

The Big Sur Gazette



Serving the Visitors and Residents of the Big Sur Coast from Monterey Peninsula to Hearst Castle

25 CENTS

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BIG SUR residents have again shown their concern and love for wildlife by an all-night vigil to save a baby killer whale stranded on Pfeiffer Beach. After many days of intensive care at Marine World-Africa USA, in

Redwood City, the whale died of a kidney problem. An eyewitness account of the rescue appears in this issue.

Photo by Heidi McGurrian

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Killer Whale Rescued: An Eyewitness Account

by JIM HUNTER

Sometime around 5 pm Friday, May 25th, Kevin Milroy of Calimesa, California took off running down Pfeiffer Beach, telling Dan Griggs that he had just seen something through the hole in the big rock on the beach.

Somehow the word had gotten out that there was a killer whale on the rocks and Dan had come down to investigate.

In spite of the heavy surf, Kevin went out on the rocks to where the whale was stranded. Speaking reassuring words to her, he tried to push her away from rocky prison, and head her back out to sea.

With the aid of another man, he finally succeeded, for there was little one man alone could do to move the whale, which probably weighed from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds.

Soon the whale returned to the rocks however, and both

decided to leave the rocks due to the heavy surf.

Once again the whale was freed, this time by several people, including some soldiers from Fort Ord.

Believing that this time the whale was headed for the open ocean, everyone left the beach. In a few minutes she was back in the surf line, this time at the southernmost beach at Pfeiffer.

At this time, Randy Buettner arrived. He watched, helpless to stop the whale from being rolled and tossed by the surf.

Soon after Tom Johnson of General Whale, Monterey, and Kathy Patrick and Beth Bosworth of Greenpeace, Monterey arrived. Working with Randy, they managed to get the whale to a calmer area on the beach, nose pointing up the beach, blowhole above the water.

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No 'Approved' Nude Beaches For Big Sur

There won't be a "nude beach system" in Big Sur or anywhere else in California, according to a directive from the California Parks and Recreation Director, Russell Cahill, in Sacramento.

After extensive "checking" to see how "a good cross-section" feels about designating some beaches as "clothing optional," the Department has decided, according to official dispatch, that there will be no "approved" nude beaches in the

state. Ken Jones, the Department's Big Sur area manager, said he received this word May 31. He was told that designating nude beaches would not only focus attention on an "innocuous action" but it would, at worst, focus attention on a "victimless crime." What's more, it would lead to extra cost for beach patrols.

He emphasized that nudity in state parks will remain a misdemeanor, punishable by fine of from \$10 to \$50, but

the law won't be enforced unless someone complains, and no citations will be issued or arrests made unless a nude bather refuses to get dressed if asked.

In other areas, Jones said, citizens appeared to be polarized on the issue and the Parks director decided on this compromise. But in the Big Sur area, he said, there "just hasn't been much interest" in the nude beach situation, probably because residents have had "more pressing problems to con-

sider."

And, Jones noted, there have always been some who have sunbathed in the raw in the Big Sur area, some at Garrapata, some at Andrew Molera Park, and some at Pfeiffer Beach in secluded spots. He said that nothing has ever gotten out of hand and "no citations have come to my attention."

Just doesn't seem like anything to get too excited about, one way or another, in Big Sur.

New Senate Bill Would Abolish California Coastal Commissions

by Gary Koepfel

State Senator Paul Carpenter (D-Cypress) has introduced a State Constitutional Amendment (SCA-25) to abolish the California Coastal Commissions and return control to local governments.

In a telephone interview, Senator Carpenter said his reasons for drafting the amendment were because of the Coastal Commission's "very gross misuse and abuse of power."

Most of the bills introduced to reform the Coastal Commissions had been defeated in committee by the "Commissions and their friends," the Senator said.

Although the chance of passing the legislation was "fairly small," he said he intended to take it to the people through the initiative process.

The Amendment

As described in the Legislative Council Digest, SCA-25 is "A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California, an amendment of the constitution of the State, by adding Article 22 thereto relating to Coastal Reserves to read:

"The California Coastal Commission and the six Regional Commissions, established by the California Coastal Act of 1976, commencing with section 30000 of the Public Resources Code, are hereby abolished.

"The Legislature shall provide for the transfer of any and all of the appropriate powers, duties, and responsibilities to cities and counties having jurisdiction over the land and water use areas subject to such act."

"The Amendment would require a 2/3 majority of the Senate and the Assembly; there are no appropriations, it would not go to fiscal committee, and there are no state-mandated local programs."

Continued on page 9

LCP Efforts Called 'Sham'

Big Sur CAC Members Quit

by Paul Denison
from the Herald

The vice chairman and the former chairman of the Big Sur Citizens Advisory Committee quit last night, charging that the group's work on a Local Coastal Program (LCP) was "a sham."

"I no longer choose to be part of it," committee vice chairman John Harlan said as he handed a resignation letter to county supervisor Sam Farr at a town hall meeting on the LCP.

Former committee head Gary Koepfel, unable to attend because of a death in his family, sent word that he, too, was resigning from the committee.

In a resignation letter submitted this morning, Koepfel accused Farr of stacking the committee with people "who advocate your position but do not represent the community or its interests."

Koepfel said in his letter that some of Farr's appointees have "covert conflicts of philosophical and economic interest."

Koepfel also attacked a committee report on planning goals and philosophy which was presented at the meeting. He said that the steering committee which wrote it had slanted the subcommittee reports on which it was based.

"Citizen participation in planning is being carefully staged by you and your appointed majority," Koepfel said in his letter to Farr, claiming that community views have been disregarded by the county's consultants and planners.

"The LCP is a clever Orwellian misnomer for a plan whose authorship is considerably less than local," Koepfel said. "The coastal commission is the editor in chief and the coastal staffers hired by the county planning department are the anonymous authors."

Similar Contentions

Harlan's letter was along the same lines.

He said he had hoped to make a "significant contribution" to the updating of the 1962 Monterey County Coast Master Plan so it would conform to the 1976 Coastal Act.

But in recent months, Harlan said, it had become obvious that the coastal commission had already formulated the plan and "the ongoing activities of the Citizens Advisory Committee are a sham."

Both Harlan and Koepfel served on the committee's land use-development subcommittee. Don McQueen, another subcommittee member, also resigned recently. He did not attend Tuesday night's meeting.

"I'm so mad at that group I didn't even go," McQueen said today. "I don't feel it's a community effort. They're not taking community views into account and they're changing things around to their own views. Basically, I think it's a farce."

Three Left

The resignations of Harlan, Koepfel and McQueen left the land use subcommittee with three members — Zad Leavy,

Frank Trotter and Doris Fee.

Roger Newell, who took over the committee chairmanship from Koepfel in July 1978, said after the Harlan-Koepfel resignation announcements that "I do regret, truly, that there are resignations before us."

Newell said he appreciated the work the men had put into the LCP process and was "sorry they no longer choose to participate in this framework."

During a break in the meeting, Newell said that Big Sur was "not a polarizing community but a coalition community" and that "areas of disagreement should not separate us from the common task" of shaping the LCP.

"It's a process of synthesis," Newell said, "and it involves compromise. This leads to a richness of final perspective."

Newell said some members of the community had long been critical of the LCP process.

"Now that they've withdrawn, they can attack, because they're no longer signatories to the product," Newell said.

Incorporation Proponents

Harlan was chairman of the Committee for the Incorporation of Big Sur, and Koepfel was a proponent of incorporation, which was billed as a possible answer to outside government involvement in Big Sur land use planning.

The committee recently tabled its incorporation proposal for lack of public support.

Farr said today that he was "not surprised" at what he described as Koepfel's "continuing conspiracy theory of how planning and government operate."

Referee

Farr said that the board of supervisors "if anything, has been a referee to try to make sure there is broad-based community participation."

Farr noted that he originally appointed the entire Big Sur Coordinating Committee, of which Koepfel also was chairman, to the Citizens Advisory Committee.

"I don't think the various interests in the community are best served by someone saying 'If you don't play by my rules I'm going to take my ball and leave.'"

Farr described the LCP process as "open and accessible" and said it "seems to have a broad base of support."

Leavy had similar comments.

"A lot of people have been involved in this process over the past three years," he said. "A lot of people care about Big Sur, and they don't all agree with Gary Koepfel."

Viewpoint Sought

Leavy added, however, that he was sorry to see Koepfel leave the committee and hoped that his viewpoint would continue to be represented, "whether in the majority or the minority."

The recent resignations left the committee with 16 active members. Eight other Big Sur residents have served on the committee since it was formed.

Last night's resignations were preceded by words of praise and encouragement for the committee from Farr, Planning Commission chairman Joe Sullivan, county Planning Director Ed DeMars, regional coastal commissioner Eleanor Taylor, and coastal planner Lee Otter.

Some of their remarks appeared to anticipate the resignations or at least touch on the fact that sharp differences of opinion existed on the committee as well as dissatisfaction with the course of the LCP work.

Farr said that "the supervisors are very much committed to 'bottoms-up' planning, but that doesn't mean you can do anything you want because you're on the bottom."

DeMars pointed out that "We're operating under a pretty tight set of guide rules" and have to consider "the different equities that pop up."

Won't Go Away

Mrs. Taylor urged Big Sur residents "if you have disagreements to get them out now and settle them now, because they're not going to go away" and the state coastal commission could end up dictating an LCP if Monterey County misses its 1981 deadline.

Bill Farrel of the county planning staff discussed the history of Big Sur planning and the timetable calling for completion of a Big Sur Land Use Plan and implementing measures by the end of this year.

Subcommittee reports were presented by Laurie Dillion (public access and view protection), Kent White (natural resources and constraints), Lloyd Addleman (transportation), and Leavy (land use-development).

Big Sur CAC Resignations

County of Monterey
Board of Supervisors:

At your meeting of Tuesday, June 21, 1977, the Board of Supervisors, upon the recommendation of Supervisor Farr, appointed me to the Big Sur Master Plan Study Committee for an undesignated term of office.

Initially, I took this appointment with anticipation of making a significant contribution to updating the 1962 Monterey County Coast Master Plan to bring it in to conformity with existing California Coastal Law; however, in recent months, it has become more and more obvious that the Big Sur Master Plan has already been formulated by the California Coastal Commission and the ongoing activities of the Citizens Advisory Committee is a sham. Evidence of this contention is rampant inasmuch as (a) a Regional Coastal Commissioner serves on the CAC, (b) a member of the Planning Department staff has stated on more than one occasion that there will be an over-all downzoning with 150 acre minimum single family dwelling lot sizes in the future, (c) development of a stationery letterhead to propound and justify the existence of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

If I believed that the many long hours I have diligently worked on local planning efforts was meaningful, I would be content to remain a part of this group; however, this is not the case and I hereby resign my appointment. My membership certificate issued by the Board of Supervisors is enclosed.

John Harlan
Big Sur, CA

May 29, 1979

Supervisor Sam Farr:

I can no longer lend my name, participation, or support to the Citizen's Committee you have appointed to represent the Big Sur Community in the development of the so-called Local Coastal Plan (LCP).

After 3½ years you have finally succeeded in appointing a majority of members to the committee who advocate your position but do not represent the community or its interests.

Moreover, some of your appointees which constitute the new majority have covert conflicts of philosophical and economic interests. Zad Leavy is a Coastal Commissioner, Sierra Clubber, and the legal counsel for the Big Sur Land Trust; Roger Newell, the Chairman of your committee, is not only a trustee for Ansel Adam's Big Sur Foundation, he is also a paid consultant of the Land Trust. Most of the members of your majority are also members of the Sierra Club, Land Trust, and/or Foundation.

The May 1979 CAC report "Philosophy and Goals for Planning" begins with misrepresentation and ends with fraud. The unsigned introductory summary was authored by a "steering committee." The summary is frivolous, fraught with error, and it slants rather than summarizes the sub-committee's reports. The so-called "minority report" on the last page is fraudulent in that it was neither properly presented nor accepted as such, especially in that it was not written by a minority group but rather by one person, Zad Leavy, and it self-servingly promotes the interests of the Land Trust and Foundation.

Citizen participation in planning, as mandated by the Coastal Act, is being carefully "staged" by you and your appointed majority. The community input over the past three years has been either ignored or disregarded and has not been accounted for by either the County's consultants or its planners. It is little wonder that only 30 or 40 persons attended your May 1979 Town Hall Meeting rather than the usual turnout of 300.

Finally, I am resigning because the Local Coastal Plan is clever Orwellian misnomer for a plan whose authorship is considerably less-than-local. The Coastal Commission is the Editor-in-Chief, and the Coastal Staffers hired by the County Planning Department are the anonymous authors.

In conclusion, I formally request you to remove my name as a member-author of the Land Use Sub-Committee Report, and I further inform you that legal action will be taken if this is not done so. I will not be party to your committee's ghost-writing, and I will not be used to help legitimize the LIP you call an LCP.

Gary Koepfel
Big Sur, CA

Baby Killer Whale Rescued by Residents

Continued from page 1

The battle which was to last until dawn had begun. Tom, Beth, Kathy, Matt Jardine and Brian Sperry braved the icy water, straddling the whale since it was incapable of orienting itself, keeping it upright and minimizing the area of the whale exposed to the waves. They kept this up for quite a while until finally Kim Kuska and Danny Einstein arrived to help.

Just about the time Kim and Danny were becoming miserable in the freezing water, Charlie Jones and I returned to help. Kim then left to try and contact a home for the whale.

Danny and Charlie kept up the crusade, but I noticed the whale was steadily moving back towards to rocks. At the rate she was drifting, she would have washed up on the rocks in about another hour. Things looked desperate. Earlier, we had been told that beaching the whale would cause severe damage to the lungs, and in fact, a foam pad had been placed underneath the whale to minimize lung damage.

Being literally caught between a rock and a hard place, we had to take a chance and beach the whale.

Once beached, the problem then became keeping her wet, both to keep her cool, as well as prevent the skin from sloughing off.

One could actually see steam rising from around her fins. Al Jardine suggested that the fins be wrapped up in wet towels separately, and in my opinion, this played a key role in the whale's survival.

While all this was going on, local residents were making the initial contacts to the people who could place the whale in a suitable home. Among those involved were Kim Kuska, Al Jardine, and Jeff Norman.

The local residents weren't the only ones working overtime to place the whale. Other volunteers included Dr. Tom Williams, a Monterey Veterinarian with previous experience in marine mammal care, Mark Weber and Marty Fields from the California Marine Mammal Center, Fort Cronkhite, and Greenpeace.

Several locations were considered including Sea World in San Diego, and Marine World-Africa, U.S.A. in Redwood City. Marine World was finally opted for, due to their closer proximity.

According to Mike Demetrius, it was Greenpeace who finally contacted them.

Ron Swallow, Sonny Allen and Pat Turley from Marine World finally arrived at Pfeiffer Beach sometime around 2 am, only to find the beach inaccessible. Ron then administered antibiotics on the scene and first aid was continued.

Pat Chamberlain was then contacted and at about 5:30 am the whale was placed on a dolphin stretcher and transferred to the bed of his half-ton, 4-wheel drive, Chevy pickup.

It took nine people to load the whale.

Once the whale was brought to the parking lot, she was set on a foam pad and transferred via stretcher to Brian Sperry's pickup.

Brian then drove her to Marine World, arriving at about 1 am Saturday morning.

Upon arrival at Sea World, the whale was vomiting and in a state of shock. She was quickly transferred to a four foot deep tank, and soon after showed tremendous improvement. Two to three people were placed on either side of her to keep her properly oriented. By Sunday morning, only one person remained in the tank, and by Monday morning, she was alone in the tank and able to swim a little.

Obviously, every day the whale lives, her chances of survival improve. However, in such cases, it usually takes about 90 days for full recovery.

Although she must still be force-fed, she is eating about 30 pounds a day, and the mere fact that she is not rejecting the food is considered a very good sign.

Often whales found in this condition are infested with parasites. The lack of parasites in this whale is also cause for optimism.

She isn't "out of the woods" yet. She's bleeding internally, but the bleeding has not been traced to any internal organs at this time. Numerous skin lacerations are also apparent, some caused by rocks, others cause unknown.

Contrary to previous reports, the baby female killer whale measures 10 feet 4 inches, and weighs about 1,000 to 1,200 pounds. Females are generally smaller than males which can reach up to 35 feet in length, and can weigh up to 10 tons at maturity.

The killer whale (orcinus orca) is a member of the dolphin family, which is readily apparent by the high dorsal fin it possesses. They are carnivorous, feeding largely on fish, seals, and other whale species.

Since they are not generally hunted, due to their relatively small size, they are not considered an endangered species, although there are not that many.

Nonetheless, marine biologists consider this find highly significant since beached killer whales seldom survive, as was witnessed earlier this month at a Fort Bragg beach.

Ironically, the whale was found during Greenpeace sponsored "Whale Awareness Week" (May 20-26). Those who sat through this ordeal, heard and responded to the whale's cries, are certainly much more aware.



Summer Wildfire Season

by Frank Pinney

The end of May was approaching, and with its dry winds came the browning of the grass on the ridges. Looking down into the parking area at the U.S.F.S. Big Sur Station, we could see the cars of the back country hikers.

"I just hope these campers use their heads for something besides a hatrack," Chief Walter Trotter said as we drove by.

But that was before the Memorial Day weekend. In just over a week, the Fire Brigade rolled to five illegal campfires. Though none of these were a serious emergency, it is worth remembering that it was just such an illegal campfire left unattended that sparked the Moler fire in 1972. What does it take to make people realize what fire danger really

means?

This year's rainfall pattern has produced a particularly thick carpet of grass everywhere along the coast. In fact, the whole state faces the worst of all wildfire situations. Good rains in the south produced thick grass, and dry conditions in the north have produced dry forests, all of which means a serious problem for Californians this summer.

As always, most fires will be caused by humans, and the majority will be caused by just the kind of "hatrack" thinking that brought those five illegal campfires last month.

Please remember: Campfires in designated campgrounds only, smokers use your ashtray, and everyone use our heads for thinking about fire safety, not for just a hatrack.

New Engine at Pacific Valley

There is big news at the Pacific Valley ranger station! District Management Officer Jack Gollaher and Assistant Fire Management Officer Don Lopez have designated this Los Padres National Forest station as the new home of the Monterey District's first model 60 fire engine.

Under the direction of the new station foreman, Randy Johnson, this engine's more advanced capabilities should provide the south coast with greater fire protection. The International 4-wheel drive is also much more maneuverable than the older model 50 that was stationed at Pacific Valley. This, plus the greater pump abilities and an additional water supply (500 gal-

lons), will definitely increase the chances of stopping wildfires as well as proving valuable in assisting at the scene of structure fires.

The new truck has comfort advantages for its five man crew. Known as a "six pack," the cab has comfortable inside seating for its daily quota of five firemen. No more midnight freezing or late season "blues." The public is invited to come and see the newest addition to the Monterey District. Working hours are from 8am to 5pm and all questions about the "Big Green One" can be answered by Johnson or his fellow Forest Service employees. So come down to P.V. and visit.

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The Flying Fire Engine Makes Its Debut

by Allica Truffer
Capitol News Service

The exclusive event was by invitation only. City officials, representing fire departments and city councils from municipalities as far away as Milwaukee, Wisconsin, flew in for the affair, which was being hosted by the McDonnell Douglas Corporation.

The star of the show, nick-named "the flying fire engine", made its formal debut after three years and \$2.5 million in development costs.

Pete Simmons, director of the Suspended Maneuvering Systems (SMS) division, explained "As of today, we're introducing it, announcing its availability. We can deliver by Spring of 1981. We already have people clamoring over who gets the first one."

The system, which consists of a cage-like contraption suspended on a 1,000 foot cable under a helicopter, has been designed by the aerospace corporation to expedite emergency and rescue teams access to hard-to-reach places, high rise buildings in particular.

The show began with a demonstration of the module's maneuverability, as the module can maneuver independently of the helicopter horizontally in any direction.

Simmons explained to the audience the stability of the SMS module, obtained by air nozzles which respond to commands from an onboard computer. Without any instructions from the pilot, the nozzles shoot out streams of air on the right directions to compensate for gusts of wind holding the module's platform steady.

The demonstration continued with a staged fire containment and rescue operation, using a simulated high rise building, complete with "smoke" spewing forth from the tenth floor level windows.

The two-man team, after hooking up to the eighth floor, attached the onboard hose to pipes inside the building and then from a strategic angle, sprayed water down into the window of the tenth floor, extinguishing the simulated fire.

The SMS module was then maneuvered to the site of the fire, and a "victim" carried from the building on a stretcher was quickly settled into the module for a ride to safety.

Fire Chief Lee Hill, City of Fresno, suggested the feasibility of procuring a SMS module "depends on the community you're in." He further ventured the possibility of "a lot of agencies getting one cooperatively." He noted "another good application for it" might be "picking hikers off of the cliffs in the Yosemite Valley."

Chief William Stam of the Milwaukee Fire Department agrees with Hill. "We would have to work something out regionally," he said. He believes "the high rise problem is really secondary now," and that even though "there are so many applications now" the agencies will "have to show a use for it, a need for it" before a SMS could be purchased.

According to Simmons, addressing the availability of helicopters that have the capability to lift the module, "there are 2,700 'choppers' scattered around the country." The company conducted "a survey" which, Simmons reports, showed that many agencies do have access to a chopper, and, "those that don't have one, want one anyway."

A helicopter capable of lifting 5,000 pounds is necessary Simmons explained, and he estimated these aircraft cost in the range of \$800,000 to \$3 million. The SMS Module, as demonstrated, has a \$450,000 to \$500,000 price tag.

Fire Extinguisher Seminar
Residents are invited to a Fire Extinguisher Seminar on Tuesday, June 19 at 7pm at the U. S. F. S. Big Sur Station.
A hands-on demonstration will be offered plus a servicing and recharging of home and car extinguishers.
The evening is being presented by the Coast County Fire Extinguisher Co. and sponsored by the Big Sur Fire Brigade, State Park and U.S. Forest Service.
For information call Frank Pinney 667-2584

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Photography by Horst Mayer

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Views and Viewpoints

Include Us Out

Guest Editorial from the Herald

When 43 million Californians approved the coastline protection initiative seven years ago, they had every right to think they were creating the first really effective coastal planning body in the nation.

What they got, instead, was a new tyranny of overzealous bureaucrats bent on distorting the specific goal of seashore protection into a tool for social engineering that could be imposed on a hapless public far removed from the ocean.

This week the state Assembly Resources, Land Use and Energy Committee sent an unmistakable message to the Central Coastal Commission, in particular, that it had overstepped its bounds once too often.

The committee therefore recommended that 113 acres of downtown Monterey, a residential part of Cannery Row, 225 acres of Marina, 300 acres of Pacific Grove and smaller portions of Seaside and Sand City be deleted from the commission's highhanded and arbitrary jurisdiction.

These already-developed and well-established sections never should have been included in the first place. Back in 1972, the voters clearly intended to protect their coastline from the sort of over-development that turned Miami Beach and Waikiki Beach into high rent eyesores. They did not intend to surrender all their property rights and local self-determination to a smug band of appointed do-gooders.

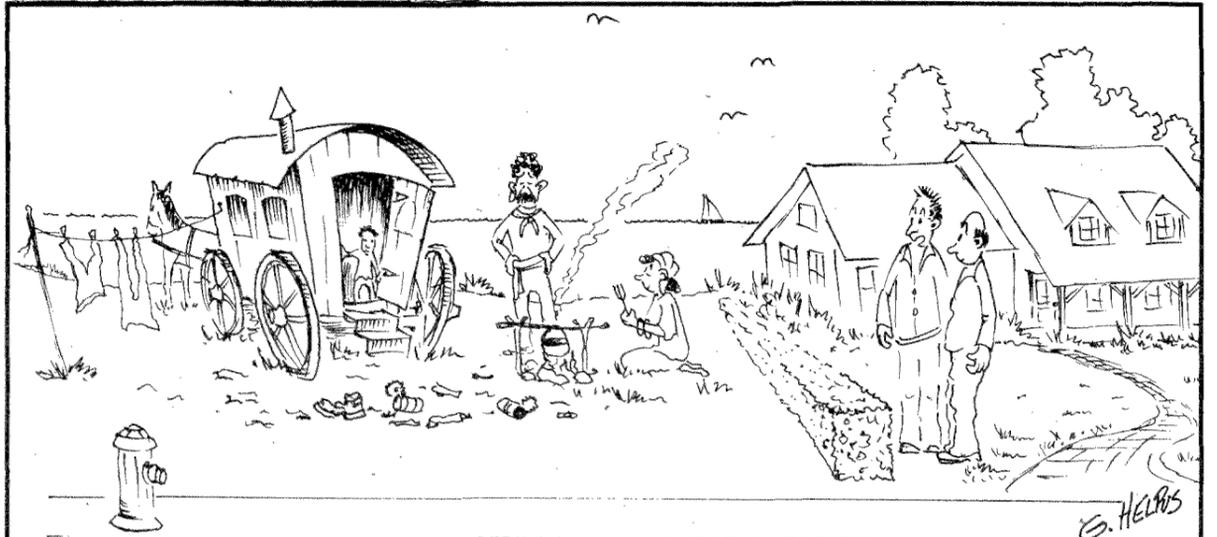
There are honest concerns, of course. The Monterey History and Art Association, for example, fears that the committee's recommendation will jeopardize the security and integrity of some 39 old adobes located in that part of downtown Monterey that is to be excluded. We respectfully disagree.

To begin with, the old adobes managed very well before the Coastal Commission and have survived a number of its unwarranted intrusions since. We, too, strongly believe that Monterey's Path of History should be protected — but not by a Coastal Commission whose objectives are too frequently irrelevant to that end.

As a matter of fact, we regret the committee did not see fit to rescue Cannery Row itself from the commission's meddling clutches, even though it is patently a coastal development. The Row is in critical need of rehabilitation and renovation. It is, in part, a dreadful eyesore.

Yet every effort to accomplish this restoration is thwarted by the commission or its eager beaver staff. Its handling of Cannery Row's unique problems has been, to say the least, a bureaucratic disgrace and an actual deterrent to the preservation of that part of the coast.

If Cannery Row is an example of the Coastal Commission's protective capacity, Monterey's downtown adobes are far better off without it.



IT WAS A CONCESSION TO THE COASTAL COMMISSION ON LOW COST HOUSING...

Anti-Coastal Forces

Dear Editor:

I note in the press that the anti-coastal forces are at it again. A new South-California-Monterey combine, — the private California Coastal Council — is merely the latest face of a developers' group that has fought for years against coastal protection in any form. It has never produced a preservation plan of its own. It is now out to emasculate the coastal law. They fought against Proposition 20 in 1972 and lost; sought to prevent the passing of the state Coastal Protection Law in 1975 and failed; started a new initiative in 1976 intended to set aside the coastal law but was unable to get enough citizens signatures to put it on the ballot. They are now preparing with the slanted viewpoint of a relative few, a list of so-called, Coastal Commission errors.

The silent majority which has consistently voted to Save Our Coast is not organized to continuously defend it. Nobody has made a list of the Commissions coast-saving acts in behalf of all the people — how many of the great views are still unblocked, how much of the shore is still uncovered, how many beaches can still be visited? How long has it been since you've seen a bulldozer on the beach or dunes?

Generally I believe less government is the best government, but recognize that government is society's way of doing the best for the most.

So why did a piece of government known as the Coastal Commission come into being? It was created by the same people who now condemn it, by developers who regarded the scenic coast as fair game and who persuaded town and county lawmakers to permit them to cover it up. There was no coastal plan to prevent the coastline from being eaten up—a motel, a restaurant, a condominium complex at a time. It was overkill and the public reacted with Prop. 20 to slow it up.

It is commonplace to criticize government at all levels. The Coastal Commission is not immune from mistakes. Although under great pressure from powerful development groups, it could still become more efficient, faster, less detailed. But we will not stand idly by and let it be crippled. You don't cut off an

arm because you have a hangnail. It is desperately needed for the coast still has no protection in local law except what the Commission provides.

K.P. Wood
Carmel

Don't Sell Out

Editor:

The last Perry Newberry inheritor of the editorship of the Carmel Pine Cone, I feel great sympathy with what you are doing with the Big Sur Gazette. Also I appreciate and admire the writing of Elayne Fitzpatrick-Grimm, long a friend of talent and insight, as well as a beautiful lady.

Henry Miller I came to know years ago, especially through my old and English friend Hilary Belloc, who first took me up to Henry's home on the ridge.

Big Sur even now has some of the feeling of the early-day Carmel-by-the-Sea in which "real" people lived, worked and played. There is an analogy in the surrendering to the wealthy (or rich) and also to the automobile.

Keep up the good work. Don't sell out. And herewith I send my subscription to begin with Issue No. 1.

Frank Lloyd
Carmel

Image Committee

Editor:

The Coastal Commission has blown it again. I began the May 9 Herald article about their image with some hope that they were finally going to become receptive to the people, but tis not so. Their first concern is their image with state and local officials. They are blind to the fact that these officials are looking at them with jaundiced eyes because the people have complained, personally and through the new California Coastal Council. The appointed commissioners do not seem to realize that elected officials tend to be responsive to the people who elect them, and that the people are screaming about the repeated abuses of power, about farces called public hearings, about the unbalanced emphasis on parts of the Coastal Act, about the commissioners' atrocious looking-down-the-nose syndrome, about judgments that are always on a political basis rather than determined to fit the individual case, about the rape of the property owner.

To have Zad Leavy head a PR image committee is silly. It is a contradiction in terms. It seems to me that his pontifical misinterpretations of almost everything have created for him the worst individual image on the commission.

Finally, Leavy's accusation

that the Herald and the Salinas Californian distort facts about the commission is childish pique for not playing his game. The people need the kind of reporting Paul Denison, of the Herald, is doing — the truth.

Jim Josoff
Big Sur

El Rio Grande Del Sur

by STERLING DOUGHTY

Aranom, a young man of the Essellen tribe and descendant of ancestors who had migrated from China millenia before was deeply struck by the sight of the great white skin moving along the coastline. The sun cycle before, when the largest of the spirit trees had fallen, he had been told by the elders of the legend coming from the dawn of his tribe: That the peaceful, rich life of his people would somehow undergo great stress and change when the largest and longest lived of the trees returned to the mother. The prophecy also told of a sign of strangeness that would appear in the great water. Aranom had seen the sign and went before the elders for instruction.

A council of learning was called and Aranom sat in the circle listening as Wanaha spoke in a quiet trance, her aged body aglow more from the spirit of truth than from the flickering flames of the council fire. Reaching back through the endless ages of world turning, she recited the history of the tribe: The times of peace in the far-off land, the intruders, and the great journey across the shoulder of the mother to their home in the steep hills on the edge of the mystic water. She spoke of the generations of harmony and oneness with the spirit and her eyes glistened with tears as she recalled the prophecies of the coming times, the time of mystery, the time of challenge and of change so strong as to forever alter their chosen way of life. Then she turned to face Aranom and said, "Chosen one, brother and son; perhaps one day father of the tribe, you have seen the sign. It is for you then to take the sacred food brought from the ancient land and seek from the Father and Mother of ALL the knowledge and wisdom needed in this moment for our people."

The council sat in silence till the fire extinguished itself and a rose dawn came from the far side of the mountain homeland. For three days Aranom took no nourishment save the cleansing waters.

Then Manuam, shaman of the Essellen gave him the sacred food still sealed these long ages in the vase of strange blue stone. He was told simply to go to his place of power treasuring the needs of his people and to eat the food as befitted its sacred nature.

Aranom sat beneath the great oak alone on the grassy knoll. He held up the blue vase to the sky and with heart prayer, he twisted the egg shaped stone of blue flecked with white as was the darkest sky. It opened easily and carefully he ate the ancient powder from the hollow center, marvelling at the aroma from some time beyond his ken. He waited three days in that place and then on the darkness preceding the fourth day, he began to see. Scenes came into his mind, strange worlds, strange shapes, strange colors; brief flashes of beauty streamed in endless succession through him. Hundreds, perhaps thousands of images came and went leaving their messages imprinted in the being of man. As if guided by an unseen hand, his head turned to the night sky and he witnessed the changing of the heavens; the stars, connected by threads of light, formed patterns and shapes he had never before known, and in their movement, he knew without knowing that they spoke a knowledge of the unknown.

Then he moved to a high ridge overlooking the sea, and saw floating above the misty waters a village unlike any of his world. Shining crystal planes with bright small fires laced throughout. Immense and beautiful it swam amongst the mists. Soon the village vanished and once more he turned to the sky and the stars receded from sight as a great gold cross appeared. In the center of the cross came the face of an Ancient Man, serene and awesome in the love and power He conveyed. For all time and no time, Aranom received this glance from beyond. Slowly then the Ancient One turned His face and He and the Cross disappeared. The stars returned and the sounds of the world were heard again.

Correction

Due to the youth of the author, last month's story on Pico Blanco contained an error as to the make of car that ran over Jules Kahofer's foot. The story stated that the vehicle was a Model A. Since the accident occurred in the early 'twenties, the make had to have been a Model T.

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THURSDAY
OF EVERY MONTH

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Citizens Outraged by RPZs

Over 500 irate citizens met in Carmel and Big Sur on May 29th and 30th to protest the proposed Resource Protection Zone (RPZ) concept which was drafted by the Coastal Commission, Coastal Conservancy and Department of Parks and Recreation.

State agency planners proposed to establish 108 separate Resource Protection Zones around existing state parks, most of which are located in the Coastal Zone.

Because the proposed boundaries encompassed thousands of acres of private property, owners were concerned about the effects on their property rights and values.

The Chief Deputy Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, Alice Wright-Cottingim, responded to the angry audience by promising to recommend to the Parks Director, Russell Cahill, that the "RPZ approach is not the answer....and that RPZ plans should be scratched."

In her subsequent memo to Cahill, the deputy director did recommend that the Parks Department should "discontinue all current work on the RPZ's."

In addition, however, she recommended that they should not forego their objective of protecting sensitive areas or park units, "but rather that we seek other means of accomplishing these [goals] that are less threatening and more of a cooperative mode with local government and its citizenry."

At the Big Sur meeting, Ms. Wright-Cottingim said that "if we put our concerns in an LCP, it's the same as RPZ."

The following articles report on the Carmel and Big Sur meetings, and a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Speer, which received a standing ovation when presented at the Carmel meeting, has been reprinted in its entirety.

Ms. Wright-Cottingim explained her reasons, early in the evening, for recommending that the RPZ plans be scratched: 1. local protest by property owners, 2. lack of clarity of the RPZ proposal, and 3. her "general intuition" about the process that didn't seem to be working as intended.

State agencies are required, under the 1976 Coastal Conservancy Act, to identify "impact areas" around state land holdings. And the CCA directs the state Coastal Commission to designate RPZs to control development with an eye toward limiting adverse effects on state parks, beaches, and wildlife reserves. Main concerns are viewsheds, watersheds, and access.

But it became obvious during the hearings in Carmel and Big Sur that the road to hell for property owners, particularly through threatened devaluation of their property, was being paved by these good intentions and that the proposed zoning rules might be causing more problems than they might cure.

A major concern was the fact that planners had attempted to draw 108 separate Resource Protection Zones in areas which they hadn't inspected. One map drawn had even included Carmel Valley by mistake.

The Parks chief deputy director had been particularly impressed at the Carmel meeting by a letter read by Jewell Speer of Carmel Highlands — one she had sent to all state legislators. The letter said she had tried to get response from Parks and Recreation Department people, after reading about the RPZ in a newspaper article, but the answers were "vague, confused, contradictory, and inconclusive." She stated that the vacillating boundaries of "bureaucratic muddling" and the multiplicity of laws could bankrupt a whole generation of property owners, that it could mean more incestuous government controls and the end of private property.

Ms. Wright-Cottingim called the letter "beautiful" and a comprehensive expression of "what you are all trying to say." The audience agreed, via cheers.

The Coastal Commission received bitter attacks at the Carmel meeting. Doug Scott of Carmel Highlands said he was "here to damn each and every one of you for making it impossible to buy a piece of property in the Carmel Highlands," and Mrs. Joseph Costa of Carmel Highlands called the Coastal Commission "a kangaroo court of

unqualified, politically appointed hacks."

Big Sur's Walter Trotter said, "It seems like you don't give a good God damn about people who own property, only about yourselves and the tourists."

Bill Reordan, president, Carmel Highlands Assn., said, "We can't get an accurate market analysis the minute you include us in your map. It's a cloud on the title."

Pat Ramsay of the Carmel Highlands Inn, one of two commercial property owners in the Highlands, complained, "We're a resource too (referring to the Inn) and need protection. We've always loved and protected Point Lobos. But we've never been forced to protect it. We want to protect stampedes over nature but not via a stampede over us."

Executive director of the California Coastal Council, Joe Mastroianni, vowed that not one more square foot of land can be confiscated by the government "without the biggest damn fight," and Mrs. Viktoria Consiglio of Seaside gave a "show and tell" with a large American flag and concluded, "What you are trying to do is wrong," pleading for citizens' constitutional rights.

Mrs. Clark Woodward commented, "We truly need no more protection from the State," and Don Southard, representing the Monterey County Taxpayers Assn., stated that government is now out of control and it cannot "mandate bankruptcy on people who own their homes." He said homeowners care about their environment here and "don't need lectures." He cited the Coastal Commission as one of the "chief examples of organizations out of control."

Clare Willard, a school teacher, said she's been "crucified" by the Coastal Commission and has "caught them in lies," adding, "I'm so scared I'm ready to sell our final resting place, the title is so clouded by RPZs. The private property owner is the endangered species." But she applauded Ms. Wright-Cottingim saying, "We don't feel in any way threatened by you, Alice. Don't give the Coastal Commission the opportunity to hurt us again with RPZs. Protect us, Alice."

The audience backed this up with cheers.

Bobbie Jeffers from Carmel Highlands suggested that the Coastal Commission is "trying to steal the California coast without having to pay for it" and complained that "RPZ wipes out local control, putting total control in the hands of a few."

Of all the speakers at the Carmel meeting, only three voiced support of the RPZ concept. Nancy Snyder, representing the League of Women Voters of the Monterey Peninsula, asked that her organization be "put on record" as supporting the RPZ as a method to "support orderly development" and control growth. Judd Vandevere of Monterey said he looks with favor on the RPZ concept as "further protection" because he's not sure the people are "wholly protected" against "some interests" in connection with viewsheds. He referred to opposition of local residents to expansion of the Tickle Pink Motor Lodge.

At the Big Sur Grange meeting, the audience was anxious but less hostile. Jim Josoff summarized the Carmel meeting for the audience and observed, "Alice (Wright-Cottingim) had us eating out of her hand." He asked whether scratching the RPZ lines, but keeping the concept, might be more disastrous because of the danger in "not knowing whether you're in a sensitive area."

"We have to watch the Coastal Commission most," he suggested, "when it seems to be acting benevolently." Mr. Josoff recommended that there be no RPZ and no further action without "massive public hearings." He said Big Sur and Carmel Highlands people are "all in this together."

Sensitive areas in Big Sur were designated by Ross Henry, chief of the planning commission for the Department of Parks and Recreation, as Andrew Molera State Park, Pfeiffer-Big Sur State Park, Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, and John Little State Reserve. He said, "We need public input on RPZs for all these areas. The unfinished Garrapata Beach project map was added to the sensitive area maps placed on the board, at the request of the audience."

Gerald Ramsdale, chief planner for Parks and Recreation,

consider subpoenaing inventory management data from California's five largest oil companies. The data includes available supplies, cost of supplies, refinery operations, existing fuel inventories and other statistics.

"Californians are sick and tired of the run-around on this problem. They have a right to expect something more substantial of their elected officials than simple schemes telling them on which day they may purchase gasoline," Hallett said.

"Prime agricultural areas are increasingly attractive targets for utility companies and government officials as they seek new sites for power plants," according to Assemblyman John Thurman, D-Modesto.

Thurman has introduced legislation to provide additional protection to agricultural and rural lands, which would "require the California Energy Commission and the utility companies to identify industrial facilities throughout the state which have the ability to produce electricity using a process known as 'cogeneration.'"

In addition, the bill requires "the identification of older power plants which could produce more electricity if installed with modern equipment....a process known as 'repowering,'" Thurman explained further.

Procedures which will increase California's ability to protect the public in the event of a major accident at a nuclear power plant have been drawn up by a special panel appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

The plan, which the governor says "goes far beyond the present inadequate federal guidelines to protect the public in the event of a serious nuclear accident," increases the area around power plants for which evacuations must be planned and includes meltdown class accidents, among other provisions.



explained proposed RPZ boundaries. He attempted to answer a question put by Pat Dotson: "Why are RPZs necessary in addition to our being in the Coastal Zone? Aren't RPZs and the Coastal Act interested in the same things?"

Ramsdale said there is "no difference in effect on the property owner between the Local Coastal Plan and the RPZ."

Ross Henry added that "all of the Coastal Act policies address the same issues. Local programs are prepared by local agencies, and the State also needs part in the effort. It's a legislative mandate."

Ann Herzenberg, a Coastal Commission staff member working on RPZs, put in her word: "It does seem the same thing can be done without the RPZ. We really don't want to impose new restrictions, only a planning device, and I agree with you that we don't need to designate the RPZ."

And Ross Henry reiterated, "The RPZ only identifies areas the Parks Department has some concern with, and (as a result of the Carmel meeting) we are supporting a position that says there will be no RPZ."

In her opening remarks, Ms. Wright-Cottingim said she wanted to "take back your thoughts." She expressed a concern that what was meant to be an "easier way to get a job done" was "blown out of proportion and has made the job harder."

She continued, "If we put our concerns in an LCP, it's the same as RPZ. We don't need additional clout. If you live in a buffer zone, you are subject to laws. But I want to determine tonight our concerns that will help us live together."

She made it clear that "everything living is important to me, including the land, but free enterprise can also destroy land in the name of private rights." And she acknowledged that outhouses and parking lots can rape the natural landscape too. "We don't want to look at parking lots instead of meadows. We understand that bureaucracy can destroy resources as well as anyone else in the name of public use."

Big Sur resident Bob Cross told Ms. Wright-Cottingim that Big Sur people are "intentionally disorganized" and "we came here for this purpose." He said residents are concerned that campers will pollute their area, yet "we can't speak as one voice. We don't want to organize as a township, and we don't want to go through so much bureaucracy and money. Not all of us are rich, except in spirit. We have a lot of love for this land or we wouldn't have moved here in the first place."

Cross continued, "The concept of giving you (the Parks and Recreation Department) that much public land was so you couldn't stand on all of its borders and say, 'Now all of that we want as open space.' All that is private. The concept of giving you a park large enough to protect is for us here to enjoy too and have other people come in — all 23 million of them — so they can get to the beach....not so they can see two miles up the canyon and worry about some speck up there. Private land is private land. Somebody might have to sell it some day because of taxes. We've watched too many people here who literally get papered out of existence."

And he concluded, "We already have adequate safeguards in the Coastal Act. You don't have to hit the people again."

Ms. Wright-Cottingim replied, "I hear what you're saying, but that's not the same as doing nothing. Let's take a look and see what is necessary and be able to stand behind any proposals, coming down here to defend any line designated. We haven't reached that point yet. And if what is being proposed by our staff leads to the conclusion that the Coastal Act does adequately safeguard, after careful scrutiny, I'd have no compunction about acknowledging that. If, on the other hand, we find some sensitive areas, I want to leave it open to put this into the Local Coastal Plan for scrutiny by local people."

First Art Festival A Big Success

The first Big Sur Spring Art Festival took place at Ripplewood Resort this past Memorial Day weekend with a surprising surge of success. Pennants were streaming, a large banner hung in the sometimes still air and the sun shone as the crowds thronged. Even with the gas shortage which cut-down on highway traffic considerably, there was an almost constant double row of cars parked at the festival. Thirty five artists and craftspeople were represented, almost all of them professionals in their field. The quality and diversity of their work well attested to their skills. Many visitors, both local and tourists, remarked about the smoothness and taste of the entire fair.

With another one planned for the forthcoming Labor Day weekend, there will be improvements and enlargements based on the experience gained from this one. Music will be added and there will be an expanded variety of foods and drinks.

The Big Sur Volunteer Ambulance also benefited from the festival. A raffle of a painting by Buzz Brown donated \$200 to the ambulance service. Also a percentage of the gross sales of the fair contributed another \$386. It was a profitable weekend indeed.

If this first art festival is any indication, it will be looked forward to as a regular part of Big Sur's arts and crafts activities.

Dateline: Sacramento

"If anything, (Russell) Cahill has advanced nudity on our publicly held lands. I don't consider the issue dead at all," declared Senator John Briggs, R-Fullerton.

Briggs was "pleased that the Director of Parks and Recreation, Russell Cahill, was backing off the (nude beach) proposal," yet the Senator "takes a dim view of the Director....(taking) a passive approach to enforce nudity regulations in State Parks."

"I will proceed to introduce control language in the budget bill to preclude the (Parks and Recreation) Department from spending any monies for the administration of 'clothing optional' areas," Briggs stated.

CALTRANS and the Highway Patrol have released a table of figures charting what a reduction in highway speed can save the average driver. Speed reduction from 70 mph to 55 mph will result in an average savings of 18 per cent of fuel consumption; a reduction from 65 mph to 55 mph will save an average of 12 per cent.

These figures are average savings and reflect a reduction in fuel consumption as well as money spent for gasoline.

In the continuing saga of the fuel crunch, Secretary of State March Fong Eu recently announced her support for a plan calling for all motorists to cut back gasoline usage 3 to 5 gallons per week by taking the "Horowitz Pledge."

David Horowitz, a Southern California consumer activist, announced his plan recently on the "Tonight Show," saying that creation of a surplus could give the consumer leverage with the federal government, oil companies and the OPEC nations. According to Eu, a 3-gallon per vehicle cutback would reduce state consumption by nearly 220 million gallons a month.

Assembly Minority Leader Carol Hallett, R-Atascadero, has requested the Assembly Committee on Fuel Scarcity to

The Living Earth

The Living Earth is Gazebo Classroom

Story and Photos by Bill Liles

"The living earth is our classroom," says Janet Lederman, designer of the children's Gazebo, which has grown up over the past two years in a grove of trees near the cliff adjacent to the Esalen property.

Here each day Big Sur children gather in an outdoor learning environment.

And each day brings new wonders to view for local tots: Monarch butterflies festoon the trees, whales skirt the coastline, baby sea otters appear each spring. The cries of gulls and the bark of sea lions are heard over the beat of the surf on the rocks below.

Sometimes there is the roar of a tractor or a backhoe as the work of the larger community at the hot springs complex goes on about them.

All things are there to contribute a learning experience. Lizards and snakes scurry and slide through the grass, local and fly-through birds abound and add their delightful color, and there is always time to stop still in the radiant sun and contemplate the progress of a worm across a leaf, or to look deeply into an opening flower.

Snails are a particular favorite for long, slow observation, and there is "Susie P. Kareena", the pony, who must be groomed, ridden and fed.

The children have their own garden at the Gazebo, where seeds are planted and watched as they emerge mysteriously from the ground as plants and face the sun in its warming swing toward summer.

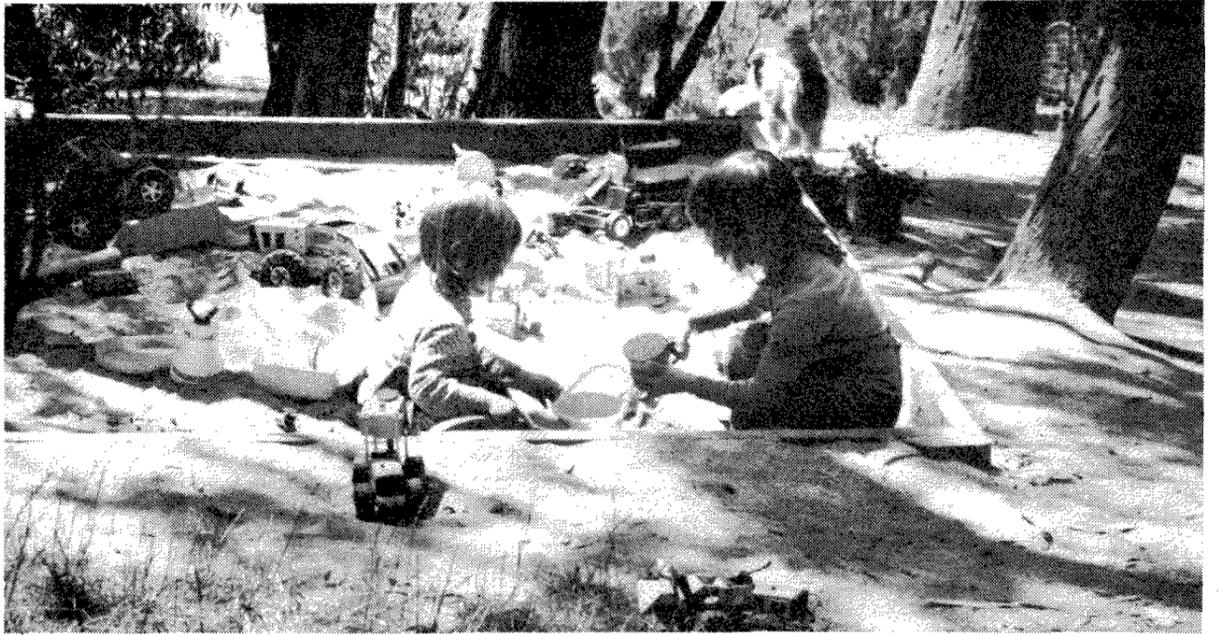
And then there are the older kids and the grownups, a panorama of passing faces who come to visit and share their knowledge, or perhaps, just to play.

"The open walls of the Gazebo provide a window on the world from a safe place," Janet Lederman theorizes. "Eventually infants will go out through the walls and into nature, where their natural curiosity about the world 'out there' is satisfied directly."

The learning experience is stimulated and encouraged by anything that happens to come along, she notes.

"Here the children have a chance to explore the world at their leisure. And it's a natural world. This prepares them for the world of the larger community in a very basic way."

A public school teacher for 14 years, Janet walked away from the system several years ago, looking for "a better way." The best way, she found, was to start her own school at Esalen, where she is co-director.



THE FIRST CLASSROOM Learning basics from the ground up

Janet believes that, unlike the early days in this country, parents today tend to be overprotective of their children, stifling creativity.

"They're always telling them 'don't do this,' or 'don't touch that,' or 'watch out for...,' to such an extent that the infant picks up the parent's fears and neurosis at a very impressionable age.

"Maybe its because most of the people today live in big cities, where paranoia is part of the way of life. Yet many of these same overprotective parents may think nothing of building nuclear plants which affect their children's future," the public schools veteran said.

Begun two years ago as a place for the growing "wet set" population of Esalen, the Gazebo has expanded out in that time and become an integral part of the Big Sur community.

Big Sur mountain ladies daily bring their tots to the Gazebo for "interaction with other kids," and "the experience." Parents sometimes spend time at the Gazebo too, reading stories, gardening, taking youngsters on field trips, or just seeing children in different ways.

Candice Romanof, of Lime Creek, mother of Jessica, 4, and Jacob, 3, works at the Gazebo two days a week.

"What I like is that everyone pays attention to what's going on," she volunteered.

"There is more awareness here than an ordinary school would have," she said. "It's a process in which the main rule is to pay attention. I like to be with my kids at home, but this helps them to be more aware of what's going on around them. Also, they learn to

interact with others besides myself."

Rick Tarnus, one of the first volunteers to work clearing brush for the site, and presently program manager at Esalen, states:

"I don't think I could survive in my present life and job if I didn't have the Gazebo." Rick's son, Christopher Flash, 4, has been attending the Gazebo for the past two years.

"Flash learns different ways than mine daily, and he has the run of the place more than he has at home. He gets more exposure to more things, and this makes our home-time richer."

Around the Gazebo, in pockets and nooks among the trees, is "Arfer Park," named for the person who devoted much time and muscle to making the Gazebo the reality it is today.

Arthur Munyer, or "Arfer," as he quickly became known, began work on the project with the original brush clearing crew. He stayed on to build sandboxes, swings, a corral, and many of the hundred-and-one surprises one finds tucked away in the trees at the Gazebo.

Easter Sunday it was Munyer who was called upon to break a bottle of champagne across the bow of an old fishing boat, which has been set up on blocks on the hillside near the Gazebo, its cabin commanding a magnificent overview of the Pacific and the storied shoreline of the Big Sur coast.

Several generations are now working on restoring the old boat, the latest learning project at the Gazebo. Bob O'Black teaches youngsters practical skills as they watch their future classroom being scraped, sanded, refitted and reworked to suit its new role on dry land.

"The place was built by kids of all ages," Munyer says, looking back to the time when he would work all day with Esalen youngsters building rock walls and planting trees.

"Jack Soloman put in an outdoor bathtub and shower where sand

Gazebo: a turret or windowed balcony from which one can gaze at the surrounding scenery.

Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language

and dirt can be washed off with warm water. Steve Beck put in solar panels to heat the water."

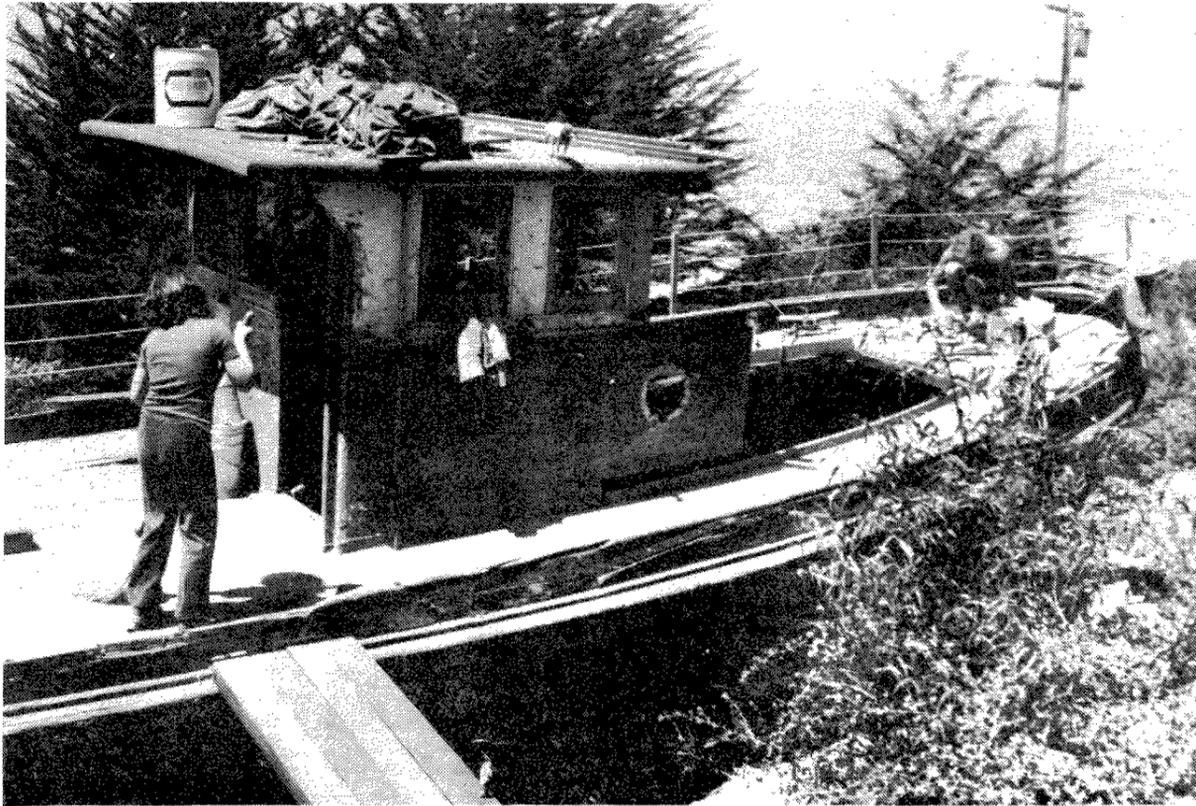
Things would suddenly emerge. For example, one day a treehouse appeared, built by Neil Lamper, Andy Smith and Mike Wisner. Other early workers on the project included Rikki Medow, 11, Jill Silverman, 13, Harris Silver, 11, and Jenifer Green, 13, all two years older now.

Vivian Clerx, or "Wimmiam," teamed up with the project and created much of the garden. "Together we changed a lot of diapers," Munyer recalls.

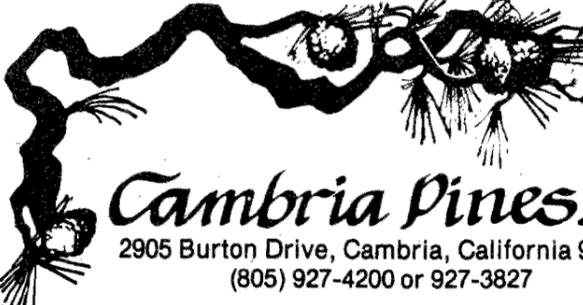
"Arfer" and "Wimmiam" became a male-female team, sharing and dividing the labor and constant attention their young charges required. Others may come and go, but these two remain, as much a part of the Gazebo as the flowers or the trees, continuing to work as an intensely caring team, taking care of details as the Gazebo flourishes with new children and adults constantly coming in.

Also, the Gazebo idea is moving out into the larger society, having recently gained national notice in the press as a model for other communities to emulate. This is resonant with the Esalen tradition of "model building" on a small scale to demonstrate what can be done when people are in a safe environment which encourages the free use of their creativity, Lederman notes. The human potential movement nurtured at the hot springs site in the 1960's has now swept the Western world, with "growth centers" active across the country and in Europe, she pointed out.

"Here young children not only have a chance to explore Nature as their environment, but they also interact with all ages at a much younger age than they would in conventional day care or preschool



LATEST ADDITION IS RECYCLED Old fishing boat is new classroom



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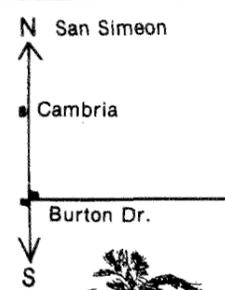
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THEIR IDEAS ARE NOW THE GAZEBO
 Janet Lederman, Vivian Clerx, Arthur Munyer

environs," she said.

"However, we do have limits here — our major focus is on a curriculum based on nature."

Having nature as a classroom allows youngsters the opportunity to plant seeds, watch them sprout, water them and watch for flowers and seedpods.

Animals must be taken care of, and dealing with the "big guys" and new kids that come in are all a part of learning how to cope with life, all in keeping with the Lederman view that beginning education should be primarily the process of "learning to relate on a basic level with the immediate environment."

"The Gazebo is more than a playhouse," Lederman is quick to point out. "It is a philosophy for putting life back into the classroom."

She makes no secret of the fact that she has her eye on the California school system, which she once served as a teacher and consultant.

"Capital costs for the Gazebo were \$9,000," she said. "Compare that to what a city or county spends for a school before children even begin to use it." The 14-year public school teacher also indicated that if she had her way, junior and senior high schools would be closed down and the entire community would become a classroom, somewhat akin to the traditional apprenticeship system of past times.

"In our eagerness to do away with the sweatshops at the beginning of the century, we in effect threw out the baby with the bathwater, and almost totally excluded our children from the world they will inherit," she charges.

Looking out from her model classroom in the trees, Janet envisions teenagers who are interested in medicine working in hospitals in various capacities as they learn about real day-to-day medicine and health care.

She sees children working in zoos, fire stations, and other public service facilities, as well as in private business. She believes that in this way young people will get a first-hand idea of what the future holds in store for them in the greater world.

This would not be breaking down or taking away from the content of education, she believes, but would require only that the form and structure of education be expanded.

Libraries would serve as reading and math centers, with teachers on the staff to teach skills to children and adults with language, reading or math problems.

"After they learn in the world that they don't know all, the kids will then look around for more information," Lederman maintains. "Once they start looking for themselves, and know how to look, then nobody will be able to stop them. The process of life simply takes over."

Unlike the field trips currently taken by children in the school system, which normally last but a few hours in a "sight seeing" fashion, Janet forseees programs lasting for up to three months, after which students would decide whether to stick with their current interests or to try something else.

"If they start their careers at 13, they won't need crash courses later on when they get to the college level, she believes. "Colleges and universities would have a different quality. Scholars with experience will have a different approach to in-depth-abstract learning," she explains.

On the local scene, the next development seems to be for the Gazebo to join with Pacific Valley School, so that both facilities may be utilized for learning projects. Janet plans to meet soon with the school board to discuss ways of using available space and integrating the children of Big Sur into the total community-at-large.

"I'd like to see members of the senior generation come down and share with the children some of the knowledge and experiences of their lives. I particularly want to see people in their 70's, people who have lived long enough to acquire a textured history. Kids today usually don't get those benefits as they did in the old days around the dining room table or the fireplace.

"I want to see a mixing of generations, so that we can learn from each other. If the kids are actively involved in the community, and have respect and identity as real people, they won't want to tear it



OPEN WALLS ON THE WORLD Big Sur tots move out into their environment

down in senseless fits of frustration and rage as they often did in the 60's."

Janet also would like to see "microevents," such as mime, music, and fairs at the Gazebo and P.V. School, which would "touch the child in us all."

The concept, she continued, will naturally evolve and change within reasonable limitations imposed by available space.

Learning to care for and ride horses is another project she has in mind for local youngsters (and older folk, too), also a small computer and physics lab at Pacific Valley School is not beyond the realm of possibility, she believes.

"We could spend a lot of time learning about this wonderful outdoor classroom known as Big Sur," Janet muses.

"Few kids get the chance to grow up surrounded by a wilderness reserve. Big Sur is our school. Anything can be learned from nature."

"The Gazebo idea is that learning should be related to the specific environment. All things man-made always reflect nature as the original source."

"In regular education, we learn things in the abstract, '5th hand,'" Janet stresses. "Let's teach the kids the basics first, about nature, and where things come from, and how they work organically. We can bring in the abstracts later, when there's understanding and meaning to their use."

"As sensitive adults, we need to see where the kids want to go and then work with them. Reading and writing grows out of this," she states.

If she lived in New York City, Lederman said, she would use the city as a museum. "However, in Big Sur, kids need to know about camping out, forest fires and their positive and negative effects on the land and the people who use it. Here we have tide pools to learn from, and animals and forestry, and all the things that pertain to our own immediate very special, environment, the Big Sur coast and mountains."

"If just some of the people tucked away in these mountains come in with their wealth of knowledge and skills, we will have a tremendous faculty."

"I'd like to see local people becoming lay teachers. Our children need to know about woods lore, mining, lumbering, the weather, the seasons, agriculture, animal husbandry and all the other skills and arts so abundant here. Not to mention our artists-sculptors, writers, painters, poets, and so forth."

"My feeling is that once young people learn to deal with and use their immediate surroundings, they then can go into a different setting confidently knowing that they have the basic tools of survival."

"They will know who they are, and they will be able to adapt to new situations quickly, and in a natural, pragmatic way."

Janet believes that each environment has its own blessings and curses. "There's essentially no difference in that respect. There are

just different ways of coping in different places, depending on where you are. Knowing how to experience change is the key to living, and nature teaches that, the educator maintains.

An example of this thinking is the fact that young people who have grown up at Esalen and since moved to town to attend high school have proven to be "right where they should be academically, and socially they were far ahead." She also pointed out that the youngsters had sought out their own tutors on the Esalen grounds when they were there and had moved into reading and writing easily.

Looking into the future, Janet says she presently has her eye on an empty lot in Seaside where a Gazebo may form. She also sees possibilities for the Gazebo idea in Monterey, Pacific Grove and Carmel.

"We're looking for old houses with overgrown yards that we can work on to create gardens and refinish over a two or three year period. We could work on places as a learning project and at the same time increase the value of the property," she said.

"Gazebos can grow out of ruins," Lederman emphasizes. "We wouldn't want to tear a place down, only restructure and reuse it as an existent site with existent material. This would be recycling on a basic level, and this is a basic learning concept for the future."

"What we've been doing in education to date is providing the kids with a set up that's too complete. We build them a fancy and expensive school that often looks like a correctional facility. Once they're in this mausoleum we tell them 'don't touch,' 'don't change anything,' 'leave it for the janitor,' and so forth. It's all so very impersonal."

The Gazebo designer believes that the "people recycling plan," incorporating all ages and a broad range of skills and abilities into community projects, works best as an organic approach to education.

"This is the way to build," she concludes.

And, as Bryan Lyke, father of Karina Rodgers-Lyke, 1, who recently entered the world of the Gazebo via her first birthday party, said the other day:

"I know that she's in the right place. I drop in and out and watch her from a distance as she learns to play with the other kids."

"She's learning so much, so fast, since she went in that I have to keep tabs. She's really healthy and happy, and I've learned to become a better observer."

Karina's mother, Joyce, had an even briefer reply. "What do I think of the Gazebo? I think it's wonderful. What more is there to say?"

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BIRTHDAYS ARE SPECIAL OCCASIONS
Lucia Horan whoofs candles on her birthday cake

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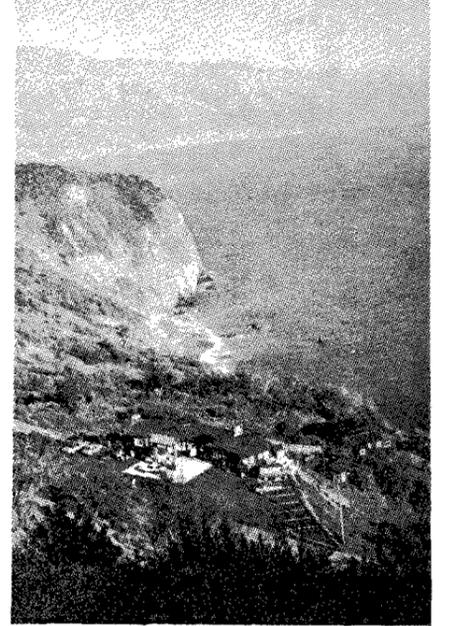
June 21 — **SIDDHARTHA** 1973 Color USA
Stunningly beautiful version of Hermann Hesse's mystical novel. The poetic story follows the young Siddhartha as he roams the countryside in search of himself. Filmed in India by Sven Nykvist (Bergman's cameraman).
RADIANCE: THE EXPERIENCE OF LIGHT — Made by a woman this short uses video images, nature photography and kinetic mandalas to take us on a journey from the light in nature to the radiant spirit in all life.

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Public Land Issue Heats in West

by Brad Knickerbocker
Staff Correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

A range war is developing in the West, the likes of which probably has not been seen since cowmen and sodbusters fought over barbed wire.

This is a battle between Western states and the federal government, and the stakes are higher than anything Zane Grey could imagine: hundreds of millions of acres across the American West and a states' rights question that no doubt will have to be settled by the United States Supreme Court.

A look at a map of federal holdings in the West sets the scene. The US Government owns 64 percent of the land in the 13 Western states, compared with the national average of 34 percent. Nearly 94 percent of all federally owned land is in the West. This includes 69 percent of Idaho, 65 percent of Utah, 53 percent of Oregon, and a whopping 96 percent of Alaska.

Nevada takes action

In Nevada, 87 percent of all the land is owned by the federal government, and it is in that country of sagebrush and cactus that residents are feeling particularly prickly over this "public land." The Nevada Legislature shortly will pass a bill that in essence declares state jurisdiction over 50 million of

the 70 million acres in Nevada now controlled by federal agencies.

With the support of Gov. Robert List and sponsorship by 51 of the 60 state legislators, there is little doubt that the bill will pass. There is also no question that the issue will immediately be challenged in federal court.

Nevada is leading the charge against Washington, but other states are joining the movement. Similar legislation is pending in Oregon and Alaska. Utah and California are exploring the idea as well.

Types of areas involved

Much of the public land is in national parks, forest, wilderness, wildlife refuges, and military bases. But vast areas are available for "multiple use" (including grazing, mining, and recreation) under the supervision of the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In all, the BLM controls 467 million acres, virtually all of it in the West.

Conservationists and others argue that this federal land belongs to all Americans and that Washington — removed somewhat from local political pressures — is the best landlord. Uncle Sam, they say, has the grit to protect environmentally unique, and in some cases ecologically fragile, areas.

Many Westerners, on the other hand, contend that federal dominance has stifled

local development, undercut their tax base, and not provided the balanced "multiple use" management that Congress on several occasions has ordered.

As the basis of its anticipated lawsuit, Nevada points to provisions of the US Constitution and historic court rulings showing that the federal government was supposed to hold these lands in trust, eventually turning them over to the people of the territories when statehood was achieved.

"I don't think the Founding Fathers ever envisioned the federal establishment holding land in perpetuity," says Nevada State Sen. Norman Glaser, a cattle rancher and author of the legislation.

John McComb of the Sierra Club says Nevada waived its right to more federal land when it became a state in order to retain land of better quality. "Now they're basically renegeing on that agreement," he comments.

"A lot of people think this is just a cowboys and Indians problem," said Nevada legislative research director Andrew Grose. "But we're not just talking about sagebrush

boondocks here."

30,000 acres of Las Vegas

The BLM, for example, owns more than 30,000 acres in metropolitan Las Vegas. Critics say this means inflated land prices and incongruous high-rise development in the wide open spaces. Much of the BLM holdings, they add, are spread throughout private land in a checker board fashion that makes it difficult to provide municipal services or otherwise plan for.

Recent publicity over efforts to protect vast acreages in Alaska, as well as proposed wilderness designations that are part of a "roadless area review," has focused attention on federal efforts to increase environmental protection in the West. The BLM also has begun reviewing its roadless areas for possible wilderness set-asides. The agency has until 1991 to finish this massive effort, and many Westerners see this as one more post in the federal fence being constructed around their land.

Says Mr. McComb of the Sierra Club: They're just plain greedy and want a free gift from Uncle Sam and the American public."

Fighting words, for sure, that soon will be heard in federal court.

Carter Would Add 15.4 Mil. Wilderness Acres

from AG Alert
President Carter, closely following recommendations of the Department of Agriculture, last week asked Congress to set aside 15.4 million acres of Forest Service land as wilderness.

The president said 36 million acres in 38 states should be designated as multipurpose, opening the way for energy exploration, logging and other production. Under the proposal 10.6 million acres would be set aside for further study.

In California, Carter proposed setting aside 983,900 acres as wilderness. Under the wilderness designation, no motorized vehicles or construction of any kind are permitted. Congress must designate each wilderness area individually.

Carter proposed opening up 2.3 million acres in the state for multipurpose activities, and set aside 2.6 million acres for further study.

The announcement by Carter prompted a call by the American Farm Bureau Federation for Congress to halt the "administration's runa-

way wilderness scheme." Allan Grant, AFBF president, called the plan "a dangerous misuse of critically short energy, timber and mineral resources."

"We are hopeful," Grant said, "that members of Congress will reject this idea in favor of wise use and proper management of the nation's resources. America is entitled to a prudent use of these vast areas."

"Those who will suffer are the consumers whose lumber, energy and food costs will be driven higher and higher by these new limitations on available supplies," said Grant.

Grant noted that while the wilderness designation does allow for some grazing of cattle, the restrictions are so severe that most cattlemen will not be able to continue grazing their cattle in wilderness areas.

"If Congress approves the administration plan, those ranchers must revert to riding the range on horseback or hiking in on foot to take care of their cattle. The effect is obvious. Beef, already in

short supply, will become even more scarce," he said.

Grant said that congressional approval of the plan would put an area roughly the size of New England under the "lock and key of the wilderness concept."

Carter's plan also came under attack by environmentalists, but for very different reasons.

William Turnage, executive director of the Wilderness Society, called the proposal "unconscionable," adding that much more land than proposed by Carter should be given the wilderness designation.

"We're losing 36 million acres of wilderness," he said of the plan. "There's no necessity for it."

Carter's proposal came under the Agriculture Department's Roadless Area Review and Evaluation Program, known as RARE II, under which USDA studied 62 million acres of roadless and undeveloped national forest lands for possible inclusion in the wilderness system.

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Coastal housing, access, easements

Commissioner Requests Ruling from Attorney General

[Editors Note: The following letter was sent by Coastal Commissioner Robert Nix to the State Attorney General, George Deukmejian, and it was presented to the June 11 meeting of the Central Regional Coastal Commission.]

I believe the time has come to request a formal written opinion from the Attorney General of the State of California with respect to the legality and consistency with the Coastal Act of the guidelines that have been adopted by the State Coastal Commission with respect to low/moderate income housing opportunities, access, and scenic easements, and with respect to the manner in which these guidelines and coastal act policies are being implemented by the Central Regional Commission.

The question arises in my mind that if implementation does not conform to established guidelines or the guidelines do not conform to the act and other applicable law, there is the prospect that the commission and individual commissioners are operating outside or in disregard of the law and that in such circumstances there may be the danger of personal liability for individual commissioners. Consequently, in the interest of myself and other commissioners, as well as the goals of the act, I believe it is timely to seek a formal written opinion with respect to these questions.

I further request that this opinion be formulated at the highest levels of your office, and that it be reviewed and approved by you, the Attorney General, personally.

Since I was appointed as a Coastal Commissioner, alternate to Mr. Robert Gamberg, Central Regional Commission, in April, 1979, I have thoroughly studied the Coastal Act, Commission Guidelines, and have had the opportunity to observe implementation procedures through the permit process.

I have construed that, taken as a whole, the coastal act clearly establishes certain priorities, goals and sets reasonable limits, beyond which, the commission may not stray.

In my opinion, the relevant portions of the Coastal Act that pertain to the questions I have raised are sections 30001.5 (a) & (b), 30007.5, 30010, 30108, 30212, 30213, 30221, 30222, 30250 and 30333.

Other applicable laws that I have considered are the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution which guarantee certain fundamental rights, and the

multitude of other federal and state laws that support these guarantees.

I find that there are irreconcilable conflicts between the Coastal Act and other applicable law with respect to commission guidelines and the manner in which the act and these guidelines are being implemented.

It is clear in my mind that the commission has elevated their policy, through the permit process, to a level which can only be described as "extortive" and "confiscatory."

From time to time, a public agency may find it necessary that the use of "POLICE POWER" be exercised for the preservation of aesthetic values, but at the same time just compensation must nevertheless be paid to an owner. In other words, valid public goals are not "balanced" against human rights. Both may be obtained, but without sacrifice to constitutional guarantees.

A law, regulation or a guideline and its implementation, may be easily tested by its reasonableness and the validity of the public goal.

As 200 years of judicial precedent and economic experience can attest, public goals are best attained by protecting individual rights and liberties. If individual freedoms and civil rights are affected, they must be protected. If governmental goals and actions become extortive and cause property confiscation then we are morally bankrupt if we do not correct these injustices. Otherwise a minority (coastal zone property owners) is at risk to a fashionable majority or a dictatorial minority (the coastal commission) acting on behalf of this fashionable majority.

The United States Supreme Court has consistently held that our civil rights are the most fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution, and that individual human rights (including property rights) must be protected regardless of the merit, fashionability or importance of public goals and objectives. To hold otherwise will encourage an oppressive government to subjugate fundamental human rights, including liberty and life itself, for the "public good." Thus, are we not all guardians of each others rights. Confiscation, by whatever means, no matter how noble the intent, is a denial of our basic human freedoms of liberty itself.

Robert Nix
Coastal Commissioner

Citizens Protest RPZ Concept

[Editors Note: The following letter was read at the May 29th RPZ-Park Commission Meeting in Carmel, and submitted to Senator Robert Nimmo.]

This past May 11, we attended a Parks and Recreation hearing concerning the Pt. Lobos-Carmel River Beach Plan and the integral Resource Protection Zone. We had waited since last February for this hearing, and went expecting at long last to get clarification of the status of the Resource Protection Zone (RPZ) in general and the Pt. Lobos RPZ and Garrapata RPZ specifically, since our area is included in both. We were neither notified nor consulted about inclusion in this new zone. We discovered the proposal in a newspaper article last January, and had it confirmed in a public P&R hearing on February 1, where we were all put off by P&R and promised another hearing for February 22. That February 22 hearing was never held. Another P&R hearing was set for May 11.

But at the long-awaited May 11 hearing, P&R announced that the Pt. Lobos RPZ had been deleted from the Plan and that RPZs would not be discussed that day! When many of us insisted on specific information as to how the RPZs had been designated, whether the deletion was final, and whether the overlapping Garrapata RPZ had been deleted, P&R's answers were confused, vague, contradictory, and inconclusive. We were finally told that the RPZs had been returned to the Coastal Commission to P&R for revisions and that the Pt. Lobos RPZ had been deleted from the Plan but had not been deleted in concept — whatever that means. Finally after further — and sometimes acrimonious — discussion in which we were bounced from Staff to Commission to Coastal Commission representative, Staff admitted to errors, misunderstandings, and mis-advertising; and promised to set up another hearing. (For details of May 11 hearing see enclosed May 1979 Big Sur Gazette.)

Accustomed to we are in the Coastal Zone to being treated like captive second-class citizens, we are shocked at what is happening. The proposals for this new, highly restrictive zoning category have been given wide publicity in the press, complete with details of land use constraints. Owners are naturally apprehensive; prospective buyers are wary; titles are clouded. We are entitled to answers; but now, of course we have to ask ourselves: when and if we do get "answers" from P&R can we rely on them? Because, implicit in the now-you-see-them-now-you-don't caper, is the possibility for further boundary changes, including ENLARGEMENTS as well as spot deletions or reductions.

Whether this vascillating is based on strategem or honest reappraisal — or even on simple bureaucratic muddling — property owners rights are being abused.

Coastal Zone residents are already reeling under a multiplicity of discriminatory laws; but land use constraints in the proposed additional overlay of the RPZs are even more rigid and confiscatory. In addition to present conditions of public access, dedication of scenic easements and trails, priority on Highway One for tourists, viewsheds, watersheds, sanctuaries, etc., the RPZs would require that all "development" be screened from view of Pt. Lobos; no land forms could be altered; no lights or noises permitted that might disturb the park; and innumerable other vague but all-encompassing land use restrictions. As we interpret these policies, a fire could make properties in RPZs non-conforming; permits to rebuild, if granted at all, could be subject to public access, scenic easements or other conditions; and, since the most minor project is considered a "development,"

repairs to driveways, drainage ditches, erosion control, garden walls, removal of trees and shrubs could all require Coastal Commission permits. THIS LEAVES NO REALISTIC USES FOR PRIVATE PROPERTIES CAUGHT IN THE RPZs.

AND, we have no illusions about the complexities and frustrations of the mechanics of establishing these RPZs. According to our understanding, this entails recommendations by P&R to the Coastal Commission; review by the Coastal Commission; referral to local agencies; return to Coastal Commission for approval and certification; public hearings; citizen input. Judged by past procedures, this process could bankrupt whole generations of land owners; and the only people to benefit would be attorneys and the armies of planners and inspectors required to implement and police the RPZs.

Nor are we deluded into believing the uses proposed for the RPZs would protect the environment. The exact reverse is true. Shuttle buses, visitor facilities, trails, parking lots, campground, picnic areas, park personnel housing — all on what is now beautifully maintained private properties. How these intensive public uses will "protect" abutting residential communities and "sensitive and natural resources" from abuse, overuse, visual pollution, fire hazards, litter, trespassing, crime, and traffic, the Study doesn't say. In fact, the RPZs create the "adverse impact" they're supposed to eliminate!

Furthermore, return of local control in the RPZs will never happen if the RPZs have any validity at all, the State would HAVE to be able to override local agencies. Therefore, we can expect State control in the RPZs to be total and permanent.

Such State control is strengthened and expanded by the interlocking Coastal Conservancy and Park Bond Acts. With Park Bond funds in its coffers, Conservancy stands ready to step in and "rescue" owners by buying up lands which the Coastal Commission and its minion have rendered valueless to private owners by imposition of paralyzing land use restrictions. With the original hapless owner out of the picture, the distressed lands can then be taken over by the Conservancy and subdivided, re-subdivided, leased, sold, and otherwise exploited by developers selected by appointed officials. Other possible alternatives for owners in the RPZ might be: some form of limited ownership; or, as has been suggested by Conservancy, turning over their lands to the State as a gift.

Whether this scheme is premeditated and diabolical, simply misguided zeal, or merely inevitable bureaucratic fulfillment, the final result is the same: more and more incestuous governmental controls, and the eventual end of private property.

We didn't attend the hearing on May 11 to try to negotiate an exclusion, a spot deletion, or reduction of the RPZ. We went to protest the policies and the arrogant methodology which gives the color of legality to such raids on private property, and to protest the ENTIRE RPZ CONCEPT.

We can't believe P&R is willing to participate in such a misbegotten program; and we can't believe the Legislature will condone, much less support, this irresponsible, unethical, anti-conservation, and potentially evil concept, with its obvious threat to the social, economic political, and constitutional structures of the whole State of California.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Speer
Carmel Highlands

New Senate Bill Would Abolish Coastal Commission

Continued from page 1
Return to Local Control

In a telephone interview with the Gazette, Senator Carpenter explained the reasons for his legislation. "I carried a bill this year which I felt would have cleaned up and changed the Coastal Commissions process and made it fair, which I don't think is now."

"However, subject to the slings and arrows of the Coastal Commission and their friends, they were able to defeat not only my bill but numerous other bills introduced to try and make them clean up their act. In fact, they've been able to defeat most of the bills."

"Frankly," he concluded, "I guess if we can't make the Coastal Commissions operate in a manner that guarantees fairness to the people who come before it, I just think we would be better off without them."

In reference to the Amendment's proposed return of control to cities and counties, he said that "we've given a major responsibility of our lives to a group of people who have no accountability to people. The effect of that is a very gross misuse and abuse of power."

Chances

According to a legislative aide, the proposed Amendment would have "tough sledding because right now the Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee is not conducive to passing any legislation that might curtail the powers of the Coastal Commission. Most of the bills proposed to reform the Coastal Commission have been defeated in Committee."

What chances does Senator Carpenter think his Amendment has in passing through the Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee:

"Fairly small," replied the Senator, citing the recent defeats of most of the 40 to 50 bills which has been introduced to affect various reforms of the Coastal Commissions.

"But I don't think that's very important, because if it fails to pass, it is my intention to bring it to the people through the initiative process."

"I feel very strongly on this issue," he said, "and I feel an obligation to going through the legislative route prior to collecting signatures for a ballot initiative."

A report of the mail count in Senator Carpenter's office indicated a surprising early response. According to the mail person, "we've already received a score of postcards, letters, and Western Union's Public Opinion Messages, and they all say support SCA-25 to abolish the Coastal Commissions and return to local control. But it will take thousands to succeed."

As of press time no date had been scheduled for hearings before the Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee.

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CLOVER BRADFORD, daughter of a Big Sur Native Dancer dances on the terrace at Nepenthe.

Big Sur Native Dancers Exploring Musical Forms

by CARL PAUL ALASKO

The word "native" may be a bit chic these days, professing humble beginnings and grass-rootiness, but that is the feeling. And to add Big Sur to the title is only logical since everything about them seems unique to this area. To see a performance, when the rhythms are really cooking, is to feel the rightness of the description.

Many different drums combine their sounds to form the basic music, from tablas and bongos to large bass congas. The everchanging beat is the heart of the performance; the dancers are the soul.

As one of the principal

drummers puts it, "Our music is totally focused on the moment — spontaneous, constant improvisation. We work on visions and themes; we taste the flavors of our rhythms. Our dancers inspire us and we just take off. When we're really moving its just one pulsating song enveloping all of us in the magic of its beauty."

Other instruments join in, anything to add beat and color; tambourines, gourds, cymbals, sticks, spoons, etc. A guitar, saxophone, flute or clarinet may join in occasionally if the appropriate musician happens to be present, but the body is always the percussion.

Where are these musicians

and dancers? Who are they? Their ranks are ever-changing and tend to be anonymous. Their publicity is the performance for the public. The sharing of their music is the *raison d'etre* of their work.

As one of the dancers says, "There are many different personalities involved and different people are sort of leaders at different times. Maybe once one of us will be the organizer, the pusher who makes the phone calls and gets the practice sessions together. A local home has been offered for our use, with a nice solid wood dance floor, and we regularly get together."

"You see," says another dancer, "we do this basically for self-expression. Each dancer has her own message that she's working on. (All dancers have been female so far, strictly by chance not choice.) Its like a therapy sort of. Maybe a woman will be pregnant and she works on her birth dance. Or one of us will be leaving Big Sur and then she does a farewell dance. The musicians feel this and play the music according to our mood. And we dance according to the

music. It gets tossed back and forth so much that there is no separation between the areas of inspiration."

The current movement began about three years ago but there have been dance scenes in Big Sur for many more years than that. At one time as many as eighteen people participated. Today the troupe is much reduced, with perhaps six musicians and four to six dancers.

"We feel like we're helping establish a cultural identity here," continues a musician. "Today too much music comes out of a tape deck. A music close to the people, a live music, doesn't exist. A music that people can share in, not just watch. That's our goal really. We dig it when the audience flows with us, when we're hot. It makes all the difference."

A local music booster says, "They're a typical Big Sur form of art expression. Spontaneous, creative and..... eccentric."

So whenever and however you get a chance to experience the Big Sur Native Dancers, just flow with it, whatever the form of that particular experience may be.

Committee Approves Parks Bill

CNS — Citing "inadequate funding in the state budget," Sen. David A. Roberti D-Hollywood, recently heralded committee approval of special legislation designed to appropriate \$35 million annually over the next three years for California's Urban Open Space and Recreation Program.

Roberti's proposal, Senate Bill 174, received the green light from Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee members and now travels to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee for consideration.

"The special legislation was necessary because there was inadequate funding contained in the state budget for the program," Roberti said. "Despite the Governor's budget message to the legislature, which indicated that his budget contained new and expanded efforts for ur-

ban parks, in reality the budget short-changed California's Urban Open Space and Recreation Program by providing an inadequate amount of money."

The measure, if approved, will appropriate \$105 million for grants to cities, counties, and park and recreation districts for the acquisition and development of park and recreation areas within the more heavily populated areas of California, and would allow funds for operation and maintenance of parks.

Another feature of the bill authorizes innovative recreational programs such as mobile recreational units.

The measure has received the support of the Department of Parks and Recreation. The department believes it will continue the program of focusing in on "urgent and unmet park and recreation needs."

Easing of Codes Sought

Capitol News Service

Long-standing differences between those who enforce the Uniform Building Code and owners of rural dwellings will be brought before the Commission of Housing and Community Development.

Later this month the commission will hear arguments to do away with (or relax) heating, electrical, plumbing and sanitation requirements of the code. On the other hand, the commission will be encouraged to keep the standards intact to discourage the unscrupulous developer.

It is a discussion that goes back many years. In predominantly rural counties it is a way-of-life to debate the pros and cons of stringent building codes.

One member of the commission has expressed concerns over the "double-standard" a move to exempt owner-built housing would create. Richard Strong, commission member and deputy county counsel in San Bernardino doubts whether "we can enact an ordinance that will modify the Uniform Building code and create a new system of housing that will allow owner-builders to be treated in different terms from generally accepted building standards."

Strong, in published accounts said, "If you're going to allow developers not to meet certain standards, then are you really creating the same problems that you had before the building codes? I would have the people in the county facing the problem on the local level make that decision."

"I would certainly like to see streamlined regulations and red tape cut down, but I'm not sure these cabin regulations will accomplish that."

Those that favor the plan point out that the median cost of a California home was \$73,492, last January. Those that have built their homes point out that the homes can be built for around \$2,000.

These homes can run from little more than converted chicken coops to two-story rather elegant homes. Generally they are located deep in the forest areas, far from the hustle and bustle of every-day society. That is what the owners seem to want.

At least one lawyer sees the question of regulations a little differently. "The real question is, does the government have the right to come to look at our homes to see if they're all right."

"We are willing to put a notice on our deeds so that when the property is sold the future buyer will be put on notice that no building permit was obtained. They can check it and have full disclosure," noted the attorney.

According to Myron Moscovitz, commission chairman. "If we relax the regulations somewhat in places where there's low density and make sure that we protect their minimal health and safety, that should be acceptable to everybody."

Everybody that has been involved in these discussions will be at the upcoming hearings. Commissioners are not prepared to predict the outcome of those hearings. But the effect on rural counties could be very great.

THE PHOENIX SHOP TO HONOR DR. GREGORY BATESON ON JUNE 17th

The Phoenix Shop at Nepenthe in Big Sur will honor Dr. Gregory Bateson on June 17th from 2pm — 5pm.

A distinguished anthropologist and biologist, and one of the founders of Cybernetics, Dr. Bateson is a Regent of the University of California.

Dr. Bateson will autograph copies of his new book "Mind and Nature: A Necessary Unity."

"This book is an extraordinary testament, a summing up by one of the most creative investigators of our time....." — New York Times, May 6, 1979.

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The Stonecutter From Big Sur: Gordon Newell



A MODEL of Gordon's "The Gateway to Heaven" as it will look at a Benedictine monastery in the Mojave Desert when he completes it this coming summer.

by Elayne Wareing Fitzpatrick-Grimm

Sculpting was his art and passion. But stone masonry was his craft and pot boiler when Gordon Newell lived in Big Sur from the Thirties to the Sixties.

Now his art can be seen from coast to coast — from the White House lawn to the Pacific Grove park. And the imprint of his craft has been left on nearly every structure built in Big Sur when he lived here — from Henry Miller's studio to Nepenthe's stone walls.

In his work, as well as his wisdom, Gordon has much in common with the ancient sculptor-philosopher, Socrates. With one big difference. Gordon doesn't thrive on conversations in the market place. He prefers to live apart like another mentor — poet of this Big Sur coast, Robinson Jeffers, whose life also mirrored affection for stone, nature, and a few well-chosen, long-lasting friends.

Today, Gordon lives with his wife, Eleanor, in Darwin, a slightly revived ghost town — population 38 registered voters — between the Coso and Argus mountain ranges, 35 miles west of Death Valley. He resists "progress" there just as doggedly as he fought it when "progress" forced the tearing down of his Sculpture Center on Cannery Row in Monterey about seven years ago to make way for another restaurant.

The Newells live on the "left bank" of Darwin's wash. They, and some of their artist friends, are sometimes referred to as "the hippie types" by "progressives" on the right bank of the wash, a deep gully dividing the town. Right bankers would like to see growth in Darwin and are working toward a federal grant to improve their water system so they can enjoy green lawns "like other folks" and a host of new neighbors who would buy up land for weekend retreats from Los Angeles.

But the left bank artists came to Darwin because of its remoteness — few people, open spaces and unstructured living. They want to keep it from becoming a "middle-class bedroom community" or a haven for retreat-seeking mobile home owners who might spoil solitude and wilderness as surely as subdivisions and motels.

Gordon prefers growth that has to do with character and spirit and creativity to the growth that involves real estate and bank accounts. He and his apprentice sculptors left the cities (in Gordon's case, a home in Pebble Beach) to escape the "do it in a hurry" syndrome and what they regard as distorted values.

He's fond of quoting Jeffers in support of his feelings: "...while this America settles in the mould of its vulgarity...But for my children, I would have them keep their distance from the thickening center, corruption..."

But if Jeffers philosophized in poems about permanent things like stone or "things forever renewed, like the grass and human passions," Gordon philosophizes in stone and wood. He likes to work with "found" stones best of all — river boulders or stones from beaches, mountains. He says he can look at a thousand stones before seeing the right one, with just the right shape, color texture. But it's "an indefinable something," he says, that evokes response. "Nature is full of expressive and beautiful forms, always 'organic.'"

An art critic of the Chicago Tribune put it this way back in 1961 when Gordon had a one-man show at Feingarten Gallery: "He (Newell) says that he found the superb green, marble-like stone he used to create 'The Eagle' beside a stream like a gift from the gods one day. He kept this sculpture so simple and massive that the rock, itself, seems to be the bird of prey, and the bird, the rock."

A sculpture familiar to Big Sur coast travelers, "Requiem," was created in the early Sixties too. Once it was silhouetted against the Pacific, topping a cliff near Bixby Creek Bridge on Highway One. But now the two ten-foot vertical stones flanking and overlooking a horizontal stone — in black granite, rough hewn — is almost hidden by natural growth which, Gordon thinks, makes the sculpture even more interesting.

Big Sur. What brought this Petaluma-born

creator here, what is his history, and why did he leave? History first. For astrology buffs, he's a Scorpio, born November 9, 1905, at noon, to mother Harriet See and father James Blair Newell, a high school history teacher. He was a frail child, bedridden for a year with a heart murmur. At age nine, he began to "create in his suffering," like a true artist, to pass the time while other boys were out playing. His first material was a five-stick wad of chewing gum. Bored with chewing when the flavor had gone, he modeled his dog.

Parents were impressed. So they brought him a package of plasticine, and this young Prometheus molded a set of circus animals. A passion was sparked that has never diminished.

Gradually, he was drawn away from clay toward stone, but he continued to work in clay when he made models for bronzes. He likes stone because it "imposes disciplines that are provocative of growth by the nature of the material because I have to think, feel, and resolve before acting." Clay, however, permits "a trial and error approach; it can be removed or put back on at will and, therefore, lacks the discipline inherent in working the unforgiving stone."

But back to his childhood. When Gordon was sufficiently recovered from his heart murmur, his father took him into the high Sierras to camp and live on caught fish and small game. And when he entered high school, he was healthy enough to get with the track team, win the Los Angeles City Cross-Country Race and become a runner-up in the "Olympics of 1924" tryouts.

He devoured Zane Grey novels in high school and lived out some fantasies by becoming a cowboy for awhile near Flagstaff, Arizona. Later, he worked as a railroad track layer, then as a ranch cook, but he says he was such a bad cook that the ranch boss gave him a horse, a wire puller, and staples and "sent me off riding fences." This, he said, was "the most beautiful, peaceful, enjoyable job I ever had."

He was a student at Occidental College for two years in Los Angeles. But Joseph Conrad's novels moved him to fulfill another fantasy — going to sea. He joined the Merchant Marine. This act was de-romanticized by "the hellish experience of having a sadistic First Officer who imposed month-long periods of four hours on duty, four off, around the clock." So he went back to school again, this time to the University of California at Berkeley.

He was still an amateur sculpting enthusiast when he met David Park, "a painter who was bringing the human figure back into painting and who was to develop a style of painting that became known nationally as the San Francisco School." Park made him realize he might devote his life to art — make a profession of sculpting, of the thing he loved most. He lost interest in college and began to model, draw, and carve full time to develop his talent.

In 1929, both he and Park began a three-year period as apprentices to Ralph Stackpole, a sculptor who was beginning a large commission for the Stock Exchange Building in San Francisco. Now he was learning to "sharpen and temper tools, build armatures, and swing the three-pound granite-cutters' hammer."

However, other, less stoney, interests were beginning to develop. Park married Gordon's sister, Lydia, and Gordon married an actress named Gloria Stuart.

When the Stock Exchange project was finished, Gordon and Gloria moved to Carmel where they became involved in what he calls "a quasi-intellectual, art-oriented group" that included Lincoln Steffans, famed American journalist who exposed evil in high places and was referred to as a "muckraker." It was Teddy Roosevelt who'd coined the word with Steffans in mind. Gordon believes that Steffans' "The Shame of the Cities" (1904) "probably did more to improve conditions in this country's cities than any book of its time."

The group also included British and Austrian noblemen, photographer Edward Weston; Paul Dougherty, a painter; Henry Dickenson, big game hunter; Orrick Johns, poet and intimate of Ezra Pound; and Albert Bien, a writer whose novel,

"Thieves Like Us" was recently filmed.

Gordon and his first wife were divorced after two years. Their careers led them in different directions — Gordon to teach sculpture at Occidental College and Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles, and Gloria to the Pasadena Playhouse. At Chouinard, he taught a very talented young woman named Emilia Bubeszko. He married her and went to China for a year. There, he carved wood relief panels which were later sold in the gallery of Tilly Pollak in Carmel.

"But all this time, I think I was unconsciously heading for Big Sur. By 1930, I knew I wanted to settle there, so I bought some land in Castro Canyon, taught another year in Los Angeles, then moved onto my land," Gordon said.

Why Big Sur? Jeffers' influence — his long narratives set in Big Sur and his own feeling for stone and eagles and hawks, Gordon explained. "I had discovered his poetry during my last year at Cal, and later I got acquainted with Jeffers while walking on the beach at Carmel, below Tor House. I liked the man. We spoke of stones and the building of stone walls. I liked the simplicity of his life, its singleness of purpose and his integrity in living the way he projected in his poetry. He inspired me to try to live as simply myself."

Gordon and his friend, Lawrence Clark Powell, who was writing his thesis on Jeffers, read Jeffers' poetry with Gordon and they combed the coastline together to establish the locales of his poems.

Poet William Everson and publisher Ward Ritchie, two other friends, were further forces in his move to Big Sur in 1935. Everson was not only a disciple of Jeffers but he had brought a poem to Ritchie that had been inspired by a Newell sculpture — a sculpture Gordon had cut to an impression from a Jeffers narrative, "The Women at Point Sur." Everson had written a poem called "The Dancer" and dedicated it to Gordon:

I have in my mind the dark expanse of the northern sea,
And the storms across it,
Moving down from the arctic coasts,
Gray whirlers, the knees of the wind.
I have in my mind the stone block and the splendid thighs
Turning in on themselves in a beautiful dance,
Moving to some incantation sung from the run
of the changing sea,
Dancing the wind up out of the waves,
Poised and turning,
Dancing the music awake in the depth.
The mood of the stone is alive in my vision,
The mood of the sea,
The mood of my own inclement blood.
The wind of the rain is awake in the granite;
The clouds are alive; the tides are alive.
Low drumming of thunder in the murky north,
Gray dancer, gray thighs of the storm,
Gather us up in the folds of darkness;
Come over us, solemn and beautiful music.
Mindless, the pivoting thighs,
The song of the thighs, and the dance.

This sculpture, carved of Anacasta stone quarried in England, was bought by Ella Winter, widow of Lincoln Steffans, who was later married to poet Ogden Nash.

"I hit it just right when I moved to Big Sur,"

Gordon says. "There were few people coming there back in '35, and it was possible to find work and live. It was like a little country all by itself. We were so worried about its getting spoiled that we used to talk about blowing up bridges on the north and the south to keep the bastards out. There were some wonderful people there then — like Trotter McQueen, Peace, Welsh, Farber...."

He and Emilia built a house in Castro Canyon from a downed redwood tree. And their two children, Gretchen and Hal, were born here.

When Gordon wasn't carving, he worked as a stone mason and helped build houses for Giles Healey, Nicholas Roosevelt, Nathaniel Owings, and Jack Curtis, to name a few. And when Big Sur's most famous resident, Henry Miller, came there in the Forties, Gordon and Warren Leopold built a studio for him — work that was punctuated with "erudite Miller monologues, so we were educated while we worked."

The man who persuaded Henry Miller to come to Big Sur, Zorbatic Janko Varda, Greek collage artist, also became a friend of Gordon, and it was at a party given by Varda in Monterey that Gordon met another man destined to become famous, John Steinbeck. "From that time on, we came to each other's homes and shared many a bottle of red wine while we checked out the state of the world and each others' heads."

Only Gordon and Steinbeck's wife, Carol, have the distinction of being present when Steinbeck yelled, "I've got it!" It was well after midnight. And what he'd "got" was the concluding paragraph of his novel, "The Grapes of Wrath." When the sun came up, the three were joyfully passing a bottle of "Dago Red" in celebration of the event.

But in 1964, through force of circumstances, Gordon "cut loose from Big Sur and my marriage." He left the house in Castro Canyon and found a one-room shack in Sand City, near Monterey, for establishment of a new studio and living quarters. He plunged himself into work again and created the heroic black granite Monarch butterfly at Lovers' Point City Park in Pacific Grove.

Out of this studio came "The Foot," "Swallow," "Dilemma," "Leaf Form," "Mother," and a small bronze eagle. But while he was working in a quarry near Raymond on a sculpture commissioned by the City of Fresno — it was a granite bird called "Valley Landing" — his studio burned to the ground and, with it, invaluable photos, correspondence, maquettes, art books, tools, and equipment.

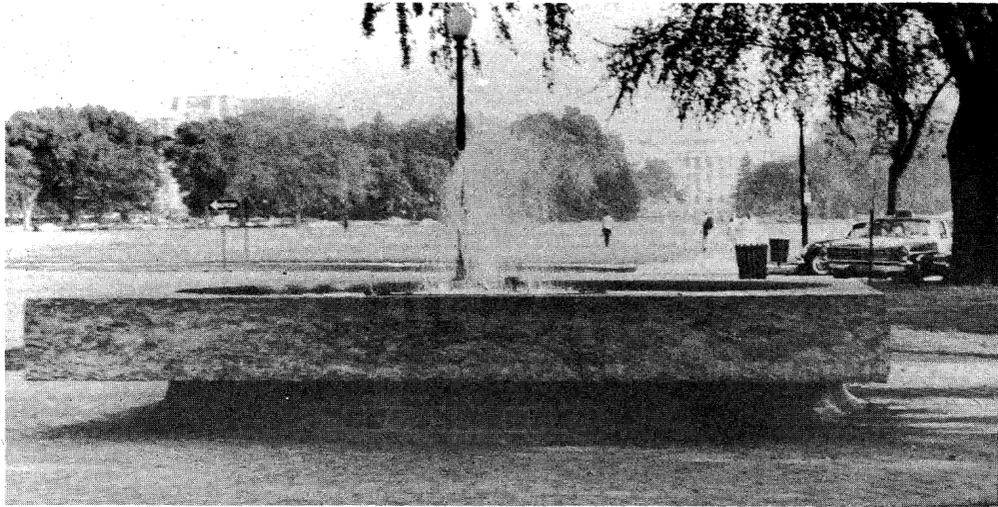
Shocked, but not broken, he joined two other sculptors, Arch Garner and Carl Hennessey, and opened the Sculpture Center at 444 Cannery Row in Monterey. Here, they worked, taught, and rented space to fellow artists.

A new work period began, resulting in a four-foot polished Roman Travertine marble, "Lot's Wife," a Carnelian granite hawk; double redwood doors, carved with Hebrew characters on both sides, for a Santa Maria synagogue; large wood panels with sculpted Greek Letters for the Lecture Forum at Monterey Peninsula College and a marble abstract bird for the campus; "Samo-thrace Recall," a commission for Seaside's

Continued on page 12



GORDON poses beside his sculpture dedicated to the butterfly in the Pacific Grove park in 1964.



The Stonecutter from Big Sur

Continued from page 11
Manzanita Park; a ten-foot tall stele made of the old coreshells of the First Federal Building in San Francisco for a playground in the Del Monte Heights urban renewal project; "Silent Company," a commission for the Vallejo Redevelopment Civic Center.

Then Fate played another treacherous trick. This second studio, attached to an old cannery, burned with the cannery, and his work, once again, exploded into rubble, together with all the tools and papers of his trade.
Gordon and the other artists were wearily picking through the charred ruins, trying to rescue scraps that might have survived the fire, when an unknown young man with a pack on his back handed Gordon a brown paper bag, without saying a word. There was some writing on it. And before Gordon had realized the import of the happening, the young man had disappeared. Here are those words:

444 Cannery Row

They are the creators,
The people who give
Their souls.

They are the ones who give breath,
Form and shape
To stone and iron and wood.

Where they once worked is now ashes;
You would think that the ashes
Would touch their hearts
And it has.

Standing in ashes,
They laugh;
I tell you they laugh
And drink the life of the grape.

They are alive
And again they will create!

The artists had been passing a bottle of wine back and forth as they burrowed in the wreckage.

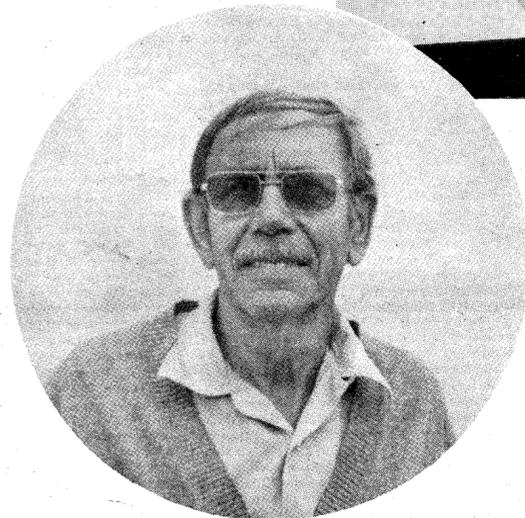
to cheer themselves — to celebrate the wake. Gordon's own comment on the event of October 10, 1967, was, "Fire is king; even stone submits."
The following year, Gordon leased a lot next to the old studio for a three-year period. The rent was reasonable, and he was assured by the agent that this would be one of the last lots developed on Cannery Row.

With the help of sympathetic art lovers (they raised some \$5,000 so the sculptors could start anew), architect Donald Brown, and city planners, Gordon designed "a light, airy studio with a long, sloping front of scrounged timbers, faced with planks of weathered redwood." To the rear, was the unobstructed natural shoreline Gordon loved, with jagged rocks for sitting and watching otters play in the kelp. The sculptors even left an access to the beach for fishermen and tourists.

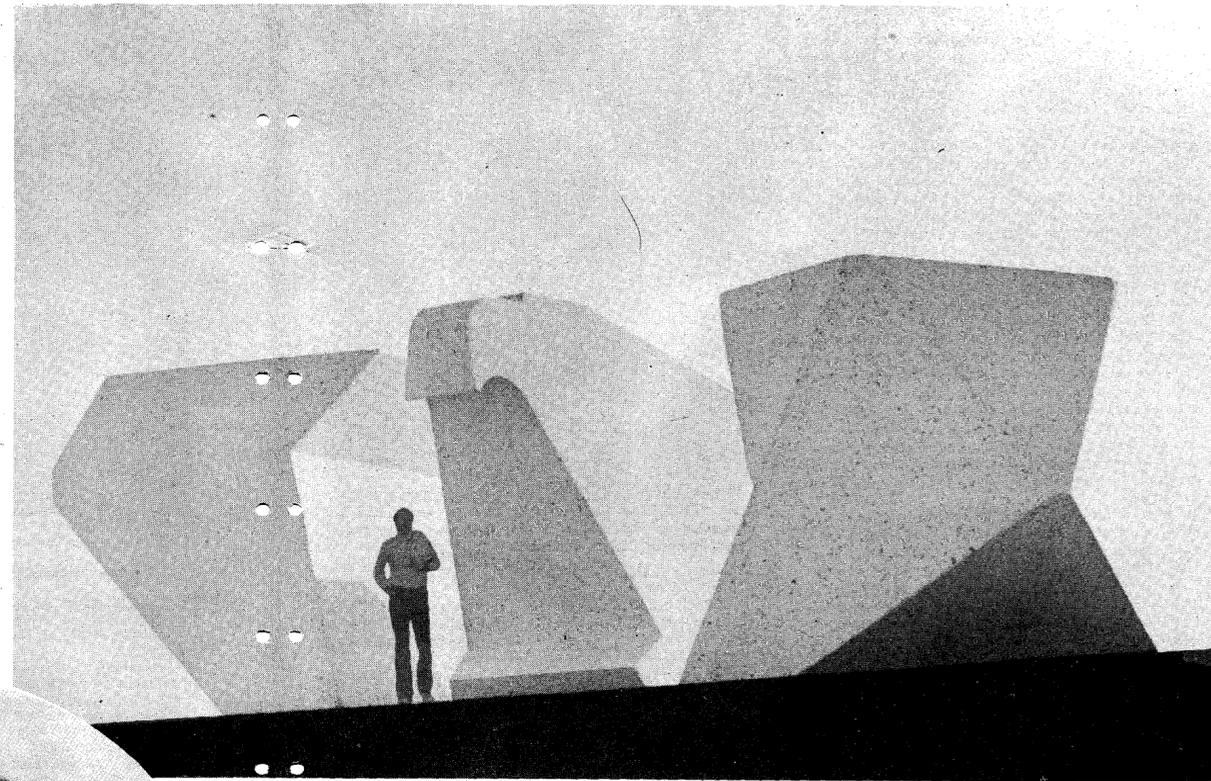
The studio was built by Gordon's friends, students, and his son, Hal, while Gordon spent the summer at Cold Spring, Minnesota, quarrying stone for the Haupt Pools he had been commissioned to do for the White House area in Washington, D.C. He'd been chosen by the President's Commission for Pennsylvania Avenue, headed by Big Sur architect Nathaniel A. Owings, to execute the pools located at the Ellipse Circle off Constitution Avenue and visible from the Truman Balcony of the White House. Another Big Sur artist, James Hunolt, worked with Gordon on this eight-month project.

During his Monterey sojourn, Gordon had married again and lived with his wife, Eleanor, and her children, in their home in Pebble Beach. But the new Sculpture Studio was his retreat and the scene of gatherings for Monterey Peninsula and Big Sur artists who like to recall idyllic evenings watching otters play and engaging in lively conversation around an open fireplace, looking out to sea. Favorite friends included Big Sur's late poet Eric Barker. How he loved to intone his bawdy limericks after mellowing with Gordon's wine! There was writer Bill Brandon, sculptor Wah Chang, craftsman Tom Broadbent,

THROUGH Nat Owings' President's Commission for Pennsylvania Avenue, Gordon and James Hunolt created the Haupt Pools at the Ellipse Circle off Constitution Avenue, in Washington, D.C. The pools provided a "frame of water" for the White House after two huge squares of granite traveled forty days at 25 miles per hour, on seven different railroads, to reach their destination.



AT 74, Gordon says he's "never felt better." It's that "desert clarity" in Darwin.



Massive model of an eagle that is heavy on Gordon's mind these days.

again. He realized he had to reaffirm his own philosophy, change his life again.

He'd read, and re-read, passages from still another mentor and old friend, Alfred Young Fisher. Gordon, Larry Powell, and Ward Ritchie had worked together to publish Fisher's book, "The Ghost in the Underblows," back in 1940.

The "Ghost," Gordon explained, is a meditation on mortality. "In the book, death becomes the essence of potential beauty and life itself is a picture of consuming fires." As for the "ghost," he read Fisher's own words: it "means something like the hold of a ship, a cellarge, a secret room behind the brain and the heart, a room inhabited by dreams, visions, and another personage — a ghost. The ghost in the underblows is an 'eternal' traveling companion, an abecedarium in the highest as well as the lowest schools, and the fellow who knows most about death, sleep, and love; the one, too, who is strongest in battle, and the most courageous swimmer after the drowning soul."

Here was an affirmation of life in spite of Fate. While some artists, with less provocation, retreat to an ivory tower or drown in despair and impotence, this was not for Gordon. There may be, indeed, absolute disintegration, but his "ghost" would revive him. He read from "The Ghost":

Show me the man who has not looked at life
And I will grant him crumbling immortality.
But show me him who has loved heaven for her eyes
And bound his heart in the glimmering hair of spring,

Watched autumn like a child heaping up leaves
And whitefooted winter disappearing down the lanes.

Then will I say that this man will certainly die
Like the things he loves; he will have no immortality.

Nevertheless, stone has survived centuries, and he would be true to his medium. But where? Gordon recalled words of another favorite book, "Desert Solitaire," by Edward Abbey. It was as if all his mentors were conspiring to guide him. Abbey had written, "There is something there which the mountains, no matter how grand and beautiful, lack; which the sea, no matter how shining and vast and old, does not have."

The desert was to become a new symbol — symbol of his love for stone. Abbey had described it as "completely passive, acted upon but never acting, the desert lies there like the bare skeleton of Being, spare, sparse, austere, utterly worthless, inviting not love but contemplation... The desert waits outside, desolate and still and strange, unfamiliar and often grotesque in its forms and colors, inhabited by rare, furtive creatures of incredible hardness... There is something at the desert that the human sensibility cannot assimilate, or has not so far been able to assimilate."

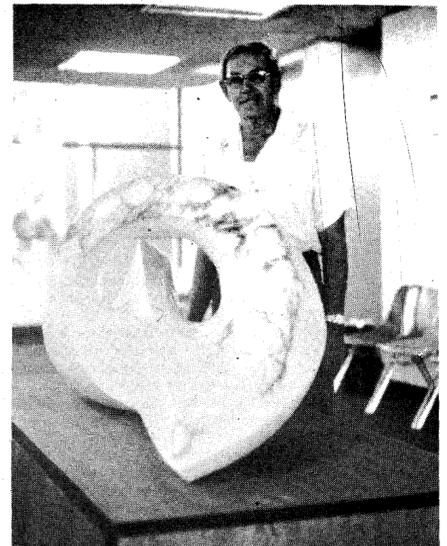
Gordon had been going to the desert for thirty years, but now, under the spell of Abbey, the desert took on new meaning. He found a place just north of Mojave and west of Death Valley, bought an old frame house and trucked it to Darwin to begin this new phase of his life in 1974. Then he built a studio and furnished it with reject materials found in the wash. Once again, he began giving new form to the passive "stone and iron and wood."

Gordon notes that in both Big Sur and in the

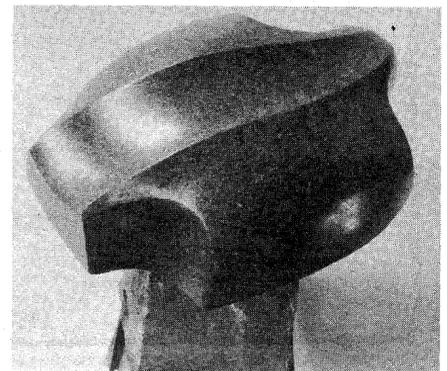
desert, there were siren calls he was unable to resist. In Big Sur it was "the poignant smell of sage on ridges a thousand feet above the sea. In the desert, it's the clarity — clarity of the light. I can see a pebble a half mile away! There's nothing between me and what I'm looking at."
He hopes to hold onto that clarity in Darwin, hopes to keep his unobstructed view of the desert. At 74, strong and looking at least ten years younger, he has a lot of creating and spontaneous life to do. "Progress could overtake him again, even there. But not without a struggle, spurred by that spunky 'ghost in the underblows.'"

Meanwhile, he has plenty of time for contemplation and time for both commissions and his own assignments, assisted by apprentice Ralph Kahl. He recently completed "Freeway" for the Department of Motor Vehicles in Seaside, and he'll be spending a lot of time in Mother Lode quarries working on a new commission, "The Gateway to Heaven," a symbol for the Benedictine monks at St. Andrews Priory, near Valyermo in the Mojave Desert.

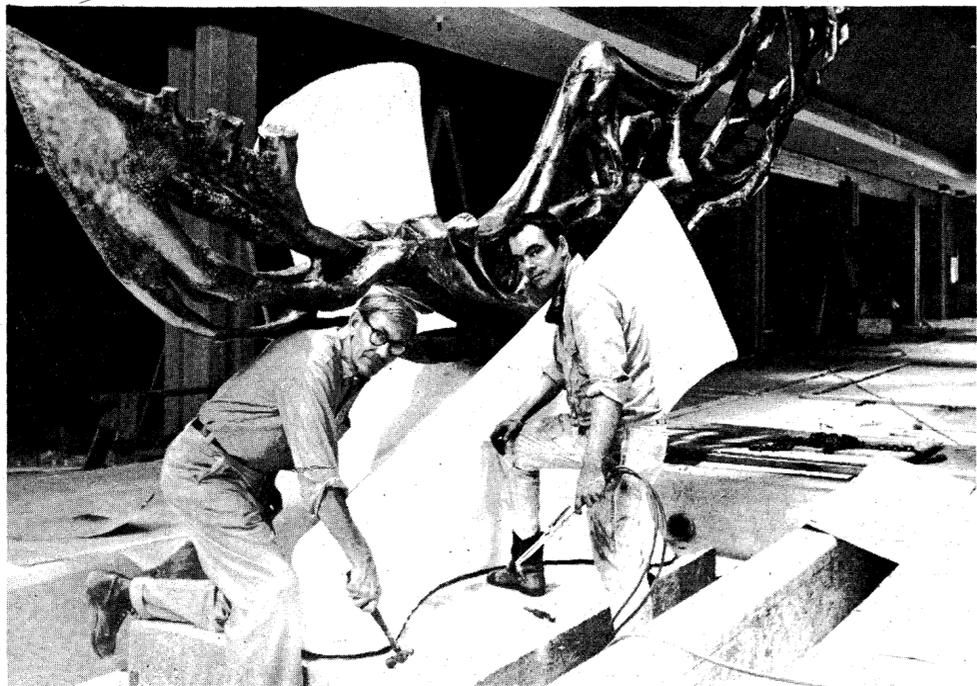
The stonecutter from Big Sur has found a new Omphalos in Darwin to mark the navel of his own creative life.



JUST LAST YEAR, Gordon completed this commission entitled "Freeway" for the Department of Motor Vehicles in Seaside.



GORDON'S tribute to his mentor, poet Robinson Jeffers, "A Hawk for Robinson Jeffers" at Occidental College in Los Angeles, Jeffers' and Gordon's alma mater.



GORDON and associate work on a sculpture in the old sculpture center on Cannery Row, which was torn down in 1972 to make way for "progress" ... building of another restaurant, China Row, on the site which paid "14 times the artists' rent."

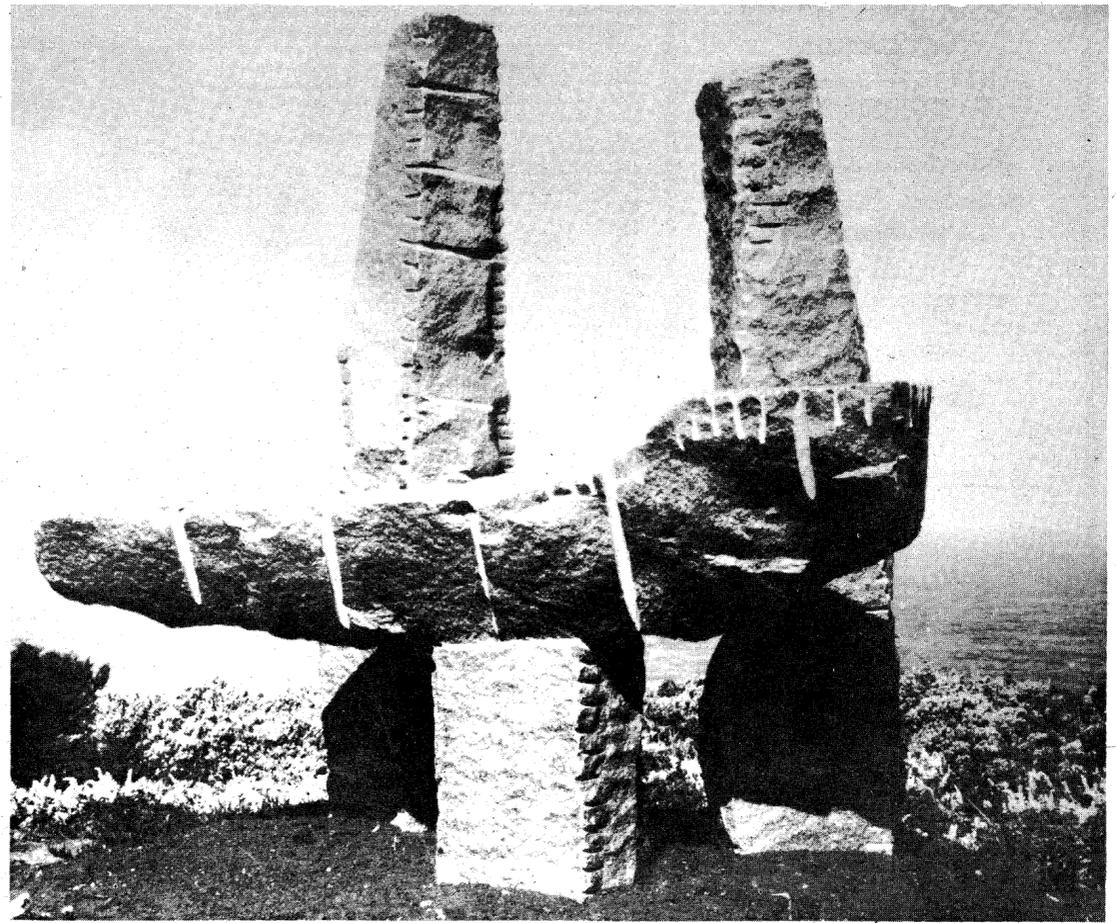
even Chef Cornelius Van Peski, who'd bring his famous turtle soup from nearby Neil DeVaughn's. This was a time, too, for paying tribute to his mentor, Jeffers, who had died 10 years before. He sculpted "A Hawk for Robinson Jeffers" of Carnelian granite and presented it during ceremonies dedicating the Mary Norton Clapp Library at Occidental College, alma mater of Jeffers and Gordon. Lawrence Clark Powell, then retired Dean of the UCLA Graduate School of Library Science, received the gift in behalf of the College and remarked, "The twin symbols chosen by Jeffers — the rock and the hawk — also symbolize the library: granite for the stability of knowledge, bird for the mobility of thought."

However, Outrageous Fortune wasn't through with Gordon. The Moving Finger that writes wrote again. His Sculpture Studio was in the way of "progress" — the commercial development that was devouring Steinbeck's old Cannery Row. In spite of efforts from concerned artists and community leaders from Big Sur to San Francisco to save the Sculpture Center, Progress won. The studio was torn down for construction of China Row restaurant.

This time, it was harder for that Phoenix in Gordon to rise from the ashes of despair. He attempted to work from his home in Pebble Beach, having been commissioned to do a sculpture, "Abstract Bird Form," for the entrance to Marina Towers in the Vallejo renewal area, just a block away from his "Silent Company." And he completed, in August of 1973, a group of ten large sculptures in ferro-cement for the I.L.W.U. (Longshoremen's) Headquarters Plaza at Franklin and Geary Streets in San Francisco.

But he wasn't happy. He needed a place apart — a studio retreat. He couldn't return to Big Sur. That very important phase of his life was finished. And he was disillusioned with life in Monterey.

Then he and William Everson were asked to read Jeffers' poetry at the last Monterey Peninsula College Tribute to Jeffers in 1972 at Carmel's Sunset Center. The poems that had once changed both of their lives, worked for Gordon



"Requiem," a sculpture familiar to Big Sur coast travelers, topping cliff near Bixby Bridge.

Lisa Sexton:

Interview with Diablo Protester

by Carl Paul Alasko

Lisa Sexton; blond fuzzy hair, a warm confident smile, a general air of relaxation and ease; the kind of person you could see teaching second grade or in any of a dozen career jobs. In other words; intelligent, pretty, feminine, non-aggressive.

But her conversation includes sentences like, "...when I was in jail..." Your eyes widen a bit hearing that. Jail? Further questioning reveals not only jail but a voluntary jail sentence.

"You mean you went to jail on purpose?"

"Yes," Lisa replies, "sure did. It wasn't a bit scary." A trace of Texas twang is still there which contrasts nicely with the smooth English accent of her husband, already a Big Sur resident for the past two years.

Last August 6th on the 33rd anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, Lisa was one of 487 protestors who voluntarily trespassed on Pacific Gas and Electric's property at the site of the nuclear reactor at Diablo Canyon in San Luis Obispo. They climbed fences, slipped across bordering ranch properties or landed by rubber raft on the coast. They were all arrested.

Question: "Why did you do it, Lisa? Why did you go down to San Luis Obispo to get arrested?"

Answer: "Well I didn't specifically go down there to get arrested. I went down there to protest the licensing of Diablo. Since all of the legal maneuvers had been exhausted, we, the Abalone Alliance, actually had to try civil disobedience as a means of attracting attention, educating the people to the dangers of nuclear power and specifically the Diablo reactor.

Civil disobedience is a very dramatic thing to do. It goes against all of my training as a child, everything I'd been taught, to be obedient and respectful of society and its rules. Especially to be trustful and believing of those in power."

Q. "You seem to get pretty animated just talking about it."
A. "Boy, do I. Listen, when I went down to San Luis Obispo last month to serve the remaining eight days in jail as part of my sentence, a religious volunteer came to visit the jail. She had a guitar and tracts from the bible and she talked to the prisoners. When she saw me in jail she was surprised. You know, clean cut young girl and all that. Then when I told her I was in jail for my protest against Diablo, she said, 'But you don't look like a protester.' I asked what a protester looked like and she answered, 'A dirty hippie.'"

Q. "The stereotype of the political activist?"
A. "More than that. A person who has the courage to put their body on the line, so to speak, to go against the written laws of the land because of a belief in another way of life, must be an outlaw, must not be a productive part of society."

Q. "But you feel you are a productive part of society?"
A. "Well, yes. I see myself as being part of the political process of give and take: compromise. It's too easy to put people in categories. For me, and for my husband too, its an effort to educate people into a greater consciousness of nature's laws. Tread lightly on the earth, and all that. I mean, why should we as a nation consume one-third of the world's energy? It is possible to maintain our standard of living while reducing energy consumption through a carefully developed program of conversation and the use of alternative technologies.

"What I'm trying to say is its not just being anti-nuke. Its being a conservationist at heart, the simpler life, less consumption and more awareness of our world."

Q. "How does that relate specifically to Diablo, Lisa?"
A. "Its kind of basic and all tied together with the questioning of authority. I just don't believe them when they say nuclear energy is safe. Three Mile Island certainly proved that. It was the latest in a long series of accidents, most of which never received such wide publicity. No longer can they say that it cannot happen. Without even getting into the problems of waste disposal, normal leakage, damage to the water environment and the enormous amounts of money it costs to build and run a reactor, the possibility of a devastating accident is very much there."

Q. "So you feel Diablo is just not necessary as well as being dangerous?"

A. "Definitely. We Americans have always been told to use more of everything. Now we all must learn to use less of everything. We must also, and this is why I went to jail, we must also take responsibility for our own immediate world."

Q. "Lisa, that sounds like a fairly general statement, but I can see that you really mean it in a very specific way."

A. "Very much so. I've always felt concerned about immediate problems, things that touch my own life and my neighbors lives. Our local scene. I consider Diablo to be very much local. It's only 100 miles away and if that plant is licensed we will certainly feel the effects here in Big Sur.

Q. "What was the actual protest like, back in August of last year, with nearly 500 of you in jail?"

A. "What an experience! For one thing when we were all arrested they were ready for us. They put us in a gymnasium. The women were in a separate but connected building. We could communicate with each other, sing songs to each other, give ourselves hope and love. It was very intense, the feelings of sharing our commitment to a common cause. And what was really inspiring was the diversity of peoples backgrounds. There was a preacher, lawyers, businesspeople, as well as factory workers and students."

Q. "Did you get much support from your community here in Big Sur?"

A. "The people here knew I was going and they were sort of supportive but last year there wasn't too much activism here. Only three people from Big Sur actually went to the protest."

Q. "You had to do a training in order to participate?"
A. "Yes, one day. Then we formed affinity groups. It was really interesting learning some details about non-violence and it was very necessary."

Q. "But doesn't climbing a fence and trespassing sort of constitute a violent act?"

A. "No, not really. It's illegal, yes, but is violent against nobody or nothing. We all knew we were being civilly disobedient but there was no wire cutting, no damage of any sort. Also no resistance of any sort. We were trained that if we were attacked by anybody, either police or angry P.G.&E. workers, our response must be passivity and communication. Show them we care about them by talking to them."

Q. "Sounds inspiring. Sounds beautiful, really."
A. "It works."

Q. "And then this last month's 8 days in jail, what was that for?"

A. "All of us initially faced a sentence of 30 days in jail, \$500 fine and two years probation. An absurd, totally punitive sentence. Then that was reduced after a while to 15 days, \$300 fine, but still the two years probation. I still have to pay the fine but by not signing the probation papers I had to go to jail for the 15 days which was reduced by the days I had already spent and good behavior, etc."

Q. "Sounds stiff."
A. "It's ridiculous. Obviously, the courts in San Luis were trying to discourage further demonstrations."

Q. "Lisa, you sound so positive about all this that I feel its useless to ask if you'd do it all over, but I'll ask anyway. Would you?"

A. "Wait till I stop laughing. (pause) I'm laughing because it has been indeed one of the most positive acts of my life. A commitment to life — to all future and present life. In fact on June 30th, there's another big rally planned in San Luis. Preparations are also being made for a massive land and sea blockage if indeed the plant is licensed. We hope thousands of people will be civilly disobedient and face the threat of going to jail. We really are very, very serious about this. Its actually a matter of life and death."

Lisa's smile, so evident during the conversation was replaced by a look of concentrated energy. After a pause, she



LISA SEXTON of Big Sur was arrested and jailed for protesting the licensing of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. Photo by Carl Paul Alasko.

looked up and the smile crept back.

"Yes, I'd be sure to do it over."
 Another cup of tea is poured. There was talk of dinner preparations; Lisa's Texas twang mixed with the Englishness of her husband. A young couple living their life in an idyllic spot like Big Sur — living out their ideals.

Anti- Diablo Rally Scheduled

A peaceful demonstration and rally to protest the licensing of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant has been scheduled for Saturday, June 30th at 11am.

The protest has been organized by anti-nuclear power groups who are encouraging massive public participation by opponents.

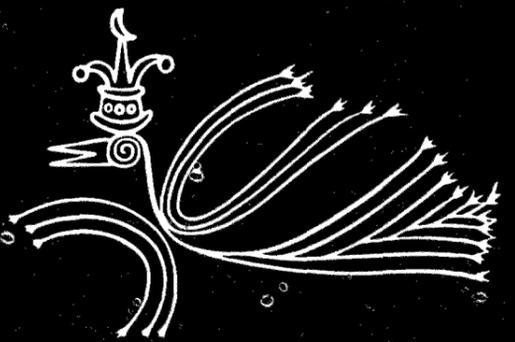
According to a spokesman for the rally organizers, people may obtain location information and other details by phoning 667-2578 or 667-2482.

Additional information may be obtained from the Diablo Project Office located at 452 Higuera in San Luis Obispo or by phoning 905-543-6614. Support is urged by attending the rally or by sending contributions to the project office.

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Liddicoat Cites Coastal Commission Abuses

I would be willing to wager that most people we talk to voted for Proposition 20, an initiative to protect the coastline of California. What most people who voted for Prop. 20 did not envision was the bureaucratic nightmare which would ensue to implement that initiative — a nightmare which is not only philosophically oppressive but is extremely costly, not only to property owners along the coast, but to every taxpayer in California.

After Proposition 20 was passed, a State Coastal Commission was set up and then there followed the six Regional Commissions. The number of Commissioners vary from region to region. On the Central Coast Regional

As I sit on the Central Coast Regional Commission what I see on a weekly basis is incredible inefficiency, needless paperwork, an insatiable desire to regulate the lives of others and a constant abuse of power.

Commission where I sit as a Commissioner, we have 16 members made up of elected and appointed officials. On a 16-member board, 9 votes are needed for approval despite the number of Commissioners present, so an absence is in essence a "no" vote. In most regions, the Commissioners split evenly with most elected officials upholding the decisions of local jurisdictions and some appointed officials, being the Governor Brown mentality of extreme environmentalist, denying the applications. Remember, everything that comes before the Coastal Commissions has first gone through a lengthy process and has been approved by the local government.

As I sit on the Central Coast Regional Commission what I see on a weekly basis is incredible inefficiency, needless paperwork, an insatiable desire to regulate the lives of others and a constant abuse of power. We have people sitting on that Commission with no experience in the real world. Some have no business experience whatsoever. Some have never owned a piece of property. I see a constant display of a mixture of ignorance and arrogance that is unsurpassed. Yet these people control the lives and property of others, and since most are not elected, the democratic process does not apply. The people cannot vote them out of power.

Let me give a few examples of what I consider "abuse of power."

1. Frank J. Evans, Permit No. P77640. After several months involving hearings before the Santa Cruz County Planning Commission, and 3 hearings before the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, Frank Evans was given permission to build a 77-unit mobile home park on an 11 acre site in the Live Oak area of Santa Cruz. Everyone on the County level had a hand in the conditions imposed upon the mobile home park. Mr. Evans was put through the Environmental Review Process and had to pay for an Environmental Impact Report. Then the project was subjected to conditions put on by the Planning staff, the Planning Commission, the Parks Commission, and finally the Board of Supervisors. In June, the project was passed on a 3-2 vote by the Board of Supervisors, and was approved by the Supervisor in whose district the project would have been located.

At the Coastal Commission, the project was denied by a vote of 11 for denial and 2 for approval. The Commission decided the property should be used for a park.

I must point out that 11% of the County of Santa Cruz is already in State or County parks. Last year we approved 2 major parks within 2 miles of this site. I don't feel that the Coastal Commission should be charged with designation of parks for the County of Santa Cruz, in that the coordination of parks necessarily takes into consideration the entire County, and not merely the Coastal Zone.

The Executive Director's report also referred to Board of Supervisors' policy regarding the Live Oak General Plan — the General Plan for this area — but what could be clearer as the Board of Supervisors' policy than the Board of Supervisors having passed this project. The Executive Director's recommendations refer to Board of Supervisors' policy being considered, but then clearly this policy was overridden.

The applicant in this instance had almost \$40,000 invested in this site, with options, plans, Environmental Impact Reports, and the like, and he did so relying on governmental approval and encouragement as he went through each step.

2. I would like to refer to 2 other instances regarding the building of homes in what is known as the Salamander Zone in the Aptos area. Several years ago it was discovered that Santa Cruz County had a rare endangered species known as the Santa Cruz Long Toed Salamander. After lengthy hearings, the then heavily pro-environmental Board of Supervisors approved a Special Salamander Zone, which meant that building was not completely prohibited in this area, but certain conditions were necessary to preserve the salamander's habitat — such as step construction. Since that time, 2 cases stand out among those which were denied by the Coastal Commission after having been granted building permits by the County of Santa Cruz.

One case involves Mr. John Jerry Ross, who had obtained a building permit from the County, but was denied by the Coastal Commission. I would like to quote from Mr. Ross's letter of despair written to me:

"Some property owners looking for pragmatic solutions, out of dialectics which seem to engulf and drown reason with countless valid points of view, face eminent economic danger. In this age of dying home ownership, for an apparently dwindling middle-class America, our traditional dream was to



Marilyn D. Liddicoat is a Santa Cruz County Supervisor and a member of the Central Coast Regional Commission.

purchase or build our own home. Yes, things change but it is obviously disheartening to those of us who suffer rather than prosper by the change.

"Some property owners, as myself, have invested most of their savings in a lot in order to build a house. Typically, we acted in good faith. We drew house plans and septic tank systems which were code standard. We paid hundreds of dollars in permit fees; not to mention emotional involvement. Our faith was, through our involvement, in the contemporary system of government. If we complained, we also complied."

3. Another case is that of Mr. Tom Wilson, who actually built a home in the Salamander Zone. This case was unique because we are talking about an existing structure, and the Coastal permit was denied. When Mr. Wilson, an out-of-County contractor, began his project, the area was not in the Coastal Zone. He obtained a building permit from the County of Santa Cruz, but before he completed the building, the line had changed effective January 1, 1977. The house was completed, and he went to P.G.&E. for service. It was at this time that he learned that he needed prior clearance from the Coastal Commission. Mr. Wilson applied for a permit from the Coastal Commission, but the application was denied. The matter was appealed to the State Commission, and the denial was still upheld. The Commission considered ordering the house bulldozed down, but ended up imposing a fine of several thousand dollars instead.

Again, keep in mind that the County has provided measures to protect the salamander habitat, such as step construction in this zone, but has not seen fit to completely eliminate all building in this area of Valencia Lagoon.

The question here is why should the Coastal Commission be concerned with salamanders. This area is located a mile and a half inland — almost to the edge of the Coastal Zone. It is submitted that we have come to a point in time where salamanders are more important than people. Surely if these creatures have survived for hundreds of millions of years, they will survive even oppressive government. And remember, I speak as an anthropologist and a 20-year former member of the Sierra Club.

4. Another case involving a Coastal Zone boundary change was Soquel Creek Water District. Five years ago bonds were passed for capital improvements for the Soquel Creek Water District in Mid-Santa Cruz County, which included 5 storage tanks which would have doubled the holding capacity for water in the District. The District went through the local process, including Environmental Impact Reports and proper engineering. The bid was let prior to the 1976 Coastal Act, but when the boundary change was made on January 1st, the work in progress was red-tagged. There had been grading on three of the sites. The Commission refused to grant an exemption, and insisted that the matter come before them on a regular agenda. Six weeks later it was passed on their Consent Agenda without discussion. It is estimated that the costs of delay could be as much as \$20,000 because the contract bidder is insisting on extra pay due to delay.

5. Then there is the case of B & F Properties in Capitola, a picturesque coastal community. The applicant owned 5 old cabins on the bluff above the water. The cabins are very small — about 300 sq. ft., and had been built in the 1900's. They have been unoccupied for almost 2 years because the City of Capitola said they did not meet code and were unsafe. The applicant wanted to demolish them and build condominiums — a small space project. The Coastal Commission denied the application and refused to permit the cabins to be torn down, arguing that we must not remove low-cost housing from the coast. That vote was 8 for the applicant and 7 against, but since 9 yes votes were needed, the application failed. The 7 of us who voted for the applicant argued that there isn't any low cost housing if the cabins are uninhabitable. Well, said the others, they can be brought up to Code. Yes, we argued, but if that is done, the amount of money necessary to do that will make them no longer low-cost housing. Well, again those who live in an economic fairyland prevailed and the 5 cabins sit as eyesores and dangers to the community. Just last year in Santa Cruz County 3 young children wandered into a condemned house, lit matches and started a fire and 2 were burned to death.

Why are all these abuses happening through the State? Because there is a tendency by those in power to move away from the constitutional concept of private property as we have known it and embrace a concept of social or communal property.

In an article entitled "The New Feudalism — State Land Use Controls" by John McClaughry, as printed in a book published by the Institute for Contemporary Studies, called *No Land Is An Island — Individual Rights and Governmental Control of Land Use*, Mr. McClaughry talks of the traditional concept of land ownership as it has come down through our English heritage and was the basis of our own United States Constitution. Until recent years in England and in America, the laws protected the right of freehold property. Under freehold property, the owner of the land could use his land in any way he wished as long as he did not injure anyone or anyone else's property. Freehold ownership favors the use, enjoyment, power to convey property and power to exclude others from your property — including the Sierra Club!

The writer states that underlying the movement toward the new Feudalism is the concept of social property. "Under the 'social property' concept, common to both Feudalism and Socialism, land is always held at the sufferance of the superior. In olden times, there was a long chain of superiors, starting at the top with the king and extending downward through duke, baron and lord to serf. Under the 'new Feudalism,' the ultimate superior is the State, or possible federal or local governments. The once free and independent landowner becomes the modern counterpart of the serf."

Under social property, the land then belongs to society and the owners are really only temporary holders of the land subject to restrictive whims of government, and, of course, subject to the duty of paying taxes.

Some suggest that the intellectual movement toward Socialism and the diminution of private property rights is merely a desire by some to control the lives of others — for their own good, of course! Another quote from the book *No Land Is An Island*, is by W. Philip Gramm, Professor of Economics at Texas A & M. Mr. Gramm states, and I quote:

"Heavy burden of proof should rest upon those who would regulate land use in the name of public interest. Surely this proof should include more than value judgement and the desire to regulate — for in land use planning there is an issue of infinitely greater importance than the coordination and direction of the use of resources. At stake are our future economic and political freedoms themselves. Without these, all else is superfluous."

What these do-gooders fail to realize is that we are talking not only about property — we are talking about personal freedom and liberty. This point was forcefully made by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1972 in the case of *Lynch vs. Household Finance Corp.*

"The dichotomy between personal liberties and property rights is a false one. Property does not have rights. People have rights. The right to enjoy property without unlawful deprivation, no less than the right to speak or the right to travel, is in truth a 'personal' right, whether the 'property' in question is a welfare check, a home, or a savings account. In fact, a fundamental interdependence exists between the personal right to liberty and the personal right in property. Neither could have meaning without the other."

What can we do about the constant diminution of private property rights? Get involved! Get involved at the local and State levels. Put pressure on your legislators to appoint people to the Regional Commissions who are fair. Remember you are not only guarding your children's right to own a piece of property, you must be a constant watchdog over their personal liberty.

John Locke said:
".....government's power was logically limited to the protection of each individual's right to his life, his liberty, and his property, and any government that interfered with these rights instead of protecting them was illegitimate. It is this language that ultimately appeared in our Constitution as the rights to 'Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.'"

Our Founding Fathers, intellectual heirs of Locke, consciously and deliberately created the first limited government in the history of man.

Woodrow Wilson said:
"Liberty has never come from the government....The history of liberty is the history of the limitation of governmental power, not the increase of it."

We must work together to limit the awesome power of the State and its unthinking bureaucrats to dominate our lives and our freedoms.

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LOOKING OUT / LOOKING IN

Curing Cancer At The Source

by BILL LILES

LOOKING IN to the world of cancer through the eyes of a pioneering young physician, we hear that:

"The mind can create cancer, therefore, it can take it away."

That is the message of Dr. Carl Simonton, M.D., oncologist, (tumor specialist), and medical director of the Cancer Counseling and Research Center in Ft. Worth, Texas.

A man busy with getting out the good news that cancer can be cured through an effort of will, Dr. Simonton was at Esalen in Big Sur last week, speaking to a month-long workshop on holistic medicine and health practises.

Since publication of his breakthrough work with 159 "terminal" cancer patients last year, the young doctor has

"The mind can create cancer, therefore, it can take it away."

been crisscrossing the country with his message: that cancer begins in the mind, and if "cured" is, in the final analysis, healed there, at the source, by the person who instigated its growth in the first place — the patient.

In a recent book reporting his findings, Dr. Simonton lays out a definite correlation between mental sets, attitudes, habitual moods and cancer.

Published under the title *Getting Well Again*, Dr. Simonton analyzed his psychological work at the Ft. Worth clinic with an outpatient group, which had been diagnosed 100 per cent medically incurable.

All were expected to die within 12 months, according to the

national norm.

Four years later, 63 of the group were still alive, with an average survival time of 24.4 months, double that of the original diagnosis.

Those who had died had an average survival time of 20.3 months.

Another 22.2 per cent of the group showed no sign of cancer at all after four years of mental treatment.

Also, tumors had regressed in 19.1 percent, and were considered stable in 27.1 per cent.

The remaining 31.1 per cent evidenced new malignant growth. These were the losses out of a population considered 100 per cent incurable by conventional medical science!

A miracle? Perhaps, but perhaps simplicity itself, once one gets the Simonton message.

All treatment at the clinic dealt with "mind factors" alone, with no change in general physical treatment attempted. Dr. Simonton believes that the results of his study proves that cancer begins as a condition of the mind which later manifests into a physical symptom. Further, he believes that most illness begins this way — in the mind.

Mind patterns and emotional responses buried and inhibited in the mind affect the autonomic nervous system and the endocrine glands on an unconscious level, creating imbalance and a lowering of the natural immunological resistance of the body, Dr. Simonton asserted. It is at this "low ebb" in resistance that cancer and other disease may enter the body, he believes.

"It is my conviction that we unknowingly develop cancer cells in our bodies many times during our lives, and just as unknowingly remiss and remove them," he told this reporter over coffee the other day at the hot springs complex.



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Photo by Greg Dodge

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"There are parts in us that want to live and other parts that want to die," he went on, indicating that the process of "ego death" as a means to mental and spiritual rebirth is a natural part of growth and self-knowledge.

He also noted that this "death-rebirth" process is at the heart of the new therapies pioneered at Esalen and other teaching centers which have sprung up in this country and in Europe in the past decade or so to fill the vacuum created by the Freudian's failure to cope with the neurological plague which has stalked this century to date in the industrialized nations.

The new therapies are getting positive results because they have grown up largely outside the established system, and have evolved a holistic point of view in contrast to the allopathic point of view upon which all Western medicine is based, Simonton said.

This means that the key to therapy lies in the mind of the patient and not in the pathology of the particular "disease label" we attach to the symptoms, the tumor specialist pointed out.

"However, we can't see into the patient's head," he reminded. "Our biggest job turned out to be that of getting the patient to keep his natural immunities up. The body has a natural immunological resistance to cancer, this we now know."

When a stressed person's psychological strategy for coping with the world breaks down; stress in the mind creates physical stress and blockage in the body parts, a disruption which we term illness, Simonton believes.

"Call it what you will, I prefer to think in terms of balance," the young specialist said. "We get in and out of illness all the time," he noted, pointing to the common cold, flu, measles, and so forth.

"When the pendulum of the mind swings back to more positive thoughts, the stress factor is lifted, and the body returns to normal homeostatic balance and good health. We see the reflection of the change of mind mirrored in that person's face," he said.

Thus, mental or psychological stress can create distress in the body, and if the process is allowed to continue the organism will self-destruct through the action of its own "inappropriate program" which monitors the unconscious regulations of the body's autonomic and endocrine system cybernetics.

Dr. Simonton also noted that stress itself is not necessarily a negative factor, in that it is a natural part of the life process. Some stress-changed people go to the other extreme of the spectrum and become super healthy, he said.

Scientific work with animals and humans has revealed that the "rigid state" is the least healthy, Simonton reminded. He said there is no way to tell what overall effects the social requirements of modern living have had on the health of Americans as a people. The negative effects of stress factors are more pronounced in humans than in animals, he noted, due to the dominance of abstract patterns in the human brain.

"We have charted in our study a definite causal link between mental/emotional condition and cancer. We have also shown that it is possible to change a cancerous condition for the better by working through the mind," he stated.

Mental tools used at the Ft. Worth clinic to alter physiological imbalances include hypnosis and various "new" psychotherapies which deal with depression, anxiety, and erroneous or preconceived ideas which may be having an effect on the physical system and encouraging malignancy by depressing the body's natural immunological resistance.

"Mind influences physiology, this we know," Dr. Simonton stated. "Expectancy (the placebo effect) works in many ways, as evidenced by some of the results obtained by faith healers, spiritual healers, and those who change their belief systems through an act of faith."

The key factor in working with people who have been given up as hopeless is the person's willingness to participate, the doctor said.

"Often they're scared of water, but they don't want to learn how to swim," he observed.

He also said that his clinic has worked out a process whereby patients are screened in order to identify those who are ready and willing to "address the emotional incidents of their lives."

He related that much time was lost in the beginning stages of the project by trying to work with people who were "truly hopeless" due to their unwillingness to deal with their personal psychological history.

"One of the biggest problems is with the patient who actually gets high on chemotherapy, which is comprised

"It is my conviction that we unknowingly develop cancer cells in our bodies many times during our lives, and just as unknowingly remiss and remove them."

largely of strong poisons. They become elated because they believe the drug will get them well, even though the doctor may not share this belief," Dr. Simonton recalls.

Nowadays, patients are observed from a distance before they are accepted into the program "to see if they want what we have to offer. It's a gross waste of time to try to deal with all cancer patients," he said, pointing out that at the beginning, many "didn't want to learn to swim, while we were trying to get them ready for the Olympics."

The most frustrating patient is the one who won't admit to his own emotional involvement in cancer development, Dr. Simonton said. Looking back on the early years, he remembers many precious hours spent trying to convince recalcitrant sufferers to get psychological therapy.

"After a year, I could tell immediately which ones were ready," he recalls. Today all patients go through preparation using guided imagery and meditation before they come in for work with the clinic staff. "This helps us to work with them much faster than before," Simonton noted.

Staff people at the clinic encourage patients (all are

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out-patients) to use the meditative framework to deal with the problems of their disease. Simonton said that this approach "dissolves fear and teaches one to appreciate one's own dynamics. For one who is already uncomfortable or distraught, it's a big commitment to confront oneself emotionally two or three times a day — to settle down, confront, and focus on their own cancer.

"They must review the past to find out how their lives became so meaningless that they developed malignancy. We encourage them to scan their own stress patterns in order to

"Our biggest job turned out to be that of getting the patient to keep his natural immunities up. The body has a natural immunological resistance to cancer, this we now know."

find out what they are getting through 'secondary gains' (special attention, 'playing hooky' from responsibility, etc.) by being ill."

The tumor specialist placed much of the blame on the social environment and its "unnatural" emotional demands on the individual. He pointed to the American traditions of overwork, being a winner, the emphasis on devoting one's life to profit, and so forth.

"From an unconscious point of view, illness may be seen as a way for the body to rest, and for the emotions to still. We can all remember getting sick as children because we really didn't want to go to school. It's not so different in many cancer cases," he said.

Dr. Simonton said that his therapists take the view that the cancer is serving some important function in the patient's life, and it is only after learning a new way to cope with the emotional causation that the function of the cancer as a focus of energy is replaced, and the cancer itself "released," or remitted.

In meditation, early childhood image pattern formation is retrieved and reviewed. Once the picture is clear as to how it all began, the patient is encouraged to change views and remake old decisions. In the process patients are forced to deal with the reality of the inevitability of death, and with the possibility of a reoccurrence of the disease should they recover.

Once this is faced and accepted, the meditator is then ready to begin to set goals for living. The focus here is on the quality of one's life, regardless of predicted life expectancy.

"Getting people who are under a death sentence to set goals is not easy," the therapist intimated. "we must remember that they got there by choice, albeit unconsciously; they often have a lot of resistance to setting small goals to get back into life. They seem to feel that any goal must be momentous in scope to have any effect on their condition. They think they can't get back into life, and they don't. They're in such a weakened condition that they just don't believe that they have the energy to get well."

In reviewing the classical medical literature on cancer treatment, Dr. Simonton said he found that there is general agreement that exercise is beneficial to the person who has contracted cancer.

So far as diet and nutrition are concerned, he said, there are "20,000 articles, all seemingly in conflict so far as specifics are concerned."

At his Texas clinic, patients are told to stay away from meats, fats and other known cancer-encouraging foods. Obesity has been recognized as a negative factor, and eating less and cutting down on weight is also considered important in treatment. Patients are generally encouraged to eat more fruit and vegetables.

The practice of meditation brings heightened spiritual awareness, which often dramatically changes the patient's world view, Simonton notes, bringing a new perspective and fostering the idea of "cosmic friendliness."

Family systems are also analyzed, and those influences dealt with as part of the road to recovery. Dr. Simonton has found that patients are best observed in social situations from afar when they are not wearing the "patient facade," or masque.

"The psychodynamics of families is worth pursuing, but the research done up until now is not worth writing home about," he pointed out.

"What we are after is attitudinal changes: the patient who does well is the person who has purpose and who sets goals to improve the quality of his life. They function well by maintaining an interest in life.

"The patient's quality of life is something that is not looked at by established medicine, nor the quality of his death for that matter," Dr. Simonton asserted.

"It is very important to consider these two factors in all treatment," he went on. "What is the patient getting out of the time remaining? (something we should all consider, he noted). Is tubed and gasping in pain, drugged, and in the care of impersonal strangers the best way to go out?" he asked.

Assuming emotional responsibility for one's own cancer carries with it the implications of guilt, the physician said, adding that many would prefer not to face the guilt involved in admitting that they have played a part in making their bodies sick.

He pointed out that most of the clinic's project is devoted to public education, teaching the concept that illness may be considered an attempt to solve emotional conflict. Thus, illness may be used as a tool for mental health.

"We try to use compulsive behavior to break up compulsive behavior," he notes. "I compulsively must play an hour or two a day in order to have more energy to work," he said, by way of example. "This compulsion counters my compulsion to work myself beyond my limitations, and I don't feel guilty about it that way."

Commenting on his current focus of investigation, Simonton said that he would like to know why we tend to develop a particular disease in a particular place and at a particular time. He noted patterns which have revealed similarities in profile between women who develop breast

cancer, and cited parallel data which has accumulated in relation to other illnesses affecting all parts of the body.

"Particular areas of the body are chosen for emotional reasons," he said. "Certain personality types tend to develop certain types of malignancy. These patterns have to do with repression and depression. The patient who is stuck in the "No Exit" syndrome holds on to his sickness, even defends it."

People who can accept and take advantage of the "new therapies" (such as Gestalt therapy, Bioenergetics, Polarity therapy, meditation and guided imagery,) which deal with emotional expression and release and positive self-reprogramming, are the ones who recover and go on to improve the quality of their lives, the Texas oncologist reports.

As an example, he noted that studies made on people in prison indicated that often the diet was poor, that prisoners tended to chain-smoke over a period of many years, that the stress factor was high, yet "studies show that there is almost a zero incidence of lung cancer."

The reason for these findings, he believes, is that people who end up in prison do not "hold in" but "act out" to such a degree that they are taken out of society. Yet they remain physically healthy under extremely poor conditions.

So far as age and cancer goes, the doctor looks at it this way: "Older people are 'set up' by the expectation of sickness as an accompaniment to old age. They think they have to get sick in order to die. Their contemporaries are dead or dying. They find it harder to make new friends. They are often isolated to a small room where they are expected to deal with loneliness. Is it any wonder that they experience a sense of hopelessness and eventually give in to illness?" he asked.

Improved quality of life leads to an improvement in the quality of death, Dr. Simonton contends.

"Exercise is a great distressor. We work people into it gradually, depending on their condition, and add a little more as time goes on," he explains. "I see the quality of death improved when pain is experienced late, if at all, and there is a high level of consciousness up to the last day or two.

"Family communication is encouraged and we like to have the family around as the patient's life ends. This can be healing for the entire family. Everyone takes responsibility for his connection with this drama, and it is possible to say goodbye and to let go.

"In medicine, I believe, as in government, when the citizen gives up more and more control over his own destiny, it becomes more possible to victimize him," the oncologist said.

"In the United States, where conventional medicine is allopathic medicine, the basic tenet and training in the medical schools is to correct an ailment with drugs or surgery. American medicine has almost no philosophical emphasis on the person's ability to heal himself," the medical doctor criticized.

"We have systematically, mechanically, and materialistically eliminated the spiritual aspects from Western medicine," he pointed out, reviewing the progress of medical events in the 20th Century.

"Seeing one's life in a larger, cosmic context is important to the human spirit, it nourishes the life force," he said,

pointing to the fact that in ancient times the priest and the physician were one and the same person who dealt with disease as an affliction of a unified body/mind/spirit, which had for some reason gotten out of balance.

"Medical school largely 'trains out' sensitivity and intuitiveness when it comes to treatment," the cancer specialist charged. "The established professionals essentially become not caring. This comes out in the way patients are treated in our hospitals, as objects, objects who must have insurance," he added.

The specialist admitted that the physician feels that he most cut himself off emotionally from the patient in order to retain his own sanity under highly stressful conditions in in-plant operations.

"However, in doing so, the tendency is to cut off from life itself, by not allowing oneself to become involved on an emotional level. This contributes to an early death pattern which is reflected in the life expectancy of physicians in general," he said.

Thus the physical effects of a psychological inability to cope with the environmental conditions of life reveal that causal factors extend to the basic premises of modern, technologically-oriented medicine itself.

If the body is the temple in which the spirit of life must dwell, it is a sad commentary on the quality of life today if ignorance extends this far. No material solution can deal with this one. The only possible way out is for the individual to see his condition, and see it clearly, and then to take his own life in hand through positive affirmation of the gift of life itself.

Pragmatic executives from large corporate structures already have approached this innovative and iconoclastic young physician from Texas, asking that he advise and help them set up programs for their employees.

Quantitatively they know what quality-in-life can mean in terms of absenteeism, production and overall profits. Dr. Simonton is considering working through this avenue in order to reach "middle America" with his good news.

Cancer and other illnesses can be beat if one is prepared to deal with the psychological factors involved. It is a question of unmaking and remaking the mind.

This is the message going forth from Simonton's Ft. Worth center, where 750 new counsellors are being trained each year in the new methods. It will be interesting to see what changes will result in the next few years, not only in the field of health care, but in the entire field of medical knowledge.

Asked how he hoped to change an invested conservative medical system which has a multimillion dollar annual budget largely directed at maintaining the status quo, Carl Simonton's reply was not hesitant:

"I'll outlive them, that's how. And a lot of my patients will outlive them too. Time is on our side."

The good doctor is a quantitative 36-years-of-age on a chronological linear scale. Qualitatively he is beyond measure.

With a few more qualified men like Carl Simonton around, the "good news" should travel fast. Who can say? Someday we may all get the message, medical doctors and medical schools as well.

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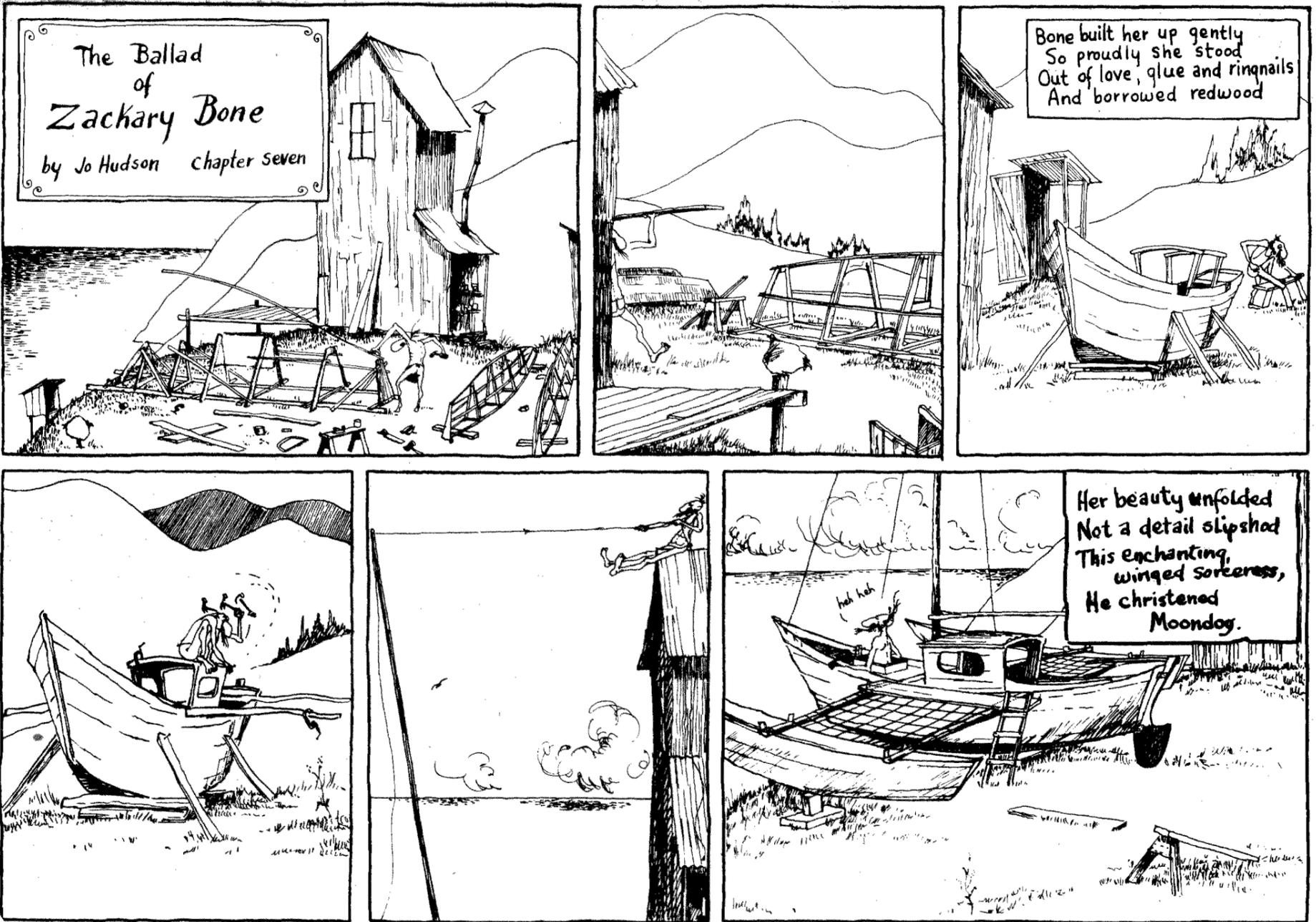
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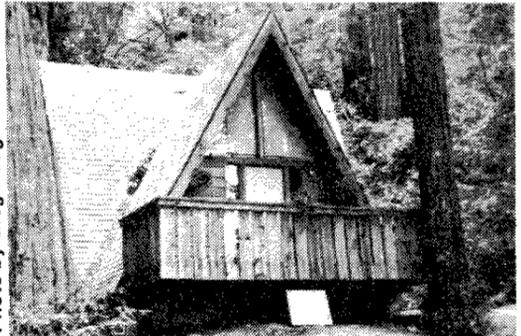
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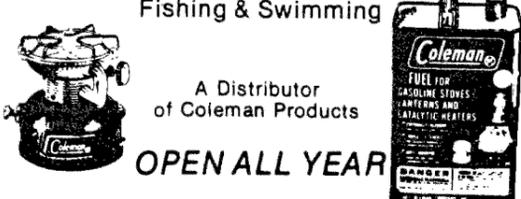
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The Coastal Act is Threatened but Not in Jeopardy

by Michael L. Fischer
Reprint for Coastal News
California State Coastal Commission

The current legislative session began badly for the Coastal Commission. Senators and assemblymen of all stripes—including former supporters of coastal land use legislation—expressed serious displeasure with “horror stories” about the Commission’s work. Interim hearings last fall set the stage; they were well-attended by many who were loudly dissatisfied with Commission denials, or by the “extortion style” conditions imposed in coastal permits.

About 30 bills were introduced which would have amended the Coastal Act of 1976. Most would have seriously weakened the Commission’s regulatory authority; a few, in fact, would have effectively gutted California’s landmark coastal protection law.

But those few seriously damaging bills are now dead, or were held in committee as two-year bills. And, as I’m writing this report (in mid-May), only one bill of the twenty-seven already considered by the Senate and Assembly policy committees poses a serious threat: Senator Dills’ SB779.

So the grave danger that many feared has not yet materialized. True, bills already in the pipeline could be amended to be worse than they are, and the coastal zone boundary could still be changed to the detriment of coastal resources. But that’s not the situation at this stage of the legislative session; and that’s pleasant news, indeed.

The reasons that the Coastal Act is not at such serious risk as was feared? There are at least three:

First, the two legislative policy committees have acted with striking responsibility. Both the *Senate Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee*, under the acting chairmanship of Senator Barry Keene, and the *Assembly Natural Resources, Land Use and Energy Committee*, chaired by Assemblyman Victor Calvo, held marathon public hearing sessions. The Legislators, prepared by interim hearings and committee staff analyses—as well as an excellent report by the Assembly Office of Research—had already done their homework. The legislators’ actions made it quite clear that their purpose was to respond to legitimate criticism which called for minor adjustments to the Coastal Act—but not to diminish the public’s ability to protect important coastal resources.

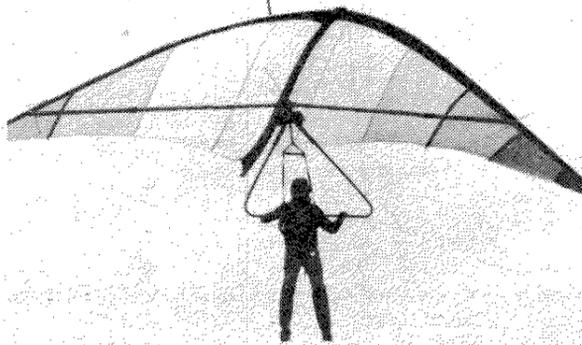
In the Senate Committee this interest has been clearly expressed by Senators Keene, Garamendi, Raines, Rodda, and Watson and in the Assembly Committee by Assemblymen Calvo, Bates, Hannigan, Kapiloff, Levine, Mello, and Rosenthal. The informed, balanced, well-intended work of these legislators has made all the difference.

The second reason is that many citizens “rode to the rescue” of the Coastal Act. The Coastal Alliance II was established to carefully review and seek amendments to the bills, to lobby the legislators, and to testify—quite effectively—at committee hearings. They were strongly supported by the Sierra Club and the Planning and Conservation League. The knowledge that coastal protection continues to have a strong, visible constituency is quite important to the entire legislative process.

Finally, the fact that the Commission itself proposed a legislative program designed to eliminate unnecessary over-regulation (while at the same time maintaining the authority to carry out the policies of the Coastal Act) was essential. Legislators were thus not faced with a truculent agency against which all of them would have had to battle. Instead, the Commission’s proposals provided a basis for cooperation and joint action—exactly the kind of situation necessary for all parties to perform their own responsibilities.

The message from the Legislature so far is quite clear: **GET THE LOCAL COASTAL PLANS DONE!** The senators and assemblymen understand that major changes in the Coastal Act at this time would only delay LCP preparation. So they’re holding off. But next year, if local government and the Commission haven’t succeeded in completing a healthy number of LCPs, the story will be quite different.

For the remainder of this year, both Coastal Commission and local government folk should operate on the (good) assumption that there will be no substantial changes in the Coastal Act. LCP preparation should be going full tilt, not standing by to deal with possible legislative change.



HIGH IN THE SKY, Dave Kilbourne soars over Pacific Valley. Photo by Sean Cassidy.

Hang Gliders Over Pacific Valley

by Sean Cassidy and
Tim McAlpine

Hang-gliders have been flying from Plaskett Ridge for approximately six years and have been increasing in number yearly. They drive up the dirt road to the top of the ridge where they take a long, soaring flight to a field across the highway from Pacific Valley School.

Some local citizens are opposed to hang-gliders. Their complaint is that many hang-gliders speed up and down the road in great numbers, causing lots of dust and that some even take off on private property.

“They see a sign on a fence that says, ‘No Hang-gliding’ and about 10% ignore it. Sometimes they tear down the sign and fence and proceed to set up their kites,” said John Butler, caretaker of Elmo Butle’s Ranch on Plaskett Ridge and bus driver for Pacific Valley School.

“If I’m home I can hear them and I go over to where they are and ask them to leave. Some leave but there are always a few who don’t want to. They get belligerent and have threatened me to where I have had to leave and call for help.” Butler said.

Most hang-gliders respect private property according to Dave Kilbourne, a hang-gliding enthusiast from Palo Alto. “The only legal take-off is Prewitt Canyon,” Kilbourne said. “To my knowledge, no one takes off on private property. Everyone I know is using the only legal take-off.”

Another problem according to John Butler, is that the people who drive up to the take-off spot drive very fast and do not look out for other people.

“I’ve been run off the road once on my motorcycle and have had near collisions over a dozen times,” Butler said.

Kilbourne says it’s hang-gliders from Los Angeles that cause most of the problems. “L.A. always had the wrong idea about hang-gliding. If you go 10 miles an hour you fit right in with the locals. If you get a guy who’s going 50 miles an hour, he doesn’t fit in. He’s probably from L.A.”

Butler is also concerned about the hazards that the hang-gliders present to themselves and the public.

Hang-gliders land in front of Pacific Valley School on the west side of the highway.

“When they land they have to take a steep dive to the meadow. I’ve seen hang-gliders when suddenly a freak wind comes up from the ocean and blows them right into the big trees across from the school. They are hanging there and some of them are hurt so we have to call a rescue team to get them down and take them to the hospital.”

Butler claims that hang-gliders crash once a month on the Butle’s property.

Kilbourne disagrees. He claims that hang-gliding is not a dare-devil sport and that it is no more dangerous than any other form of flying.

“Stalls and spins are the number one killer for both hang-gliders and airplanes,” Kilbourne said.

Last year the Coastal Condors, a hang-gliding club, and a few other hang-gliding associations had a meeting with local landowners and the Forest Service.

“The hang-gliders said, ‘If you give us control of the hang-gliding situation on Plaskett Ridge, we would make sure that no one took off where they weren’t supposed to and that no one went screaming through the air,’” Kilbourne said.

The group offered to set up a class rating program so that only first class, experienced hang-gliders could



SEAN CASSIDY interviews hang-glider Dave Kilbourne for Pacific Valley School writing program. Photo by Tim McAlpine.

take off on Plaskett Ridge.

The Forest Service said, “This is a National Forest. If a person has a hang-glider, he has just as much right as anyone else to take off. If you stop anyone from taking off, we’ll bust you.”

Butler claims to have a simple solution for the whole problem. He said he has talked with the Forest Service and has decided that the

best way to solve the problem is to have one of the hang-gliders stand at the bottom of Plaskett Road and pass out pamphlets showing designated spots for take-offs and private property zones, or to have hang-gliders use Nacimiento Road because it is a two-way, paved road which leads to the same take-off spots as Plaskett Road.

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Who Owns California's Land?

by Carl Irving
S.F. Sunday Examiner & Chronicle

After decades of widespread public contentment over California's natural blessings, a flurry of issues has prompted a new scrutiny into who really owns the land.

The basic facts are these: The federal government owns the deserts and mountains and more, about half of California. Most of the rest is privately owned, mostly by large corporations.

But because of a growing population, environmental concerns and economic pressures, stewardship as well as ownership of the land has become more important.

Public attention lately has focused on a tight housing market, arguments over water rights, reports of foreign purchases and government decisions about which lands to exploit and which to conserve.

Involved are preservation of the American system that depends on profit from development and growing concern about what will be left for future generations. Those forces raise similar questions about land in other parts of the nation, but California tends to have more government land — about two acres per resident — and more large corporate holdings.

Government ownership reflects California's special history. The land was remote, and the special need for a railroad to link it with the rest of the nation — the gold, the rich farmlands, the inhospitable mountains and deserts — produced ownership patterns different from those in the Midwest and East.

Today, the federal government owns about 46 percent of California. The state comes next, with only 2.5 percent, followed closely by Southern Pacific railroad with about 2.4 percent. After that, the larger land owners include city governments with .9 percent and counties and special districts with about .75 percent each.

Then come large corporate ranchers and holders of forest lands, some with tracts exceeding several hundred thousand acres. Unlike Indians in other states, California's possess very little land. Yet only a century and a half ago, Indians and a few fur traders lived and roamed freely through California without restrictive deeds or other legal tracts defining rights to property.

Only a few Spaniards had been granted land in California before 1821, when Mexico gained its independence. In the next 46 years, while California remained Mexican, about 800 land grants were issued to rancheros.

With the establishment of the Bear Republic in 1846, the Anglos began to take over, and grants turned into farms with sharply drawn boundaries. But they were vast in scale.

In the 19th century, rancher Henry Miller claimed to own or control enough land to ride a horse from Mexico to Oregon without having to spend a night on anyone else's property.

When the early settlers arrived, they bypassed or turned away from the deserts and mountains, leaving them unclaimed.

That left nearly half of California as "public land," which the federal agencies absorbed as time went by. Today, the U.S. Forest Service holds about 20 million acres, the Bureau of Land Management 16 million, the National Park Service 4 million, the military 3 million and other federal agencies about 3 million.

Forest service lands include the treeless ranges that form a semi-circle around Los Angeles and end on the southern side of Monterey. They also include the forests that cover much of the Sierra and beyond, from near Bakersfield to Modoc in the northeast, and they stretch west to the richest forests in California, adjoining the northwest coast.

Like the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management evolved to watch over lands that nobody wanted in earlier days. But the BLM, unlike the Forest Service, ended up with what was considered "wasteland" until relatively recently — desert country in southeastern California.

The BLM has jurisdiction over other smaller segments of California north through the Owens Valley, on the western slopes of the Sierra, in the northeast and west of Redding.

The most valuable BLM lands in California lie near Ukiah, where geologists say the world's largest known source of geothermal steam fills vast underground caverns. Last year, revenue from the sale of steam provided BLM with about \$20 million in revenue, of which half went back to Washington and the remainder was distributed among local governments.

The Forest Service netted \$153 million from California lands last year, mostly from loggers. Three-fourths of the revenue — \$115 million — went to Washington. The rest was split among counties, districts and cities near the logged

areas.

Except for water-covered areas within and up to one mile off shore, which the state says it holds in trust, California ownership — 2.5 million acres — becomes almost insignificant beside those Federal holdings.

The California counties possess 758,000 acres, the cities 921,000, school districts 7,000 and special districts 743,000.

With 450,000 acres, the California Indians probably rank next, about 200,000 of them dividing up the reservations, ranches and other holdings, according to figures from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Their ancestors lost most of their historic tribal lands after the Civil War, when federal agents signed 18 treaties with them requiring them to settle in smaller preserves in less desirable locations. The U.S. Senate failed to ratify any of the treaties, however, and most of the Indians found themselves homeless. Gradually, some lands were set aside for the Indians. The government sought to settle the problem between 1956 and 1973 by paying each California Indian an average of \$800, equal to 47 cents an acre, according to Steve Rios, Gov. Brown's adviser on Indian affairs.

The settlement, which totaled \$29 million, involved 65 million acres. That left the Indians with about .45 percent of California.

Among California's more prosperous land owners today are corporations that hold some of the richest farmlands and forests in the world.

Agriculture is the state's biggest business, and most of the cash return comes from 8 million acres of irrigated lands stretching from the Imperial Valley on the border with Mexico north through the Salinas, San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys.

California has 63,000 farms, with an average size of 571 acres, but a few corporations hold vast tracts. Exact figures are hard to determine.

"We really have no idea at all," said Phillip Leveen, agricultural economist at UC-Berkeley. "There's no law that says you have to state who you are, and when you buy land, or whom you represent."

Reports circulated last year about massive farmland purchases by non-resident aliens, some who were said to be hiding behind shadow corporations. Some farm brokers speculated that they were buying up to 40 percent of the farmlands in the central valleys.

Some facts that have been established about California farmland: its 36 million acres produce 200 separate crops, including 40 percent of the nation's fresh fruits and vegetables and 25 percent of its total food supply, according to a study by Anne Jackson published in "Cry California."

Jackson also said that between 1940 and 1974, the number of farms shrank by almost half, from 132,000 to 68,000 although the amount of farm land increased by 3 million acres.

Who are the large landholders? A Ralph Nader task force listed, after SP, the Shasta Forest Co., 480,000 acres; Tenneco, 363,000; Tejon Rand, 348,000; Standard Oil, 306,000; followed by Boise Cascade, Georgia Pacific, PG&E, Occidental Petroleum and Sunkist.

The totals have been challenged. Critics say they are inaccurate and based on guesswork. George Ballis, director of National Land for People in Fresno, maintains that it is impossible to list, in accurate order, the biggest private holders of land in California.

Companies such as J.G. Boswell and Newhall Land possess huge tracts of farmland and forest, but diligent digging has failed to come up with reliable figures, he maintains.

Southern Pacific makes no secret about its holdings. It is by far the largest private holder of property in California, most of which it inherited from its predecessor, the Central Pacific, which had obtained numerous grants from the federal government while building a railroad east from Sacramento in 1862 and other lines in later years.

SP estimates that about 450,000 of its acreage is in productive forest areas, 160,000 is in agriculture, and 84,000 is used for the railroad operations.

There's no secret, either, about the value of prime farmland. In the San Joaquin, it has gone up from about \$1,000 an acre a decade ago to as much as \$1,800 today. An acre of land with a healthy crop of Thompson grapes sells for \$10,000; five years ago, the same acre brought \$4,000.

Urban land values also have risen steeply in recent years. Coldwell Banker, a large real estate firm, says that about 3 percent of California has become "urban." The process accelerated after World War II.

Since 1947, according to "Cry California," almost 4.5 million acres of California's most productive cropland has been lost to urban sprawl.

The increases in costs of housing have been well publicized in the Bay Area: Today the average house is worth more than \$50,000, according to a study by the Bank of America.

Over the past five years, rents at shopping centers have nearly doubled, and that has had obvious effects on property values.

The cost for office space in prime areas in downtown San Francisco has risen to \$250 a square foot. That computes to \$10 million an acre. In 1970, the price ranged between \$125 and \$150, or \$5.5 million an acre.

The cost of land affects nearly everyone. The California Real Estate Association estimates that more than 60 percent of "households" in California — that includes single adults — own or pay mortgages on the homes in which they live. And, of course, rents reflect land costs.

BIG SUR CROSSWORD NO.2

by RANDY LARSON

Introduction

For those of you have never worked this kind of crossword puzzle, it's a fiendish sort of thing made famous by the London Times. For some, the solutions will be child's play, while for others it should be a real brain-teaser. In the definitions, which deliberately sound outlandish, you'll find almost anything — puns, anagrams, hidden solutions, all kinds of weird things. Much of the puzzle involves names of people and institutions familiar to Big Sur residents. However, if non-resident subscribers get interested but protest that it's simply too "in" for them to solve, we can always change this and make the definitions and solutions more general.

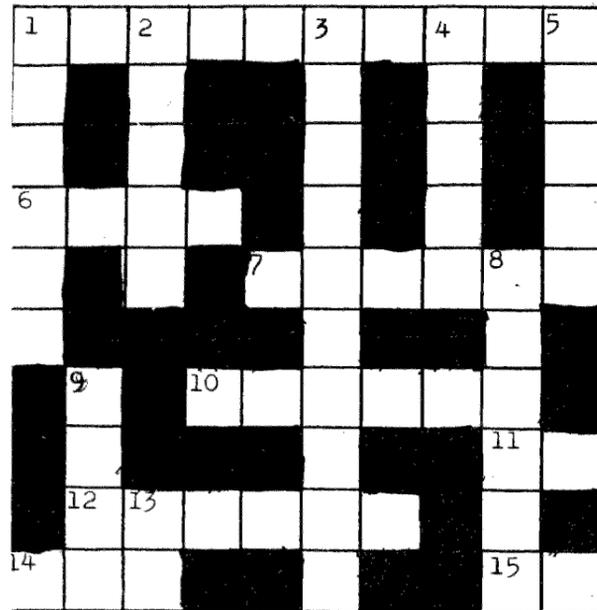
Next to each definition, in parentheses, are numbers that show the number of letters in the answer. When there are two numbers, such as (3,4) the final word is composed of two individual words with the respective number of letters in each. Well, have fun.

Across

1. What happens to a camp when it's been put through a grinder. (4,6)
6. This girl, with a fee, also had a post before she got married. (4)
7. If you've got it in for Esther, you'll probably find trees. (6)
10. The male heir, who went into the Navy, is here when all the tourists come. (3,3)
11. Ugh! If you take that away, you've got no money any more. (2)
12. If you take wood from a motel, all that's left is a little wave. (6)
14. Grandpa D. had one. (3)
15. What a West Point graduate gets to be first. (2)

Down

1. If you didn't write a letter with this candy, it would be a town. (6)
2. How a girl changes her name. (5)
3. The motive, plus the quality of being capable, makes this moderate. (6,4)
4. If you see a nun tied to a tree, what can you do to help? (5)
5. Your banker or creditor worries about this. (5)
8. If it starts with something on the beach, all of it will go on your foot. (8)
9. If it's yours, go ahead and change direction. (4)
13. If you wined, but wed somewhere else, it would be the ultra-modern thing to do. (2)



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Photo by Sean Cassidy.

Museum On Wheels Visits P. V. School

by Michelle Provost
7th Grade

The Museum on Wheels came to Pacific Valley School on Monday, May 1st, to show the children folk art pieces from the Monterey County Art Museum and to teach crafts handed down by folk artists all over the world.

Five years ago, the Monterey County Museum of Art organized a program to collect examples of folk art. The idea was to take folk art to rural areas in order to foster appreciation of our cultural heritage.

The Museum on Wheels is literally — a museum on wheels. It is a big blue truck that goes around to different schools in three counties showing examples of folk art to children.

Their exhibit of folk art comes from all over the world. For example, they showed us a skeleton made out of wood in Mexico which was used during the celebration of the Day of the Dead.

They also displayed a bear playing a piano made out of wood. It was from Russia. There were also dolls made from dried banana leaves that were from Africa. In each case, the exhibits were pieces of folk art from rural areas of the world and were usually used by the maker for personal use.

After they showed us the pieces of art and talked about them, they taught us crafts. The Kindergarten, first and second graders were taught how to make captain's hats and shirts out of paper by Kay Cline, one of the museum's original organizers, and Janet Baxter, an unpaid volunteer.

The third, fourth and fifth graders were taught stitchery by Nan Villanueva, a member of the museum staff. Sylvanah Hertzberg, also a member of the staff, taught the sixth, seventh and eighth graders how to weave baskets out of newspaper.

For the past five years, the

Museum on Wheels has been supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the County Superintendent of Schools.

This year the visit to Pacific Valley School was funded by a local Big Sur resident.

Because of Proposition 13, the County could not pay for the visits this year so the museum staff asked local businessmen to help fund them.

The Museum on Wheels began five years ago when a Monterey resident named Dick Crispo donated 500 pieces of art to the Monterey County Museum of Art. Since then, people from all over the world have donated pieces.

Claire's Cooking Corner

BIG SUR RECIPE



What to do with:

BUNCHES OF BOUNTIFUL BROCCOLI

Some people look skeptically at those who follow a fairly vegetarian diet, wondering how one can get enough protein without regular rations of meat. Here's one out of many simple, scrumptious and satisfying recipes that will give you a well-balanced meal. Serve this for supper with a light, green salad.

I. BROCCOLI: Cut large trunks off broccoli bunches and set aside. While steaming broccoli until bright green and tender, but still slightly crisp, make:

II. NUT SAUCE FOR "NUTS"

Using equal measurements for each ingredient, saute unhulled sesame seeds in butter until lightly toasted; stir in crunch peanut butter (or cashew, etc.); add freshly squeezed lemon juice and some extra — if lemons are sweet — as this sauce should be tart; continue stirring while adding soy sauce and powdered or freshly grated ginger root. When all is well-blended over medium heat, it's ready to pour over steamed broccoli. If you arrange broccoli on individual plates, slice avocado wedges on top of the sauce and serve. Or toss the broccoli in a heated serving bowl with the nut sauce and chunks of avocado.

III. RAW BROCCOLI STICKS

When you "set aside" the large broccoli stems, you hopefully ask a friend to slice off the woody outer layer, revealing the tender heart which is crisply delightful eaten plain or dunked into a creamy dip.

Big Sur Crossword Answers: Across — 1. Campground, 6. Mary, 7. Forest, 10. Season, 11. Do (from dough), 12. Ripple, 14. Inn, 15. Lt. Untle, 5. Debt, 8. Sandal, 9. Turn, 13. In.

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An Indian Youth in Big Sur Upon Finding A Flint Arrowpoint

What were your thoughts, o my brother
Who has tread here so long before I
What was your hearts devotion
The grandeur beheld by your eye
As your gaze swept like wind from the ocean
Through these hills to the blue of the sky?
(But today there's such sorrow, my brother to tell it I cry).

All through this land, o my brother
Where the bones of our fathers have lain
The white man has wrought destruction
He even has ruined the rain
And he calls it "civilization"
And nothing that's wild shall remain
(And they murder themselves, o my brother
as our fathers were slain).

When the wind walks at night, o my brother
I feel you returning somehow
A shape in the smoke of my fire
The rasp of a leaf on a bough
The cry of an owl — then another
O spirit wind leave here now
(Our land is destroyed, my brother
The bull-dozer's plough).

It is lost...lost forever, my brother
Like a dream when awaking from sleep
And the legions of leaves shall smother
And only the earth shall keep
In her heart like a grieving mother
Your memory, buried and deep
(Then she will forget us, my brother
O wind of woe.....weep).

Robert Greenwood

[Editors note: Bob Greenwood claims to have stacks of Big Sur poetry. Here's hoping he'll continue sharing it with us.]

Sitting on a Hillside

i sat out on a hillside

i sat out on a hillside
watching a hawk drifting by
slowly moving on a current of air
watching a man below
sitting silently on a hillside
watching the sky

Jim Clark

HAWK'S PERCH



All contributions to the Hawk's Perch should be typewritten double-spaced, and mailed with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Hawk's Perch, Big Sur Gazette, Highway One, Big Sur, CA 93920.

What I Remember

What I remember now
Isn't what I remembered yesterday.
What I know now
Is what I'm thinking.
And I am thinking of what I know.
So I don't remember what I remembered yesterday.

Mary Vlerogge

[Editors note: Mary, a seventh grade student, is a Big Sur Poet who seems to be listening to the Muse early in life.]

charmed seductress flavoring

she got big for eyes in the band
instrumental vicarious
in her covered wagon dress
and primrose kerchief
up next to the lavender spot-lit stage-edge of folding chairs
cerebral flushed excitement burst
and blush bust of gyro-nubility
puckered kaliedoscopic putty
mimicking the queen
jacked to full-din amplification wah wah
his mouth stuck with erotic glue
to her microphone ear
metallic stomp-footing drummer
flourishing his ecstatic wail
fixed on cymbals
in virtuoso vanilla
a-vamp on her juicy fruit tongue

Peter Cummings

[Editors note: Peter Cummings, a long time resident of Big Sur has recently moved to New York.]

Paths

My heels are getting thin but I don't mind, for I can say they are wisdom worn. The trail is tough though, it winds through the land of diminishing certainties and it crosses many paths of temptation that would be so easy to take and maybe end my journey.

It was easy for Odysseus to avoid the sweet Siren's call for he had his crew to tie him to the mast. I have only my will, and the hope that I have made the right choices and that paradise lies yet ahead; not behind, down a road not taken.

Am I courageous or a fool? Does the illusive river Nervanna lie before me or have I already traversed its gentle waters and not tasted?

Ron Southworth

[Editors note: Ron Southworth is a resident of Big Sur, currently working at Ventana.]

The Prodigious Puffball That Fed Forty



MELISSA MARRON, 3 years old, sits with the giant puffball discovered last month by Michael Drurey. It is shown in its native habitat across the highway from River Inn. This specimen (probably a species of *Lycoperdon*) is possible the largest seen locally, and tipped the scales at 13 lbs. 1 oz. *Lycoperdon gigantea* holds the title for the largest known puffball, which was found in Mellor Derbyshire, England in 1971. According to the 1975 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records, it was 62" in diameter and stood 18" high. Photo by Bob Marron.



JESSE MARRON, 5, a kindergartener at Captain Cooper school, cradles the mammoth mushroom. According to his mother, Lou Marron, chef at River Inn, this puffball provided over 40 meals. It was sliced into half-inch steaks for a "vegetarian New York," sauteed in butter and garlic, mixed into omelets, made into puffball parmagiana, and sauced with noodles for a mushroom stroganoff. Lou advises that puffballs be consumed only when the flesh is white or pink, since they become inedible when the flesh is brown with the maturing spores. Photo by Bob Marron. [Note: Children should never experiment with eating wild plants.]



For The Aware

by Araby Colton

Leg-Hold Traps

If you are one of those who view the trapping of animals to provide people with luxury garments as offensive, you will want to urge our Senators, Alan Cranston, and S.I. Hayakawa to support S. 425 (Sen. Harrison Williams, D.-N.J.), and S. 536 (Sen. Birch Bayh, D.-Ind.). Write Sen. John Culver, D.-Iowa, urging that his committee hold hearings on these bills as soon as possible. Address all U.S. Senators at Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510.

Note: California Congressman Glen Anderson has again introduced his allegedly anti-trapping bill, H.R. 953. In our opinion this bill is a hoax — it

simply gives to the Secy. of Interior authority over the use of the same old cruel traps. We have written Congressman Anderson repeatedly, for his thinking as to how this bill will help the animals, how it could be enforced, with no response.

Elephants —

Far Away but Close to our Hearts

To help stop the loathsome cruel methods of poachers and smugglers who are getting ivory into the United States Rep. Anthony C. Beilenson, D.-Calif., has introduced H.R. 2826 to prohibit the importation of all ivory and ivory products. If you care about elephants write Rep. John Murphy, D.-N.Y., Chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine & Fisheries, and Rep. John Breaus, D.-La., and urge hearings on H.R. 2826 as soon as possible. Urge a "yes" vote. Send a copy of your letter to our Congressman, Leon Panetta. Address all U.S. Representatives at House Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20515



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Kidco Raises New Flag Over Gorda

Shortly before noon, Tuesday, June 5, a flag was raised over the picturesque little coastal "town" of Gorda, located just south of Big Sur overlooking the ocean alongside Highway One in the Los Padres National Forest.

This occurrence at the petite (20 acres, population: 20), unincorporated town in southern Monterey County — which is renowned as a prime spot for viewing whales — was significant for many reasons; not the least of which is it marked the transfer in ownership of Gorda to four young children, ages 11 to 16.

While in most parts of the world, the thought of four youngsters — two pre-adolescence — owning their own town would stretch even the most limited imaginations, most Californians have become conditioned to hearing of the amazing adventures of the "kids" of KIDCO Ltd. Ventures.

Therefore, when word of KIDCO's intent to purchase Gorda made international news last summer (1978), it set the stage for the official dedication ceremony which took place today, highlighted by the introduction of the town's new flag.

The light green flag contains an emblem which bears the inscription "The Great Seal of the Town of Gorda" enscribed in a circle around a replica of the town as viewed from the ocean — with a whale in the foreground.

According to Richard "Dickie" Cessna, Jr. (14), president of KIDCO, the new flag was pictorially designed to reflect the "natural aesthetic appeal" of the quaint town which is located midway between San Simeon and Big Sur.

Founded in 1932, Gorda now contains three businesses — gas station, restaurant and general store — as well as seven houses, two apartments and various equipment storage facilities.

In addition to the unveiling of the new town flag and a "walking nature tour" for those assembled, the dedication was highlighted by an announcement of KIDCO's future plans for Gorda.

In revealing the plans for Gorda, Dickie commented: "We think that Gorda is such a super place because it is so beautiful and has such fine people. We hope everyone who travels between Big Sur and the Hearst Castle on Highway One will stop by and get acquainted."

Towards that end, the youthful president announced that a Recreational Vehicle Park, accommodating 30 vehicles, will be set up on the west side of the highway on the bluff. "It will provide such a beautiful view of the ocean that we know travelers will want to stay with us — and be close to the castle and Big Sur at the same time," he enthused.

Other plans for Gorda outlined by Dickie were: the construction of new headquarters for the Gorda Municipal Electric Co.; renovation of the Gorda Transit Authority (GTA) — the town's sidewalk; and remodeling of the Gorda gas station — with careful attention to the preservation of its "architectural charm."

KIDCO also is contemplating building cabins on the east side of the highway, "nestled among the trees" to accommodate overnight guests. Several of the houses and fixtures are scheduled for refurbishing.

A Company of Kids

Formed in 1976, KIDCO is exactly what its name implies — a company of kids. When it was founded, all four employees and principal officers had not yet reached their teens. Even more unusual, they were all members of the same family, the Cessna's of Ramona, Calif. (San Diego County).

After moving from Harrison City, Pennsylvania, with their parents, Richard (Sr.) and Joan Cessna, to the San Diego Country Estates, a master-planned community located on the outskirts of Ramona, the youngsters undertook numerous odd jobs to earn extra spending money. When these chores produced substantial revenue, they decided to start a formal business so they might learn something about business principles.

With the blessing of their parents, they did so. KIDCO Ltd. Ventures was formed with officers listed as: Richard "Dickie" Jr. (11), president; Jeannine "NeNe" (8), vice president; Bette (10), secretary; and June (13), treasurer.

Shortly after formation, KIDCO was officially incorporated as an offshore corporation in the Cayman Islands, a British Colony in the West Indies. Incorporating outside of the country provided the children with certain tax advantages — but they do pay federal and state income taxes now. On April 1, 1977, KIDCO was incorporated in the state of California — making it, at that time, the only known corporation in U.S. history to be formed, financed and operated by children.

One of the first jobs undertaken by Kidco was picking up cans and debris from the streets in the housing development where they lived. Originally, they were paid \$100 a month to clean up four streets. However, a portion of the profits were lost to payments for renting their father's truck and to a salary to their older brother who served as driver.

At a later point in time, they received a \$250 loan from the developer for 90 days at 8% interest so they could buy a three-wheel Cushman golf cart and eliminate the overhead — their father and brother.

A more profitable venture grew out of a household chore. Richard Sr. serves as general manager of the Western Equestrian Center in the planned community. The youngsters used to help him by cleaning the horse manure out of the stables.

Sensing that there must be more to this unpleasant task than met the eye — or nose — the enterprising kids decided to sell the manure as fertilizer. By letting the manure compost with wood shavings from the stalls, they had a product they could sell as fertilizer to homeowners, gardeners and the local golf course for \$3 a cubic yard.



DEDICATED BY KIDS — The new owners are seen raising 13, NeNe Cessna 11, Dickie mini Town of Gorda recently changed ownership and the a special new flag for Gorda. Cessna 14, and June Cole 16. Pictured are Bette Cessna

After adding a few commercial manure accounts, business boomed and KIDCO grossed an "astronomical" \$3,000 during one month. Unfortunately, success sometimes has its drawbacks as the young entrepreneurs discovered after a San Diego newspaper article reported their exploits.

Being avid newspaper readers, the California Board of Equalization, which administers the collection of sales taxes, took a deep interest in the young corporation. It felt the youngsters should pay back taxes on every inch of manure they sold plus interest and penalties.

Feeling this was not entirely fair, the children decided to inform the press of this "bureaucratic harrassment." The result was a large turnout of the media at the penalty hearing. Noting the public attention that could result, the Board relented and ruled that: sales to homeowners were not taxable but future sales to commercial accounts would be taxable; and back taxes and penalties were not waived, but the Board indicated the matter would not be pursued. KIDCO was pleased!

At this point, President Dickie took note of the major problems which gophers were causing in the area. With counsel from an elderly indian resident of Ramona — who revealed the ingredients of a special homemade pesticide — KIDCO's "secret weapon" was born. Applying this ingenuity, the officers of KIDCO started a new and

lucrative facet to their business.

However, another state agency took a dim view of this business; the Department of Food and Agriculture. The agency demanded that the youngsters obtain a pesticide applicator's license and reveal the secret formula of their gopher-control pesticide so that the state could be sure it wasn't dangerous. KIDCO's Board of Directors voted an emphatic "NO!"

The state countered by sending KIDCO a raft of forms and tests to apply for a license knowing full well that no license had ever been issued to anyone under 18 years of age. KIDCO appealed in writing to Gov. Brown, Ronald Reagan, local legislators and others for assistance.

For a time, the state considered bringing criminal charges against KIDCO. Finally, in "an excellent example of bureaucratic 'buck-passing' ", the agency decided not to prosecute, but to turn the matter over to Gov. Brown for disposition. To date, the Governor has not responded.

In the meantime, the business of KIDCO continues unabated. A "Gopher-Gone" Kit has been created (which doesn't include a pesticide) and will soon be sold through retail outlets; Warner Brothers is preparing a motion picture on KIDCO for release late in 1979; and now KIDCO has bought the town of Gorda and plans to make it a tourist attraction, and a new battle looms over the legality of KIDCO.

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