"The children realize very little of this. They are quite young, no older than five years, and their major concerns are the sandbox in which they are learning to play and the pudding they are learning to eat by themselves."

"They can still catch up," says Levy. "The brain is so elastic." Levy describes UCP's major purpose as helping the child reach her or his fullest potential.

In order to do that, the agency develops an individual program for each child, based on its conviction "that a

child must be treated as a whole person rather than a person with problems in unrelated areas." The staff's various specialists jointly assess each child in terms of motor skills, speech and hearing, vision, cognitive development, and self-help and socialization skills.

The parents of an exceptional child are vital to the child's development, and part of UCP's task is to train and counsel them. The parent training program, says Michael Gottselig, UCP's behavior program specialist, is threefold: direct services to the children, direct training of parents in such areas as nutrition and child safety, and the teaching of local day care staffers to understand the signs of a developmental disadvantage. "Trying to build a referral system is what it is," says Gottselig.

Michael Gottselig is indicative of the very high level of dedication in UCP staffers. "I've always wanted to work with kids," he says. "When this position came open, I jumped at it."

Gottselig is one of few men in rehabilitative services who works directly with children. "Males tend to get channeled into administration and lose touch with the kids," he points out. "And the parents wonder at first, 'Can he be gentle enough?' and 'Can he be compassionate enough?' Things we think of as female traits." However, he says acceptance is always forthcoming, with positive results for all.

Gottselig's colleagues include several with developmentally disadvantaged children of their own.

One of UCP's major concerns is strengthening the base of support in the community and thus encouraging the help of volunteers. The volunteers are often able to increase the service potential of the staffers. They are integral to the UCP goal "to give exposure to the problems, needs, and services available to Cerebral Palsied adults and children who suffer from other disabilities."

Volunteers and donations for UCP should be directed to United Cerebral Palsy, Big Bend Area, 1705 South Gadsden Street, Tallahassee, 222-8651.

Four children and their mothers are having their speech therapy session. They are gathered in a semi-circle around Vickie Peace, who is blowing soap bubbles at them. "That one hit your forehead, didn't it?" Forehead, nose, leg. The youngsters hear the words over and over.

The session is about to break up. "One last bubble." The bubbles descend on the last child, who suddenly responds with a delighted cry. His mother hugs him.



photos by Cheryl Dupre



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A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community



Gardening in Community

compiled by Rose Van Oss
from the Miccosukee Land Co-op

At the end of a beautiful road in our community lies a small garden plot where twelve neighbors have formally welcomed Spring by planting English peas, potatoes, lettuce, carrots, onions, marigolds and herbs. The garden site had been established a few years ago by a man who has since moved on - a man with a sense of family and community, and visions of change. It is fitting that this site should become the home of a community garden, a garden planned and nurtured by a group of folks who have come from many different places but are now home in the Co-op.

Elsewhere in the community people are working together in small groups and individually to plant, fence and haul manure - each cooperating with our Mother Earth to provide for future needs. In thinking about the importance of gardening in our lives, I am reminded of Wendell Berry's words in his excellent book entitled *The Unsettling of America*:
"What our society does its best to disguise from us

is how ordinary, how commonly attainable health is. We lose our health - and create profitable diseases and dependencies - by failing to see the direct connections between living and eating, eating and working, working and loving."
The "drudgery" of growing one's own food, then, is not drudgery at all. (If we make the growing of food a 'drudgery, which is what "agribusiness" does make of it, then we also make a drudgery of eating and living.) It is, in addition to being the appropriate fulfillment of a practical need, a sacrament, as eating is also, by which we enact and understand our oneness with the Creation.

Recognizing the true need to grow at least some of one's own food, most people living on the land garden or have gardened at some time. A few of us got together one evening to talk about why we began gardening, what

continued page 11

Spectrum cover March, 1979.

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