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RAIN

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KNOWING HOME

Studies for a Possible Portland
Edited by the staff of Rain

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Preface

The 1970s in Oregon could easily be called our Land Use Decade—a remarkable period of citizen activism in which the people of this state squarely faced up to the challenge of rapid growth and did something about it. From our land use planning laws to local comprehensive plans, Oregonians began to put order on the chaos of the sprawling development that threatened to destroy this state's natural heritage and future livability. Today, we are just beginning to accrue the benefits of our foresight.

The times, however, have not stood idly by. The new decade has brought with it a tough set of issues which will only broaden the challenges of the last ten years. We must now grapple with the impacts of increasingly scarce resources, energy and capital, inflated costs of goods and services, and the decline of big government's willingness and even ability to meet social needs. The old growth and quality of life questions have not gone away—they've just gotten more complex. Nowhere is this more apparent than on the local level. The 1980s will require that the grass roots level perform as it has never performed before.

Fortunately for Greater Portland—for any American city—the real creative potential of the '80s will be found in our neighborhoods and communities. This is the simple but profound message of *Knowing Home: Studies for a Possible Portland*. Rich in past perspectives and future visions, this guide offers us an image of a self-reliant city that will help our localities navigate the difficult choices ahead. This is not distant idealism or rigid ideology, but real, sound and humane advice for a city and a society in the throes of rapid change. We would do well to take it to heart and put its vision to practice.

Held rightly, a sense of place is a tool for framing those bigger-than-we-care-to-imagine problems and bringing them back down to local scale. It helps us to focus our awareness on who we are, where we are headed, and what our next steps might be. In so doing, we often discover that the best solutions are those that can be found in our own back yards.

—*Steven Ames*

What the self-reliance movement is saying is that we want our neighborhoods to be the basis of political authority, and we want the small businesses to be the basis of the economic structure of the country. Our vision is that the power flows from below, not from above; that you can only have democracy if people own a piece of the wealth.

—*David Morris*, Institute for Local Self-Reliance, Washington, D.C.

Introduction

This book began more than a year ago as a brief paragraph describing a possible pamphlet on "community self-reliance in Portland." As publishers of *RAIN: Journal of Appropriate Technology* we had long reported to our readers on a nationwide movement among growing numbers of people who were working to make their communities more livable, cohesive and self-reliant places through such strategies as setting up farmers' markets, neighborhood weatherization workshops, community gardens and co-operative businesses. We felt it would be valuable to focus in on the problems and successes being experienced by this movement in one very special community—our own home town.

We soon realized we were on to something bigger and more exciting than we had anticipated. Plans for a pamphlet became plans for a book, and the book became much more than simply a guide to community self-reliance projects in Portland. In hundreds of scribbled research notes, in endless discussions among ourselves, and in fascinating conversations with dozens of Portland people who generously shared their special insights and knowledge, we explored a whole range of challenging questions relating to community values, economics, and ecology. What did we really mean, we asked, when we spoke of our sense of place—our "portlandness"? How could our community "life support" systems—food, energy, transportation, housing, etc.—be tailored to produce a more resource-conserving, ecologically-sound, self-reliant city? How much could Portlanders (or people in any community) really expect to accomplish on a local level during a time of government cutbacks and economic hardship? How much did our self-reliant vision have in common with the conservative image of rugged self-sufficiency and how would it have to differ from that image in order to address the complexities and

interdependencies of late-twentieth century life? How could we prevent a focus on local needs from degenerating into the kind of myopia and meanness illustrated by the oil-rich Texan whose bumpersticker urges drivers to "step on it and freeze a Yankee"? And most vexing of all: would it really be possible for Portlanders and people everywhere to become self-reliant rapidly enough to head off some future call to global war, based on the premise that our survival was dependent on access to some other nation's resources?

In seeking answers to these and many other questions we have come to a much fuller understanding of who we are and where we are in this special place called Portland. Our research has shown us both a community with serious problems and a community in which many people are already working toward some very creative and promising solutions. A vision has emerged in our minds and on these pages of how Portland and other communities around the country can meet the special challenges of the coming decades and become more democratic, more beautiful and more self-reliant places in which to live.

We are excited by that vision. We believe that you will be, too.

—RAIN

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Lynn Youngbar—Portland Sun
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Organizations are listed for identification purposes only.

Dana Olsen

An Oregon Message

When we first moved here, pulled
the trees in around us, curled
our backs to the wind, no one
had ever hit the moon—no one.
Now our trees are safer than the stars,
and only other people's neglect
is our precious and abiding shell,
pierced by meteors, radar, and the telephone.

From our snug place we shout
religiously for attention, in order to hide:
only silence or evasion will bring
dangerous notice, the hovering hawk
of the state, or the sudden quiet stare
and fatal estimate of an alerted neighbor.

This message we smuggle out in
its plain cover, to be opened
quietly: Friends everywhere—
we are alive! Those moon rockets
have missed millions of secret
places! Best wishes.

Burn this.

—*William Stafford*

Ancil Nance

I. A Sense of Place

Communities strong in their sense of place, proud and aware of local and special qualities, creating to some extent their own cultural forms . . . are in fact what one healthy side of the original American vision was about. They are also, now, critical to ecological survival.

—*Gary Snyder,* The Real Work

Knowing Home: The Basics of Bioregions

by Steve Johnson

In a city, the first tier of political involvement is the neighborhood; neighborhoods whose boundaries are sometimes created by natural features (Mt. Tabor), but more often by a combination of land development schemes (Laurelhurst, Ladds Addition), major arterial roadways and other industrial and commercial developments. It is most satisfying to respond to problems at the neighborhood level. We can see and feel the problem, and when we are successful in implementing change, we are gratified with immediate results. Our association with problems beyond this immediate reality are informed through mass media. We are mindful of and concerned with events hundreds and thousands of miles away on a daily (and often more frequent) level; we are not, however, equally empowered to take action that influences these events.

Oregon, 100 years ago, was officially a part of the United States, but its citizens were more oriented to the region they lived in. They were mostly energy and food self-sufficient and could not be as easily affected by political events in another part of the nation or world. This changed with the coming of the railway, and it changed again with the coming of the automobile and eventually the growth of modern mass communication systems. The nation today is bound together through an intricate fabric of interstate highways, telecommunications, and a centralized economic structure, which creates a franchised, or what some have called a "world-wide mono-culture."

As we literally blanket the earth with our enterprises, we create increasingly complicated jurisdictions and boundaries. In cities, neighborhoods become districts, and districts are often separated (as in Portland) by rivers. One citizen may belong to dozens of political entities: In Portland we belong to a city and county and regional government and state. Within the state we may identify with distinct geographic areas. The maritime region of Oregon, west of the Cascades, has a radically different climate and ecology, and therefore a different culture than eastern or southern Oregon. Beyond the state we are considered a part of the Northwest region—Oregon, Washington and Idaho. In some federal government breakdowns we are part of Region X, which includes such unlikely neighbors as Alaska and Hawaii. From other points of view we are one of the Pacific Coast states (Oregon, Washington, California) or we are one of the eleven western states. Problems do not always pay heed to political boundaries. Countless special government units such as the newly formed Regional Energy Council are created to deal with the meandering problems of rivers and streams and the distribution of unequally available food or energy.

Portland is the big city for the state of Oregon. In a pattern that is repeated in many western states, there is one major city, and two or three other medium-sized ones, while the remainder of the state is rural or wild. The Greater Portland area has about one-half of the state's population and uses more than one-half of the energy and resources consumed in the state. It is obvious that Portland is not a self-sufficient community living within the limits of its own resources. The creeks and streams are dried up or encased in drainage pipes. Its farmable land is mostly covered by streets and buildings, and most all of its energy is imported. The city cannot sustain itself without help from neighboring communities, and by regional development of energy, water and food resources.

In many ways, the degree of self-sufficiency of other communities in Oregon has an added direct impact on Portland. If, for example, an investment firm builds a retirement housing development near Bend, it will have some positive economic impact on Portland, as the goods necessary for development and maintenance of life are produced and/or shipped through Portland. The development will also likely have a negative impact on the environment, further taxing the physical capacity of the Portland area by creating additional industrial and transportation-related pollution.

As we expand the city's role as basic life support supplier for other communities, we stretch the limits of the city to maintain its own high quality of life. The detrimental impact on the city is accentuated by the development of cities and towns that have little or no economic viability of their own.

In order to understand how to continue to live in this region, or any region, we must look at how the region functions. We are, as poet Gary Snyder has said, extremely deficient in regional knowledge. There was a while, before Oregon became a part of the franchised and centralized economic structure, when citizens knew about the land, the seasons, and how to carve out a living. We cannot return to this past era, but we can change our direction and look at what kind of life our region is able to sustain.

When we think regionally we can learn, or re-learn, what is available to us within our region, in our community and in our backyard. The information provided may come to us in different forms. As energy costs rise we think

twice about accepting houses designed with another climate in mind. As food prices rise we suddenly realize that gardening need not be only a summer pastime but that food, with simple technological assistance (greenhouses, for example) may be produced year-round. As the prices of nuclear energy continue to rise, we look again at hydroelectric power, a renewable, bountiful and affordable energy supply.

The instructions for how to survive in a particular region are there, but they are obscured by the messages produced by our urban culture. We can listen more attentively, pay attention to the common sense of old-timers, and examine the particular ecological balances of our region, but in order to plan for the future, and to sustain the population even at the present level, we may need some sophisticated planning tools. Bio-regional planning perhaps offers some new conceptual tools for this.

Peter Berg, a bioregional planning consultant and founder of the Planet Drum Foundation (San Francisco), defines a bioregion as:

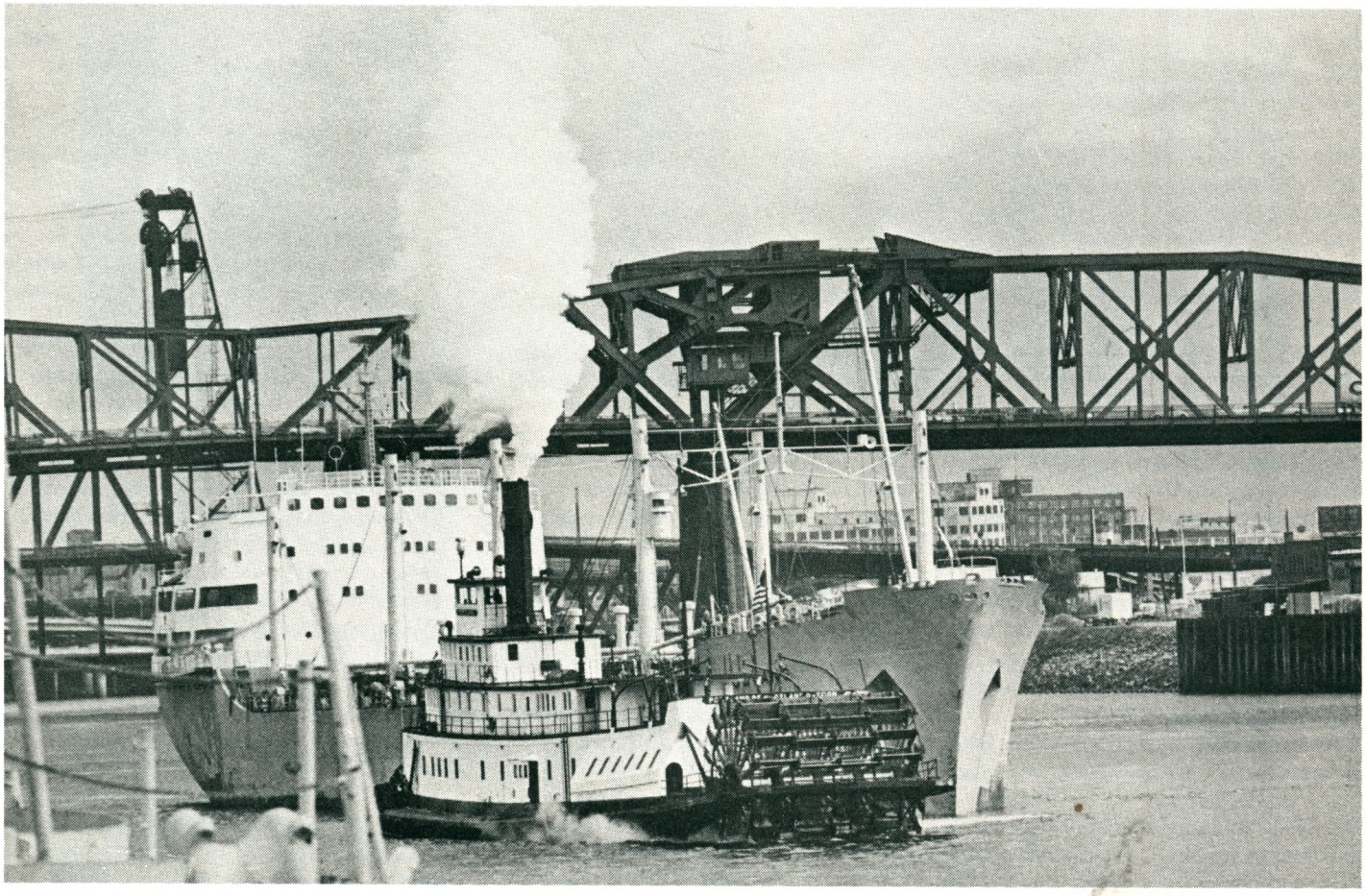
A distinct area where the conditions that influence life are similar and these in turn influence human occupancy. The extent of a bioregion can be determined by using climatology, physiography, animal and plant geography, natural history and other descriptive sciences. The idea of a bioregion, however, is cultural. It defines both a place and adaptive ideas about living in that place.

In *Renewable Energy and Bioregions: A New Context for Public Policy*, Peter Berg and George Tukel lay some groundwork for bioregional planning. The publication was prepared for the Solar Business Office of the State of California, headed by Jerry Yudelson. In the introduction, Yudelson describes what a bioregion is and why it might be important in planning:

The bioregion is a more suitable decision-making unit. A bioregion is a geographical province with a marked ecological and often cultural unity. It is often demarked by the watersheds of major river systems, but can be composed of smaller hydrogeologic or biological units. Since renewable energy resources rely heavily on localized "solar" resources (sun, wind, vegetation and terrain), energy supply planning at the bioregional level makes good sense, for it allows more diversity and flexibility in planning and reduces the potential for conflict between political jurisdictions. The bioregional approach has also been adopted, with considerable success, for controlling both air and water pollution throughout the United States.

Key to bioregional planning is watershed consciousness. The roots to "watershed" start in old English with words related to "parting of hairs." The 19th century sense of watershed came from "parting" (of the flow) or "separation" (of the waters). It meant the boundary line that separated the flow of rainfall. In the United States we call this the "divide." Eventually the meaning of watershed was stretched to include an area of land which drains water, sediment and dissolved materials to a common outlet at some point along a stream or river.

Because waterflow does not obey human desires, it forces humans to



Dana Olsen

join together to control and to use and to re-use beneficially. Because waterflow does not follow human desires or subdivision maps, it creates the need for cooperation. What happens upstream changes life downstream, and the demands of downstream alter upstream activity. From the forested headwaters to the agricultural midstream valleys to the commercial and industrial centers at the river's mouth, good and bad news travels by way of water. Did my drinking water take a farmer's supply, cause his farm to close down and vegetables to be imported to the city from longer distances and at higher prices? Did my toilet flush give a downstream swimmer gastro-intestinal upset?

—*Peter Warshall,* The Next Whole Earth Catalog

Another important concept in bioregional planning is carrying capacity. The concept was originally developed in the field of wildlife management to give definition to the number and types of animals that plant populations could support in a particular area. Used in the study of interactions between human and natural communities, carrying capacity is a method for developing a model of the relationship between the population of an area and the levels of service that can be supported by renewable energy sources, available food, water, air and essential raw materials.

In order to understand the carrying capacity of an area, bioregional resource inventories and energy and raw material consumption patterns must be developed. Such a listing should include descriptions of native plants and animals, climate, soils, geology, topography, water resources, land use patterns, population densities and air quality. Berg adds: "To fully portray bioregional life, a resources inventory also includes domestic plants and animals, and surveys low-energy sources such as solar radiation, wind, moving and standing water, and biomass which can become the basis for determining appropriate energy-generating technologies."

A final aspect of bioregional planning is the place of human culture, and the knowledge that can be gained by living closely with the earth. Using an anthropological concept, "figures of regulation," Berg & Tukel describe the importance of indigenous common sense:

Figures of regulation are cultural ways of expressing information which are necessary to maintain day-to-day stability and to respond to danger signals which indicate disruption of the balance between human activities and ecosystems.

Anthropologist Roy Rappaport has shown how some cultures develop myths and rituals that act as common sense methods for keeping a balanced relation between man and nature. In one tribe that Rappaport studied in New Guinea, there were distinct rituals for regulating relationships with other tribes and nonhuman species that at first glance appear to be nothing more than religious rituals; ways of communicating with the supernatural. Ritualistic conflicts with neighboring tribes are a function of the size of pig herds as Rappaport explains:

A local group signals that it is entering into a truce by sacrificing all but its juvenile pigs to its ancestors. . . . There is prestige to be gained in the eyes of members of other local populations by sacrificing large numbers of pigs. . . . Large pig herds are burdensome because they must be fed, and nuisances because they invade gardens. When women's complaints concerning the labor they must expend in feeding pigs and the nuisance of garden invasions by pigs exceeds a certain point, the limits of tolerance of a sufficient number of people shape a consensus, a corrective program in the form of a pig festival is staged, during which the pig herd is drastically reduced. Garden invasions and women's complaints about pigs are reduced to zero or nearly so, and at the same time obligations to ancestors are fulfilled, permitting the celebrants to initiate hostilities once again.

To rephrase one of the most rephrased of phrases, "it's what you can do for your region and what your region can do for you." We are not taught in our schools about the place we live in terms of an interplay of natural and man-made systems. Such an education would allow us to answer questions like: Where does your water come from and where does it go as wastewater? What watershed do you live in? Where does your energy for heat come from? Where does the food you eat grow?

Ancil Nance

A PORTLAND VISION . . .

First of all, I would like to see this for the year 2000: that anyone who wanted to work would have a job. I would say that is an absolutely critical part of any vision. . . . If you really get at the problems of crime, of fire prevention, of neighborhood deterioration—a lot of it has an economic base.

The second thing I would like to see is that we would be a city which had significantly decreased reliance upon the automobile. People would be relying on buses, light rail, bicycles and walking. The results would be a very good air quality, reduced congestion, and a pedestrian-oriented type of city. This would probably involve several major light rail lines connecting parts of Portland and physically separated bicycle paths and pedestrian ways. There would be a bridge across the Willamette dedicated to bicycles and people.

In the area of energy I would see us being one of the most efficient cities in the United States. We would have retrofitted our houses and businesses and planned our city in such a way that people would live near mass transportation. Businesses would be able to provide more jobs and thrive because they wouldn't have a tremendous increase in energy costs. Consumers would have more money to spend on other things because they wouldn't have to tie up so much of their income paying for energy.

There would be a significant decentralization in the way decisions were made and money was allocated in government. Neighborhood associations and community-based groups would have a lot more control, and this would mean there would be a higher percentage of people who felt they had a vested interest in their community. They would feel they had control over their own lives, over developments in their neighborhoods, and over many of their resources. Along with this, I would see a much higher level of self-sufficiency in such areas as energy and emergency preparedness. I would also see that because the city government would have progressed so far with decentralization and with tapping into the talents and energies of people in the community, it would be financially well off and well run.

Because of full employment and people with a vested interest in their community, there would also be a crime rate that was relatively low. There would be a much greater emphasis in the budget on prevention of crime in the first place than on taking care of it after it happened. This prevention would be in two ways. One would be neighbor helping neighbor—a sense of community on each block making it more difficult to commit crimes. Just as important would be an understanding of the causes of crime. The vast majority are committed by people who are relatively young and we would have more emphasis on youth employment programs. We would also have an improved educational system with greater choices for kids to stay in the system and develop their potential.

—Mike Lindberg, Portland City Commissioner

My heart is moved by all I cannot save:
So much has been destroyed

I have to cast my lot with those
who age after age, perversely,

with no extraordinary power,
reconstitute the world.

—*Adrienne Rich,* The Dream of a Common Language

Bob Benson: Patron of Our Place

by Richard Plagge

During the middle years of the Great Depression, although they were both very poor, Bob Benson and his father bought 150 acres of near-wilderness land on the southwest slope of the Tualatin Mountains, 15 miles northwest of Portland, Oregon. Bob says he is embarrassed to tell how little they paid for it.

Bob still lives on this land, alone now, in the house his father built during World War II, while Bob was away clerking for the army. The outbuildings are crumbling, vines have overgrown the remains of a picket fence which must once have squared off a pleasant little front yard. Just as his father did, Bob runs a few cattle and sells a little firewood—he is still very poor. The land, however, is worth a fortune.

From a certain hilly clearing on Bob's land there is a dazzling view: two huge volcanic cones (Mount Jefferson and Mount Hood) punctuate the distant skyline; beneath them, 30 miles across the rich soil of the Tualatin Valley, the Chehelem Mountains snake their mild way across the low horizon. This valley—where, until the epidemics of the 1830's killed most of them, the Tualatin Indians hunted deer and gathered camas roots, where the very first Oregon Trail covered wagons finally came to a halt—is presently one of the fastest-growing areas in the state.

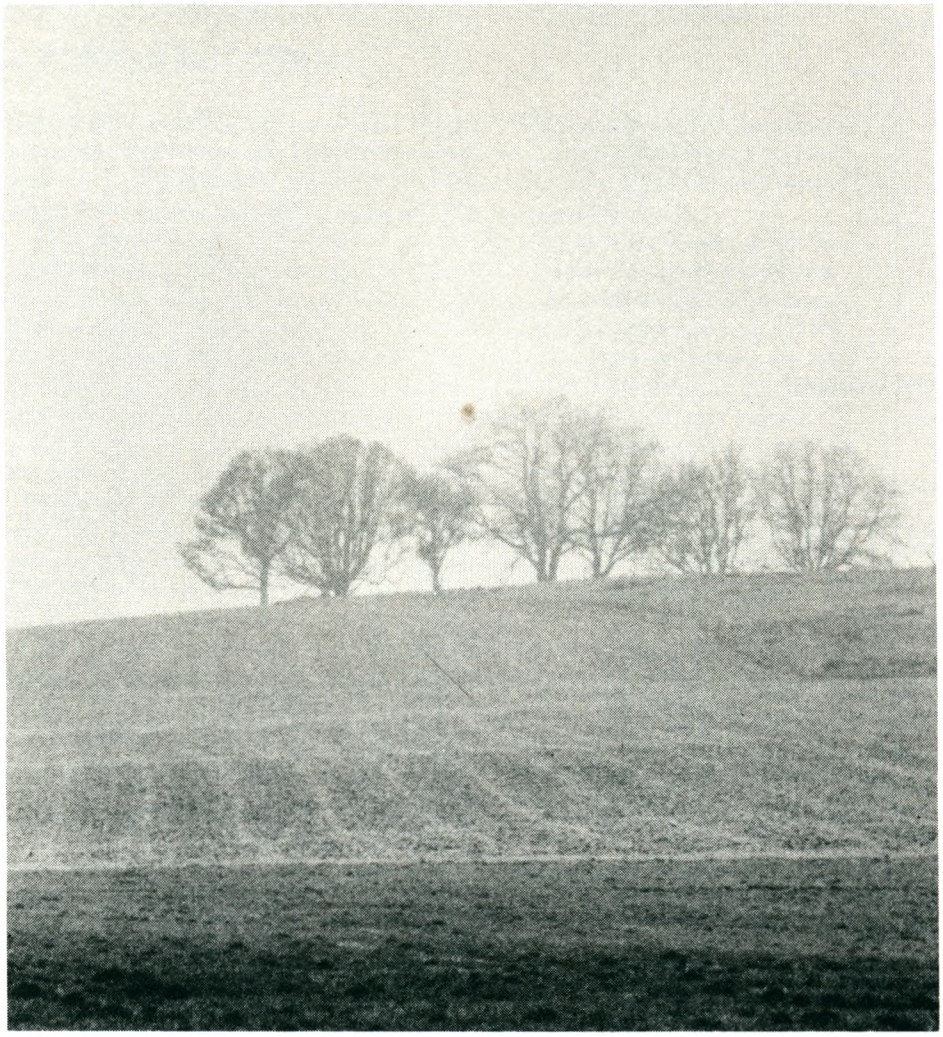
Ambitious suburbanites—who have turned the eastern end of the valley into a typical late-twentieth century jumble of jammed two-lane roads and bleakly similar franchise outlets—have made it clear to Bob that selling his land is a duty. Why then does he remain this odd figure, part awkward hermit, part old-world gentleman, who shuffles through spiffy Beaverton shopping malls in rumpled coat and wrinkled pants, when, with a quick land deal, he could transform himself into . . . a successful man?

Bob was born in 1915 in Portland, where his parents owned a rooming house at East Grand and Davis. His earliest memory is of holding his mother's hand as he toddled across the Sullivan's Gulch Viaduct. In the early '20s, wanting to leave urban life behind, dreaming of "five acres and independence," the family bought a small house a muddy half-mile from the railroad stop at Valley Vista, a tiny community located about halfway between where Bob lives now and the notorious Rock Creek Tavern. Bob's word for Valley Vista's educational edifice, the two-room Rock Creek School which he attended through sixth grade, is "palatial": it had a concrete-lined basement, a furnace, a piano, and even a P.T.A. Bob's parents tried to supplement their income with various ventures: chickens one season, goats the next. Nothing proved to be very lucrative. But then it wasn't a very lucrative town; to be well-off in Valley Vista was to have a retired soldier's pension. On the whole, Valley Vista, a railroad development which had had the bad luck of being subdivided into existence on the eve of the automobile age, turned out to be a disappointing project for its speculator-backers. Sixty years later the place is still small and still muddy.

Bob's father was a carpenter and small-time contractor who read a lot (Darwin and Kropotkin) and liked, as Bob does, to speculate on "the future of mankind." About the time Bob entered junior high the family leased out their Valley Vista place and moved to a cheap rental house in Oregon City, where his father, strapped for money, had taken a steady job. Bob discovered the nature section in the local library: all sorts of bird books, tree books, flower books. He devoured them all, and while he claims that he has never gained a profound knowledge of botany and biology, being able to identify the flora and fauna has been "a pleasure and a comfort" ever since.

Many years later, speaking so softly that his visitors have to lean close to hear him, Bob will point out "lovely rare flowers" with his pudgy farmer's hand:

There's the corydalis, an extreme rarity, related to the bleeding heart but quite different in the detail of the flower: it's gone to seed here, but when the whole thing is a spike of these odd-shaped flowers it's quite impressive. That little fringe of vine with the lacy flower, that's the saxifrage. And there's the native waterleaf. There is also a weed waterleaf from Europe which is very coarse-looking. As you can see the native waterleaf is anything but coarse. I didn't know about



David Brown

Tree island in the Tualatin Valley

that colony of tiger lilies . . . see them? There will be quite a show when they get into bloom.

As Bob grew older the delicate petals of his "lovely rare flowers" would gradually assume the role of threatened protagonists in a dramatic geographic and temporal scenario. Now, in his sixties, he points out that the natural vegetation in his botanical zone is on the defensive, beleaguered by modern technical progress, constantly threatened by monster timber and earth-moving machinery, and by poison spray. The arch villains in this scenario are the sales representatives of poison spray companies whose incomes depend on convincing people, especially officials in Salem, that even if their product should happen to wipe out a native plant or two, there's no reason to join the petty hysteria of the environmentalists. These native plants are just weeds after all, which, when left to their own devices, try to spread their messy way onto (what should be) neatly poisoned roadsides.

Lesser villains in Bob's vision are certain flourishing non-native plant species which now cover acres and acres of Oregon and Washington. "A few newcomers have made themselves right at home here," Bob says, waving toward a gigantic tangle of himalaya blackberries. "They find our climate to be just what the doctor ordered. We must have a care for the native species or they'll be elbowed out by these immigrants. We crowded out the native Indians; we certainly don't want to see the scenario repeated in the plant kingdom."

Bob likes to explain that the North Pacific Coast botanical zone, which extends from about Eureka, California north to Alaska, is either the smallest or the second smallest of the world's 24 botanical provinces (New Zealand might be slightly smaller). He says that there was a time when we could feel more complacent and say "Oh, even if it is a comparatively small botanical area, there's still so much land that there are bound to be holes and crannies here and there where almost anything could escape." But these days we can't be so sanguine about it: "With thousands of bulldozers rumbling about, and with all these poison merchants showing their bright shiny teeth, and treating the officials to banquets and giving them awards and medals for their assiduity in destroying weeds—why some of these valuable species might be lost. And that will be a particularly poignant tragedy, because our botanical zone is rather crucial in the evolutionary process."

Crucial in the evolutionary process? "Yes," says Bob, and at this juncture, when he is about to stretch the taffy of one of his ideas to its tensile limit, about to pull its sticky ends into the farthest reaches of time and space, Bob usually stares at a point on the ceiling above his listener's head, and speaks more softly than ever.

Yes. There is evidence that this botanical zone is the nexus, the most important connection, between the north and the tropics (or subtropics). When the botanical areas of Europe and Asia are pressed southward by ice sheets, as they are from time to time, why the plants are pressed right up against the Alps and the Himalayas with no refuge, no way to get across. Those east-to-west running mountain ranges form an impenetrable barricade. But here, where the mountains run north-to-south, there's easy refuge right down to California for an escape. Then when the ice sheet recedes another age later, the plants can move north again. Eventually they repopulate the northern hemisphere.

The redwoods are a good example. At present they only live south of here, in Northern California. But at one time there were redwoods all over the northern half of the world. Given time, the redwoods will perhaps re-tree the northern continents. So you see, if you wipe out a native plant in Oregon you interrupt a rather significant evolutionary cycle.

Bob's family moved back to their home in Valley Vista just in time to experience the economic terrors of the Great Depression. Too broke to pay for outside entertainment, the family spent its evenings in long discussions with a

recent immigrant from Switzerland. This "Switzer" (as Bob always calls him) was a fanatic on the Single Tax ideas of Silvio Gesell. He knew Gesell's books forwards and backwards, could quote them like a parrot. "In Depression times," Bob says, "almost everyone was thinking somewhat along Gesell's lines. Money wasn't circulating because the big shots were hoarding it. The Single Tax seemed like a wonderful way of forcing money back into circulation." A central tenet of Gesell's philosophy, one which Bob inhaled into his bloodstream, is that all sorts of economic evils stem from a single corrupting root: speculation in land. This is why, for the past 35 years, Bob has snubbed the real estate sharks who come sniffing around his acreage, hoping he will sell.

For a couple of years Valley Vista felt to Bob like the Concord of Emerson and Thoreau, with spontaneous seminars going late into the nights, with words flying so fast that Bob, a high school student, learned to talk monetary theory with the agility of an unusually coherent economics professor. (Bob's knowledge of the technical intricacies of economics still often startles people.) But then a fly, or rather, a spy, entered the ointment in the person of a nosy retired soldier. "Apparently he had us under surveillance," says Bob, "any time we had a visitor he would make up some quick excuse, maybe bring over a squash or something, so that he could see who that visitor was. I doubt that he was anyone's agent because later on we learned that he had been in an insane asylum, had been divorced by his wife for some sort of paranoia. But, who knows, he just might have had a cobweb right straight to the FBI. Anyhow, it just burnt my dad up, and I think one reason he bought the land up here was to get away from this character."

Bob's ideas, on wildflowers, on the ways 50,000 year flood cycles effect Oregon geography, on the myopia of bureaucrats, on the economic theories of Silvio Gesell, always somehow come around to being about "the land question." He often says that the limited amount of public spirit that the human race is capable of must be used where it counts the most: on the land base of our own civilization. For many years he has studied the land holding systems of the American Indians, fascinated by the way they were able to get along without seriously harming the earth. This is why the very idea of public officials condoning poison spray so dismays him: in poisoning the land, Bob feels they violate their most sacred responsibility.

This deep concern with land made mapmaking a natural for Bob. Maps were a hobby from early in his teenage years, but he only began to make them professionally when he was in his thirties. There were some troubles in his local fire district. Firemen would fling themselves onto their trucks and roar out, sirens wailing, only to discover that roads marked on the Gay Nineties maps they were using no longer existed. This situation came to a head when firemen watched an old woman's house burn to the ground across a huge un-mapped gulch at the end of Myers Road. Someone on the fire board got wind of the fact that this guy Bob Benson could draw a map.

For about ten years he had a little map business in a rented office in Hillsboro, a blueprint machine, the whole works. He tried manfully, says Bob, to get a successful company going, and did produce a surprising number of maps: of Hillsboro, of Washington County, of Sauvie Island. But somehow, for reasons Bob has never quite figured out, he was never really efficient. Maybe, he says, it was a certain laziness inherited from his paternal grandfather, a Minnesota Swede so captivated by the 10,000 lakes that he focused his life on fishing. "One can't do one thing entirely anyway," Bob says, "unless he's a sort of automatic producer. The boss cracks the whip at eight o'clock and you just keep on producing until five. You know, I can't do that."

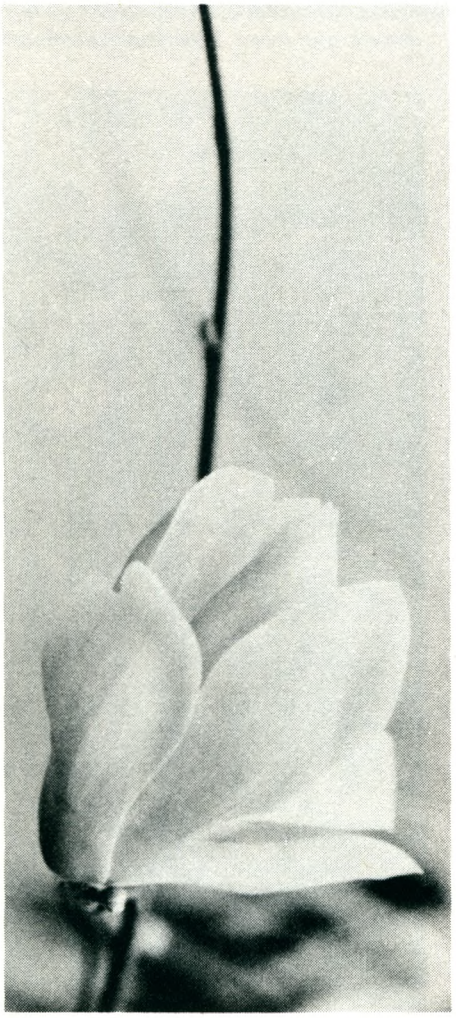
But when he closed down his little business Bob did not stop making maps. There is the wonderfully precise map of Indian dialects that was selected for the prestigious Oregon Historical Atlas. And there is the elegant multicolored map that gives such a clear image of the Northwest Maritime Climatic Region: imagine that you are looking south from a point two miles up in the air to the north of Vancouver Island. The island looms huge underneath you in the foreground; the Pacific Coast, with its inlets at the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Columbia River, is a fine curving pen line to the right; to the left the line of volcanos, each drawn in as a satisfying little mound, disappears toward California. In the upper left the following message appears on a huge cloud, written in Bob's neat, straightforward calligraphy:

ON A RARE DAY OF PARTIAL CLEARING, CLOUDS SEPARATE TO REVEAL THE MARITIME NORTHWEST. ON THE EAST, THE CASCADE RANGE PROTECTS IT FROM THE THIRSTY PLATEAU. ON THE WEST IS THE PACIFIC.

To the right, in the crescent formed by the Pacific Coast, a second cloud contains this message:

SOUTHWARD THE SISKIYOUS AND TRINITY ALPS PALISADE THE MARITIME NORTHWEST AGAINST THE BARE BROWN HILLS AND BURNING PLAINS OF CALIFORNIA. NORTHWARD, THOUGH MARITIME CLIMATE PERSISTS, AGRICULTURE CEASES, TURNED BACK BY MOUNTAINS THAT RISE FROM THE SURF.

The Maritime Region map illustrates one facet of Bob's mind, the ease with which it can get up above and see the lay of the land, the broad patterns. But he is



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equally fascinated by the specific and concrete, a focus perhaps best illustrated by the astonishing article (published in the Washington County Historical Society Journal) entitled "The Tualatin River, Mile By Mile." Beginning at the mouth of the river (Mile Zero) he takes his readers on an incredibly detailed journey along its banks, giving one paragraph for each tenth of a mile. For example:

1.7 Fields Bridge, takes Highway 212 across the river. I remember it as a covered bridge, but the modern replacement is an ordinary concrete span. There used to be tree swallows, an uncommon species, nesting in a bank near the bridge. Perhaps they still do. Just upstream from the bridge is a gauging station.

3.33 Harris Bridge, where Farmington Road (Highway 208) crosses. The dips where wagons gained access to the ferry can be seen a few rods south of the bridge. West of the bridge a furlong or so was Farmington, with a historic church and store. Both have disappeared but the community's picnic grove, long owned by the church, still rises forlornly behind the old site. Commerce has fled to the east side of the river, where Twin Oaks Tavern, at the River-Road–Highway 208 crossroads, enjoys an active till.

Bob's knowledge of the area he grew up in is uncanny. He sees things on several levels at once so that you sometimes feel you are riding in a car with some kind of X-ray machine that is equipped with a time-shift module. "We are now passing over a latitude line," he says. Then, a moment later, "This road used to climb the grade up towards that farmhouse, but in '48 when this new highway went through, the state managed to finagle an easement through here." Or: "That big boulder over across that field is probably an erratic which floated over here in a chunk of ice during one of the post-glacial floods."

Bob loves to make inventories. He has produced lists (often accompanied by maps) of prize-winning trees, water falls, mineral and hot springs, of unique botanical areas, nudist beaches, endangered species. "Non-Parks in Oregon" is a list of still-up-for-grabs places that a sensible society would have preserved a long time ago.

Bob is usually working on several inventories at once. He even has an inventory of proposed inventories. One of his indexes (to Washington County sites of historical or ecological interest) runs to 1100 cards. It's not easy to grasp the meaning of this list-making obsession. In part it is playful: Bob, the kid-adventurer, searching out the highest waterfall, or the biggest tree. He will spend a whole day wandering about a foothill of the Coast Range looking for the remains of a historical road. But in a deeper sense Bob wants his list-items to lose their invisibility so that they begin to appear on the maps used by the bureaucrats and the realtor/developers. He despises the outside developer's perspective of the land, which, he feels, tends to see only the survey lines and the profit potential; which ignores the pretty waterfall, the vestiges of an Indian dancing ring, the 100-year-old farmhouse. The 1100 sites mentioned in his card-file boxes are what, in Bob's view, give his county its texture: erase

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them and you are left with a sprawl of roads and buildings, denatured and without history.

Some of Bob's projects can seem rather eccentric, what you might expect from a hermit-intellectual-mapmaker-dreamer-farmer-ecologist. Head-in-the-clouds stuff. Once he got curious about whether or not a replica of Stonehenge (built by the son-in-law of a railroad magnate, it sits on a bluff high above the Columbia River) possesses the mathematical qualities of the original. His 50 or so pages of calculations indicate that it is a few degrees off. Another project was a chart illustrating the location of star constellations for the next five hundred years.

But when he learns that one of his beloved places is threatened he can move into the valley with practical authority. A 1971 letter to Riviera Motors, a large Portland Volkswagon dealer, begins:

Gentlemen:

One of your officers was quoted in the press as seeing "no problem" in the fact that the Five Oaks tract along the Sunset Highway in West Union is prime agricultural land. Your Volkswagon installation on this acreage, while welcome from many points of view, forms an entering wedge for the destruction of one of Oregon's very few areas of highly productive soil. There are people who do not look on this as "no problem."

Bob goes on to point out that "nobody in your organization seems to have made any public comment" on the presence of the Five Oaks—"the gathering place of the earliest independent farming community of Americans in the West"—on this tract of land. He suggests that the trees, "if left standing as a center of attraction, will pay developers many times over [in favorable publicity] for the small space that they occupy." Riviera Motors responded by naming their development "Five Oaks Industrial Park" and agreeing to preserve the trees. "This is about the best you can expect," says Bob, who feels that a sensible society would have turned the area into a state park.

An inventory that Bob made up in 1968, "Notes On Natural Areas, Trails and Landmarks in the Portland Area," has this entry:

BIG CANYON is mostly Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land; the tract was logged in the thirties, but the bottom of the canyon was only lightly damaged and many big firs were spared. A group of botanical enthusiasts, reinforced by some local botanists of standing, are pestering BLM for a ten-acre natural reservation to preserve the canyon-floor flora, once so common, now so rare. Access only by special permission through private property.

Five minutes to three, a misty afternoon in 1978: Bob Benson removed a shapeless brown hat from his very round head as he shuffled into a gray barracks-like building in Tillamook, headed for a BLM hearing on the fate of Big Canyon. He was feeling "nettled" that he had been notified too late to attend a previous meeting which, he has heard, was attended by many loggers and no botanists.

Wedging his roly-poly body uncomfortably into a retired school desk at the very back of the meeting room, still holding onto his hat, Bob took a look about the room. Three or four BLM guys, sharply dressed in cream-colored shirts and wide neckties, bustled self-importantly about, carrying cups of coffee. The other desks were empty. Standing next to a map of Big Canyon, which was ensconced on an expensive-looking easel, one of the young men began the presentation, talking more to the other BLM people than to the plump man in the back row, whose socks seemed to be slipping toward his battered old shoes.

When Bob raised his hand he looked like a large round fifth grader. "Yes?" said the lecturer, a tinge of impatience in his tone. Looking not at the young man, but off to the side, Bob, in his soft, clear voice, began to explain that there were a few problems with the map. The road at E-6 wasn't, he didn't think, there anymore, though there was a road near there until a mudslide washed it out around 1928. And were they aware that there was a nice little waterfall on that creek at about F-9? He went on in this vein until, in a couple of minutes, he was talking to an absolutely quiet room.

A couple of people padded over to join the lecturer at the map. They stared at it curiously, as if they hadn't seen it before. A man hovered next to Bob, waiting to ask if he wanted his coffee dark or light. Bob was asked a lot of questions. He explained that his organization, The Tualatin Valley Heritage, felt that it was important to protect certain rare wild flowers which grew along the streambed in Big Canyon from the logging companies. The young men assured him that they shared his feelings, that the BLM would make every effort, etc, etc.

Later, on the drive back to Portland, Bob was asked if he thought the BLM people were sincerely concerned about the flowers in Big Canyon. "I believe that there's enough of a leavening of really dedicated people that quite a bit might be done," he answered. "But you never know because there's always the other moiety that has its eye only on the main chance, which in this case means pleasing the big shots, the big timber producers." When it was suggested that his manner at the meeting had really wowed them, Bob said, "Oh sure, they have a certain respect for me in a small way, but it can't be a very big respect because I'm sure it didn't escape their notice that my group is rather small and weak. In the report they turn in on this meeting about Big Canyon a notation hidden in the fine print will make it clear that disapproval from the Tualatin Valley Heritage is not something to lose much sleep over."

It Wasn't Ever the Flowers

Not the delicate jowls of the opium poppy.
Not the wax goblet of the burgher-economy
tulip. No more than it was the starry blue
of the great camas meadows, but when
the settlers plowed under the lilies, it
touched off the Nez Perce War.

—Vi Gale

Bob Benson on the Tualatin Indians As Told to Richard Plagge

A common tongue, not political organization, united the 20 or so tiny Tualatin Indian villages that were scattered about the valley: on the rare occasions when the whole linguistic group did want to discuss something they would meet on the western edge of the valley, at Gaston, next to a huge oak tree. This tree lasted until just a few years ago, when it was bulldozed to make way for Highway 26, the main route from Portland to the coast.

The Tualatins knew how to hammer stone wedges into cedar logs, or even into live cedar trees, in just the right way to split off the nice planks with which they built their houses. A bride who could offer a dozen tried and true planks as a dowry was considered a real catch because her groom would have half of the great labor of building a house behind him.

The Tualatins were on good terms with the Chinooks, river Indians who lived just over the Tualatin range, along the Columbia. One hears of Tualatins going across to the Portland area to fish and pick camas bulbs. Friendly, too, were the coastal Tillamooks who allowed the Tualatins a little vacation campsite near Nestucca Bay. (The campsite was not quite on the open ocean though, for these were inland people who would not have known how to predict high tides.) The Clatskanai were another story: unsociable and clannish, they would sometimes attack and kill the careless Tualatin who wandered a little too far north into their Nehalem Valley territory.

Though they lived in a valley that, upon the arrival of the whites, would soon become a nexus of economic and political power, the Tualatins were a poor, unaggressive tribe, mainly worried about where the next meal might come from. In a world without agriculture a great rich-soiled valley doesn't mean very much. The power center in Indian times was a couple hundred miles northward, around Vancouver Island and coastal British Columbia, where the Nootka's and the Kwakiutls garnered a food surplus from innumerable inlets packed with easy-to-harvest protein.

The Tualatins probably didn't have to pay tribute to the powerful northern tribes. Nothing formal like that. But they did have to worry about slave-raids, about being captured and sold to the middlemen who operated a complicated slave economy which served to carry inland victims to the chiefs of the coast.

On rare occasions the Tualatins would cash in on the slave trade themselves. Bob tells a story of a young Tualatin chief who, just bursting with ambition, frantic to impress his Chinookan in-laws (he had just married into the Chinookan aristocracy), rounded up a gang of young rowdies and led them on an up-state slaving expedition. They managed to capture a number of victims whom they dealt to the British Columbia traders.

The first major disruption of the Tualatin way of life was in the early 1830s when a Yankee trading vessel dropped anchor at various points along the Columbia. On board were several active cases of malaria. There were plenty of local mosquitoes of exactly the right type to transfer the disease to a few Chinook Indians on the shore; somehow—the Tualatins did, to a certain extent, intermingle with the Chinooks—the germs were then carried over the low mountain range into the valley.

This first epidemic was devastating. Within a few weeks more than half of the Tualatins were dead. And the lucky survivors were not home-free: four out of five of them would perish later on, uncomprehending victims of other white-introduced microorganisms.

The remnant Tualatins tried to maintain a going way of life, but it was hopeless. Weak with fever, confronted by greedy, vigorous white people telling them they had no rights at all that had to be respected, they retreated first to their ancestral center around Gaston, and then, finally, to a sour-soiled plot of unwanted land in the foggy valley of the South Yamhill River. In this sad environment, the Grande Ronde Indian Reservation, most of Western Oregon's inland tribes faded out of history. No one, today, speaks the Tualatin language.

Thus the early settlers of northern Oregon, the farmers and the missionaries, proved themselves to be almost as skilled at the task of erasing Indians from a landscape as were the ruffians and jailbirds, the gold hunters, who first settled southern Oregon and Northern California.

When It Rains It Doesn't Pour

I've reached the land of rain and mud
where flowers and trees so early bud.
It rains and rains both night and day
in Oregon, it rains always.
Oh Oregon, wet Oregon,
as through the rain and mud I run,
I look about behind around
and see the rain soak in the ground,
I look about and see it pour
and wish it wouldn't rain anymore.

Oh, Oregon girls, wet Oregon girls,
with laughing eyes and soggy curls;
They'll sing and dance both night and day
'Til some webfooter comes their way;
They'll meet him at the kitchen door
Saying "wipe your feet or come no more."

—Manuscript from the Randall U. Mills Archives,
University of Oregon

Where Currents Merge: The Maritime Northwest

by Steve Johnson

Ten thousand years ago the last great advance of ice had peaked and was declining. Most of Canada and much of the United States was covered with ice and snow. But even then the area we call the Maritime Northwest, a thin strip of land 100 miles west to east, and extending the length of British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and northern California, was relatively moist, more humid than today, and green.

The glaciers extended into Washington, but in Oregon did not reach out much beyond the higher elevations of the present Cascade mountain range. The storm track, bringing moderate marine air into the region, was eight degrees further south than it is today. The climate of western Oregon shifted accordingly and was more like the present day climate of the British Columbia coastal area.

It was this narrow strip of land that allowed the migration of tribes from the Asian continent; with its north and south running mountains, the green belt of land also allowed for the migration of plants and animals, throwing their seed forward in advance of the glaciers, like a vital dossier, keeping their DNA instructions just ahead of extinction.

The effects of the glacial activity are still visible in both Washington and Oregon. The North Cascades remain uncovered by earth, and this region is today the largest glaciated area in the continental United States. Puget Sound is the result of glacial flooding that covered a series of river valleys. The Scablands in eastern Washington are the result of a flood that emptied a lake one-half the size of Lake Michigan out over the eastern part of Washington, down the Columbia River, and up the Willamette. This same flood rushed out across Washington, through the Columbia Gorge and, at the confluence with the Willamette, was deflected up the valley, creating a lake (400 feet deep) extending as far as Junction City in Lane County.

Deposits of material transported from such floods fill the valley floors of the Maritime, creating sometimes shallow topsoil on top of undigested upper elevation material (gravels), or deposits of very fine material, known in the geological trade as "rock flour."

The Maritime has many characteristics that remain constant throughout, but there may be as much climatic variation within the region as there is between the region itself and other regions.

Coastal Region

Running north and south is a thin strip of flatland that extends between the high tide and the Coast Range. The flow of flat and rolling land on this strip is interrupted by jutting rocky headlands, made of more resistant material, laced between sand dunes and flooded river valleys, where harbors open up to the sea and most of the coastal people live.

The air off the Pacific Ocean moves

east past the flatlands through small valleys, past rounded and often cut-over hills, where alder and salmon berries and upstart Douglas firs bask in weeks and years of drizzle, and over the Coast Range. In Oregon the Coast Range mountains rise to an average of 3,000 feet, from just south of Bandon, where the Coquille River Valley is separated from the Umpqua River watershed by the beginnings of the Klamath/Siskiyou mountains, north to the Columbia River.

The Olympics

North of the Columbia River the Coast Range continues, almost merging with the Cascade Range, separated only near Longview/Kelso by the Cowlitz River which flows south into the Columbia. Further north begin the Olympics, separated from the mainland by Puget Sound, rising over 3,000 feet above the normal elevation of the Coast Range and containing the only glaciers in a coastal mountain range in the continental United States.

Siskiyou/Klamath Region

To the south of the Coast Range in Oregon, the mountains of the Coast and the Cascade ranges merge to form what the locals sometimes refer to as the country of Jefferson, a higher plateau, where mountains come down to the sea's edge and where the Eastern Oregon and Maritime blend of climate and environment create a mixed, almost New England-like forest with both hard- and softwood trees.

Valleys and Lowlands

Running mostly north and south, between the Coast Range and the Cascades, there appear many valleys and lowlands. In two of these areas, the Puget Sound lowlands and the Willamette Valley, two-thirds of the people of the entire northwest region (Oregon, Washington and Idaho) live and work.

The Puget Sound lowland is the remains of a valley which flooded as the glaciers retreated. The San Juan and Gulf islands, and the large Vancouver Island, are remnant highlands, tossed about in the water like ill-fitting picture puzzle pieces. Sew the land back together and the Puget Sound lowlands would be a river valley similar to the Willamette Valley.

South of Puget Sound lie several smaller river valleys. The largest is created by the Chehalis River, which flows west to meet the Pacific; while others, the Cowlitz, Toutle, Kalama and Lewis rivers flow to meet the Columbia. Mt. St. Helens is sentinel for the area; engineers operate, using bulldozers as surgical tools, on the damaged watersheds from the mountain's recent eruption.

Fifty miles south of Mt. St. Helens, the Columbia and Willamette Rivers come together, creating a lowland that is separated from the Tualatin Plains on the west by the Tualatin Mountains and on the east by the foothills of the Cascades. On the south the area is separated from the broader expanse of the Willamette Valley by the near convergence of the Cascade foothills and the Tualatin Mountains. This is the greater Portland area and the beginning of the Willamette Valley.

The Willamette Valley

The Willamette Valley separates the Coast Range from the Cascade Range, between the Columbia River on the north and the Siskiyou/Klamath mountains on the south. It is approximately 100 miles long and 40-50 miles wide.

The drainage area of the Willamette River is 11,000 square miles, which represents 11.7 percent of the land area of the state, while containing two-thirds of the state's residents.

It seems likely that before native Indian habitation the valley was more completely forested, filled with alders, cottonwoods and maples along streams, and lodgepole pine covering the rest.

By the time the early white explorers and settlers came to the valley, the vegetation was altered. The settlers found open prairie land. The native Indians conducted annual burnings of vast stretches of the valley, and earth records reveal that these intentional burnings dated back at least as far as 1647.

It is thought the burning was a form of game management. Deer and other animals were forced to graze on the remaining unburned areas where they could be easily hunted. Honey and grasshoppers became easier to harvest, as well as the seed of the sunflower plant and the tarweed, which was referred to by the white settlers as "wild wheat."

Early white settlers were surprised by the burning just as today's newcomers to the region are surprised by late summer air pollution from grass field and forest slash burnings:

It is probable we did not yet know that the Indians were wont to baptise the whole country with fire at the close of every summer; but very soon we were to learn our first lesson. This season the fire was started somewhere on the south Yamhill, and came sweeping through the Salt Creek Gap. All our skill and perseverance were required to save our camp. As the shades of night deepened, long lines of flames and smoke could be seen retreating before the breeze across the hills and valleys.
(Jessie Applegate, 1844)

The Willamette Valley is actually a broad flatland with several distinct sections. From the beginnings of the Siskiyou/Klamath Mountains, south of Eugene, and north of the confluence of the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers, the valley floor is narrow and flat, only occasionally interrupted by a few volcanic buttes.

Further north, near the junction of the Santiam River and the Willamette, several hills intrude on the valley floor: the Waldo Hills on the east and Eola Hills on the west. Just north of Salem the valley opens up, reaching its maximum width and flattest terrain. Here the Pudding and Molalla rivers flow into the Willamette, while from behind the Eola Hills, on the west, the Yamhill River, for a short period an important transportation river, flows east also to meet the Willamette.

Past the junction of the Yamhill River, near Newberg, the Willamette curves toward the east to skirt the southern edge of the Chehalem Mountains, a short spur of the Coast Range (1,000 feet elevation at Bald Peak), which separates the Yamhill River from the Tualatin River.

Greater Portland Area

Here, on the west, we pass into the Tualatin Plains, and into the Greater Portland area through its western gate.

The Tualatin Plains

The valley created by the Tualatin River is about 200 miles square. Today it is home to some 200,000 people. It is a microcosm of the Willamette Valley surrounded on all sides by hills and

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mountains. The settlement of the valley has spread out across the lowlands; developers, taking advantage of the "cheapest" landscape, displace farms along the way.

The Tualatin Plains are separated from the Yamhill River by the Chehalem Mountains, which act as an additional buffer from the moisture-laden storms passing through the Coast Range. At the peak of the mountains the annual average rainfall is 54-55 inches, whereas only several miles northeast near Aloha on the Tualatin Plains, the annual average rainfall is 38 inches. Compare this to downtown Portland with an annual average rainfall of 46 inches.

Oregon City

Past the junction of the Tualatin River, the Willamette Valley narrows down to a few miles in width. On the west the Chehalem and Tualatin Mountains come close to the river's edge, while on the east a ridge of the Cascades, which separates the Molalla and Clackamas river watersheds, comes close to the shore of the river as it falls 30 feet at Oregon City.

Here both salmon and settlers have come to rest; the salmon do not naturally make it past the falls, and the settlers stopped here, forming Oregon's leading city in the 1840s. But Oregon City was not destined to continue its primary role due to its restricted physical site and inaccessibility by river for larger boats.

Oregon City is the southern gateway into the Greater Portland area and, because of prevailing wind patterns, has some of the highest air pollution readings in the area.

Clackamas River

As we move downriver from Oregon City, the Tualatin Mountains begin to take hold of the landscape on the west side of the river; on the east side the Clackamas River joins the Willamette. The Clackamas passes mostly through a narrow channel, seldom given a chance to meander in its 80-mile journey.

The town of Estacada, 30 miles southeast of downtown Portland along the Clackamas River, is the last outpost before the Cascade Mountains. The climate of Estacada is a far cry from downtown Portland, with 100 fewer days in the growing season and 15 inches more annual rainfall.

Above the Clackamas on the north and south are plateaus punctuated by higher hills. On the south is an open prairie area which in former days was referred to as Horse Heaven Ridge. Just west of McIver Park is an excellent viewpoint of the brief Clackamas River Valley. To the north of the Clackamas, the westward expansion of Portland creates an incongruous mix of berry farms, tree nurseries and post World War II housing developments.

Both plateaus, especially Horse Heaven Ridge, are under the influence of the Columbia Gorge winds, and both have more rainfall and snow accumulations than the city of Portland. Gresham, for example, several hundred feet above the elevation of downtown Portland, experiences about 55 inches of rainfall annually.

Columbia Gorge

The Columbia Gorge commences graphically at Troutdale, a small community just above the Columbia River floodplain and at the confluence of the Columbia and Sandy rivers.

West of Troutdale, the east wind, as it is simply referred to, fans out over the flatlands of suburban east Portland. During January the wind can sweep through Portland, trapped between the bluffs north and east of Vancouver, Washington, and the hills of far southeast Portland (Mt. Scott, Kelly and Powell buttes), rush toward the Tualatin Mountains and (sometimes) bully its way over the Tualatin Plains and clear across the Coast Range. But more often

Bird's Eye View of Portland Area
Key to Symbols

The Greater Portland Area Map has letters which represent types of features, e.g. B stands for historic buildings, D for dams, etc. After each named feature in the list below is a letter and number. To locate the feature on the map, locate the spot on the map where the number and letter intersect, using the border as a guide.

The area described as the little Sahara (J-P, 1-3) is one of the driest areas in the Willamette Valley and has the only natural occurrence of ponderosa pine trees in the valley.

Predominant winds in this area would not normally blow the smoke in the direction illustrated on this map.

a Arboretums
- Clackamas Cmy College T12
- Hoyt J5
- Sinclair (pvt) E6

B Buildings, Historic
- Ainsworth House S10
- Baker Cabin P15
- Bybee-Howell House F3
- Caples House, Columbia City D5
- Cedar Mill P.O. (Young House) J2
- Fanno House L2
- Ft. Vancouver Natl. Mon. G7
- Holmes House (Rose Farm) S10
- John Tigard House N1
- Lancaster House D6
- McLoughlin House Natl Hist Site R10
- Pittock House J5
- Sweek House (Willowbrook) Q2
- White-Kellogg House T9

D Dams
- Ariel C9
- Balch Creek J5
- Beaver Lake T15
- Oswego Lake N7-P7
- Oswego Iron & Steel Co. River Dam R6
- Swift Creek C14
- Yale C13

F Falls and Rapids
- Bonnie Falls D2
- Cedar Mills Falls J2
- Clackamas Rapids Q9-Q10
- Clackamas Whitewater Q10-Q11
- Lucia Falls D12
- Marble Creek Falls C10
- Moulton Falls D13
- Salmon Creek Falls E13
- Willamette Falls R9

g Gardens
- Berry Gardens M7
- Bishop's Close M8
- Crystal Springs Lake (rhododendrons) K8
- Eden Gardens K3
- International Rose Gardens J5
- Japanese Gardens J5
- Klager Gardens (lilacs) D6
- Leach Gardens L12
- Lindum (rhododendrons) J4

G Geological Features
- Carver Cliffs and Chasms P14
- Cave of the Winds (pvt) D12
- Coalca Pillar U7
- Honey Hollow Lava Tubes J4
- Sullivan Gulch Flood Channel J9-J10

h Historic Places
- Ft. William site F2
- Gladstone Chautauqua site P11
- Lewis & Clark sites
  - Camp by Postoffice Lake E5
  - Camp at Nechakolee (Blue L) H14
  - Clark's St. Johns camp G4
  - Clark's Point of View H5
- Luelling Orchard M8
- Oswego Smelter Furnace N7
- Pearson Airpark (Soviet Airmen's Monument) G8
- Willamette Stone J4
- Woodham Grist Mill D9

M Museums (except for 7 downtown)
- Astronomy Center G4
- Clackamas County Museum R10
- Grant House, Officers' Row G8
- Lelooska's Indian Museum C9
- Nature House M6
- OMSI K5
- Trojan Visitor Center C5
- Washington County Museum H1
- Western Forestry Center J5

R Recreation, mainly water sports
- Battle Ground Lake SP D 11
- BLue Lake H15
- Cathedral Park G4
- Clackamette CP Q10
- Cook Park (City of Tigard) P2
- Daybreak CP D9
- Elk Rock Island M8
- Hebb CP U6
- Henrici Bar D5
- Izaak Walton Beach E5
- Kelley Point (Port of Portland) F4
- Lewisville CP D10
- Marine (Vancouver) G9
- Marshall Beach (pay park) E4
- Mary Young SP Q9
- Moulton Falls CP D13
- Paradise Point SP D7
- Reeder Beach (pay park) E4
- Riverside CP P12
- Tomahawk Island G7
- Willowbar Islands E5
- Wintler Park (Vancouver) G9

r Routes, Historic
- Boone's Ferry Road N5
- Foster Road M15
- Jason Lee Trail E1
- Logie Trail F1
- Military Road M7
- Plank Road (Canyon-Walker) J1-K4
- Scholl's Ferry Road (Hy 210) M1
- Taylor's Ferry Road ML7-P1

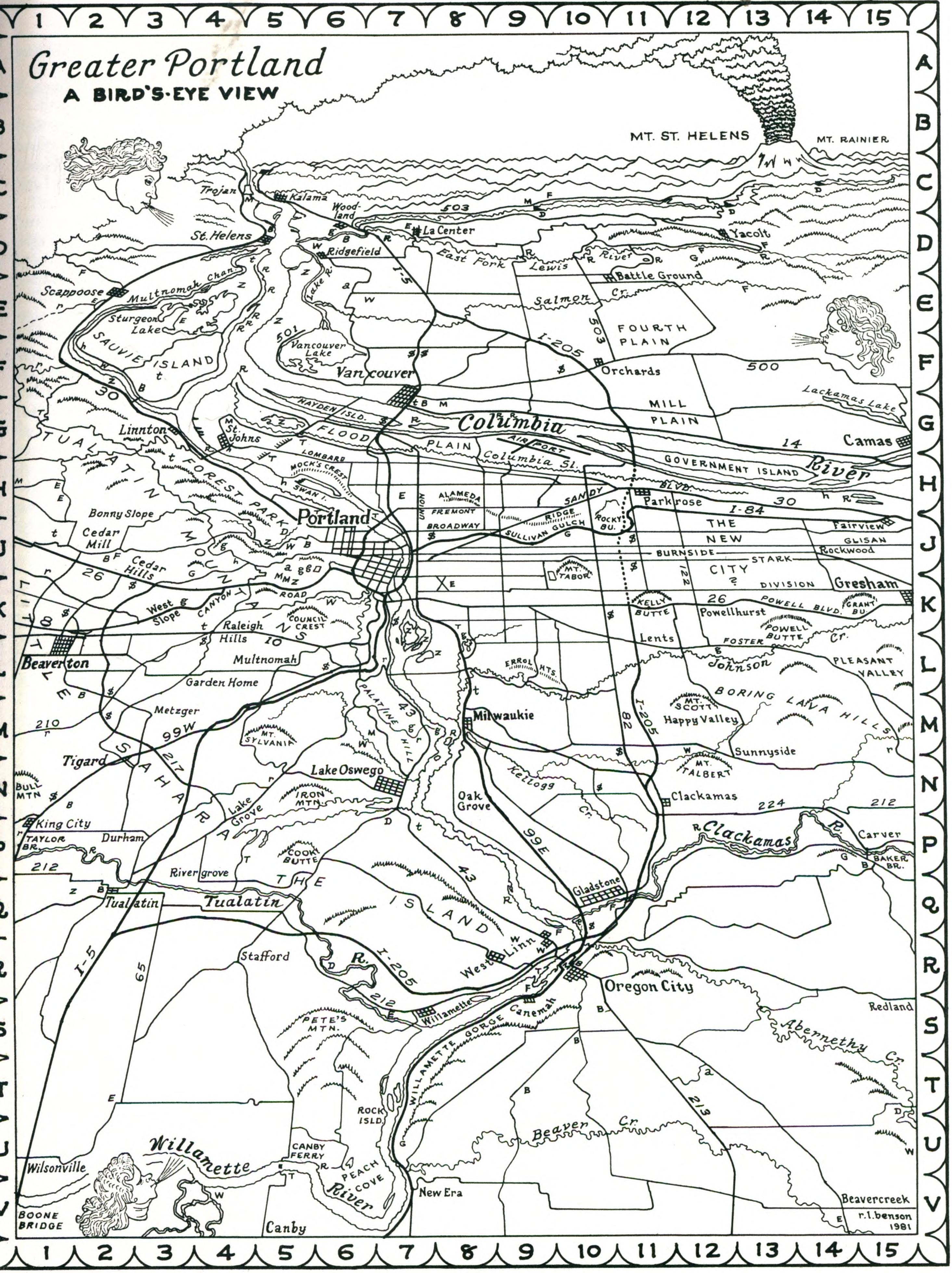
$ Shopping Malls
- Beaverton (Bernard) K1
- Burlingame L6
- Canterbury N1
- Cedar Hills K3
- Clackamette Q10
- Eastport Plaza K10
- Gateway J11
- Hazel Dell F7
- Jantzen Beach G7
- John's Landing-Water Tower K7
- Lloyd Center J8
- Mall 205 J11
- North Clackamas M11
- Progress L2
- Raleigh Plaza L4
- Vancouver Mall F10
- Washington Square M2
- Westwood Center N10

T Transportation
- Albina Yards H7
- Brooklyn Yards K8
- Canby Ferry U5
- Cornelius Pass Tunnel G1
- Lake Yards H6
- Oswego Canal P4
- Peninsula Ditch (B.N.) H5
- Peninsula Tunnel G5
- West Linn Locks R9

t Trees
- Abernethy Elm Q10
- Champion Ash D5
- Champion Butternut K4
- Glenmorrie Street Trees P7
- Milwaukie Redwoods L8
- Oak Ridge Oaks F3
- Presidential Grove (firs) H3
- Teufel Pine J1
- Vancouver Apple G7

W Wild Areas
- Abernethy Creek Old-Growth U15
- Camassia R9
- Forest Park H4
- Macleay Park J5
- Marquam Gulch K6
- Middle Grounds (U.S.) D6
- Pudding-Molalla Delta SP V4
- Mt. Scott Creek Canyon M12
- Tryon Creek SP M6
- Virginia Lake F2
- Whipple Creek CP E7
- Wilderness Park (West Linn) Q9-R9

Z Zoology
- Government Island H12-H13
- Hardtack Island L7
- Oaks Bottom L7-L8
- Pittock Bird Sanctuary J5
- Rafton (cranes) F2
- Ridgefield Wildlife Area (U.S.) D6
- Ross Island (herons) K7
- Shillapoo-Vancouver (WA game dept) E5
- SIGMA (Sauvie Isld) (OR game dept) E4
- Smith Lake G5
- Tualatin Wetlands (Hedges Creek) Q1-Q2
- Zoo K5


Greater Portland
A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW
MT. ST. HELENS
MT. RAINIER
Trojan
Kalama
Woodland
St. Helens
La Center
Ridgefield
East Fork
Lewis River
Yacolt
Battle Ground
Salmon Cr.
Scappoose
Multnomah Chan.
Sturgeon Lake
Sauvie Island
Vancouver Lake
Vancouver
Fourth Plain
Orchards
Mill Plain
Lackamas Lake
Hayden Isld.
Flood Plain
Columbia River
Airport
Columbia St.
Government Island
Camas
Linnton
St. Johns
Lombard
Mock's Crest
Swan I.
Tualatin Forest Park
Bonny Slope
Cedar Mill
Cedar Hills
Portland
Union
Alameda
Fremont
Broadway
Sandy Blvd.
Ridge
Sullivan Gulch
Rocky Bu.
Parkrose
I-84
The New City
Fairview
Glisan
Rockwood
Burnside
Stark
Division
Gresham
Mt. Tabor
Canyon Road
West Slope
Council Crest
Raleigh Hills
Beaverton
Multnomah
Garden Home
Kelly Butte
Powellhurst
Powell Blvd.
Grant Bu.
Powell Butte
Foster
Lents
Johnson Cr.
Pleasant Valley
Errol Hts.
Boring Lava Hills
Mt. Scott
Happy Valley
Sunnyside
Metzger
Milwaukie
Palatine Hill
Mt. Sylvania
Tigard
Sahara
Lake Oswego
Mt. Talbert
Kellogg Cr.
Clackamas
Oak Grove
Bull Mtn
King City
Iron Mtn.
Lake Grove
Durham
Taylor Br.
Cook Butte
Clackamas R.
Carver
Baker Br.
River grove
The Island
Tualatin
Tualatin R.
Gladstone
West Linn
Stafford
Oregon City
Redland
Willamette
Canemah
Willamette Gorge
Pete's Mtn.
Abernethy Cr.
Rock Isld.
Beaver Cr.
Canby Ferry
Peach Cove
Willamette River
Wilsonville
Boone Bridge
Canby
New Era
Beavercreek
r.l.benson 1981

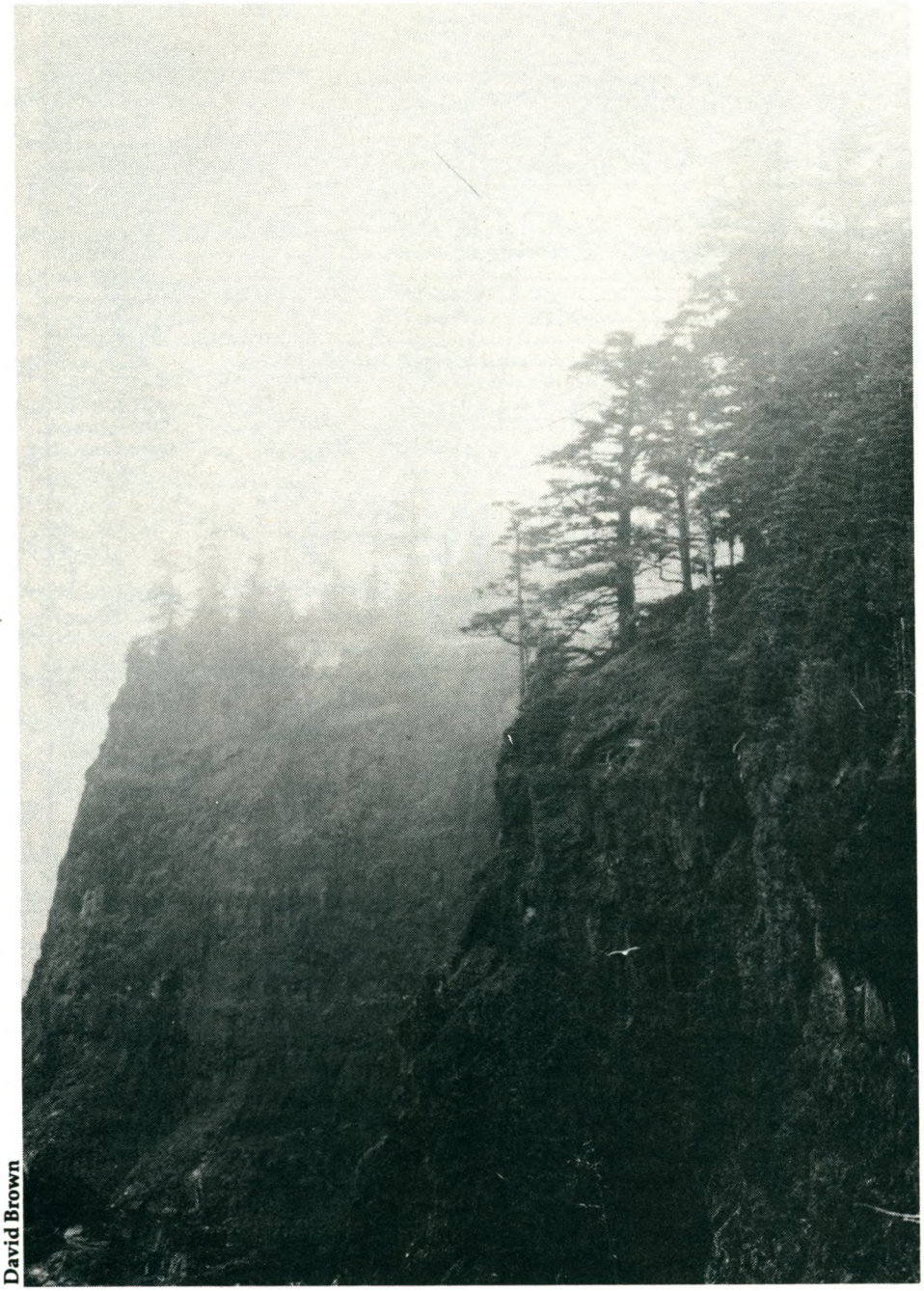
the winds are felt only in the Gorge, with significant differences in frequency (and strength) of the wind appearing even between Troutdale and the Portland International Airport only eight miles distant.

Columbia River Floodplain

Along the Columbia between Troutdale and the river's junction with the Willamette are the lowlands of the Columbia floodplain. Before the settlement of Portland extended its grasp, the flatland was more laced with entrenched river-water ponds and sluggish sloughs. The wetlands, once called home by millions of malaria-carrying mosquitos, are mostly gone. The Bybee and Smith Lake area probably most resembles the previous state of the floodplain.

At the actual junction of the Willamette and Columbia lies Sauvie Island, a rich delta area that, without mountains and volcanos in the distance, could be mistaken for a midwestern farm area. The island is the largest island in western Oregon and contains the largest natural lake, Sturgeon. In the middle of Sturgeon Lake, this largest lake on the largest island, is an island—Oak Island—where large oak trees stand guarding a place where Indians came to seek spiritual awakening.

From the northwest corner of the Portland International Airport, northwest toward Sauvie Island, is the most dramatic rainfall shadow area in Portland. The average rainfall here is 38 inches, compared with 46 inches in downtown Portland.



David Brown

Vancouver, Washington

The city of Vancouver, site of the earliest settlement in the region, is in a small bowl bordered on three sides by mountains. East of Vancouver several plains, like steps, ascend toward the Cascade Mountains. There are more fogs here than in the rest of the Greater Portland area and frosts have been recorded all year round.

The New City

Stretching between the actual city boundary of Portland and Gresham is Oregon's third largest (but unincorporated) city. The area is predominantly flat but gently rises from downtown Portland toward the Cascades. As moisture-laden air ascends once again it drops increasing rain on the land, resulting in slightly higher rainfall than in downtown Portland.

North Portland Peninsula

The Willamette River bends away from its northward flow through Portland near Sullivan's Gulch (Highway I-84), flowing from there southeast to northwest until its junction with the Columbia.

At the point where the river bends to the west, I-5 straightens out and begins its flow due north toward the Columbia. The neighborhoods to the west of I-5—Overlook, Arbor Lodge, Kenton, University Park, Portsmouth and St. Johns—are pinched between this man-made barrier (I-5), the high ridge along the Willamette (Mock's Crest), and the Columbia River floodplain.

St. Johns, the "capital" of the area, feels a world apart from Portland. In 1898 it lobbied successfully to separate from Portland, and it remained separate until 1915. Even today, St. Johns mumbles under its community breath about seceding.

Some of the area lies within the rainshadow of the Tualatin Mountains and therefore gets slightly less rainfall

than downtown Portland.

Northeast

From the shores of the Columbia the land rises 200 feet to the ridge where the Alameda, Beaumont-Wilshire and Rose City Park neighborhoods are built.

There are few tree islands* in the northeast, except along the Alameda ridge and down 100-150 feet into the Irvington and Grant Park neighborhoods.

The lowland neighborhoods—Piedmont, Woodlawn, Concordia, Humboldt, King, Sabin, Eliot and Hollywood—are exposed to the sun with less obstruction from hills, trees and close buildings. During the summer, a Tualatin Mountain shadow resident on the west side of the Willamette experiences several hours of cooling conditions after the sun has passed behind the ridge, while the lowlands to the southeast and northeast are still in full daylight.

*Tree Island: areas with more natural or man-made expanses of vegetation.

River Bend

The Willamette River bends in two places in Portland. In the north the University Park, Arbor Lodge, Overlook and Eliot neighborhoods border Mock's Crest, where Lewis and Clark surveyed and reported on the Willamette River. The land drops down to Mock's Bottom and Swan Island, a pattern that is duplicated further south where Sellwood, Westmoreland and Brooklyn border Oaks Bottom.

At the Oaks Bottom river bend are Ross and Hardtack Islands, home of Portland's only Blue Heron Rookery. The area neighbors one of Portland's most extensive patchworks of tree islands.

Southeast Tree Islands

Oaks Bottom is separated by only a few blocks in the Sellwood neighborhood from Crystal Springs and Johnson Creek, the tree islands of Eastmoreland and Garthwick, the headwaters of Crystal Springs at Reed College, the golf course greenways of Waverley, and the parks of Eastmoreland and Johnson Creek, Tideman Johnson and Westmoreland.

There are two other notable tree island areas in southeast: Laurelhurst and Ladd's Addition. The Laurelhurst neighborhood encircles the park and its small, spring-fed lake like a large amphitheater. Under Ladd's Addition is a cleverly disguised small watershed. Old maps of Portland (1868) show many springs in lower southeast starting around 12th and Hawthorne and running south to Reed College—all now dried up or encased in metal drainage tubes.

Southeast Lowlands

Northeast Portland is separated from Southeast, according to the street grid, by Burnside, but the decisive natural feature is Sullivan's Gulch (I-84). Between southeast and northeast there is a cement maze that includes several of the city's major thoroughfares (Sandy Blvd., Broadway, I-84) and other developments (Lloyd Center, Memorial Coliseum), to create one of the heaviest air pollution areas in the city.

Southeast Portland slopes up from the river in a series of steps that are most noticeable when bicycling up or down Belmont or Hawthorne streets, and which reach out toward Mt. Tabor (the only extinct volcano in a major American city) and the hills (Boring Lava rock formations) of far southeast.

The gradual climb from the Willamette provides some parts of southeast Portland with south-facing slopes. Although the founders of Sunnyside neighborhood had only promotion in mind—"on the sunny side of the river"—the area happens to be at the center of some of the best solar real estate in the city. Far enough away from the shadow of the Tualatin Mountains, with large lots and a predominantly low-profile residential, rather than tall commercial, character, it provides good prospects for solar retrofitting of houses. Further east and south, in the Errol Heights and Lents neighborhoods, several slopes provide due south exposure to low winter sunlight and some protection from blistering east winds.

Southeast Hills

South and southeast of Mt. Tabor more hills arise: Mt. Scott and Errol Heights to the south, Kelly and Powell buttes to the southeast, and other hills which roll out toward the Clackamas River.

The hills experience more rainfall—50-54 inches compared to 46 inches in downtown Portland. Some of the area is more exposed to the east wind, while the hills also provide slight protection on the west side near Milwaukie.

Some of the highlands, especially Errol Heights, provide low and moderate income people one of the few viewtops not dominated by wealthier development.

Tualatin Ridge Shadow

At the base of the Tualatin Mountains (sometimes referred to as the West Hills) lie the neighborhoods of Linnton, Goose Hollow, Corbett, Terwilliger and Lair Hill Park. The bench between the river and the ridge is narrow at both ends (at Linnton and Corbett-Terwilliger) and at its widest in the northwest industrial area, lower northwest and downtown.

The northwest industrial area was once an extensive marshland with Guilds Lake at its center. Several small streams fed the marsh; only Balch Creek still flows, separating lower Northwest Portland from Forest Park. Other creeks included Tanner's, which crossed Burnside at about 13th, and Johnson Creek, which started in the same area as Tanner's Creek on Kings Height.

The Corbett-Terwilliger area had a similar, but smaller, marshland near the Marquam Gulch, where several springs came together, including Ennois Creek, which flowed to the Willamette near Sheridan Street.

Downtown

Downtown Portland is situated on a small hill that rises gradually up from the Willamette, rising more sharply in the south near Portland State University. The "heat island" effect of an urban environment is most noticeable here; heat from buildings and automobiles, and the slower radiating quality of cement, create a distinct micro-climate. Temperatures at night here may be 10-15 degrees warmer than at Beaverton, west of the Tualatin Mountains.

Tualatin Mountains

When the great flood of ten thousand years ago rushed into the Portland area it met only a few obstacles, such as Rocky Butte and Mt. Tabor, where it deposited undigested glacial material; rock and gravel that is now being mined at the Lavelle landfill on 82nd Avenue.

The water crashed against the Tualatin Mountain ridge but left little of the material on the steep slopes. Since then, gooshy topsoil has come to a tentative rest. It has proved to be good for gardening but often slippery for houses and roads.

Along the ridges, up the eastern slope, along small ravines and at natural benches, houses have been built. The tree islands here flow one into another. Streams, now dry most of the year, have created ravine after ravine, and the green feet of the ridge stick out into the city like headlands on the coast out into the sea.

Rainfall amounts increase from 38 inches on the floor of the Tualatin Plains on the west to 46 inches on the ridge of the mountains, with the highest amounts being recorded just slightly over the eastern side of the ridge. Clouds hang on the ridge, pretending to be fog, as storms pass through the area.

The Maritime Climate

Living in the Maritime Northwest is sometimes like living in a frog pond. The pond in the summer is a pleasant, cool place to live, and in the winter it is damp and moist.

Although the latitude is far north (Portland, for example, is at the latitude of Montreal), the Maritime has striking similarities to a sub-tropical climate like that of the southeastern United States.

Walking through a typical rain forest, like those found on the western slopes of the Coast Range, one can easily imagine the few characteristics that might be tampered with that would change our maritime region into a sub-tropical one. Raise the temperature annually 15 degrees, push the humidity level up, and create some thunderstorms rather than drizzle, and it is easy to imagine the local critters such as the alabaster salamander growing to science-fiction proportions and turning into alligators.

There are some obvious differences that help define the climatic region. The Maritime experiences its largest daily temperature range during the warm months when the skies are clear. In a sub-tropical area (and in fact over much of the eastern United States), rain pours; here it drizzles. During a typical rainy day in winter we may only get two-tenths of an inch of rain. The Maritime climate is also unique in that we receive about half of our rainfall within three months—November through January. Most regions in the United States receive more or less equal amounts of rain year-round. The humidity level of the Maritime is more comparable to the sub-tropical. However, our highest humidity levels occur at night, and our lowest levels correspond to the hottest part of the day.

Portland's Climate

Portland's climate exhibits most of the general characteristics of other inland valleys in the Maritime; cloudy and moderate. There is less fog in the Portland area than further south in the

Willamette Valley; Eugene, for example, has twice as many foggy days.

There are three primary characteristics about Portland that differentiate its climate from the more typical inland maritime valley:

1. The Columbia Gorge allows more continental air to move in from the east. In fall this creates warm and dry "east wind weather"; in winter Portland gets more than its share of transition weather such as freezing rain and "silver thaws."

2. Portland is a "heat island." The cement buildings and roads radiate heat slowly at night.

3. The major part of Portland is in a bowl surrounded by hills which trap air and pollutants, saved only by our eastern chimney—the Columbia Gorge—which draws air in and out of the bowl.

Season by Season

April—the Transition to Spring

April is the transition from winter to spring. The sky breaks up (slowly) like ice on a lake, exposing cracks and patches of blue in the quiet gray quilt. In February and March there are almost five inches of rain a month; in April two and a half inches fall. The nights are finally shorter than the days.

May and June—Gray Spring

In April about 30 percent of the winds come from the north/northwest. In May and June it is up to about 55 percent, and by July, our warmest month, over 70 percent of the winds come from the north/northwest.

June is a deadend month. The continual flow of storms coming over the Pacific since October slows down. The interior, east of the Cascades, has warmed faster, creating a thermal low in the Maritime valley regions which, like clockwork, every late afternoon and evening draws the mostly rainless Pacific air over itself like gray flannel pajamas.

July, August and September—Summer

From June to July occur some of the most dramatic changes of the year. Through the spring we average a gain of two hours of actual sunny conditions per month (except for June, which is a standstill month) and then July hits and we gain an average of 3½ hours of actual sunny conditions per day. The rainfall average for July sounds like a Chilean desert report: .39 inches for the month.

The ocean temperature is actually highest in August (low 60s). The effect of this is felt in September and October, when we experience "Indian Summer." As the sun gets lower in the horizon, the land cools off, while the Pacific Ocean, a boundless thermos, is relatively warmer and therefore draws air from east to west. By the time the air reaches the Maritime it has warmed up considerably, passing through several mountain ranges and picking up degrees while descending into lower elevations.

October—Transition to Winter

From September to November the monthly rainfall average increases over four inches. In October the amount of available sunlight decreases dramatically. In September there may be seven hours of sunny conditions per day; whereas in October the average is down to a little over four hours.

There is more fog in October (and November) and the winds, as in April, may be strong and come more or less equally from all three primary directions (south/southwest, south/southeast and north/northwest).

November, December, January—The Dead of Winter

During these months we get half of our annual average rainfall. There are about 15 hours of darkness a day and slightly less than two hours a day of sunny conditions. Over 50 percent of the winds come from the south/southeast, bringing in cold continental air from east of the Cascades. Any snow that falls in these parts is likely to fall now (six out of an average eight inches annually).

February and March—False Spring

February and March are more alike than February and January. The rainfall average per month diminishes to five inches from 6½ inches average for the previous three months. Very little snow falls (½ to 1 inch per month).

From February to April the winds take a three-quarter turn, with the dominant direction changing from south/southeast to south/southwest to north/northwest.

The gray and drizzle seems to let up for awhile sometime in February and March, but as surely as the rain it returns, and natives size up the remainder of their wood supply to make it through the gray spring.

From Oregon on a Slightly Less Green Leaf

Sorry. We don't use nature poetry. Ours is an urban society.
—Eastern editor, 1959

May we see some more of your ecology poems?
—same editor, 1975

I'm still here, barefoot and lank-haired,
at the rocky edge of the same ocean
studded with arches, caverns and stacks.

My song is about what it was. Thorny.
Low-key as wild blackberry vines circling
old logging spars on the burns.

Inland, the same native rockroses hug
their volcanic ground under high desert sky.
At night you can still breathe in the stars.

But you had a point. We lobby and legislate,
preserve dunes, purify rivers, save rain
forests, religiously lug back the beer bottles.

At that, pollution now hangs over snowcaps.
Dams and ladders threaten our salmon. Freeways
kill neighborhoods. Towns choke on themselves.

–Vi Gale

The City That Might Have Been

As E. Kimbark MacColl travels around Portland he sees the city not just as it looks to us today, but also as it looked to people who were here in 1940 and 1915 and 1890. As author of two excellent local histories, The Shaping of a City: Business and Politics in Portland, Oregon 1885 to 1915 *and* The Growth of a City: Power and Politics in Portland, Oregon 1915 to 1950, *MacColl has a unique perspective on land use planning (or the lack of it) in our city's past. He shared the following thoughts in an interview with Richard Plagge.*

Results of . . . laissez-faire are still all around us. . . . The city had a hell of a time when it wanted to put the municipal docks in, because the railroads had accumulated control of a good portion of both sides of the river. Southern Pacific fought the city for years in getting off what is now Barbur Boulevard. They used to run steam engines right through the center of town.

Up to the 1920s, or even the '30s, a company could locate just about anywhere it wished and hell be damned what anyone thought about it. Sullivan's Gulch (site of I-84) is a good example. It would have made a natural residential area, adjacent to Laurelhurst. But the Oregon Railroad Navigation Company ran a track through it back in 1880. Over the years, several companies located along this railroad until, by World War I, the gulch contained an enormous conglomeration of large factory operations. There was no public policy to limit the growth of these companies, no zoning at all. Finally, you end up with the present situation: a swath of heavy industrial operations running through a residential neighborhood . . . an incompatible mix.

Land-use is basic to everything we're talking about. Our society can't exist much longer with land ownership maintaining its sacred quality, where you can do anything you want with your land provided you don't literally bring death and destruction to your neighbor. Obligation to the public is going to have to accompany the purchase of land.

We've gotten away with this kind of development over the years because there was always more land, always more energy—we could somehow waste and still get away with it (at tremendous *social* cost, of course). But the noose is starting to tighten. We simply won't be able to afford this lack of planning much longer.

In a local community [in the United States] a citizen may conceive of some need which is not being met. What does he do? He goes across the street and discusses it with his neighbor. Then what happens? A committee comes into existence and begins functioning on behalf of that need . . . All of this is done by the private citizens on their own initiatives. . . .

— *Alexis de Tocqueville*, Democracy in America

An Idea Whose Time Has Been

by John Ferrell

When Dr. John McLoughlin established Fort Vancouver in 1825, he determined that the new post, across the Columbia from present-day Portland, would not be dependent on distant sources of food. He brought 27 cattle from another Hudson's Bay Company fort and secured a few potatoes, two bushels of peas, a bushel of wheat, a bushel of barley and some Indian corn. He stipulated that none of the cattle could be slaughtered (except one each year to supply rennet for cheese) until the herd was built up sufficiently to serve the needs of the fort. In the meantime, fish, venison and wild fowl would have to suffice. By 1828, both the cattle herd and the small initial planting of grains and vegetables had multiplied enough to meet McLoughlin's goal: community self-reliance in food production.

That the settlers who followed McLoughlin and established the new city of Portland in the 1850s were self-reliant to some extent goes without saying: it was a condition imposed upon them initially by geographic isolation. But did the same spirit carry over to the more civilized Portland of the late 19th and early 20th centuries? To learn how citizens worked together to solve Portland's problems in an earlier day, we will focus on events which occurred during two years: 1893 and 1933. The theme which ties these two years together (and also makes a link to our own day) is one of response to unfavorable economic conditions. In both of these years, there was a new president in the White House, working to restore national prosperity at a time of financial panic and high unemployment. In both years Portlanders were joining together—through their churches, labor unions, ethnic associations, clubs and neighborhood groups—in many innovative programs designed to combat economic hardship and meet community needs. The special spirit of self-reliance evidenced by Portlanders in 1893 and 1933 was frequently reminiscent of a similar spirit among the city's earliest settlers. It was also remarkably predictive of the spirit shared by many present-day Portlanders whose community activities are described in the Resources Section of this book.

1893

The volunteer fire fighters of the Sunnyside Hose Company were faced with a serious dilemma: how could they continue their essential service to the community now that the city had cut off their $20 monthly appropriation? They had depended on this small stipend to pay for coal oil, wood, repairs and janitorial services needed in their neighborhood firehouse, and now they were being forced to dig into their own pockets as well as show up at fires. The company scheduled a meeting for September 20 to consider what action to take regarding withdrawal of the appropriation.

But as City Fire Commissioner J.H. Steffen reminded them, times were hard. The Sunnyside Hose Company was not being discriminated against; there simply wasn't enough money to go around. A new president, Grover Cleveland, was attempting to grapple with a nationwide economic crisis and Portland, for its part, was faced with the effects of local bank closures and widespread unemployment.

Conditions had changed drastically in a few short months. In January the Portland Chamber of Commerce had heard its president, George B. Markle, Jr., exclaim that the city was experiencing its "highest level of prosperity." Indeed, it was easy for Portland's business leaders to be smug. In recent years the city had witnessed the founding of many new banks, installation of the Bull Run water system, completion of three bridges across the Willamette, and the awarding of a number of street railway franchises. As *Oregonian* editor Harvey Scott had observed in 1891, Portland was a "well balanced civic and social organism": it had no dirty industry, little permanent unemployment, and few unassimilated immigrants except for the Chinese.

It was abundantly clear by the latter half of 1893 that the civic and social organism had grown seriously ill. Jobs were drying up and laborers were searching for some means to feed their families. Where could they turn for relief? The *Oregonian* had a ready answer: "there are no poor in Portland who need to be hungry or cold," it assured its readers. "Our rich men have always shown beneficence of a large and judicious kind."

Indeed the "rich men" were contributing generously to the charities which fed the city's destitute. But many Portland residents clearly did not believe that *noblesse oblige* was sufficient to deal with either the economic crisis or the other needs of their community. The movement for change in Portland extended to labor rights, neighborhood improvement, control of local resources, access to education and the empowerment of women.

Labor

The working people of Portland were seemingly too stunned by the events of 1893 to know immediately how to react.

Oregon Historical Society

S.E. 33rd and Belmont looking east.

In July, representatives of a number of labor unions met to consider consolidating their strength by forming a central worker's organization, but for many people who suddenly found themselves jobless, a more pressing concern was basic survival for themselves and their families. There was little rise in crime during this period, according to local historian Joseph Gaston, because of the "well organized methods" of Portland's private relief organizations.

What eventually mobilized many of the city's unemployed was Coxey's Army. "General" Jacob Coxey, an Ohio resident, proposed a national march of jobless people on Washington to impress the president and the Congress with the need for unemployment relief. Coxey Army units were formed in many places around the country, including Portland, and in the spring of 1894 hundreds of men marched east from the city carrying their blankets and a few days' rations. They soon seized a passenger train but were halted by U.S. soldiers. Then they made an agreement with a railroad company to obtain a train of box cars, and proceeded as far as Wyoming, where they disbanded when it was learned that jobs were available in the coal mines there. The Coxey soldiers from other locations who did complete the march to Washington were unable to convince the national lawmakers to act on their behalf, but at least the Portland contingent was able to achieve its most immediate goal: as one marcher said before the group started out, "most of us are willing to work hard for what we get, and have a right to refuse to be dependent upon public charity."

Neighborhoods

In addition to operating volunteer fire companies, Portland citizens organized to meet other neighborhood needs. They petitioned the city for street improvements and the street railway companies for better mass transit service. Sunnyside residents met in September, 1893, and decided to withhold payment of their water bills to the city on the grounds that an inadequate supply of water was being provided. Apparently the water pressure increased dramatically during the next few days, since the residents soon met again to express their satisfaction and call off the strike.

Some neighborhoods established their own free libraries and reading rooms. In 1893 the Library Association of Portland (later to become the Multnomah County Library) was still a privately run organization, operating on a fee subscription basis. Judge Matthew Deady, who served as president of the Library Association for many years before his death in 1893, once explained why he did not believe it desirable to operate a library as a free service:

> *I admit, that in a certain large and wide sense, those who are ahead in this world ought to take care of those who are behind; but as a general rule, this is best done by furnishing the latter with aids and opportunities to help themselves, for all experience teaches that what costs people nothing does them but little good. Everyone should . . . contribute something, however small, towards the means of his own improvement and advancements.*

Clearly not everyone in Portland agreed with Deady's definition of self-help or with his concept of how people

might contribute to their own advancement. Portland newspapers of 1893 tell of an entertainment benefit to be given at the South Mt. Tabor Schoolhouse to aid the library associations of South Mt. Tabor and Russellville. The Young Men's Library Association dramatic club of Albina announced an upcoming play entitled "Nevada: or The Lost Mine" which would be performed to benefit the free public reading room they were setting up in their neighborhood.

Politics

The Populist Party, which would later join forces with the Democrats to nominate William Jennings Bryan for president in 1896, was already an influencing factor in Portland politics in the early '90s. The party's numbers had grown dramatically in the months preceding the presidential election of 1892, and it nominated a full slate of candidates for the municipal election of the following June. None of the Populists won (they had elected one candidate the previous year), but the party's active presence in Portland demonstrated the interest of a substantial number of residents in such "radical" ideas as the eight-hour day for workers, the vote for women, and municipal ownership of electric utilities.

Women

In January, 1893, Abigail Scott Duniway, Oregon's leading suffragette, wrote her son that she had just been to Salem to lobby for removal of the words "white male" from the Oregon constitution. Duniway was again becoming active in women's issues after a hiatus of several years. How much her efforts, and those of other suffragettes, were needed in Portland is well illustrated by an account carried in the *Oregonian* on July 20. The obviously amused (and obviously male) reporter tells of "three representatives of the fair sex" who insisted, despite "time-honored precedent," in participating in city council proceedings. Mary Woodcock, a businesswoman, wanted to complain about the lack of street improvements to her property. The mayor would not let her speak, and her protest that her payment of taxes to the city gave her the right was ignored. The other women, Mrs. E.M. Winnie and Mrs. Orilla Read, had slightly better luck. They were allowed to state their complaints, but the council paid them little heed.

Women in Portland were not letting denial of their political rights (and sometimes their dignity) stand in the way of some remarkable personal and organizational achievements. One of the city's leading suffragettes was Dr. Mary Thompson, who, more than twenty years before, had been Portland's first woman physician. Her medical practice had been so successful that she was able to retire in 1883 and devote herself to women's rights and a host of community activities. Her example may help to explain why in 1910, when relatively few women in the United States were entering professional careers, eight percent of Portland's physicians and surgeons were female.

For young women fortunate enough to have jobs in 1893, pay scales were abysmally low, but an organization called the Women's Union was a great help to those who wanted or needed to be financially independent. Formed in 1887, the Union provided women with board, lodging, books, music and entertainment at actual cost—about $3.50 to $5.25 a week. Within a few years of its founding, the Union had two successful spinoffs. The first was its night school, which began with twenty women and soon proved so popular that a demand arose that men be admitted as well. Eventually, the program was taken over and continued by the public school system. The second spinoff was the Women's Exchange, which provided a market for needlework and artwork that women could do in their own homes. This program, too, was highly successful, and eventually it operated separately from its parent organization.

The Women's Union was still serving the community in 1910 when Dr. Emma J. Welty described its self-reliant operations to Portland historian Joseph Gaston:

> *It has been the policy of the Union to appeal to the public for money as infrequently as possible. . . . The Union's money affairs have been managed by the women themselves, and have been uncommonly well managed. They meet all their expenses, have no debts, and have a good property in their name.*

1933

One day in August, Oregon State Highway Commissioner Leslie Scott was visited in his Portland office by nine men and three women of the Unemployed Citizens League (UCL). The nation was in the depths of depression, and it had been reported a few months earlier that more than 24,000 unemployed heads of households were on the rolls of the Portland Public Employment Bureau. A new president, Franklin Roosevelt, was attempting to deal with the crisis, and federal relief moneys were being made available—including six million dollars to Commissioner Scott's office to provide jobs in highway-related projects. The men and women of the Unemployed Citizens League wanted to know Scott's plans. He bluntly informed them that most highway work would soon end. He was not interested in unemployment, only in keeping the state government out of debt. When his visitors described instances of undernourished children whose fathers were out of work, the commissioner (according to a sworn deposition later filed with the county by the UCL) became even more rude:

> *What did you do with your money anyway when you were making big wages? You just squandered it. You are right where you deserve to be. You wouldn't have sense enough to keep it if you did have it.*

As heir to the substantial estate of his late father (Harvey Scott), and as part-owner of the Oregonian Publishing Company, Leslie Scott apparently had considerable difficulty empathizing with his visitors and their cash flow problems. His attitude may have been extreme, but it was not unique among Portland's established government and business leaders. Ship owners, for example, were taking the position that longshoremen should be grateful for any kind of job at all. The men along the docks were finding their wages cut drastically, and some were being forced to work shifts of more than 36 hours. Those who protested were fired. Membership in the International Longshoremen's Association was growing rapidly during 1933, and the stage was being set for the devastating waterfront strike of the following year.

On the other hand, many people in a position to help were doing what they could to alleviate hardships experienced by depression victims. The newspapers of 1933 tell of charitable programs sponsored by such groups as the Progressive Business Men's Club and the Portland Federation of Women's Organizations. (The latter body highlighted extremes of wealth by sponsoring a bridge, tea and style parade at the Meier & Frank department store auditorium for the benefit of the needy!) When the

Oregon Historical Society

Brooklyn School garden

Portland City Council and the Multnomah County Commission agreed to set up work projects and pay those employed on them in scrip, more than 2,500 local merchants agreed to accept the scrip in payment for goods in spite of some uncertainty whether they would be fully reimbursed. (They were.)

All of these efforts were important, but Portlanders of 1933 (like those of 1893) were not content simply to rely on the goodwill of the well-off, and they were not willing to let the city's government and business elite dictate their needs. Community self-reliance was alive and well in the Rose City and it found expression in a variety of projects sponsored by social organizations, churches, ethnic associations and neighborhood groups.

Self-help Response to Financial Hardship

• In March, sixty volunteers from the community were working with the Portland Garden Club to develop a plan for converting unused city lots into neighborhood gardens for the unemployed. The volunteer gardeners agreed to make their own plots working models for their neighbors and to assist less experienced participants in the program. An *Oregonian* reporter noted that "one of the finest features of the plan is the spirit of helpfulness that is already active among the workers."

• In December the Suey Sing Chamber of Labor and Commerce sponsored a celebration in conjunction with its move to new headquarters at 510 SW 2nd Avenue. The group, which had more than 250 members, operated a free employment agency and did relief work among the city's Chinese population.

• The Catholic Women's League announced during May that 505 girls and women had been placed during the preceding year through the league's employment office. In addition, 489 families had been provided with relief aid.

• An unusual community was flourishing in Sullivan's Gulch (near the present day Lloyd Center) in 1933. Called Shantytown, it was temporary home to several hundred depression victims who were living in self-built temporary structures. The town had its own mayor, civil servants, police force, and laws. Plans were afoot in February to erect a community building for spiritual and educational activities, and "Mayor" James W. Moran was anxious to lessen his constituents' dependence on food donations by obtaining use of some land for gardening. "Most of the men here have a trade," Moran explained. "They are victims of the depression and are not looking for charity. They much prefer to work and help themselves."

• The women of the James John School Parent-Teacher Circle planned a unique entertainment benefit at the beginning of the year to raise money for the milk fund in St. Johns—so unique, in fact, that school authorities asked them to find another location for it. "We got to have money for the milk fund if the babies are to be fed," one of the women explained. "You know very well we can't raise more than ten dollars if we give a nice, quiet home talent benefit entertainment at the schoolhouse. And you know that our husbands and the other men will pay 50 cents for a good smoker." Thus, boxers were found to entertain the men of St. Johns so that babies in the community would not go hungry.

Self-help Response to the Public Market Closure

Portland's Central Public Market, a thriving madhouse of small-scale commercial activity, was nationally famous. Extending along Southwest Yamhill between 3rd and 5th, the market had begun in 1914 and had been under city management almost from the beginning. It was here that future grocery tycoon Fred Meyer got his start, running a stall in company with local Chinese, Japanese and Italian truck gardeners.

As early as 1926, plans were afoot to construct a new public market along Southwest Front Street. The proposed move became a very controversial issue in Portland, and when the City Council gave its final go ahead to the project in 1931, it did so in spite of opposing petitions filed by 18,000 market customers and 246 farmers. One commissioner, who had been out of town when the council ordinance was passed, questioned his colleagues' right to ignore the petitions and charged that the public interest was being betrayed in favor of a few large property holders who stood to benefit by the move. Nevertheless, the council chose to let the project proceed.

Before opening the new Front Street Market building in December, 1933, the council called for removal of the sheds used at the Yamhill Market. (They were distributed to city parks to protect horseshoe players from the rain!) The idea was to force reluctant farmers to move to the new facility, but few took the hint. Some simply closed up shop and others moved off the street and into street-level stories of buildings along Yamhill. Two hundred of the former market tenants formed their own cooperative market and moved into another Yamhill location.

The new Front Street Market was a failure. Compared to the magical old world atmosphere of the Yamhill Street stalls, the Front Street facility was sterile indeed—an early version of a supermarket. Within a few years, the market which so many Portlanders had protested was in serious financial trouble. The city finally sold the building to the *Oregon Journal* in the '40s.

Some market activity continued along Yamhill for many years, but in spite of the determination of so many farmers and merchants to stay, the city's forced closure of the old central facility began a slow death for the market concept in Portland. Only with the birth of the Saturday Market under the Burnside Bridge during the '70s was some of the vitality of the old Central Market recaptured.

Oregon Historical Society

The Front Avenue Market Building, opened December 1933

A PORTLAND VISION . . .

A very happy form of community wealth is a lively and beautiful neighborhood. In its physical form signs of care and signs of fun abound. Take the houses themselves. Houses have faces. What delight we have when the faces are cheery, grinning and winking. Sadly, many new houses, instead, look boastful or scream for attention. They don't seem to care whether they sit here or in Dallas. Their main interest is themselves. Their neighbors, their streets and the land around them, are of no concern. But there is that feeling a house can evoke that makes us say: "That's a real Portland house." We may not even notice the house at first. It has a calm repose and an emphasis on amenity to all around it. We notice the generous windows watching over the street, the fine crafted detail of some trim, the intriguing entryway draped with fragrant vines, and beyond, the carefully proportioned door. Tracks lead to the car's place—no overbearing garage door is visible. And there are the raised flowerbeds, the hollyhocks, the windspinner, the toys, the ladder, the bicycles, and the vibrant voices.

—Dave Deppen, Portland Architect

II. A Sense of Direction

It seems that we choose our place to live because we love the elements of that place. When we listen and watch closely and long enough we begin to see what needs to be done to preserve that place. It becomes a relationship. We do what needs to be done because we are in love.

—*Carlotta Collette*

Sustainable Portland
What We Need Is a City That Can Carry Us into the Next Century

by Steven Ames

See simplicity in the complicated.
Achieve greatness in little things.
—Lao Tsu

In May of 1981 a survey of planners, architects and university professors on the future of American cities was published in *Next* Magazine. The conclusion, as usual, left little doubt as to how the experts view Portland. Among the 55 largest cities in the nation, Portland was ranked second for its overall future prospects. It was also judged most attractive city for its size and finished close to the top among trend-setting cities, best-managed cities and best cities for retirement.

Here was yet another in a string of accolades for Portland and environs, an urban region already highly touted for its quality of life and livability. No doubt, some of the more visible Portland area achievements over the last decade have helped win such generous praise: the nation's first intentionally designed mass transit mall, the first major city-wide energy conservation policy, the first publicly elected regional government, a new light rail transit line, and a host of less prominent but equally impressive innovations.

Why Portland? What makes us so prone to succeed? One could argue endlessly—and many people do—as to whether it is dynamic leadership or an active citizenry or any number of other factors. But this line of argument altogether bypasses some of the more indigenous qualities at work. One such quality, so pervasive and yet so subtle, is rarely if ever acknowledged: Portland is a successful place because it is a distinct *place*.

Tucked between two mountain ranges, at the base of one of the nation's most fertile valleys, bounded by a great waterway, this urban region is remarkably well defined. We are a place apart. Our awareness of our "portlandness" is keen. In the local language, "East" can mean anything from The Dalles to Atlantic City. We have our own spectacular setting, our own varied and beloved climate and, not surprisingly, our own unique history. Put differently, the Portland area has a sense of place about it. Should anyone be surprised if over the years we might learn to see things differently . . . or sometimes do them better?

Why is this elusive quality, a sense of place, so valuable? Because it is a reference point—both a perspective on the larger world around us and a platform for local action. Held rightly, a sense of place is a tool for framing those bigger-than-we-care-to-imagine problems and bringing them back down to local scale. It helps us to focus our awareness on who we are, where we are headed, and what our next steps might be. In so doing, we often discover that the best solutions are those that can be found in our own back yards.

In Portland, what happens locally matters. In the last decade our awareness of this has given us a subtle advantage in controlling pointless freeway expansion, strengthening our neighborhoods and conserving energy. What is hard to imagine happening in a hundred other sprawling urban regions sometimes seems to come naturally to us. Thus far, as the experts agree, we have been much more fortunate than most.

But we are not magically immune to the many headaches facing urban America. The Portland region, for example, is projected to expand by another half-million people in the next twenty years. This would be the equivalent of adding a new city to the region, one third again larger than the entire city of Portland, by the year 2000. Most of these people would migrate from other parts of the country, seeking jobs, housing and the good life for which the region is so well known. And beyond our boundaries of place, the world is lunging headlong into larger crises. Regardless of how well we bring our own house into order, there will be no avoiding the impacts of these interregional and international developments.

In all likelihood, the coming decade will demand that the people of the Portland area maximize the resources—yet honor the limitations—of our own region. This challenge will require all the skills, determination, creativity, caring and gutsiness we can muster to pull it off in the style to which we are accustomed. More than ever, we will need to hone this special tool, our sense of place.

Driving Forces in the 1980s

The 1980s are increasingly being acknowledged as a period of intense new pressures for this nation. Like a plains thunderstorm, we can feel it coming long before it hits. Economists, politicians, and other observers of the American system do not openly savor the rumblings on the horizon of the new decade. Privately, many of them express doubt and cynicism. The public itself is not far behind in its perception that uninvited changes are in the works.

During the 1950s and 1960s, according to opinion polls, Americans characteristically believed that the present was better than the recent past and that the future would represent an improvement over the present. Writ large, this was

Mumford to City Club: Are You Good Enough for Oregon?

The time was July, 1938. The place was the Crystal Room of the Benson Hotel at the regular Friday luncheon meeting of the City Club of Portland. The speaker was Lewis Mumford, the great social thinker and conscience of the urban American landscape. Mumford had been touring the Portland region and was visibly impressed with its awesome natural setting—the bountiful trees, mountains and the Columbia Gorge. His message, characteristically probing, had that prophetic quality which becomes obvious only after a considerable span of elapsed time:

"I have seen a lot of scenery in my life, but I have seen nothing so tempting as a home for man as this Oregon country. . . . You have here a basis for civilization on its highest scale, and I am going to ask you a question which you may not like. Are you good enough to have this country in your possession? Have you got enough intelligence, imagination and cooperation among you to make the best use of these opportunities?

"Rebuilding our cities will be one of the major tasks of the next generation. While people are grasping for personal gain the necessary cooperative spirit for this task cannot develop. . . . In providing for new developments you have an opportunity here to do a job of city planning like nowhere else in the world. Oregon is one of the last places in this country where natural resources are still largely intact. Are you intelligent enough to use them wisely?"

Shortly after Mumford's visit to Portland the Second World War began, and following that came an era of unparalleled expansion, dominated by automobiles, freeways and parking lots. Lewis Mumford's address to the City Club was filed away for history and he was never invited back.

the essence of traditional American optimism. But in the early 1970s that historic pattern began to shift, and by 1978, for the first time according to the polls, the pattern had reversed completely. Americans believed that the past was better than the present and that the future would only get worse. American optimism seems more and more to be a scarce commodity.

What are the changing social circumstances that evoke such lowered expectations? One might guess that people have been reacting to prevailing conditions—inflation, unemployment—things we have been told are cyclical and which will eventually go away. Unfortunately, the evidence has been filtering in for some time that such problems are only the symptoms of larger, structural conditions in the industrial system, or even the environment at large—things that will not go away with a change of administrations in Washington, nor be fine-tuned into oblivion. Americans are not that imperceptive. Our whole way of life appears to be undergoing some kind of major shift.

Economist Robert Theobald has captured some of these larger conditions in his concept of "driving forces." Put simply, a driving force is a societal trend whose occurrence is extremely probable. A driving force will not likely be altered no matter how we respond to it; it can only be acknowledged, adapted to, dealt with. Several major driving forces, says Theobald, are in effect today that will have a sustained impact on the United States through the rest of the century. These include structural changes in the social system forced by past population growth, continued population migrations within the country, strong ecological pressures to mitigate the environmental impacts of industry, rapid decline of inexpensive energy and resources, and accelerated development of telecommunications and microelectronic innovations.

Of all these trends, perhaps none will have as immediate an impact on the American lifestyle as the decline of inexpensive, nonrenewable energy and resources. Dr. Ian Adams, an urban geographer and longtime observer of the Portland area, has analyzed this trend in his new book, *The Land of Opportunity in the Age of Limitations*. During the postwar period (1945-1970), he says, American technology and capital were utilized to exploit world resources on a massive scale. In fact, more energy and minerals were consumed by Americans in those 25 years than *all* nations in *all* of history up to that time. The dominant political value during this period was what Dr. Adams calls a "politics of Yes." The political system openly promoted access to abundance for most individuals as well as large corporate interests. The result was a material standard of living unmatched by any nation on earth.

That era of abundance, Adams says flatly, is now dead. The United States is being dragged into a world economic system where such driving forces as a declining resource base and accelerated population growth have intensified competition and inflated energy costs tremendously. As these impacts ripple through our economy, the American standard of living relative to other nations is beginning to decline and our predominance in world markets is eroding. A "politics of No," not unlike the austerity politics of Britain, is emerging in the American system. Initially, this may translate into the current cutbacks in federal government programs and services. Ultimately, Adams concludes, it will mean an increasing denial of access to abundance, particularly for individual taxpayers and citizens.

One of the most telling fatalities of this decline in abundance will be our historic patterns of development. In the postwar era, American-style development capitalized on cheap energy, abundant land and lavish personal mobility. The automobile dominated our lives in every imaginable way. Our cities and especially our suburbs—those agglomerations of low-density dwelling units often miles from schools, stores and jobs—reflected the reality of a resource-rich society. But such development patterns were rife with hidden costs. By way of example, the small farms of the fertile Tualatin Valley, which up until World War II had been Portland's main source of food, began to disappear in the postwar era. From 1940 to 1978 total farmland in Washington County declined by 38 percent—a decrease mainly attributable to rapid suburbanization.

In the emerging age of limitations, inflated land, energy and construction costs—along with interest rates—are shattering such extravagant options. In 1971, for example, 45 percent of Americans could afford to enter the new

single-family housing market; by 1981, that number had shrunk to 11 percent. If gasoline costs are any indicator, this trend will only intensify. In 1971 the average cost of a gallon of gas in the U.S. was $.25; by mid-1981 that cost had risen to $1.16. By the beginning of the next decade, according to one industry forecast, the cost of gasoline, in 1990 dollars, will be $10.00 per gallon. At these figures, the prototypical Portland "Street of Dreams" will be a thing of the past; a duplex in town and a moped in the driveway may look luxurious.

The point is self-evident: the way in which the Portland area provides for its people and accommodates new growth will, of necessity, change radically. A new premium will be put on low-cost, resource-conserving solutions. This lesson will not only apply to housing and transportation, but to employment, education, health care and dozens of other life support systems caught in our society's transition from an age of abundance to one of limitations. The real limits to growth are well upon us. This sobering fact is, pure and simple, the fabric of the coming decade.

Ancil Nance

Thinking Globally, Acting Locally

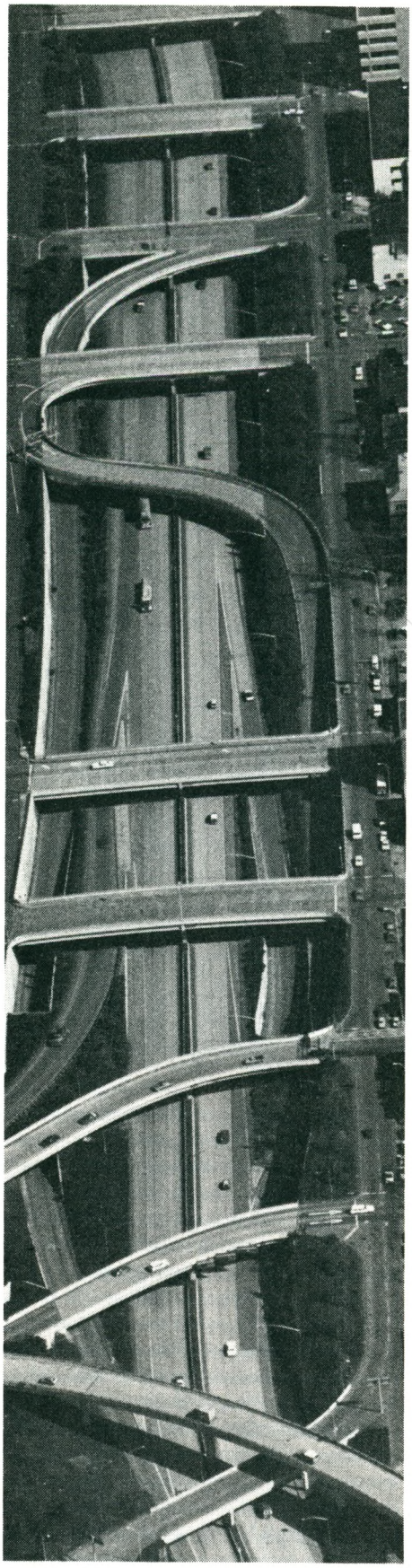
Portland is not alone in facing this predicament—nor hardly the most seriously affected. The interplay of driving forces creating these local conditions is now manifest worldwide. Acknowledgement of this fact came from none other than the U.S. government itself last year with the release of its *Global 2000 Report to the President*. Admittedly flawed, this study was nonetheless the first attempt ever of a major government to systematically analyze the impact of world trends. Examining such factors as population, resources and the environment, *Global 2000* underscored the fact that a coming global crunch is highly probable.

According to its findings, there will be 6.35 billion people worldwide in the year 2000. All trends indicate that the resources required to sustain that population—given the existing international economic system—will not keep pace. The burden will increasingly be foisted upon the poorer nations and peoples of the world. For example, the study predicts the world's supply of arable land will increase only four percent by the year 2000 and regional water shortages will become more pronounced. Soil erosion will create new desert land equivalent in size to the state of Maine every year, while an area half the size of California will be deforested annually. Food supplies will increase only 15 percent by the year 2000 and become increasingly maldistributed, leaving millions more in the Third World facing the prospect of famine. World oil production, upon which such supplies have become overdependent, will begin dropping off after 1990, with industrialized nations dominating the market for these and all other scarce resources.

The warnings of *Global 2000*, and its kindred studies, are so staggering they tend to elude our comprehension. We are alternately horrified or numbed. But the important message is not so much one of numbers and trends as it is of scale and interdependence. The growing *industrialized* demands on the world's carrying capacity are not sustainable. As a result, the problems confronting the nations of the world, both rich and poor, have become precariously intertwined. Since 1973, the fast lane politics of world oil markets alone have demonstrated this fact time and again.

There is, however, another side to this global condition. The spread of electronic media, satellites and telecommunications have helped pull down the barriers that obscure these dangerous trends. Nations today are more immediately in touch, more connected in their awareness of our tenuous predicament than ever before. For the first time, people everywhere have the ability to identify a common goal for humankind: survival. In short, we have become the citizens of a planet.

The great paradox is that there's not



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much we can actually *do* at a global level, barring a unified world order or some undreamt of technological breakthrough. In truth, there's no such thing as the quick, global fix. The global condition is too multi-dimensional to respond to slam-bang solutions. It will only be through a multitude of diverse, localized strategies, each carried out with awareness of its larger context, that we will come together to alter the course of the planet in the next 20 years. As René Dubos first said, we must think globally and act locally.

In Toronto in 1980, the First Global Conference on the Future—the largest international symposium on the human prospect to date—chose as its theme Dubos' simple maxim. It was by no means a coincidence. The trend toward localization, though still something of a dark horse, is becoming every bit as important as the trend headed in the opposite direction. "What is happening," said conference speaker and futurist Roy Amara, "is that we are beginning to tackle problems at grass-roots levels, restructuring institutions with which we are directly in contact, initiating changes from the bottom up. In fact, participatory movements of all kinds—the world over—are likely to become one of the dominant transforming forces in the remainder of the 20th century."

Another conference participant, Bruce Stokes of the Worldwatch Institute, has since then authored a book, *Helping Ourselves: Local Solutions to Global Problems*, that begins to give measure to this new trend. Local self-help, first and foremost, is cited as the natural response of individuals and communities to make ends meet, gain a sense of control, or merely survive in a world gone awry with unsettling changes. After all, it is on the local level, as Stokes points out, that the consequences of global problems are the most obvious, the motivation to solve them most direct, and the benefits of action most immediate.

When hundreds and thousands of such localized actions take place—as is now beginning to happen—larger solutions emerge: weatherization to cut energy costs at home becomes one of society's cheapest "new" sources of energy; housing rehabilitation and neighborhood revitalization create affordable alternatives to expensive new suburban development and continued urban sprawl; community gardens and local food buying clubs reduce food importation and avoid unnecessary processing and transportation costs; carpools and alternatives to driving cut back on air pollution and reduce the need to import oil.

For these and a host of other community self-help activities, the aggregate impact is to reduce the escalating demand for resources that feeds the existing global condition. More important, perhaps, all these actions work together to reinforce self-determination at the local level. People exercise greater control over their lives. Communities become more self-reliant. The world is not nearly so intimidating a place. We can look forward again to the year 2000.

The Evolving Portland Vision

Portland already has a certain tradition for looking forward. This was symbolized in its early days by its experience with such visionary planners as John Olmstead and Edward Bennett. But their elaborate visions were, unfortunately, seldom realized, and the city's growth and change over the years was haphazardly inspired by profit and ambition. In 1938, an important juncture in American history, Lewis Mumford visited the area and cautioned Portlanders to plan more wisely for their future. "You have a basis here for civilization on its highest scale," he said. "Are you good enough to have this country in your possession?"

But Mumford, who once said that freeways could only widen chaos, was spurned in favor of the prophets of mobility. In 1943, Portland adopted the city plan of mega-developer Robert Moses. As historian Dick Pintarich notes, the Moses plan was not intended to make Portland livable as much as to make it driveable. As a result, Portland in the postwar era was ringed with freeways and massive bridges as the nation took to wheels on inexpensive gas.

By the 1970s, however, the free ride came squealing to a halt, as area neighborhoods rose up to fight the blatant destruction imposed upon them by freeway construction. Some large projects were abandoned in their entirety. Amid signs that rapid, unplanned growth was whittling away at the region's quality of life, a new resolve to plan ahead and think long range began to appear. A great deal of this spirit emanated from Portland City Hall, but it also involved citizens' task forces, neighborhood activists, historians,

entrepreneurs and the wider public. It was as if Mumford's challenge had finally registered.

During this time Oregon's famed new land use planning law came into existence, setting into motion a statewide process that culminated in the preparation of 277 local comprehensive plans. Portland's Comprehensive Plan was an awesome three-year undertaking, designed to provide a total framework for land use and development to the year 2000. Unlike the Moses Plan, which had been drawn behind closed doors, this new effort involved the city's neighborhoods and literally thousands of people in reviewing plan alternatives. But some of the plan's more controversial elements, such as increased housing densities in the city, set up a divisive tug of war between neighborhood groups and city planners. Despite its intent to strengthen urban neighborhoods and encourage transportation alternatives, the Comp Plan did not go much beyond providing a flexible set of guidelines. It was criticized for lacking a true sense of vision for the city's future. The other plans that combined with Portland's to fill in the region's urban growth boundary were no different.

What the land use planning process alone seemed incapable of providing—definitive action—was redeemed by a series of citizen task forces and study groups throughout the decade. The Tri-County Local Government Commission (1975-76) initiated the formation of Metro as the first part of a two-tier government reform scenario. The city's Energy Policy Steering Committee (1978-79) resulted in the establishment of a "one-stop" Energy Savings Center to promote conservation and low-cost weatherization. Additionally, the *Metropolitan Directions 1980* study (1979) indicated how rich in potential new solutions Greater Portland really was. Among other things, this survey of the area's progressive leadership recommended a regional growth policy based on a "carrying capacity" approach, programs designed to reduce peak hour traffic and discourage the use of auto-

Community Self-Help: An Idea Whose Time Has Returned

Long before government assumed responsibility for social problems, neighborly good will and local self-reliance were community standards. Families, churches, neighborhoods and voluntary groups—all essential to a vital democracy—stood between the individual and the large institutions of public life.

But in the two centuries since the American Revolution our society has grown more complex and our problems more resistant to solutions. Government attempts to provide answers—growing out of the New Deal era of the '30s and expanding in scope for nearly half a century—are now being withdrawn. Conservatives justify cutbacks in social programs on the grounds that extensive government involvement has failed to provide solutions and has created "clients of the state." Liberals counter that social cutbacks severely harm those people least able to provide solutions on their own. Disillusionment—among people of every political stripe—is now general, and the need for a fresh approach to community concerns grows increasingly evident.

As Bruce Stokes of the Worldwatch Institute notes in his book, *Helping Ourselves*,

> *By breaking up issues into their component parts and dealing with them at the local level, interdependent problems can once again become manageable . . . if individuals and communities are to gain greater control over their lives, then they must do so by empowering themselves.*

Over the past 15 years, a new type of structure—the community-based organization (CBO)—has emerged throughout the country as an important source of innovation and institutional change. CBO's are in the best American tradition of neighbor helping neighbor. They involve people directly in working for the betterment of their local community, working for the adoption of needed legislation (citizen participation) and actually administering neighborhood projects (community self-help). The roots of some of the most successful urban revitalization efforts are here: alternative schools, consumer co-ops, urban homesteading programs, crime watch block clubs, appropriate technology projects and community development corporations.

However, as Bruce Stokes also points out, self-help activities do not take place magically on their own. The role of government is vital to their success.

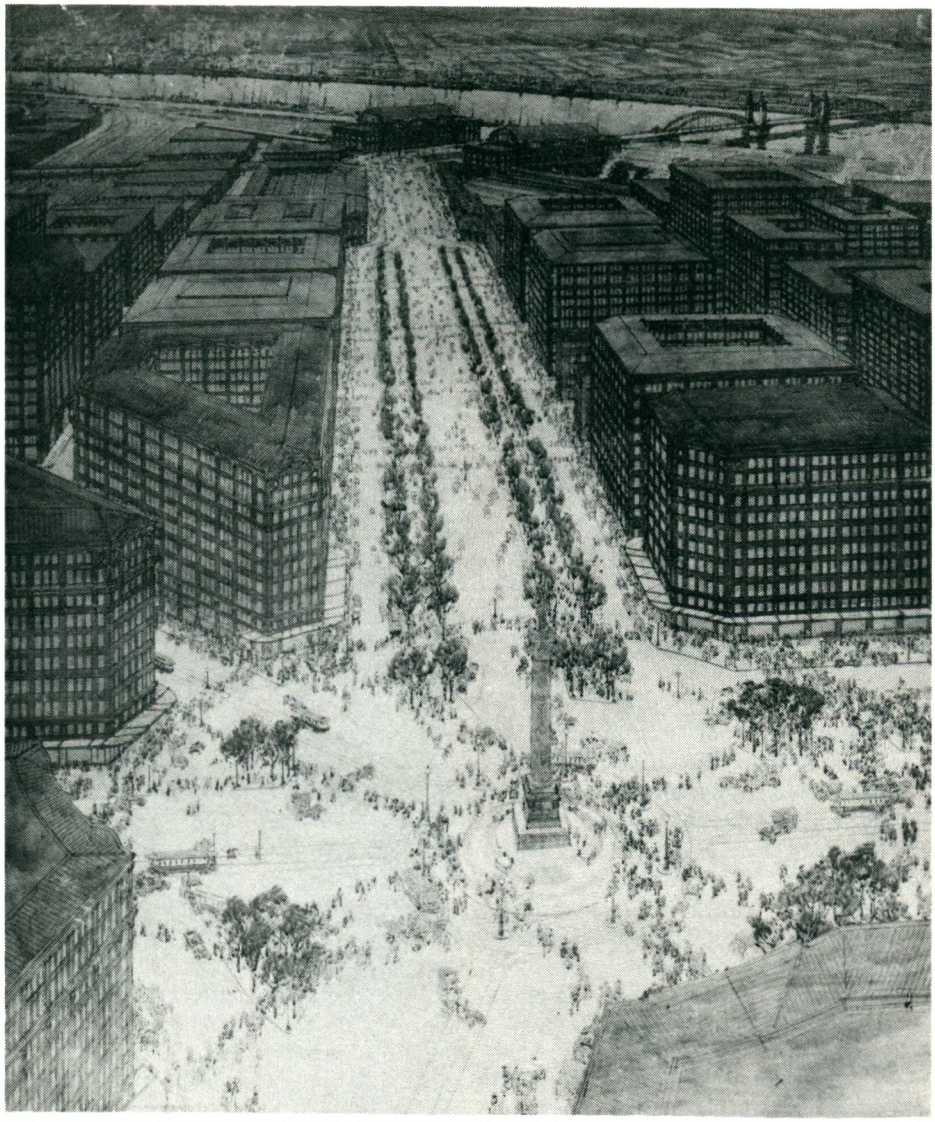
> *In the minds of many people there is an inherent contradiction in government support for self-help activities. According to this view, local endeavors can only succeed if they are free from government intervention. This distinction, while ideologically neat, is not appropriate for the complex issues facing society over the next few decades.*

Community self-help efforts require experiments and learning processes that take time to evolve. Community-based initiatives often seem to be stymied rather than encouraged by public officials. Despite lofty rhetoric, nowhere in either current federal or state government proposals is there a mention of strong policy commitments and community capacity-building efforts (seed funding, training and technical assistance) designed to assist citizens to help themselves.

In Portland, there are some encouraging signs. Several city commissioners have been exploring ways to stimulate self-help efforts. The Housing and Community Development office has also been working on a process to establish a neighborhood self-help demonstration program.

If self-help projects are to succeed, they must be controlled by the people they're designed to assist and be based upon local partnerships among government, private business and community groups. Local government can play the crucial role of "enabler" by providing incentives and adopting policies that promote dialogue and cooperation at the neighborhood level.

—Steve Rudman



Oregon Historical Society

A reflection of the City Beautiful movement, Edward Bennett's 1912 plan for the city envisioned a stately boulevard running from West Burnside to a new Union Station.

mobiles, local neighborhood enhancement efforts to mitigate the negative effects of higher densities, and consideration of a *three*-tier government in the metropolitan area—regional, municipal and neighborhood.

But the question of a long-range vision for the community—anticipating where we actually wanted Portland to go, rather than being bullied along by trends and crises—was never really addressed until the City Club of Portland formed its Vision Committee. A direct response to the inadequacies of the Portland Comprehensive Plan, the Vision Committee accepted testimony from expert witnesses and conducted polls on a positive direction for the city's future. And, in a departure from the traditional role of reviewing and reporting, it recommended that the City Club take an active leadership role in implementing its recommendations. The City Club agreed. It was a distinct commitment to the visioning process.

The committee's *Report on a Vision of Portland's Future* (1980), while recognizing the realities of a growing local population, diminished resources, inflated costs of goods and services and the forcing effect of all these things on living and decision-making at the local level, offered a potential vision for a different Portland in the year 2000, supported by scores of mini-visions. The *Vision Report* also made a serious attempt to assess the impact of "emerging issues" on the area, particularly the revolution in telecommunications and the implications of moving information rather than people. It was the first time any citizen's study in the community had taken such an approach. Its aggregate vision for the city was positive, humanistic and noticeably decentralized. Included among its glimpses of Portland 2000:

- The city, in large part, will become a transit- and pedestrian-oriented place, with small cars used for occasional personal or business trips, and bicycles and mopeds common as auxiliary transportation.
- The intelligent use of interactive cable TV and computers will expand public knowledge of major issues and increase the public level of participation in the government process.
- Small, clean, low-capital and low traffic businesses will be run from private homes or from other locations within the district, relying on communications technology and advanced electronics in their operation.
- Condominiums and other cooperative forms of ownership will increase, being built as planned unit developments to offer the amenities of lower density housing to residents and neighbors.
- Schools will be expanded into full-time, multi-service community centers to offer, among other things, day-care, drop-in centers for the elderly, computer terminals for those without home access, and personal and vocational counseling.
- "Wellness Clinics" will be a part of neighborhood community centers, where the emphasis will be on encouraging and maintaining physical and mental health through a variety of programs.

The disarming quality of such rich, literal images was that once they had entered the public consciousness, they became impossible to ignore. Portland's legitimate concerns for the future could be seen in a newer context. Solutions of a different order were conceivable. It was in this way that the *Vision Report* began to nudge many civic leaders into the realm of the possible. It was a clear demonstration that a positive vision of the future could act as a catalyst for the necessary change.

What was now needed was a way to draw the wider community and region into an actual visioning process for the area. Government alone could not do it because it had limited ability to plan and innovate new directions and even less assurance of widespread public support. At the same time, the many local citizen and private sector efforts to innovate change would easily remain ineffective

because they lacked visibility, a comprehensive overview, or the support of responsive public policy. It was only in linking long-range planning with broad-based citizen education and action that a true vision for the community could be developed. As we entered the 1980s, with every indication that they would be as challenging as had been promised, building a common vision for the future of Portland waited on the public agenda.

The Sustainable City

The Chinese have a fascinating character for the concept of crisis. Actually, it is two characters drawn together, one meaning danger and the other opportunity. In itself, it is a sublime reflection on the paradox of life and potential choice to be found in any situation of great challenge. It could also be seen as a fitting metaphor for the challenge our society faces in 1982. For Americans, it has become a matter of choosing the right opportunities among the many dangers confronting us—and moving with them.

For those people who have long sensed that this time of choice is upon

City Club to Portland: Look Ma, No Wheels!

How times change. Forty some years and innumerable freeway overpasses after the visit of Lewis Mumford to Portland, the thrill of the great postwar auto boom is beginning to wane. Gasoline prices have jumped over 350 percent in the last decade. Federal monies from the abandoned Mt. Hood Freeway project are now being used to build the region's new light rail line. And the City Club has released its Report on a Vision of Portland's Future, *detailing in its scenarios how the telecommunications revolution will open up new forms of electronic "mobility" while reducing our needs to travel. Is nothing sacred?*

"Year 2000. Southeast Portland . . . Jeff Jones is an accountant with a large firm in downtown . . . He works three days a week in the comfort of his den in his Mt. Scott home. He 'communicates' to work at the office downtown using telecommunications. Jeff can do basic bookkeeping and research any tax questions from his home using a microcomputer, as well as hold meetings with staff without having to be in a central location.

"The office downtown is not the place it was in 1980. Since Jeff's firm started using telecommunications and offering the home-workplace as an employment option it has benefitted in many ways. By giving people the option of working at home, the office staff was cut to a minimum, requiring less office space and freeing financial resources for other activities . . .

"Jeff sets his own hours. He is at home when his son Lee comes home from school and his "childcare" often involves joining his son for a jog in the late afternoon. The reduced number of trips to the office have meant gas and time savings for the Joneses and more family use of the neighborhood business district within walking distance of their home . . ."

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us, such opportunities are everywhere and all but insurmountable. In recent years, almost invisible to the national media, a wealth of individuals, ideas and experiments has already begun to retool our society for a major transition—some would say transformation—from a culture that cannot last our lifetimes to one that is infinitely sustainable. From the great thinkers of our time, to people simply putting in gardens and recycling their waste, a quiet movement is emerging that is giving weight to such a transition. And it is a movement big enough for everyone because the tasks before us are as many as there are people.

What will such a transition look like? For our larger society the images are unclear, in part because it is not really at the national level where change is being forged. But for our regions and localities—for the Portland area—the images are much more tangible. It is here where the transition is already underway. "The '80s," says Hazel Henderson, author of the new book *The Politics of the Solar Age*, "will be a period of reconceptualization and innovation, redirected investments, recycling, redesign for conservation, rehabilitation and reuse of buildings for new life, revival of small towns and small businesses, and resurgence of neighborhood-based and local enterprises, co-ops and community development, which release human energy and potential in new local and regional economies of scale."

If there is a larger vision that can guide Portland through this transition, perhaps it is the image of the sustainable city—the city that thinks of itself whole, that moves with change, and plans for permanence. Above all, this implies an acceptance of responsibility and nurturing of solutions at the local level: conserving indigenous resources and managing them for sustained yield; fostering local production to meet more of local needs; designing political systems to support decision-making at the lowest possible level; and, everywhere, encouraging low-cost, community self-help strategies that empower people to help themselves. The vision is still a distant one. It may require nothing less than a reorientation of our values. But doing such things, a city will survive and endure.

Pieces of such a vision have already begun to appear in American communities: neighborhoods that have experimented with integral food, energy and waste systems; cities that have built energy conservation into their street design, zoning and building codes; urban regions that are assessing the levels of growth and development that can be supported by their air- and watersheds; whole states that are being studied to determine their ability to become self-reliant in food production. Make no mistake about it, the transition has begun.

But, as yet, no major community has come forward with a new image of itself that integrates all these ideas and uses that image to build its future. Perhaps Greater Portland—with its sense of place, its search for quality, its openness to change—can be that city.

"How we used to work side by side! And how I've worked since then trying to create according to our plan that we'd bring, against all odds, our full power to every subject."

—*Adrienne Rich*, The Dream of a Common Language

Life Support

Have you ever seen those "sampler" packages of Oregon specialties at gift shops and "Made in Oregon" stores? They'll have some filberts, some blackberry wine, a piece of myrtlewood, a can of salmon, or who knows what other local delectable delights. There's no pretense of being all-inclusive; no volcanic ash, Mayor Ivancie, coastal fog, roses, umbrellas, slugs, or countless other essentials that define our territory. No, there's just enough goodies to tip your tongue off (and perhaps your eyes and nose) that this is a special place, and maybe induce you to come back for more.

In the same way, the journey of words and pictures you are about to embark upon makes no attempt to be comprehensive. It is, instead, an anthology—or "sampler," if you will—designed to give you a glimpse into how we might apply the notion of a bioregion and the idea of community self-reliance in viewing some of the systems that comprise our everyday life support. The common theme running through this section is our awareness of our land and our resources, and how we can best plan for their future use so as to preserve and enhance our economic and ecologic base.

Anyone who has traveled far or lived elsewhere knows that Nature has made our region beautiful and our people fortunate. It is the challenge of our time to make our decisions wisely, to appreciate sustainability as well as expediency, and to ensure a beautiful region and a healthy future for ourselves and our children's children.

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A PORTLAND VISION . . .

Specifically, some of the issues in planning will be: Transportation and the densities needed to support it; Housing, its cost and availability; Alternative Energy, its impact on traditional zoning and building codes; Neighborhood Commercial areas, their revitalization; the Comprehensive Plan, its enforcement and flexibility. None of these issues will excite crowds of people to descend on City Hall. Solutions to each of these concerns will require determination and persistence and compromise because they all directly affect the course of daily life.

—Joan H. Smith, 1981 President, Portland City Planning Commission

Energy

Oregon Historical Society

Portland, ca. 1857

Wood provided 80-90 percent of the energy used in the United States in the 1850s. In Portland at that time, virtually *all* the energy used was provided by wood. Burning its way through the local wood supply, Portland quickly earned the nickname "stumptown." Photos from that period unglamorously portray white-painted stumps in a wood smoke haze.

Energy conservation in the uninsulated, drafty woodframe houses consisted of shutting up rooms and closing down the house at night with shutters. Even the wood stoves of the day were not very energy efficient. It is estimated that the amount of wood required to heat one house then could heat six houses today.

In the early days wood stoves were imported from the east coast and brought to Portland by ship, but by the 1870s local manufacturers were using metal produced at the Oregon Iron and Steel Company to build stoves here. As one early advertisement noted, "By purchasing a Dexter Stove, it keeps the money in this state, and the prices are no higher than from eastern shores. It is made from iron from the Oswego mines."

Although wood provided most of the home heating energy for the pioneers and some industrial applications in early Oregon, there were other sources of energy coming into use at the same time. Over half of the horsepower-hours of energy produced in the U.S. in 1850 actually did come from horses (another one-eighth came from humans). Two-thirds of all mechanical work was done by windmills and falling water. Water-powered wood mills cut the boards for Oregon's earliest frame houses. The first steam-driven mill, with a circular saw, was built in Portland in 1850.

Refrigeration in early Portland was accomplished with ice. Two artificial ice factories and one company dealing with natural ice brought here from the mountains of Idaho were Portland's suppliers.

Gas lighting was introduced to Portland about 1859 with the formation of the Portland Gas & Coke Company. On January 10, 1859 the Territorial Legislature granted a franchise for the construction of a gas plant, making Portland Gas & Coke a de facto public utility. This legislative action, one month before Oregon became a state, has since been investigated (in 1907) but never challenged in court.

In 1882 the East Portland Gas Light Company was formed to provide service to the growing east side area of Portland. In 1892 the two companies merged to form the Portland Gas Company. About this time electricity was replacing gas as a lighting source so the company successfully switched to marketing gas for cooking and water heating, and eventually house heating. Following the Lewis and Clark Exposition in 1905, Portland's population and demand for gas increased and the gas plant was converted from water gas operation (gas made from coal) to oil gas. With demands for gas overtaking capacity and a sorely felt need for development finance capital, the company recapitalized with the aid of American Power and Light Company—a subsidiary of the Electric Bond and Share Company of New York, organized in 1905 to assume control of General Electric's weaker utilities—to eventually become the Northwest Natural Gas Company.

Completion of the Northern Pacific transcontinental railway in 1883 changed Portland's energy picture dramatically. Portland observed that event as the "Villard Celebration," in honor of Henry Villard, founder of the Northern Pacific and a mover and shaker in national electric utility corporate expansion.

Only when the extensive cutting of the forests raised the price of wood did the demand for coal begin in the East. Coal consumption tripled in the U.S. between 1850 and 1861, and by 1885 it surpassed wood as the dominant fuel. Portland's use of coal lagged behind the rest of the nation's. Customs records reveal that in 1861 about 1,386 tons of bituminous coal were imported, mostly from Australia. Some Portland coal also came from such nearby locations as Coos Bay, Oregon, and Bellingham, Washington.

The last half of the 19th century was a period of national experimentation for the emerging coal and oil industries. By-products such as kerosene, heating oil, and gasoline were the name of the game.

The Pacific Coast Steamship Company's steamship, "State of California," arrived in the port of Portland on its maiden voyage in the summer of 1879. The history of electricity in Portland dates from that arrival. As the event was reported by the *Oregonian* of May 25, 1879:

> *Wednesday evening the steamship State of California was illuminated by the famous electric light, of which so much has been written. The novelty of the light attracted a large crowd of our citizens, and during the evening probably 500 persons visited the vessel . . . The light is pure white and gives day colors to all objects viewed by it. It is not so clear as daylight, but the "counterfeit" is almost perfect. The light is far more brilliant than that produced by gas, but yet not painful to the eyes when steadily bent on it. The lights are furnished by a small engine. The electric light is as much superior to gas as gas is superior to coal oil.*

During the 1880s and 1890s the various actors in the early electric utility development movement merged interests, a pattern occurring elsewhere in the country. In March 1884, P.F. Morey and George W. Weidler jointly organized the United States Electric Lighting

and Power Company, the first corporate predecessor of the present Portland General Electric Company (PGE). PGE received its major outside financing from Old Colony Trust of Boston and the General Electric Company, also of Boston. Between 1892 and 1906 PGE expanded its operations by acquiring other local power companies and in the latter year took its largest corporate leap, forming the Railway Light and Power Company to provide electricity for Portland's street railway mass transit system.

In the early 20th century Portland had a diversified and rather experimental energy system. Electric streetcars were carrying 70 million fares a year by 1919. Electric utilities, mostly financed by out-of-state corporations, were expanding rapidly. The automobile, with its total dependence on outside energy sources, was well on its way to replacing the electric streetcars—terminating what had been called the best urban railway system in the country. Heating oil, later to become a major source of home heat in Oregon, was first delivered in Portland during this period. Coal was imported into the area for industrial applications and occasional home heating use. Pacific Power and Light for years operated an electric generating plant (south of the Hawthorne Bridge) that used sawdust.

With World War I, Portland suffered its first energy crisis. The Great War had a big effect on the local economy. Oil and coal were needed for the war effort and so, no longer energy self-reliant, Portland felt the squeeze without its imported energy supplies.

Energy resource development and consumption altered dramatically in the 1920s and '30s, not only in Portland but throughout the Northwest. Energy production in the United States became dominated by a few very large corporations. By 1932, over 90 percent of the electricity generated in the United States was sold for private profit; 75 percent of the private power output was controlled by 16 giant holding companies. Portland's electric and gas utilities were integral parts of the interstate holding company networks.

Electricity was primarily benefitting urban residents. In 1932 only one rural house in 10 had electricity, compared to over 70 percent of urban and suburban homes.

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), chartered in 1937, was established largely as a broker for the energy produced through massive federal dams on the Columbia. The BPA was specifically forbidden to operate or invest in generating facilities of its own. The Roosevelt Administration had become actively involved in the push for public power in the Northwest, aiding in the takeover of private utilities and the formation of locally controlled public utility districts (PUDs).

World War II once again changed the energy face of the Pacific Northwest. The region's strategic position on the Pacific Rim, combined with an enormous surplus of cheap hydroelectricity, made the Northwest an excellent location for many of the Nation's industries—particularly aluminum. Increasing population growth coupled with electrical dependence (one of the largest in the world) caused demand for energy to double over 10 years, leading to projections that the region's hydropower capacity would peak by the mid-1970s. Shortages were anticipated as early as 10 years later.

In 1957, 21 Washington public utilities formed the Washington Public Power Supply System (WPPSS), pooling their resources to meet immediate energy demand. Coal and nuclear, they predicted, were the energy of the future.

By 1970, the region's utilities had unveiled the Hydro Thermal Power Program (HTPP) as a strategic response to regional growth. The program called for the construction of one new major coal or nuclear plant almost every year, for a total of 26 by the year 2000. Forecasts estimated this new construction would triple the region's power supply. Three coal and five nuclear plants began the first phase of HTPP in the early '70s, but the program's optimistic projections were short-lived. Skyrocketing construction costs drained the financial resources of the utilities, drove up the cost of energy to the consumer, and delayed the construction of additional plants.

From 1962 to 1977 Oregon's population grew 31 percent; in the same period our total energy consumption increased about 80 percent. When the gasoline and fuel crisis hit with the Arab oil embargo in 1973, it hurt.

The Northwest's previous struggle through a fuel crisis in 1917 was a minor matter in comparison with the gas crisis of 1973. An event thousands of miles away had a dizzying number of unexpected and incalculable consequences. The winter of 1973-74 was also a dry one, which reduced hydroelectric generating capacity. Prices went up everywhere and we learned, like children suddenly without allowances, about the real costs of energy and material consumption and waste.

In response to the energy crisis, then-Governor Tom McCall entered the scene, becoming the national energy folk hero as he actually tried to do something about it. In 1974 he formed the predecessor to the present Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), often referred to as the Energetics Office. Also called the governor's "Think Tank," or the first state office of consciousness change, the office published several reports, such as "Cosmic Economics," before the office itself was transformed

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into ODOE.

Energy held tremendous social organizing power. The growth in the 1970s of energy research and development projects, as well as public education and participation in energy policy, was unprecedented. Energy became a public obsession, moving into the forefront of social concern and daily conversation. Institutions and public interest groups, journals and computerized data bases by the tens, hundreds and thousands were created. Energy changed our way of perceiving ourselves.

In 1977 physicist Amory Lovins' now-classic essay, "Energy Strategy: The Road Not Taken?" appeared in *Foreign Affairs*. In it, Lovins sought to clarify the energy debate by describing what he saw as our two mutually exclusive choices for the future: a "hard" path emphasizing expanded use of centralized nuclear and fossil fuel-generated electricity or a "soft" path emphasizing conservation and rapid development of a variety of renewable energy sources "matched in scale and quality to end-use needs." Lovins argued persuasively for the soft path on social, political and economic grounds—and the discussion touched off in large part by his article led to a number of later energy studies, including Oregon's Alternate Energy Development Commission Report.

Governor Victor Atiyeh formed the Alternative Energy Development Commission in 1979. The Commission was comprised of task forces charged with developing comprehensive resource development strategies on each of six renewable energy sources: conservation/solar, wind, geothermal, alcohol fuels, biomass and hydropower. The Commission's final report, published in August 1980, summarizes the potential of renewable energy in Oregon:

The Department of Energy predicts non-transportation energy demand to grow by 3700 AvMW of electrical energy and 93 trillion BTU per year of thermal energy through 2000. Although estimates would seem to suggest that alternative energy sources could more than meet Oregon's requirements, the costs and constraints convince the Commission that no single renewable resource option could be expected to contribute a substantial share of projected demand. Collectively, however, the contributions from all these resources can meet a significant portion of future energy demand.

The city of Portland responded to the energy crisis by obtaining in 1975 a $225,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to study the sources and uses of energy in Portland's residential, commercial, industrial, municipal and transportation sectors. The study presented methods of conservation which would result in a 34 percent energy savings, saving the city a potential one billion dollars per year by 1995.

Shortly after the study's completion, the City Council appointed 15 citizens to an energy policy steering committee to review the suggested conservation action and to develop a comprehensive energy policy for the city. The policy finally developed—and adopted as Ordinance 148251 on Mayor Neil Goldschmidt's last day in office—contains six major policy areas:

1. *The city shall implement conservation actions directly within city government and encourage conservation actions by the private sector.*
2. *All building in the city shall be made as energy efficient as is economically possible as determined by the costs of conservation actions and the price of energy. The retrofit of existing buildings for energy conservation shall be accomplished through voluntary actions, with mandatory requirements imposed five years after the adoption of the policy.*
3. *The city shall develop land use policies which take advantage of density and location to reduce the need to travel, increase access to transit, and permit building configurations which increase the efficiency of space heating in residences.*
4. *The consumption of nonrenewable resources for residential and business use shall be reduced by encouraging the applications of renewable and alternative energy sources.*
5. *The consumption of nonrenewable fuels for transportation shall be reduced through actions which increase the efficiency of the transportation system within the city.*
6. *City bureaus shall reduce energy consumption by investing in energy conservation opportunities and changing operational procedures to the most energy and cost-efficient extent possible.*

The passage in early 1981 of the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, otherwise known as the Regional Power Bill, may put us in an enviable position for the development of a more locally controlled economy. Substantial evidence exists that a strong effort to implement cost-effective conservation and small-scale renewable energy would be fully capable of meeting the region's future power needs. If we succeed in holding the federal government strictly accountable in implementing the conservation and renewable energy provisions of the Regional Power Bill, it is conceivable that the Pacific Northwest could become the first region in the country to make the commitment to a renewable energy future.

Although many of the early settlers in this region were self-reliant, many others, and many more who barely set foot on this land of ours, have invested in the resources of the area. The founding of Oregon's basic life support systems (energy, water, food) has been a game of monopoly. The state can be viewed as a colony, with invested interests bartering our resources in international marketing schemes. The result of this outside investment coupled with imported energy is a thin economic base, controlled by decisions made far from here.

The conclusions of the Oregon Alternative Energy Development Commission and Portland's energy policy steering committee move us a step closer to a locally controlled renewable energy base and a locally controlled economy. When the people affected by our energy and economic decisions are the ones who make those decisions, our degree of community self-reliance, and our ability to control our own lives, will vastly increase. —*Steve Johnson*

Food/Agriculture

The energy crisis of the early '70s made a substantial impression on the American psyche well beyond the shortage of oil. The entire issue flew in the face of the myth of plenty and the false security that had been a generation in the making. Americans suddenly saw the price of food soar while once-overflowing store shelves grew empty. But it wasn't

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Housing development in the Tualatin Valley

the farmer who reaped the benefits of higher prices. Consumers learned that packaging, processing, transporting and retailing operations accounted for 94 percent of the rise in food prices.

For every dollar spent on food, half is spent moving that food around. United States agriculture is the most productive per worker in the world, yet it is the least cost effective in terms of energy spent for calories consumed.

Our ability to sustain current production levels is in question from an energy standpoint as well as an environmental one. It has been estimated that we have lost one-third of the topsoil from United States cropland in use today. An inch of topsoil takes between 300 and 2,000 years to be replaced. According to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) figures, the state of Washington loses about 20 pounds of topsoil for each pound of wheat produced. Ground water depletion, acid rain and increased usage of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides have contributed to reduced soil productivity by destroying organic matter. Increasingly sophisticated technology, introduced to improve crop yields, has escalated the costs of farming while eliminating jobs.

Rising land values, limited loan availability, and the acceleration of capital requirements have created a trend: farmland concentrated into fewer and fewer hands. The USDA estimates that more than two-thirds of all United States farms have disappeared since 1920 while the average farm size has tripled. Twenty-five percent of American agriculture is controlled by conglomerates such as International Telephone and Telegraph (I.T.&T.) and Ralston Purina through vertical arrangements (contracting or direct ownership of production), declares *Agri-Finance* (Feb. 1981). Before leaving office with the Carter administration, former Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland released a report pronouncing many of the existing farm programs not only obsolete but also skewed to favor the larger operators. Tax breaks, federal loans and price support programs have all been used to expand the land holdings of industrial farms and encourage non-farm land investments, undermining the family farmer. Productivity gains and economic benefits have been used as justification for this type of agriculture, yet numerous studies, including several USDA reports (Feb. 1967, Jan. 1981, July 1981) find the smaller family farm (approximately 450 acres for a moderate-sized wheat/barley farm in the Pacific Northwest) to be a more efficient farm production unit, providing more jobs and greater support for the local economy, and more environmentally sound than its industrial counterpart.

Another agricultural trend is that of

Carlotta Collette

Streets of Plenty

In front of our house there's a big plum tree. With little attention from any of us it annually drops thousands of plums. Each year we put up a sign—FREE PLUMS—and our neighbors come and gather their fill. There are always more than enough to go around, and besides, there are two more trees like this one in the back. Nearly everyone in Portland knows a tree like ours, or a berry patch and a clump of peppermint. Their abundance is fairly predictable and they endure. They grow here, in our city. Their produce does not need to be trucked in (and harvested before it's ripened) from California or Mexico. In small ways they help to sustain us.

The coming land revolution we've barely begun to consider is the agriculture of densely settled areas. Tree crops, mini-orchards, and year round vegetable plots tended with intimate human care can transform our city and suburban streets and lawns into wonders we can barely imagine today. —Dave Deppen.

How do we accomplish this?

We could just plant more fruit trees and peppermint, making a simple gesture to produce a token crop. But with a more studied approach, the trees and shrubs and perennials could serve purposes other than just food production. There is the weather to consider, and the feel of things. Plantings can move the wind around and away from buildings, direct water into the ground, rather than over and off it, temper the sounds of the streets and filter the dust that rises.

There's more to all of this than just plunking a few trees down on the boulevard. There's got to be a design to it. The plants need to be looked at for all they can do, each one fit like a jazz musician into the band, each one giving a virtuoso performance of its own while "jamming" with the other elements.

This approach is a science that carries many labels, among them, *sustainable agriculture*, *edible landscaping*, and the newest title, *permaculture*. The idea is to get the right plants (often natives to the climate) working together in the right spot, to produce the most food, while restoring some of the balance visible in forests and at their edges. Healthy rich absorptive soil, harbored beneficial insects and birds, quiet, and a sense of permanence are all evident in such places. These stable systems are filled with diversity and every species is to some degree interacting with every other.

Here in the Pacific Northwest, Tilth, the regional association of organic growers, has compiled a book, *The Future Is Abundant* (see Resources), to guide us through designing such harmonious environments. They describe our region and those plants which hold the most promise for it. They teach us how to use trees, shrubs, and conventional crops integrated in ways that assure the continuity of the garden and the people who rely on it.

—Carlotta Collette

declining farmland, which is now reaching crisis proportions analogous to the energy situation 10 years ago. A 1981 report entitled the National Lands Study, undertaken by the USDA and the President's Council on Environmental Quality, found that the United States has been converting agricultural land to non-agricultural purposes at a rate of about three million acres per year, a third of which is *prime* agricultural land. Rapid population growth, economic instability and energy cost inflation have precipitated public concern that the United States might not be able to provide food, fiber and fuel for all its citizens. The key issue is more efficient use of the land for both productivity and permanence.

Many of the trends identified nationally have their counterparts here in Oregon: fewer farms, larger-sized farms, fewer jobs, and declining water supplies. At the same time our as-yet-plentiful natural resources, the relative youth of our cities, and the environmental awareness demonstrated by Oregonians and the state legislature makes our situation a bit more hopeful.

In 1975, 55 percent of the fresh produce sold in Oregon came from California—yet reduced water supplies, high erosion rates and urban sprawl make California's future food production capacity shaky at best. In the Bay area alone, a region which produces fully half as much as our entire state, 25 percent of the farmland has been lost to urban sprawl in the past 30 years.

While Oregon cannot grow many crops year round, it has been suggested that we could grow much more and a greater variety than we do at present. "I think the Northwest is capable of producing 80 percent of the food we need here in the Northwest," states Margaret McCrea, a Portland area food distributor and owner of Garden Variety Produce. "In fact, I think by the year 2000 we could be exporting some of our food to California." Margaret has begun to share her vision of a regional food system with interested Portland area farmers, but it is these same family farm operations that are feeling the pinch the tightest.

The Portland Tri-County area, containing 50 percent of the state's population, accounts for a majority of Oregon's small- to moderate-sized farms—especially those in the 70- to 90-acre range. In Multnomah County

the number of farmed acres dropped from 71,000 in 1954 to 43,000 in 1978. In Washington County the acreage has dropped from 200,000 in 1964 to 153,000 in 1978. And between 1959 and 1974 farmland declined by 144,157 acres in Clackamas County. As prime agricultural lands are taken out of production, marginal, desert-like lands in the eastern part of the state, requiring extensive irrigation, are pulled into production—largely for grain export.

According to the Oregon 2000 Commission, more than half of the harvested cropland in Oregon is irrigated, compared to 14 percent nationally—a figure that is expected to rise. A 1981 report by the Idaho Citizens Coalition, *Water, Energy and Land*, revealed the folly of this course by tracing the impact of expanded irrigation on water supplies, farmland and energy usage in the region. At present, virtually all the water in the Snake/Columbia river system is claimed for hydropower production. Water diversions for irrigation—as well as urbanization and other energy development projects—result in significant reductions of hydropower potential. As this cheap and renewable energy source is redirected, more expensive power supplies such as coal and nuclear fuel are drawn upon, translating into higher electricity rates.

Increased costs for electricity have compounded the problems of family farmers, as irrigation development requires enormous amounts of electricity to pump water onto the land and then often over long distances to the farm site. The "technology and large-scale farming to which [irrigation] is suited require capital investments on a scale available only to large corporate entities or wealthy individuals" (*Water, Energy and Land*). Unknowingly, Oregonians—through publicly owned water supplies and increased electrical rates—have subsidized industrial farming and the decline of family farms. Competing demands for a finite water supply make agriculture's dependence on energy-intensive irrigation self-defeating.

Historically the second largest industry after timber, accounting for 16 to 20 percent of Oregon's wealth, our agriculture has an impact far greater than the number of workers directly employed in farming. The Oregon State University Extension Service estimated the economic impact of agriculture to be three times the total amount of gross sales, $1.5 billion in 1979. Since 1963, land use regulations such as special assessments of farm lands, specific land use planning goals and zoning have been used to conserve agricultural lands.

In 1975 an Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) was established in an effort to contain urban sprawl and protect agricultural lands. The tradeoff is that agricultural lands within the UGB are subject to eventual development with increasing inner-city neighborhood density. The Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) guidelines are an exemplary effort to deal with land use issues, and here, as in other areas, Oregon is seen as a national model. Yet the land use planning process has its limitations as well. As one agriculture extension agent puts it, "planners love to draw lines"—yet those lines don't always make as much sense in the field as they do on paper. Some high grade agricultural land will be lost to urbanization; other less productive land better suited to construction, outside the UGB, will be zoned exclusively for farming.

Land use zoning is a sensitive political issue. An increase in personal law suits may cause politicians to shy away from zoning before the method is given a chance to succeed. Even so, more than zoning is needed to protect Oregon's agriculture. "It's one thing to zone," says Lorna Stickle, a senior planner with the Multnomah County Planning and Development Division, "and another thing to have a healthy agricultural economy." A supportive infrastructure equals a secure land base in importance. Some methods for strengthening our agricultural economy include: 1) reductions in property taxes; 2) stricter standards for defining "farm use" (restricting speculation); 3) tax incentives; 4) emphasis on research and technical assistance for small and middle-size farmers; and 5) market outlets.

Market outlets are a particularly important issue for Portlanders as processing, marketing and trading aspects of the food system are the areas where the biggest profits in food are made. Eighty-six percent of all food sales in Portland flow into the hands of four retailers—Fred Meyer (25 percent); Safeway (23 percent); Thriftway (25 percent); and Albertsons (14 percent)—creating a monopoly-like situation where overpricing is likely to occur. A direct marketing system with food cooperatives, farmers markets and U-Pick farms (like those found around the city) are an effective means of supporting local family farms that in turn offer diversity and competition to the retail food market.

Over 25 food buying clubs and three storefront stores in the tri-county area account for a small but growing percentage of the total market. Joining or starting a food co-op is an effective individual strategy for expressing consumer choices, saving money, and building strong bonds with one's neighbors.

Since the mid-'70s a revival in urban gardening has swept the country. According to a 1980 Gallup poll about half of all American households currently grow some of their food at a total saving of approximately 13 billion dollars a year. In Portland, over 1200 inner-city residents participate in the Park Bureau's gardening program, with 18 gardens city-wide. The waiting list for garden plots topped 400 during 1981. Lots of open space remains on both Park and County lands for additional gardens.

Several efforts to organize a Portland farmers market are in the works; the most promising is a wholesale produce warehouse that the City is developing. Planned construction of the facility is scheduled for early spring of 1983 in inner Northeast and wholesalers associated with the project have expressed interest in having a farmers market on the site.

The many noteworthy projects being pursued throughout the city—and many more that are only now becoming possible—are only pieces of a larger puzzle. A coordinated approach to the concept of a stable, regional agricultural system that integrates competing needs and strategies on both a neighborhood and area-wide level is desperately needed. Local government plays a vital role in this development, creating the opportunities and incentives that will enable us to make use of our resources in an environmentally sound, economically viable and adequately productive manner. Oregon has the potential to take the lead in this critical area, offering a challenge to the rest of the country to follow. —*Laura Stuchinsky*

A PORTLAND VISION . . .

An ideal society would be one where people did not have to worry about basic human needs. They wouldn't have to worry about where their next meal is going to come from. A loss of a job or a sudden illness wouldn't devastate their family or cause them to lose their home.
—June Tanoue, Tri-County Food Bank

Housing

We are experiencing a housing crisis. So is the rest of the country. To understand our housing problems locally we need to take a brief look at the national situation—an insufficient supply of good quality, suitably located housing that people can afford and remain in with reasonable security. The housing problem is particularly severe for lower income and minority households, and in urban areas where changing economic and fiscal conditions have resulted in significant disinvestment or gentrification.

"The single-family, free standing house is a peculiar development based on a unique combination of cheap capital, energy, land and materials," writes Bruce Stokes of the Worldwatch Institute in a September 1981 report. The median price of a new home has *tripled* in the U.S. in the last decade. The average size of a new home, a traditional measure of housing quality, fell in the U.S. from 1,527 square feet in 1978 to 1,464 square feet in 1980—the first time this measure has reversed direction in an industrial country.

Never before has the entire intricate financing system, both the public and the private portions, been so threatened. Money market funds and bank deregulation have drawn money away from mortgage financing. The changes in tax law have eliminated the advantages that residential investment has historically held. In fact, the new investment tax credits for the rehabilitation of buildings, which cannot be used for residential structures, make the allure of commercial redevelopment so strong that even the most committed professional housing rehabber will be drawn to office projects instead. The hidden subsidies of federal mortgage loan guarantees are threatened as well, and the veteran loan programs are pricing themselves out of the market. The situation is so severe that even if interest rates do come down, we may still find that the whole structure of the housing industry has been damaged and may take years to recover.

For at least the last thirty years, *all* housing in this country has been subsidized. The great suburban housing boom of the '50s was fueled by veteran's loans and the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). The middle class urban redevelopments of the '60s were built on tax abatements and interest subsidies. Even the upper class condo rush of the '70s was supported by loan guarantees and tax deductions.

The housing problem is largely a function of the way housing is produced, financed and owned, i.e., for private profit rather than social use. Government housing policy has operated primarily to reinforce the commodity nature of housing (e.g., through promotion of mortgaged homeownership, tax expenditures, urban renewal, and even subsidized housing production) and has not solved the housing problem.

The median price for a new, single-family home in the tri-county area was $73,600 in 1979. This means that only 19 percent of the population could afford to enter the home-buyer's market.

Who is left out of the home buyers' market? Store clerks, nurses, barbers, day care teachers, retired folks, and so on. Due to interest rates and current lending practices for home buyers (income requirements, etc.) each saving of $1,000 on the sale price of a house, according to "1000 Friends of Oregon," effectively allows another 20,000 Oregon households to participate in the home-buying market. Despite the crunch, new families are arriving all the time, needing more housing. In addition, the children of the "baby boom" are old enough now to be looking for homes to raise their own children. Where will they live?

Putting subdivisions out in the country may seem at first like a practical and pleasant solution. But in the long run, it costs everyone more money. It costs the state's economy, as well as the taxpayers, when the surrounding land is no longer available for agriculture or timber, diminishing our state's income potential.

Urban sprawl also costs taxpayers extra. Patches of new developments—houses, condominiums, etc.—scattered across the countryside cost us all more money to provide services than for closer-in development.

In 1976 the Oregon legislature made the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) a legal entity. LCDC's Land Use Goals and Guidelines, notably Housing Goal 10, require each local jurisdiction to do its part towards solving the housing needs of Oregon residents of all income levels, as far as is reasonably possible. This means that cities and counties must provide adequate land for a variety of housing types, including single family homes, apartments and mobile homes, to meet the demands for such housing in the region.

Portland's housing programs have been recognized nationally for their innovation and efficiency. Our single family rehab program has served as an example to the nation. Our insistence on the matching of public and private loan funds has allowed us to do many more housing units than other cities have. Our recognition of single room occupancy hotels as viable living situations has now been accepted by Congress. Our add-a-rental experiment has been hailed in the Christian Science Monitor *as an example that others should follow. I am convinced that our sense of innovation has not died, that we will find ways to solve our problems, that we will succeed. It will take an unusual level of commitment and coopera-*

tion among all the forces in the city, but it can be done. We have no choice. For without a strong housing stock, Portland can not long remain a livable city.

—City Commissioner Margaret Strachan

The purpose of Portland's housing programs has not simply been to provide decent housing for our citizens, but also to keep our city livable and affordable for all groups so that we do not just become a city of the very rich and the very poor, so that our schools can remain open and our tax base can stay solid.

The city of Portland contains 160,000 housing units. Of these, over 25,000 are substandard. In the best of years we have seen approximately 2,000 housing units rehabbed. At that rate it would take us 12 years to eliminate our substandard housing units. But every year, another couple of thousand housing units reach the end of their useful lives. We've been doing little better than keeping even.

On July 1, 1981 the City Council created the Office of Housing Policy (OHP) under the auspices of Commissioner Strachan. The new OHP has responsibility for the development, refinement and implementation of city housing policy; coordination of all city housing programs and projects; development of an annual housing management plan; and staffing the new Housing Advisory Committee. It also serves as the principal liaison to all federal, state and local housing-related agencies, and coordinates collection, analysis and dissemination of housing and population-related information.

The cost and quality of a home are determined by the type of land it stands on and the materials, energy and financing that go into building it. In the last year, concern over rising interest rates has obscured the fact that inflation has struck all housing resources.

In a prize-winning June 1981 essay for the California Affordable Housing Competition, Tom Bender, a former RAIN editor, makes an important distinction between the *economic* costs of housing (the labor, energy and materials put into construction of a house), and the *monetary* costs (finance structures, government policies and traditions of the housing market) that increase housing costs many fold. He proposes a system of "durability incentives" which, by improving the *economic* productivity of housing construction, could lead to an eventual 80-90 percent reduction in the economic cost of housing. After all, "the longer a building lasts, the less it costs per year it's used."

Once again we see the tremendous role government can play in expanding opportunities for affordable housing. Bender also proposes sweat-equity housing grants (rather than transfer payments); a no-interest revolving loan fund (which would reduce the total purchase cost of a home 65-75 percent by eliminating finance charges); community housing exchanges ("through virtual elimination of realtor's fees, this service would realize savings over a person's life of 25-50 percent of the sales price of a home"); and renter's equity (a mechanism that "would allow for 60-80 percent of a person's rent payment to accumulate ownership equity for them rather than for investors").

Bruce Stokes is right on target when he says "building better housing for all

David Brown

Cooperatively financed row-houses, S.E. Oak St.

Ancil Nance

first requires better management of shelter resources. Few governments have begun to plant the trees needed for lumber, to plan the public services, or to develop the land-use policies essential for meeting future housing demand. Concentrating government expenditures in this way will ultimately generate far more housing than comparable government expenditures to build new homes."

A progressive program for housing and neighborhoods might be based on such principles as: (1) reducing speculative, private ownership; (2) increasing public control of housing finance capital and reducing the dependency of housing on private mortgage credit; (3) increasing social control of housing production (including land, materials, design and development); (4) increasing the viability of lower income neighborhoods and expanding housing mobility for lower income and minority households; (5) increasing popular control over housing decisions (at the building, block and neighborhood level); and, (6) increasing public funding for housing and community development by relocating existing revenues and developing more progressive forms of taxation.

Examples of strategic housing organizing efforts which reflect these principles include: campaigns for progressive rent control and condominium conversion control, and demands for a set-aside of development profits from publicly-assisted projects for purposes benefiting lower-income families.

The Metropolitan Service District (Metro) has projected a 40 percent population increase for the region by the year 2000. How can we "encourage the availability" of needed housing?

- By making fees charged to new housing reasonable and fair.
- By revising ordinances and standards for housing which are unnecessary or wasteful.
- By revising the ways communties plan and pay for major extension of services and facilities.
- By experimenting with mixed-use zoning, clustering, and Planned Unit Developments.

There are other important ideas to consider as well:

- Design new residential developments/units to make maximum use of solar exposure.
- Encourage common-wall or attached dwellings.
- Add-a-rentals
- Infilling
- Cooperative living arrangements (e.g., "shared housing")
- Creative financial/ownership mechanisms (e.g., "mingles")

Increasing housing density does not have to mean sacrifices in our quality of life. When Frank Ivancie was running for Mayor of Portland and stirring people up about the Comprehensive Plan, he was envisioning row houses, ghettoes and other remnants of the old "public housing" idea. Actually, the key to making densities workable is design and quality. If you provide for various kinds of setbacks, courtyards, gardens and such, high densities can be quite pleasant.

Even more pleasant, higher housing densities further our potential for community self-reliance by making possible greater energy efficiency and decentralization of energy sources. Common wall construction, for example, saves on building materials and saves on heating costs.

Individuals interested in more energy-efficient homes can explore building their own passive solar homes, weatherizing existing homes, or attachment of a food and heat-producing solar greenhouse. Portland Sun and Eliot Energy House (see Resources) offer classes to help do-it-yourselfers.

—*Mark Roseland*

Transportation

Twenty-seven percent of all energy consumed in Portland is used for transportation. Autos guzzle almost 40 percent of the 6.7 billion barrels of oil used in the United States every year. In 1978 foreign imports of petroleum products accounted for 43 percent of the country's total petroleum consumption. In 1972 it was only 29 percent, and Oregon, now as then, must import *all* of its petroleum products. The growing dependency of our nation on foreign energy sources has compounded our vulnerability to other nations.

So, transportation is an energy issue. It's also a political issue, a land use issue, and an economic issue. The city of Portland's Energy Policy addresses the need for revised transportation options through five of its general goals:

1. To locate more single-family residential areas near major industrial employers and near where "new" regional transit facilities are to be sited;
2. To provide more crosstown transit service from residential areas to commercial centers and major industrial facilities;
3. To increase development of labor-intensive industries, commercial centers, and high- and medium-density apartments along major transit corridors and near where "new" regional transit stations are to be sited;

4. To discourage the development of auto-oriented uses in the commercial areas and encourage uses which promote walking and mass transit; and
5. To provide support for alternative forms of urban travel, such as bicycling and walking, by constructing bicycle/pedestrian paths which link residential areas to employment centers and commercial areas.

The economics of natural and human resources in this country relate integrally to a major sector of transportation, the automobile industry. This dominating force in our economy creates employment for one in every five Americans, yet it drains not only the planet's fossil fuels but also 60 percent of our country's synthetic rubber, 50 percent of its malleable iron, 33 percent of its zinc, 25 percent of its steel, and 17 percent of its aluminum.

Finally, transportation is a communications issue; often what is carried is nearly invisible, at the very least intangible. We move paper, and we move people about in order to move paper. Could advancing electronic technologies handle the job? An article in *Fortune* (6/18/79) describes, for example, the U.S. Postal Service mail system as "a ridiculous arrangement that employs internal combustion engines and human backs to lug around information, an essentially weightless commodity."

Transportation system decisions may involve complex solutions such as an urban mass transit system, for which long term consequences are hard to gauge, or more simple alternatives. The U.S. Department of Energy's publication, *The Energy Consumer* (9/80) has estimated that "if only half of the 52 million Americans who now drive to work alone would double up, the country would save 14.7 million gallons of gasoline each day." Davis, California, has demonstrated that bicycles can, under some conditions, be a viable option for local transportation. The city's bike path system and education program have resulted in more bikes than cars being driven in the city. By using bikes for one-fourth of all trips within the city, Davis residents are saving roughly 64,000 gallons of gasoline annually.

The key to transportation planning, then, is to look at both larger- and smaller-scale strategies and to balance local and regional priorities with personal ones. —*Steve Johnson*

Communication

Since the early 1960s the dominant trend in the Uited States labor force has been the growth of information-related occupations. By the mid-1970s almost half the country's labor force worked in information-related occupations, which accounted for nearly half the gross national product. Sociologist Daniel Bell has predicted that over 90 percent of the labor force will be providing services by the year 2000, with only 10 percent of the labor force in the United States producing hard goods.

We are moving from an industrial-based economy to an information-based economy. The importance of this fundamental shift is aptly stated by information specialist Anthony Oettinger:

Information is a resource just as

Oregon Historical Society

Mother's Day Trolley, 1936

energy is a resource. Both are vital to the well-being of individuals and organizations in today's world. As with energy, politics and technology are changing the ways in which information is produced, stored, communicated, processed and used. . . . How essential are information resources? Who produces or controls them? Who can get them, and on what terms?

Materials, energy and information are mankind's basic resources. Without materials there is nothing. Without energy, everything stands still. Without information all is chaos. Information makes it possible to use all other resources effectively and efficiently.

Dramatic innovations in communication satellites, wideband transmission networks, cable television systems with "interactive capability," "viewdata" and "teletext," microcomputers and computer conferencing—and their usage—will become an accelerated trend. More people will begin to work, shop, pay bills, "attend" classes and public meetings from their homes through telecommunication. While such a trend may be viewed by many people as threatening our lifestyles and even our privacy, the information-based economy holds great potential to *upgrade* public access to knowledge, decentralize the decision-making process and dramatically alter the requirements of our current transportation system.

The "telecommuting" lifestyle is already being lived by some. Peter and Trudy Johnson-Lenz, RAIN board members, describe their electronically based consulting business in the following excerpt from an article in the *Christian Science Monitor*:

We haven't commuted in years. Instead we communicate to work via computer from our home office, interacting daily with people around the country and a few folks abroad. We don't have to deal with traffic jams, bad weather, parking, dressing up, or lengthy meetings. And yet we maintain a lively professional and social life electronically.

We can "telecommute" because we are using a computer as a means of communication, rather than for processing data, keeping records or any of its more traditional uses. We work and play in a computer network, using a computerized conferencing system to send and receive electronic mail, attend ongoing conferences and meetings on a variety of subjects, write and distribute material, play games, and participate in other information exchanges. In short, we communicate with other people on many different topics, and we use a computer to organize that communication, rather than relying exclusively on mail, telephone, or face-to-face meetings.

The Portland region plays an active role in the rapidly developing high technology sector of the nation's economy. We are also beginning to understand the implications of trends in telecommunications for people on the local level. The Portland eastside cable franchise, for example, with its provisions for public community access channels and interactive polling, is considered to be a model for municipal policy on an emerging technology. The City Club Vision Report included a telecommunication *scenario* for the year 2000 that underscored the potential impact on transportation, decision-making and neighborhoods.

Overall, however, we have only a dim understanding of how rapidly we will be affected by these trends in telecommunications. Perhaps no one such issue will be as dominant in the next decade as the trade-off between telecommunications and transportation, the difference between moving more people around or moving information. Current regional forecasts for transportation requirements in the year 2000 make virtually no assumptions about the impact of such developments. And yet by 1985, the implications of telecommunications on transportation will be quite noticeable, according to industry specialists. Perhaps, more than any other major issue facing Portland, such implications will require careful education and "demystification" so that public and individual planning can truly reflect the opportunities at hand.

—Steve Johnson and Steven Ames

Arts

Artists—including those in the visual as well as performing arts—are often fugitives among the rest of us.

They exist—in our most romantic descriptions—at the very outer edges of our sensibility, reflecting back a composite or just a segment of the society, transformed. We call it culture: it's the thread of our spirits that's pursued, then molded, into shapes and colors, sounds and movement. The thread extends from us through the transformation and back to us, renewed and striking. We may not always approve, but we are at least made more alert to the possibilities. If the arts are not encouraged, our image of ourselves as a society is limited. So culture should draw together the worlds and visions of all of its people. Patronage of only the most conventional work would establish a culture that's predictable.

Historically artists sought patrons for their sustenance. Called "angels," they "blessed" the artists they approved. Work that pleased was rewarded. That which did not was not. The audience was small, the benefitting artists few. Most art still goes largely unsupported, or is supported by the artists themselves who choose "dumb jobs" that earn them the money to write or paint, compose or perform. To "make it," it's assumed, "good artists" go to New York or Los Angeles. Both cities promise success—the arts version of self-reliance and self-sufficiency—being able to live off your art.

But what options, short of leaving town, have Portland's artists to choose from? Many artists are finding their support and encouragement among other artists. They are forming collectives and ensembles to strengthen their economics by sharing space to create and exhibit, rehearse and perform. Artists in groups find that they can reduce their vulnerability and the economic dependency of the arts community as a whole. They can also serve as their own critics to stretch their work and permit the exploration of more risky visions.

Portland as a community is enriched by several of these strong arts collectives and ensembles. (See Resources for arts information.)

But perhaps more important than the move among artists to join forces is Portland's reciprocal move to put its artists on the "public turf." Portland needs its creative community and knows it. Five years ago when the downtown transit mall was finally opened, the "ceremony" became a blowout celebration of, for, and by the arts. It was so much fun that it became an annual event. Artquake, the last big fling of the sunny season, gets us out in the streets for one more song and dance. Then, it

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helps us move our attention back indoors to the painters, sculptors, musicians, dancers and others that create "the art scene." Unlike most urban arts festivals, Portland pays its artists, musicians and performers. In fact, Artquake is the largest employer of the arts in all disciplines in the state. Artquake producer Karen Whitman argues, "People who elect to be artists shouldn't have to leave the community to be successful."

As a growing audience, excited by events like Artquake, *demands* and *supports* more art and music, more theater, more of all of the richness that these offer, Portland's reputation for livability will include ovations for its resident artists. —*Carlotta Collette*

Economics/Work

Our economic base is as much a key to our life support system as our land and resources; they are virtually inseparable. Yet essential as it is to our existence, few of us seem able to elucidate the role of economics as clearly as Bob Baugh. Bob was recently elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Oregon State AFL-CIO, after serving as a researcher for the International Woodworkers of America. He is also a member of the American Federation of Teachers. In the following conversation we asked Bob to clarify some connections for us.

RAIN: Being newly elected to the Oregon AFL-CIO, what challenges do you see for labor in the next few years?

Baugh: The economy in general. In the Pacific Northwest, what do people do for work? In Oregon, nearly 40 percent of the manufacturing jobs are in the wood products industry. Right now we can see that anywhere from 1/4 to 1/3 or more of these people are out of work, and a lot of this is going to be permanent. We've got a lot of permanent plant closures. What will these people do? Real unemployment in this state—any economist or labor researcher will tell you—we're probably looking at 15-20 percent actual unemployment in Oregon.

RAIN: Where do you see the role of government, in terms of the marketplace?

Baugh: The government plays a tremendous role in the economy of the country and the state in how we spend our dollars, the choices we're making today. Do you build mass transportation or do you build MX missiles? That raises all kinds of questions—how many jobs does that produce? We know transportation produces many, many more jobs. And the benefit that comes back to society—money spent on a missile system that nobody in society ever uses (and if we ever use it, we're never going to use *anything* again!) or building a mass transportation system that generates income, which people will use, which moves goods to market, and so on? That's the role that government plays in the marketplace, and it plays that role in a much more *rational* fashion everywhere else in the world, as far as I can see, whether you are talking about rightist dictatorships, leftist dictatorships, socialist or capitalist countries. We probably have less control than anyone. We're involved in it but we're not involved in it. We turn over the money, but the decision-making power lies elsewhere, in the private sector, without government and com-

munities really having a say in what's going on.

What responsibility does a corporation have to the community in which it exists? I think that's the crucial question that faces us for the '80s. Our needs are real basic. We need shelter, we need food, we need clothing, we need education, we need "quality of life." They need profits. Sometimes these can work hand in hand, but I think we're seeing too many cases where they don't. That private motivation for accumulating capital interferes with the needs of working people and the community.

RAIN: What does it mean, in terms of community self-reliance, to have substantial amounts of our capital tied up outside the region? In particular, what does it mean for us that *Georgia*-Pacific and *Louisiana*-Pacific control Northwest lumber? Or that the Fred Meyer department store chain may be sold to a New York firm?

Baugh: A lot of people are starting to ask questions. For instance, does it make sense for the Port Commission to be building a K-Mart in The Dalles? The local people said, "Wait a minute! This is going to destroy the downtown area! Is this the way to spend our public funds that we pay for with our taxes?" It went to a referendum and was defeated, but this is one of the public uses of capital that has happened, sometimes to the detriment of existing businesses and facilities in the community.

In the forest industry, the big companies have chosen to export 20 percent of everything they cut. Now sawmilling creates 2½ times more jobs than log exports. Plywood manufacture creates four times as many jobs as log exports. I sit here and look around and I see all these wood products mills closing, people thrown out of work, causing tremendous human suffering and social consequences, and it *costs* the state money—for the people who end up in jail because they turn to crime, for the people who become mentally ill and end up in hospitals for the drug abuse, the child abuse. We pay for that, but we don't have that in the social ledger. That's a question that's got to be raised.

Weyerhauser and Georgia-Pacific, they'll export the product, the log, then close a mill here and say "gee, we don't have any timber supply." Well, to me it's a question of how you utilize the existing supply as much as how much supply you have in the long run. They're *choosing* to do that. What do they do with the profits? They don't spend them here. They've reinvested the profits they made here in plants overseas and in the South . . . Weyerhauser is not just "the tree growing people," they're "the tree growing people all over the world." They've got property in Indonesia, in South America, it's just incredible how much stuff they own. Same with Georgia-Pacific, Lousiana-Pacific and the others.

Why is U.S. Steel closing all its mills? Last year when they closed 14 mills, 12 of them were making money. But 50 percent of their capital and an increasing proportion is now invested in petrochemicals, because they make a 25 percent return every year. Monopoly. Monopoly with diversification. And so what do they do? They drain the assets off one side of the corporation, or refuse to reinvest in a needed technology to keep up, and invest it somewhere else where they're going to make a bigger buck.

If I was a business manager for the United States I'd say that's bad investment policy for the long run, the long-range objective, which should be the viability of our society and economy as a whole. And that's bad investment policy. But we don't have a business manager for the United States, and the government refuses to take the role.

I think it's a perfectly legitimate question for us to say: "How should we be spending our money?" Should the state spend its pension fund to buy Fred Meyer? Real good question. Or should it go into securing mortages for low- and moderate- income people so they can build homes? Or should it be going into transportation? Or the development of alternative energy? Real legitimate questions. There's a crisis of capital; there isn't enough, and the government and pension funds are major sources for the capital that exists. The question is, how do you spend it?

RAIN: What happens when plants close? What is the real impact on society?

Baugh: Who put in the sewers and paid for them, for a major manufacturing facility in the community? We did, the taxpayers. The company didn't. They're not going to pay off the property taxes. Who's going to pay off those general obligation bonds after they're gone, and they're not even there as a tax base to help pay for it? We still are, we're still held liable.

I think that's where the role of the trade union comes in. Two aspects. One is that you represent the people in those mills, so from that perspective you work through collective bargaining, etc., to protect the interests of the people you represent. But the trade union movement represents people who work, not just people who are organized. It's that simple.

I think we're in a period right now where we're going through a tremendous transition, in society, in the economy, and in the trade union movement. It has a lot to do with demographics. The people who came back from the Second World War, our parents, are approaching retirement. We're like the big pig in the middle of the snake coming through the system, people our age, between 25 and 35, and you're beginning to see changes taking place as people from that group move up and take leadership roles. In the trade union movement, there's all kinds of new people that are becoming officers. Just look in the state of Oregon, all new faces, new ideas. They're going to be making their own way.

I guess I'm a reflection of that. I'm 32, and I've just been elected officer of a state-wide organization, AFL-CIO. We grew up in the '60s and '70s like everyone else around here, and questioned the system, and now we're it! We are the system in many respects! What do you do with it? How does it work? Does it meet our needs? And these same kinds of people are also starting to take a longer look ahead. They may be buying homes, may be starting to raise families, just in that age where all of a sudden my job is becoming what I'm going to do for the next 10 years, it's my security and stability. How stable am I for the coming years, and how do I ensure that? Do I like what the government is doing? Do I like our economic policy? And if I don't, what do I think we ought to do? 'Cause it's going to affect me. I think we're going to move back from the "me-generation" to the "we-generation" in the next few years. I sure hope so. More and more people are raising those questions: who has the right to invest capital? And for what?

We have needs to meet in this society, and I think we should approach it rationally, and cautiously, and take long, hard looks and make good decisions, and we don't do that. We have the most irrational system for making decisions in this

country, where the people who own the capital make all the decisions, and their needs are not the same as my needs. And their goals are not my goals, nor are they the goals of most of the people in this society.

I'd like people to be healthy, and not hungry, and have clothes, and have a decent education, and have good jobs, so they can take care of themselves.
—Mark Roseland and Steve Rudman

Oregon Historical Society

Welder, Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation, 1942

Women Workers in World War II

Almost 40,000 women worked in Portland-Vancouver area shipyards at the height of World War II. Traditional occupational barriers to the blue collar trades—sex segregation, socialization, and union policy against women—tumbled before the burgeoning needs of wartime industries.

In Portland, a city coming of age industrially during the '40s, shipbuilding concerns grew as government war contracts proliferated. Kaiser Industries, Commercial Ironworks, Albina Engine and Machine Works and Willamette Iron and Steel recruited women for unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled positions. After receiving technical training at Benson High School, women became shipyard electricians, machinists, welders, painters and draftspersons. By 1943, 700 women had completed the training course for machinists, but the largest number of skilled women were in the welding trade, which at the journeyman level paid $1.20 an hour. Welding was likened to embroidery, a skill women were *thought* to embrace.

Women in the shipyards gained earning power, economic security and valuable new skills. They were provided with a means to support their families and an opportunity to *produce* something. All of this stood in sharp contrast to the traditional, low-paying, service-oriented "women's jobs." Contrary to popular myth, the women shipyard workers were not just housewives working to be patriotic. More than half of them had been in the workforce before the war, and they sought the newly-available shipyard jobs for a variety of reasons, most of which were economic. In 1943, an informal survey of over 3,000 women employed at Willamette Iron and Steel revealed that over 50 percent of the women wanted to continue in the same kind of work when the war was over.

The wheel (cycle) of necessity continued. Childcare was crucial for working mothers throughout the community. Fifteen public school nurseries and a half dozen non-profit agency nurseries flourished during the war, funded primarily by federal subsidies. Kaiser Industries operated two child service centers (also federally subsidized) which gained national attention for their scale of operation and expertise. The Kaiser facilities were open 24 hours a day and served up to 400 children ranging in age from 18 months to six years. They offered infirmary care, immunization and even a home food service for working parents.

The end of the war brought new demographics and a return of old attitudes. The Kaiser yards closed and there were massive layoffs at all the other Portland-Vancouver shipbuilding operations. Women workers, so recently praised for their skill and dedication, were shunted aside, while only a small core of male shipyard employees was retained. Women filled the unemployment lines and the wartime childcare centers closed their doors.
Mimi Maduro

Ancil Nance

Aftermath—Mt. St. Helens eruption (May 18, 1980)

When the Company Closes . .

Plant closures and related unemployment result in another capital drain on an already hard-pressed state government. As unemployment increases, so does the need for social services, but these are the very agencies facing cutbacks. It is a contradictory and dangerous situation. The social services are absolutely necessary to counteract as best they can the terrible social and physical ailments that come with unemployment. Dr. Harvey Brenner has testified numerous times before Congress on this subject:

A one percent increase in aggregate unemployment in the U.S. over six years leads to:

- 37,000 total deaths (20,000 cardiovascular)
- 920 suicides
- 650 homicides
- 4,000 state mental hospital admissions
- 3,300 state prison admissions

The social costs of crime and death are part of a broader picture of family and personal crisis. Every community hit by closures finds rapid increases in spouse abuse, child abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, and broken marriages. The cost of this human suffering is staggering.

—International Woodworkers of America, Department of Research, Education and Collective Bargaining Coordination

Emergency Preparedness

Portland weathered volcanic ashfall from Mt. St. Helens in the summer of 1980 and disabling ice storms and power outages in the winters of 1979 and 1980. During the ice storms hundreds of people called city and county offices needing food, medication, batteries, diapers, and reassurance. In both years it was clear that a good deal of inconvenience, danger, fear, and disorientation could have been avoided if people had had basic information on survival techniques and alternative resources close at hand when the power went out.

In 1979 the City Club of Portland reviewed disaster planning, concluding that "the present situation is so serious

that an effective response to a disaster would be too much to expect." About 40 representatives of community service organizations, uncomfortable with the narrow scope and centralized approach of the City Club study, met to discuss an alternative approach to disaster planning. Terry Anderson wrote the report excerpted here.

To base disaster planning on models of military mobilization or disease intervention (if it gets bad enough, we'll operate) encourages passivity in the populace by assurances that no one need fear or plan for emergencies because a system will be activated to service everyone efficiently and effectively. This attitude adds to complacency and unnecessarily undercuts self-reliance and community efforts to plan for emergencies.

We need to focus more on community organizing. We need a plan that is workable, flexible, and that operates not only in catastrophic circumstances but that also fosters and strengthens the community at large in a continuing way.

With most emergency preparedness efforts, people need to keep their skills honed either by annual drills and reminders, or by a real crisis. For this reason, self-reliance efforts related to emergencies need integral connections to more comprehensive neighborhood organizing efforts. Neighborhood crime prevention, community gardens, recycling and weatherization projects, food co-ops, and house sharing—all place a premium on the exchange of work and resources.

A different perspective employs a different metaphor—a web of interlocking networks rather than a command post. A different perspective also poses a different set of questions: What do people need (as opposed to how do we manage people)? How can we best use existing resources (as opposed to how can we co-ordinate resources)? What else is needed to augment these resources in times of cataclysm or prolonged distress?

Our perspective leads to these first threads of planning:

- people's capacity for self-reliance must be fostered;
- connections between people ("natural networks") and mutual assistance are an irreplaceable resource and should be nourished;
- the familiar should be retained whenever possible; neighborhood and cultural identification should be the first bonds formed in a larger system;
- certain populations (e.g., the elderly, the handicapped, single parents with children, the low income)—more vulnerable than others and whose chronic problems rapidly deteriorate to an acute condition—are critical or high-risk populations that need to be specifically addressed; and,
- technological over-dependency means people in general are more vulnerable whenever these systems (e.g., power, telephone, transportation) break down. Therefore basic survival information that takes into account a range of technological contingencies should be in the hands of all the citizenry through school systems, senior centers, and a public information campaign.

Oregon Historical Society

Vanport Flood, 1948: Rescuers form a lifeline

The thrust of planning therefore should be a "bottom-up" approach—moving from smaller units or areas of coordination to larger. Senior centers, schools, churches, and neighborhood associations are the logical first focal points in cooperation with volunteer emergency agencies, community service organizations and city and county field personnel. In each area of the county these are presently identifiable and familiar to many.

We can then explore ideas that fuse these principles into a plan. Form a task force in each quarter of the county to assess resources and needs and to take responsibility in a crisis. Form networks within and between the task forces. Disseminate information on urban survival to the public. Perhaps we can also establish a monitoring system (mailpersons, a buddy system, block homes), depots for wood and other supplies, and warm centers (a hot meal and social interaction).

Such an approach to crises allows for diversification of response according to the particular strengths and needs of an area. Each area forms its own network and retains a measure of autonomy in coordinating services. Coupling more localized planning with a broad informational campaign will foster a sense of personal and community responsibility.

It is true that such an approach means more work for each of us. Perhaps it is a matter of the will making a way.

—Terry Anderson

Oregon Historical Society

S.W. 1st and Stark looking south.

Recycling

Garbage is not something you throw away. There is no such place as away. Disposal is a myth. When you dispose of something it goes someplace—a wastebasket, a toilet, a dropbox, a sewer line, a landfill, even an incinerator. It is moved from one place to another, maybe changed to another form, but it still exists.

Applying the current $27 per ton collection and disposal costs to our present volume, the annual national cost for solid waste management is about $7.8 billion. If the 1985 projected costs of $50 per ton hold true, the fiscal impact of waste management on local government will be devastating. Portland's collection and disposal figures, currently slightly less than national at $23 per ton, nonetheless show the same potential impact.

Current economics in this country necessitate that waste reduction receive attention. Surveys in Oregon, Washington, and California have shown that upwards of 75 percent of their citizens are in favor of recycling programs. Rising costs of raw materials and their growing scarcity speak to the importance of conservation practices, which have their precedents deeply rooted in our past.

In the 1890s the United States was transforming from a rural-agricultural to an urban-industrial society, and the quality of life in the rapidly expanding population centers was fouled by accumulations of garbage piled everywhere in city streets.

One of the earliest organized groups in this country to recognize the need for recycling was the Salvation Army, whose initial resource recovery activities centered in New York City in the 1890s. Another pioneer recycling program began in New York in 1896, initiated by Col. George E. Waring Jr., a prominent 19th century sanitary engineer. He began a system of primary separation which required householders to store organic wastes, paper, ashes, and other light rubbish in separate containers for collection.

As early as 1905, a Portland city ordinance dealt with the accumulation in city streets of "garbage, refuse vegetable matter, or filth of any kind . . .", and in 1910, a general ordinance of the city of Portland mandated the same type of source separation pioneered in New York City.

(Garbage—Not to be Mixed.)

Section 42. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to mix or place in the same vessel or receptacle, tin cans, glass, crockery, or any other material or ashes, with any swill, vegetable or animal matter or other filth or garbage intended for delivery to scavengers for the purpose of being hauled or carted away from any house or premises within the limits of the city, [and] . . . when so hauled or carted away from any premises in the city, be kept entirely separate from all other substances, and shall be so kept when the same shall be dumped or unloaded.

In 1910 Portland's first garbage crematory, located at Guilds Lake (what is now the NW industrial area) was completed by Public Works Engineering Company. It was lauded in the mayor's annual municipal report as "sightly and substantial" and "appearing to be a modern up-to-date destructor." After undergoing six months of required testing, the garbage crematory was accepted by the Health Department and declared taken "in full control [by] the city." However, then Mayor George Rushlight noted the "systematic and wanton destruction of human foodstuffs" by the carloads "sent by certain food dealers to the crematory to uphold food prices." Rushlight deplored such action, asking the council to pass an ordinance to "prevent such criminal waste." The crematory incinerated almost 30,000 tons of garbage in 1910, averaging 66¢ per ton.

Because there were as yet no municipal landfills, the incinerator was working to capacity and beyond. In 1912 the voters rejected a bond issue to provide for a second "sorely needed" incinerator. A major problem arose with the need to shut down the facility for repair; because there was nowhere to dispose of the "vast and increasing garbage," the incinerator continued to operate until a fire caused its closure in 1914. During the next six weeks, the upper end of Marquam Gulch became the city's first experimental landfill.

Acute shortages of raw materials during World War I prompted the federal government to launch a recycling program. The Waste Reclamation Service was created in 1917 as a section of the War Industries Board and transferred in 1918 to the Department of Commerce. Portland's attention was turned to its waste stream. The precedent set by its 1910 waste separation ordinance helped establish a citywide waste recycling system. The scavengers were no longer alone in their efforts. Rubber, metals, and glass were reclaimed by patriotic individuals and groups to aid production in war industries.

In the city's 1921 annual report, C.A. Bigelow, Commissioner of Public Affairs, noted that

In conjunction with the treatment of garbage and city waste there was submitted to the Council and the Commissioners of the City of Portland a proposition by the Northwest Nu-Fuel Company. In their proposition they covered the disposal of household garbage or kitchen waste and all other waste food; also manure or stable waste, street sweepings, combustible and non-combustible debris and building materials; in fact practically all waste material. Their process provided for the full conversion of the fuel waste into commercial products, the principle one being fuel . . . in the manufacture of briquets. The other waste products are converted into fertilizer or chicken food. The paper and pasteboard is baled and sold to paper factories, while the greases are extracted and used in the manufacture of soap. The metal wastes are converted into babbit metal and in a similar manner practically all of the wastes are converted into some useful substance or sold for useful purposes.

There was no further mention of what happened to the proposition by the Northwest Nu-Fuel Company.

By 1926 two new landfills had opened, helping to alleviate the incineration problem. Over 95,000 tons of garbage at the cost of 45¢ per ton were disposed of in the landfills, while incineration at 88¢ a ton burned 11,000 tons in that year, a dramatic decrease in tonnage previously burned. Portland's populace showed a preference for burying over burning their garbage. But the landfills had problems of their own: odor, equipment breakdowns, spontaneous combustion, and shortages of covering materials.

The new and more accessible incinerator on the west side made garbage so easily disposible that people no longer took the time to separate their wastes. The annual report by the Bureau of Public Works reported that it had become impossible to enforce the ordinance covering garbage separation.

During the Depression, the efforts of many groups that had cooperated with the Waste Reclamation service were discontinued. Although individual scavengers and local waste reclamation efforts continued on a smaller scale, large scale conservation efforts would not emerge again until the 40s, when, during World War II, thousands of tons of material were recycled to support the Allied cause.

Following World War II Americans quickly fell back into their habits of wastefulness. The American dream of affluence and abundance—and with it conspicuous consumption—had been only momentarily interrupted.

But by the 1970s, when Portland was accumulating 1800 tons of garbage a day, a great number of people who were concerned about environmental degradation and dwindling resources began to regard recovery and re-use of solid waste as a relevant issue. Other problems such as the growing scarcity of landfill sites and escalating costs for collection, transportation, and disposal of garbage underscored the need for waste reduction.

Currently Portland's solid waste system, except for waste collection, is the responsibility of the Metropolitan Service District (Metro). In this endeavor, Metro is confronted by serious problems. By the mid 1980s, the present municipal landfills in the region will reach capacity. Recent federal mandates have closed open-burning dumps. Placement of new landfills has become difficult given the dilemma of locating an environmentally sound disposal site, compounded by strong public opposition to siting these facilities.

In 1979 state legislation SB925 passed, requiring that an effort in waste reduction take place where state assistance is provided to landfills. Having received a grant and a loan for the expansion of the St. John's Landfill, Metro is now committed to a waste reduction program as part of its contractual agreement with the state. Metro's waste reduction plan includes four major components: resource recovery, landfilling, transfer stations, and recycling. A yard debris program is a fifth component.

Until recently, Metro has concentrated on energy recovery from solid waste over materials recovery options. Energy recovery from solid waste is the designated function of a planned garbage-to-energy plant that burns garbage to create energy. Metro's proposed plant, to be located in Oregon City, is currently estimated to cost $171 to $210 million (depending on whom you talk to), will burn 560,000 tons of garbage a year. The energy created will be sold to nearby Publisher's Paper Mill to dry paper and generate electricity.

Dan Knapp of Urban Ore and Whole Earth Recycling in Berkeley, California, and a former member of Lane County's now defunct Office of Appropriate Technology, raises questions about the value of incineration as a tool, "since any garbage-to-energy plant will com-

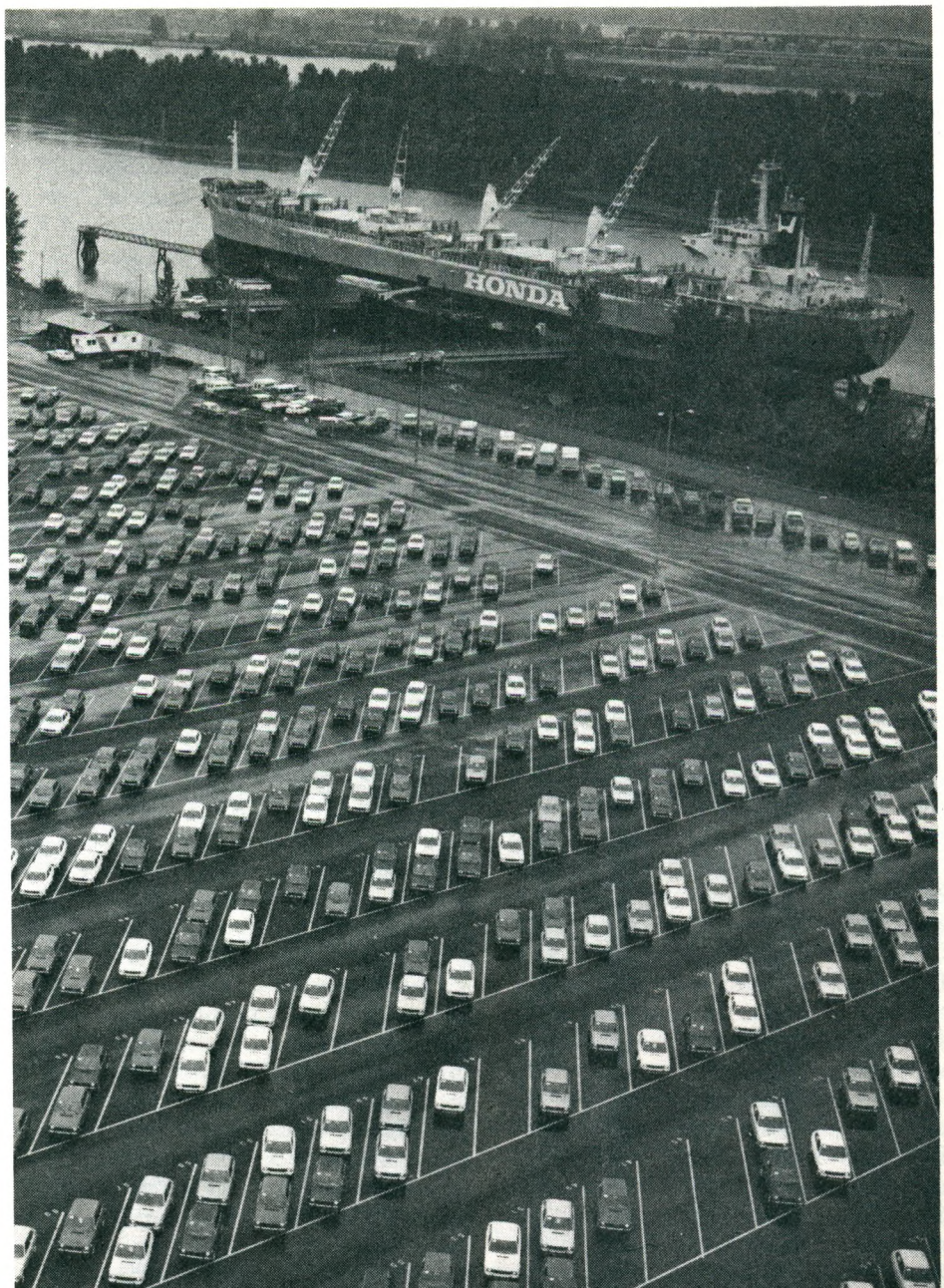
pete inevitably with recyclers for the same investment capital and feedstocks (highgrade paper, newsprint, cardboard, dimension lumber, firewood, compostable organics, clothing, furniture)." As a recycler, Knapp sees incineration as an unproven technology, asking, "Where are the garbage-to-energy plants that work without degrading, contaminating, or destroying valuable resources, creating toxic byproducts, or requiring vast and open-ended extensions of credit? . . . Why the rush to turn materials into energy when we are entering a period of scarcity of materials?" (From *Resource Recovery: What Recycling Can Do*, to be published by the Governor's Office of Appropriate Technology, State of California, as part of their Occasional Paper series.)

Garbage-to-energy strategies are being pushed before the more appropriate technologies of reduction, reuse, and recycling of wastes have been given a chance to prove themselves. Burning garbage for energy, in fact, can curtail further efforts to implement more effective solid waste practices and actually reduce incentives to decrease solid waste, because the garbage burner requires a guaranteed supply of waste.

Strong local opposition by the people of Oregon City to the garbage-to-energy facility coupled with rising costs may prevent its ever being built, but even with full scale waste reduction efforts *and* a garbage burner, Portland's garbage will also have to be sent to landfills.

There are currently two general purpose landfills operating in the region: Rossman's in Oregon City and St. John's in North Portland. Both of these are expected to reach capacity in the 1980s.

The development of the Oregon City burner or the establishment of a distant mixed waste landfill (which will probably be sited 17 miles north of Portland in the northwest across from Sauvie's Island), will require the construction of waste transfer stations. These transfer stations will be enclosed facilities where garbage haulers and private citizens can dispose of their garbage which is then transferred in larger trucks to a landfill or garbage burner. The transfer stations will also allow for on-site recycling facilities.



Ancil Nance

Many wastes requiring disposal represent valuable resources. By removing reusables from the waste stream, the amount that goes into the landfill is decreased. Collection and disposal costs are reduced. By recycling, valuable natural resources are turned back to production, reducing the quantity of virgin resources mined, pumped, or cut. Non-renewable resources will last longer, and less energy will be spent in the mining and processing of virgin materials.

Metro estimates that as much as 30 percent of an individual's garbage can be recycled. The most common recyclable materials include glass, newspaper, cardboard, tin cans, motor oil, and aluminum.

Portland's materials recovery programs (see Resources) are nationally recognized. Portland is cited in both the 1979 and 1980 Environmental Protection Agency surveys of recycling programs around the country. The EPA studies point to Portland's general public awareness about recycling. The Oregon bottle bill has gone a long way in raising consciousness about recycling. Portland is already where many urban areas dream of being.

A number of firms have long been established in the Portland area which

Ancil Nance

From the Bottom of the Heap

In Oregon, the Europeans were discriminated against economically when they came to this country—Italians, Russians, Germans, Eastern European Jews. Many couldn't speak English, so entry into significant business (banking, real estate) was impossible for them. They started off where they could begin small and grow: waste reclamation, the dirty job, the underbelly of society. Where the parking garage is on Jefferson and First, where the Marriott is now, there were a lot of small companies in the beginning: Acme, Zidel, California Bag and Metals.

Now in Portland it's a cash economy—there's all sorts of dealers who are open at seven AM . . . pickup trucks in line. No name on the truck, no business license, no (ha, ha) corporate taxes. They just simply take the cash, pay for the gas, buy some food, pay the rent. And you'd be surprised at their volume of materials.

—Jerry Powell

purchase, process, and grade waste materials for recycling. Calbag Metals, for instance, entered the market in the 1910s. There are several end-users of secondary materials located in the metropolitan area, principally of newspaper, corrugated paper, and glass. But most of our secondary materials are shipped for processing to the Far East: Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines.

A materials market study for Lane County (conducted by Jerry Powell of Resource Conservation Consultants) showed that the local economy doesn't benefit from shipping materials outside the area. It is important, therefore, to find ways of creating local markets for the use of secondary materials.

Powell says, "I think the key issue is to localize all levels of the economy; localize the consumption of goods—like the corner bakery, but also make sure that the bakery uses recycled fiber for packaging and then have that re-used as roofing felt that can be used on locally constructed houses. Otherwise we may be consuming local goods while producing international trash."

But there are still problems that recycling doesn't address, and recycling can only serve as a stop-gap measure to the real issue: not how to get rid of the garbage we produce, but how to reduce the amount of garbage before it enters the solid waste stream.

Unfortunately most people don't see the connection between what ends up in the garbage can and oil wars in the Middle East. The production of ever more to maintain a healthy economy, with increasing consumption as its end result, is promoted as a way of buying into the American dream.

To reduce the solid waste stream we have to reduce consumption. One of the best ways to reduce consumption is the production of higher quality goods, increasing the life of a product. Life cycle costing, the true pricing of an item over its lifetime, can help a consumer become aware of the cost effectiveness of what is being purchased.

Packaging is a major byproduct of our consumption patterns. Three and one-half tons of every 10 tons in the solid waste stream consists of flexible packag-

ing, plastic and aluminum pouches—all kinds of single service containers which are used once and thrown away. We could take steps to alleviate the situation. A Minnesota law requires that a product entering the market in a new package must be evaluated in terms of energy use and ease of recycling.

Several types of packaging are impossible or at best impractical to recycle. Multipackaging, or the use of more than one material (plastic over paper; paper on aluminum) is a recycler's nightmare. Plastic—which depletes non-renewable resources in its manufacture—is difficult to recycle because of a lack of uniformity in grades. Only one percent—or less—of all plastic is recycled.

It has been suggested that the best way to deal with garbage is to separate it according to end-use. For example, current farming techniques cause the daily loss of valuable topsoil. A voluminous amount of kitchen waste in Portland could become a useful resource if converted to compost. If the region had to depend exclusively on locally grown food, a recycling policy which mandated separation of organic wastes in order to implement large scale composting efforts would become very attractive.

Currently business and industry are not well set up to utilize recycled materials. Full scale recycling efforts will have to be carefully orchestrated in order to be successful, and necessitate an interplay between individuals, neighborhoods, local government, and private enterprise. We are a long way from this ideal at the moment. Making the leap from *what is* to *what could be* will require a lot of work, wit, organization and imagination. —*Nancy Cosper*

A PORTLAND VISION . . .

The question is, how do you choose from all the parts of the world the qualities that make you feel that you are being enhanced? There are places in the world where I'd have a better chance of being employed for doing what I want to do than Portland. But I stress cooperation and connections between things, and what has mattered to me about Portland is that the city is humane.
—Jack Eyerly

For you see, so many out-of-the-way things had happened lately that Alice had begun to think that very few things indeed were really impossible.

—Lewis Carroll

Resources

LOCAL RESOURCES

Profiles of Portland-Area Community Self-Help Groups

The groups highlighted here represent a cross-section of some of the more interesting and innovative self-help organizations currently active in Portland. Operating in different parts of the city and addressing a wide range of local concerns, these groups all perform an important community education function and all are heavily dependent on the volunteer energy and personal commitment of their members and supporters.

Many other worthwhile local self-help activities are listed in the section which follows.

by Scott Androes, Tanya Kucak and Steve Rudman

Judith Rafferty

A conversation at the West Hotel

West Hotel
127 N.W. Sixth
Portland, OR 97209
503/224-7718

Burnside Community Council
313 E. Burnside
Portland, OR 97214
503/231-7158

"There's always someone here who'll listen. There's always someone who understands your problem because she's been through it herself," Karen Thunderhawk, manager of the West Hotel, explains.

Sponsored by the Burnside Community Council, the West Hotel opened in spring 1980 as an emergency shelter and single-room occupancy, low-income housing facility for homeless women and women in crisis—battered women, rape victims—and their children. People from all over Portland, mainly from the downtown Skid Row area, helped prepare the building for occupancy.

The hotel runs on a tight budget. "Everything in this building has been donated to us," Karen points out. Aside from the paid manager, the hotel is staffed entirely by volunteers, most of whom live at the hotel. Both the crisis line and the front desk are staffed 24 hours a day. "So far the hotel has been able to break even, with the residents supporting each other," Karen affirms, "and without having to shut down the emergency shelter."

The normal $85-$95 per month rent is waived for women in the nine out of 25 rooms reserved for the shelter. "Women usually come into the shelter and move into the hotel. We try not to turn anyone away, because if they're referred to the West Hotel it's the last resort," Karen says. "If you don't get help here, there's nowhere else to go."

At the hotel women find safety and support. As many as 30 or 40 people live in the hotel at any time. It's a community environment: "The support network is really great. People help people without bureaucracies or red tape," Karen maintains. "We all work together so the hotel will run smoothly. How the hotel runs is up to the residents. It's what they make it to be." Often, the women plan celebrations such as Thanksgiving and Christmas together. Rap sessions, individual counseling and group counseling help the women gain control of

their lives.

On the average, women stay in the hotel three to four months before they can get the apartment on their own that society says is better for them and their children. By providing a supportive atmosphere, the hotel gives women who have no other place to go and no hope for themselves another chance in life. As Karen says, "We give people options."

North Portland Citizens Committee
c/o Neighbors North
7508 N. Hereford
Portland, OR 97203
503/284-4524

Whenever there's a community project underway in North Portland, chances are the North Portland Citizens Committee (NPCC) has something to do with it. From street improvements to senior citizen services, from housing rehabilitation to neighborhood commercial revitalization, NPCC, founded in 1972, has been one of the most active and influential neighborhood organizations in the city. It was even selected as a case study by the National Commission on Neighborhoods appointed by President Carter.

"We're basically just people getting together to solve community problems," Steve Roso, president of NPCC, states. "We're a receptive organization, a focal point looking to get things done in the simplest way possible."

NPCC is an independent umbrella organization encompassing the seven North Portland neighborhood associations. Each neighborhood association elects two representatives to serve on the board and elects four officers at-large. Anyone who lives, works, owns property or has an interest in North Portland can join. The Neighbors North office coordinates activities among all organizations in North Portland and serves as NPCC's headquarters.

About thirty core people are active in NPCC at any one time, but literally hundreds of North Portlanders have been involved in the working subcommittees. "It's democracy in action. If some people are concerned about a particular issue, they're encouraged to form a subcommittee and use NPCC as a back-up resource," Roso explains.

NPCC has been very successful in building public/private partnerships and leveraging available resources for such community projects as the development of Cathedral Park and the improvement of the St. Johns Business District.

"We're not interested in raising turf issues," says Roso. "We're interested in facilitating—trying to make things happen. NPCC's approach has been to link neighborhood residents, business interests and government resources when dealing with a community problem. Cooperation is always the key."

Sunflower Recycling
2230 S.E.Grand, Box 14061
Portland, OR 97214
503/238-1640

Cloudburst Recycling
2440 N.E. 10th
Portland, OR 97212
503/281-8075

"You have to be aware of garbage to recycle. It's very clear when you pick up both recycling and garbage. To some people, garbage is gross," Mike Barnes of Sunflower Recycling explains.

Sunflower is a democratically run

Judith Rafferty

The Sunflower Recyclers

nonprofit recycling business owned by the seven people who work there. In spring 1974, several close friends began an income-sharing arrangement to subsidize the recycling service because "they felt that recycling was an important thing to encourage in society," Mike affirms.

Both Sunflower and Cloudburst were founded to make recycling easy and convenient for people. Cloudburst, a for-profit collective of four people begun in April 1975, was also founded "to demonstrate that recycling could be done economically," asserts Cloudburst's founder, Dave McMahon. Sunflower and Cloudburst have survived and flourished due to the creative, persistent and hard-working people who were willing to sacrifice salaries for the first few years.

Both recycling services pick up garbage as well as recyclables. The benefit of a dual service is that "recycling collection makes people recycle more consistently and more thoroughly. People become much more aware of the composition of their waste and change their purchasing habits to reduce waste," Dave explains. Garbage collection is much more profitable than recycling. In fact, half of Sunflower's income comes from garbage collection; the other half comes from the sale of recyclables. The garbage goes directly to the dump, but recyclables need to be stored and resold in separate categories. Furthermore, people need to be educated to recycle. "Once you mix it together, it's lost," Roger van Gelder, another Sunflower recycler, explains. "It has to be kept separate. It's not worth anybody's time to ever pick garbage apart."

Over the years, Sunflower's collection vehicles have ranged from a shopping cart to a wheelbarrow to a golf cart to the current hand-built truck and trailer. "Sunflower keeps growing organically. We get to the point where we finally have the machinery and equipment together just when we couldn't handle it any longer with what we had," Mike says. A recycling business doesn't make any money without the machinery and equipment. "The key to success in recycling is having enough volume of materials, and having the equipment to be able to handle it," Roger explains, "so you only handle it once when you pick it up."

Where does the capital to buy machinery come from? "You've got to capitalize somehow," Roger asserts. "Either you capitalize by not paying people or you capitalize by having a bunch of money somewhere," "We basically still subsidize the expansion of Sunflower," Mike adds. "We don't pay ourselves for all the time we put in. We have certain jobs that are paying jobs, and then the rest of the work we just do."

In the past few years, other waste haulers have been accepting recyclables to keep customers from switching to Sunflower or Cloudburst. "The effect of Sunflower really can't be underestimated," says Roger. "Since we've been recycling and competing with garbage haulers, they've started doing recycling, too. Much of the recycling being done by the haulers is a direct response to us and to Cloudburst." Dave points out, "the garbage haulers do as much as we do in terms of recyclables, but most of them don't make an effort to inform their customers about it unless the customers ask."

Actually, Portland is one of the few cities of any size where garbage hauling is a competitive small business. Anyone can do it "just by getting a license," Dave states. "In most cities the city does the collection or contracts it out, or franchises the service." Like most Portland garbage haulers, the recycling businesses each own only one truck and service their scattered routes inefficiently.

At Cloudburst, the goal is "to see a city-wide, publicized, well-done service available that maximizes recycling." Dave believes that "what's going to make recycling happen here is franchising." Under franchising, the city would be divided into territories and one hauler would work each territory.

At Sunflower, on the other hand, the goal is to continue to provide a recycling service that is creative and innovative. For them, it's not enough to see the basic idea of recycling institutionalized: they want to keep stretching their ideals into new realities.

"The whole possibility of recycling, the whole direction it's going to go in the city, is vastly changed from what it would have been," Roger says. "Any kind of regulation—franchising—that deals with recycling has a completely different direction now than it would have had. Otherwise the city would have taken anything the garbage haulers offered."

"It's not only that we exist and we do recycling, but we do it differently and our existence makes other alternatives *real*," Mike affirms, "and therefore they become specifically considered."

Urban Indian Council/Day Labor Program
1634 S.W. Alder
Portland, OR 97205
503/248-4562

On the surface, Day Labor, a program of the Urban Indian Council, looks like any other temporary employment agency. A closer look, however, reveals the special need that Day Labor fulfills as an employer of last resort.

"We keep people from starving to death, we hope," says Doug LaBelle, supervisor of Day Labor. Day Labor offers unskilled work by the day to anyone willing to come to their door at 6:00 in the morning. There isn't always work for everyone, but an average day sees ten to twelve men and women go home with some much-needed extra cash in their pockets.

Day Labor is nonprofit, like its parent organization, but it operates much like a private manpower agency. It contracts with Portland companies to provide temporary labor at about $6.00/hour, subtract the cost of social security, insurance, and other overhead and pay the worker the difference—currently about $3.75/hour.

It's an arrangement that benefits all parties. Companies get a dependable source of temporary unskilled labor to fill in when their operations call for it, unemployed people have a vital source of short-term income, and Day Labor fulfills its goal of helping people in a constructive way.

Occasionally, companies hire Day-Labor workers for more permanent work. In two years of operation Day Labor has placed nearly thirty people. One man who got his job that way and has since become a foreman said that "the people they send us have been good workers. Frequently we'll ask for them by name when we call back."

What makes Day Labor different from other manpower agencies, of course, is that their primary commitment is serving people in need rather than making a profit. So far, they have been helped to do that by grants from CETA and the City of Portland. However, their continued business success makes it likely that they will soon be able to "get off this government funding trip," says LaBelle.

Judith Rafferty

Signing up for work at the Urban Indian Council's Day Labor Program

KBOO 90.7 FM
65 S.W. Yamhill
Portland, OR 97204
503/223-1155

KBOO is Portland's "community radio station." That means no commercials and a policy of opening the station to its listeners. KBOO receives 72 percent of its budget from listener contributions and depends on countless hours of volunteer time. In return the airwaves are opened to whatever those listeners want to hear but are unable to get on commercial stations.

"The air is yours," says the program guide, "yours to talk on. Yours to listen to. If you want to use your air to share your opinions, your passions, your concerns, our modest facilities are available. If you want to listen to a radio station that tries to give you something worth hearing, we try."

Wow, do they try! KBOO's programming covers all the bases, from traditional public radio fare like jazz, blues and classical to more innovative programs like "The Yiddish Hour," "La Voz de la Communidad," "The Arab Program," poetry readings, holistic medicine, environmental news, and uncut broadcasts of city council meetings.

KBOO's scrupulous attention to its listeners is paying off—the station has grown by leaps and bounds since the first broadcast in the summer of 1968. The station now has 300 volunteers, 4,000 contributing members, a budget approaching $200,000 and, according to the rating polls, a share of the Portland audience that makes it one of the most successful public radio stations in the country.

Whence such success? Station Manager Vicki Tempey credits it to the fact that "Oregon is fertile ground for public radio." Tempey believes that most listener support derives from the extensive jazz and classical programming and

Judith Rafferty

The KBOO crowd

Judith Rafferty

RUNT greenhouse

the many programs oriented to the black community. "If you meet a black person and they know you work at KBOO, they light up," she says.

Future goals for the station are simply to survive in the hard times ahead "as a cultural resource and a political lifeline" and, after that, to reach more people. The second goal will require finding the capital with which to upgrade the antenna and tower, allowing use of a higher-powered signal. KBOO has permission to increase its power from the present 12,500 watts to 30,000; only the money is lacking.

Listeners interested in becoming members can do so by calling or writing the station. Volunteers are always welcome.

Eliot Energy House
Responsible Urban Neighborhood Technology
3116 N. Williams
Portland, OR 97227
503/284-RUNT

What can you do with a drafty house in the wintertime short of burning it for warmth? You can tighten it up to hold its warmth like a thermos bottle. The folks at Responsible Urban Neighborhood Technology (RUNT) are transforming an old run-down house into a model of energy self-reliance "to communicate more directly how low-cost weatherization can be incorporated into an existing urban dwelling," according to RUNT spokesperson Judith Chambliss.

A core group coalesced in spring 1978 and purchased the house in December 1979 with help from the Portland Development Commission. Standing committees take responsibility for construction, publicity and other concerns. Grants, cash and materials donations, membership fees and grassroots benefits provide operating revenue.

The inspiration and model for this demonstration project was Berkeley's Integral Urban House. The difference is that Portland's Eliot Energy House demonstrates the process as well as the product. Volunteers have done all the work—everything from gutting the house to rewiring it, installing insulation and replacing part of the south-facing pitched roof with an attic greenhouse. About 150 volunteers have participated over the last two years. Saturday morning workshops have covered all phases of home remodeling and energy conservation. Skilled and unskilled people work side by side. Volunteers gain hands-on experience and learn skills they can apply in their own homes.

Outreach to low-income people in the community has been another priority. RUNT's VISTA volunteers have organized a food-buying club in the Eliot neighborhood and initiated the Community Energy Project—a series of workshops on low-cost weatherization techniques offered throughout Portland's east side. About thirty families participate in the urban gardening project, growing food organically in a vacant lot across the street from the house.

When the house is completed in spring 1982, it will become a resource center providing information, a tool bank, workshops and consultation on energy conservation. RUNT's board of directors is currently brainstorming

possible cottage industries that could be run by volunteers to provide income for the organization.

Albina Ministerial Alliance
AMA Family Day and Night Care Program
1425 N.E. Dekum
P.O. Box 11423
Portland, OR 97211
503/285-0493

"A family day-care provider is really important when both parents are poor and both parents need to work. She needs to be a person who cares and is willing to do more than she ordinarily would. If there's someone there to turn a child around before he or she gets to jail or becomes a juvenile delinquent, it makes a difference," Kaye Stewart affirms.

Kaye is one of the family day-care coordinators at AMA's Family Day and Night Care Program. The program began in 1970 as a support service for day-care providers, who are licensed in Oregon to provide child care in their homes as a small business. The goal of the program is to promote quality day-care by enabling providers to enhance their child development skills and business management skills. To this end, services such as matchmaking and placement, information and referral, technical assistance with fiscal problems or nutrition, a monthly newsletter, and a resource center that loans toys, books and equipment are provided. Funding comes from both public and private sources.

Albina Ministerial Alliance itself is an association of over forty ministers in North and Northeast Portland organized to encourage, support and fund programs providing social and cultural enrichment to those who live and work in the community.

The day-care program responds well to the community's needs. "If parents with young children are to continue working, they need child care, and if providers are going to continue to care for children, they need to be compensated," Kaye explains. This spring the Family Day and Night Care Program began facilitating a skills and service exchange. A parent can reduce the cost of child care by providing transportation or gardening, for example, in return for a few hours of child care.

A cooperative neighborhood child care arrangement is also in the works. Child care would rotate from home to home, shared among a group of parents living in the same community.

Judith Rafferty

Kay Stewart of the Albina Ministerial Alliance

For the future, Kaye would like to see more diversification and more involvement with the community, such as helping young teenage mothers to manage their homes and budgets more effectively.

Richmond Park
Richmond Neighborhood Association
c/o Southeast Uplift
5224 S.E. Foster
Portland, OR 97206
503/777-5846

Forty years ago, victory gardens grew there. Ten years ago, most of the schoolyard was paved. Five years ago, a neighborhood needs survey revealed a need for more open space and recreational area in the Richmond neighborhood, and the schoolyard of Richmond Elementary emerged as the best bet for a small park.

Although Portland is a city noted for its neighborhood parks, no park existed within a mile of the densely populated (18,000 people in 1.4 square miles) Richmond neighborhood. "Kids needed some other outlet besides the streets and vandalism," explained Adrienne Stacey, chairperson of the Richmond School Playground Committee. "Senior citizens and small children needed someplace within easy walking distance that was accessible without crossing any major streets."

Bureaucratic delays plagued the project after it received a $40,000 Housing and Community Development (HCD) block grant in 1977. The school district, as the property owner, had to approve the plan. School officials balked at the HCD regulation allowing the school only four hours per day of exclusive use. Consequently, the city government intervened and got the federal government to agree to six hours per day of exclusive school use. By the time the school and the neighborhood association approved the master plan and work could begin, it was September 1980.

Volunteers pitched in. A National Guard unit tore up an acre of asphalt in front of the school, graded the land and put down topsoil. The "volcano"—a climbable mound with a sliding board that was "conceptualized before Mt. St. Helens went off"—was built up with the broken-up asphalt. Old Portland street cobbles donated by the Portland Historic Landmarks Commission for the volcano's surface were laid by the Masons and Bricklayers Apprentices Union. Nurseries donated trees. Honeywell Protection Systems sent twenty volun-

teers to lay sod and put sawdust on the earth mounds around the volcano. Most importantly, neighborhood residents joined the Saturday morning work parties.

Using volunteers isn't always expedient, but it does foster community involvement and creative solutions. By contrast, the Parks Bureau built the Sunnyside School Park in one month with a $150,000 grant. At Richmond Park, however, "if someone is interested in doing something that the school approves of and that fits into the master plan," Adrienne encourages, "there's lots to do."

Southwest Locks
c/o Southwest Neighborhoods
7780 S.W. Capitol Hwy.
Portland, OR 97219
503/248-4592

What do you do if your neighborhood is not poor enough to qualify for a subsidized locks program, but some of its residents can't afford to buy them? The answer for the people of Southwest Portland was to start their own locally controlled, volunteer-staffed lock installation program.

"We really rely more on people than on funds," says Joy Stricker, neighborhood coordinator for Southwest and administrator of the locks program. In an era of shrinking federal budgets, it may be a wise choice to depend on local people and not on government funds, but in this case the shift was not voluntary. Southwest Portland is simply too affluent on the average for it to qualify for the federally funded lock installation program that several other Portland neighborhoods take advantage of. Those averages, however, disguise the fact that many southwest residents *are* low-income and cannot afford to buy locks and hire installers to make their homes safe. That is why in November of 1980 the Southwest Neighborhoods board decided to take the initiative and become more self-reliant in crime prevention.

At the time they had about a thousand dollars to work with. The money was left over from another government crime prevention program that the board had dropped because it seemed too bureaucratic and difficult to deal with. The board used this money to buy several hundred locks, plus several tool sets, and then set about finding volunteers willing to install them. The Portland police cooperated by offering training sessions to teach volunteers how to install the locks and how to make a routine security check of a house. Under the locks program, each house must have a security check before being eligible for a free lock.

During the first year the program put locks in thirty Southwest homes. The pace has been picking up steadily and requests now come in at a rate of ten per month. Volunteers will oftentimes do the "little extras" also, notes Stricker—repairing loose window frames or rehanging a badly hung door. She also sees it as a "valuable way of identifying people who might have other problems—such as senior citizens who aren't mobile enough to meet all their own needs or are isolated from their neighbors."

Stricker believes the potential is great for the expansion of neighborhood-based crime prevention—"any real crime prevention that takes place is going to have to be a neighborhood effort. I'm convinced that people can do a lot for themselves if you just give them a chance," she says. "If you give them the information and the tools to begin with, there's all sorts of talent out there."

Food Front
2635 N.W. Thurman
Portland, OR 97210
503/222-5658

From the outside, Food Front looks much like any other neighborhood corner grocery, its plate glass windows inviting people to drop in. Look closer, though, and you'll notice the community bulletin board outside, the bulk foods inside, and volunteers doing most of the work. Food Front is a food cooperative.

"The kind of thing a co-op tries to do is pretty overwhelming: to change the economic basis of society. Energy, food, housing—all of these should be cooperatives. People shouldn't be making profits from them," affirms Food Front manager Theresa Marquez. "In co-ops people take responsibility for something that's a part of their life. Ownership, control and economic democracy are the basis of co-ops."

Food Front owns its building, and the story of how that came to be is a lively one. When the landlord decided to sell the dingy warehouse space the co-op had called home for most of its ten-year history and the co-op was reduced to month-by-month rental, co-op members formed a committee to make a decision. Rather than buying the old warehouse or leasing another building, they decided their best alternative was to build a new structure suited to their needs.

Community support, often from unlikely sources, coalesced. The site was located within the Thurman-Vaughn corridor, which had been dismissed as a possible freeway site three years before but had never resumed its full use potential. Tom Walsh Construction Co. was responsible for the first project there, a block of low-income houses. Walsh agreed to build the structure designed by architects for Food Front, with modifications to allow for multiple use if the deal fell through. Next, the Northwest Neighborhood Federal Credit

Judith Rafferty

Special check-out at the Food Front

Union offered financial advice as well as a community development loan.

Fundraising events netted the $15,000 down payment and convinced both Benjamin Franklin Savings & Loan and Portland Development Commission, neither of whom had ever financed a nonprofit organization, to loan the co-op $45,000 at low interest rates. Walsh, the builder, co-signed the bank loan. Food Front moved into its new quarters in fall of 1980. Gross sales receipts have grown from $437,000 in 1979 to an estimated $730,000 in 1981.

These days Food Front has about 600 members, a third of whom work at least four hours per month in the store in exchange for a percentage discount. Says Theresa, "The working member system puts us in touch with a lot of different people. We can educate people more directly by having them come into the store. It's a natural expression of self-reliance."

Judith Rafferty

Labwork at the Health Help Center

Health Help Center
4842 N.E. 8th
Portland, OR 97211
503/288-5995

In most places, people living on limited incomes who need health care are in a bind. In Portland, they can go to the Health Help Center. The nonprofit center imposes no criteria for use but requests nominal donations and suggests that people with health insurance go elsewhere. No one is ever turned away. Although outreach focuses on Northeast Portland, people come from all over the city and even from the Puget Sound area. From July 1980 to June 1981, 1,991 people used the medical clinic, 1,183 information and referral calls came in, and 250 new clients used the family counseling service.

Two-thirds of the people who come into the clinic haven't been there before. "The clinic handles screening and treatment of initial problems, and then patients are plugged into something ongoing," explains Mary Anderson, volunteer information coordinator. "This is supposed to be a funnel, not continuing health care and not for chronic health problems, since patients see a different doctor every time."

In today's political climate, the center is flourishing. "When we hear of government programs being cut, the attitude here is that we'll just have to expand," Mary states with irrepressible optimism. "We're seeing the impact here—calls are increasing. Government doesn't have a sense of itself as a preserver of the public good anymore. Now the things we've *assumed* government takes responsibility for—schools, social security—are being cut."

Government cutbacks and a dying parish led to the founding of the center as an information and referral service in 1972. Model cities programs were leaving Portland and parishioners were leaving St. Andrews Catholic Church. The pastor, Father Bert Griffin, decided to act on his philosophy of what a "church" is. As Mary interprets it, "a parish could grow if it weren't ingrown, not closed and contained, but like a funnel reaching out into the community. People started coming from all over to hear him preach and get involved."

St. Andrews now makes its buildings available for community use, runs an alternative community school, gives away free clothing, opens a food pantry during emergencies, provides tutoring and supervised homework for adolescents, operates a legal clinic *and* the health clinic. "If the government were running this it'd cost a million dollars. We're running it on a pittance."

The Health Help Center runs on $35,000 to $40,000 a year. Most of that goes for paperwork. The church donated the building, a comfortable and homey two-story house. All of the contents of the house and the medical supplies come in as donations, too. Carl Killian, one of the pharmacists, "spends twenty to thirty hours a week scrounging. He can take absolutely anything and trade it. (How many 100 cc syringes can you use?)" All the volunteers and their friends keep their eyes open for supplies.

Over 200 people volunteer. The clinic is staffed at all times by a doctor, a nurse, a pharmacist, a lab technician, a counselor, a receptionist and an information and referral person. Many of the people who work here were involved from the beginning. As Mary puts it, "People are looking for a place where they can be better utilized—not just to do a good deed for the day but to give of themselves. The volunteers have respect for the people they serve. We're not a charity; we're a service for enabling people to care for themselves by providing the tools and resources they need. It's so much fun!"

Portland Saturday Market
108 W. Burnside
Portland, OR 97209
503/222-6072

Drab asphalt lots under a downtown bridge, populated by Skid Row denizens during the week, become an outdoor fair every weekend from April until Christ-

mas. Booths—350 of them—with original artwork and unusual foods cover the pavement. Strolling minstrels entertain the throngs of tourists—eight to ten thousand people most weekends, twice that number around Christmastime.

Self-supporting arts organizations are rare. The Portland Saturday Market began in 1974 with thirty booths and a $1,000 Metropolitan Arts Commission grant. It has since paid back the grant, pays the city for support services, and has become a nonprofit corporation run by a board of directors. All of the operating expenses—an estimated $280,000 in 1981—come from vendors' fees, which are ten percent of gross sales. In line with its self-reliant policy, the market relies on vendors' talents to provide for its needs—installing electrical lines or building booths, for example.

With no middlemen, low overhead and high traffic, the market is a good way for craftspeople to break into business, a good way to see if what they produce is marketable, and a good way for people producing items not marketable on a production basis to get exposure, according to Nancy Biasi, the market's promotions coordinator.

Vendors have to be pretty self-reliant to be successful. Some vendors even use the market as a springboard into retail operations. About half of the vendors make their living from market sales alone.

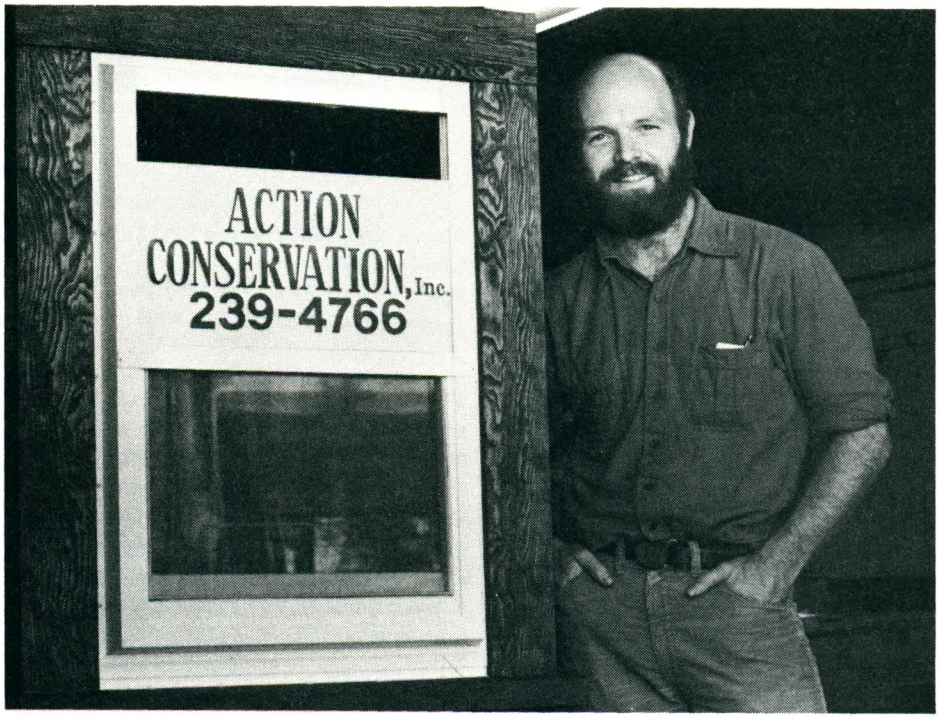
Unlike most art fairs, the market review board does not pass aesthetic judgment. Beginners and professionals can participate equally. However, the review committee does require the crafts to be handmade by the person selling them. Furthermore, the market encourages performing artists by hiring entertainers and by contributing to strolling minstrels who play and pass the hat.

Besides the weekend event, the market sponsors crafts demonstrations and displays and helps craftspeople with wholesaling arrangements and marketing seminars.

Northwest Neighborhood Federal Credit Union
527 N.W. 21st
Portland, OR 97210
503/224-0837

The Northwest Credit Union takes the savings of area residents and recycles them into local loans. In this way, community money remains available where it can provide more income possibilities for community residents. And because the credit union is owned and controlled by its members—people who work or live in Northwest Portland—it is more attentive to community needs.

Jazz at Saturday Market



Judith Rafferty

Joe Midgett, Coordinator, Action Conservation, Inc.

In its two years of operation the credit union has loaned out over $500,000. "Most of our loans are of the need type," says board member Geri Ethen. The greatest number of them are for emergency uses like car repairs, home repairs, moving expenses and past due bills. In dollars, most loans are for automobile purchases. Interest on loans is 12 to 18 percent.

Because the Northwest Credit Union is a community development credit union, one of its highest priorities is to give loans that promote economic development in the Northwest community. Two of their biggest loans, according to Ethen, "were absolutely essential to a couple of superb neighborhood improvements." One loan helped a local food co-op build a permanent store and the other was used to convert an old community hall into a combination commercial/residential building that has space for both offices and apartments.

Despite its successes, the credit union is still struggling. Dividends have been small and infrequent. To remedy that, the credit union has been conducting a major drive to raise the level of shares (deposits) from $240,000 to $535,000. If these efforts are successful, the credit union should be able to offer higher dividends and will be able to continue serving the community's needs.

Action Conservation Inc.
726-A S.E. 20th
Portland, OR 97214
503/239-4766

When President Reagan called for private initiative to provide social services, one Portland service agency decided to take up the challenge. The result was the creation of Action Conservation, Inc., a weatherization company that operates for a profit but is owned by the community and endowed with a healthy social conscience.

ACI used to be the low-income weatherization program operated by Portland Action Committees Together (PACT), a community action agency serving Southeast Portland. For three years they had been using Department of Energy funds to weatherize low-income households free of charge. But in May 1981, PACT boldly converted the weatherization group to a wholly owned subsidiary that operates as a private company. The same people work there, using the same trucks and the same materials—only now they have *two* goals: to provide low-cost weatherization to the community and to make a profit.

ACI still does low-income weatherizations for DOE, but now they contract for private jobs as well. "The ideal scenario," says Joe Midgett, program coordinator, "is one in which we do so well in the private sector that we could stop depending on DOE funds and, instead, use our profits to subsidize our low-income weatherizations." That's an ambitious goal that is still far from realization, but ACI is off to a good start. Three years of experience and the low overhead that comes from their relationship to PACT put the company in a good position to offer quality services at a very competitive price. Midgett estimates that ACI is 15 to 30 percent cheaper than other private contractors in town, and they provide a full range of services—insulating, installing storm windows, caulking and weatherstripping.

According to Midgett, the summer is the worst time for weatherization companies—on average, one contractor folds each week. The fact that ACI managed to survive their first summer in good shape bodes well for the future.

THE CRIB
4815 N.E. 7th
Portland, OR 97211
503/249-8501

"Money isn't what makes a community group work," says Linda Johnson. A good example of that philosophy is THE CRIB, a predominantly black Northeast Portland group she directs. THE CRIB stands for Total Home Environment, Creative Recreation and Instructional Buildings. The list of their activities is nearly as long as their name. THE CRIB has programs to tutor school children, teach literacy to adults, assist parents in dealing with the school system, distribute donated food to families in need, counsel tenants on their legal rights and organize a Saturday marketplace twice monthly during the summer.

The common thread running through all their programs is devotion to a community service model that depends more on people and community resources than on outside funding. Linda herself is a full-time volunteer, as are all other adult staff members. "*Ten* full-time volunteers," she exclaims. "No other group operates like that."

THE CRIB's first, and still most important, activity is summer and after-school tutoring of grade-school students. The program has grown to several hundred participants and is staffed by CETA-paid teenagers under adult supervision. Tutors work with the students in groups, reinforcing what

they have learned in school, rather than teaching new material. Diagnostic testing has verified the program's effectiveness and showed that tutors, as well as students, have improved their skills.

When children have specific problems or needs, CRIB assigns "advocates" to assist parents in their encounters with the school system. The role of the advocate is to mediate between parents and teachers so that the two can stay on good terms long enough to work together in solving whatever problem has come up. "We want to help parents help themselves within the educational system that's here now," says Johnson.

The underlying concept in this as in other programs is that, by communicating and working together more effectively, people can solve many of their own problems with locally available resources and without resorting to top-heavy "social service" models that cost lots of money and don't create lasting solutions.

THE CRIB is so eager *not* to be a service agency that they are presently training parents to be advocates for other parents. The hope is that a successful network of parents helping parents can be established that would allow THE CRIB to withdraw from the scene. The goal is to replace service with empowerment.

"Divide and conquer is the principle we're trying to defeat," says Johnson. "People working together talking to each other and cooperating can do just about anything."

Other Portland-Area Community Self-Help Activities.

Each of the groups listed below is either involved in local self-help projects or provides assistance to groups which are. Contact them for additional information.

Arts

Artists Equity Association, P.O. Box 8181, Portland, 97207, 223-7004, Resources for professional artists; cooperative mailing list project.

Media Project, 935 N.W. 19th, P.O. Box 4093, Portland, 97208, 223-5335
Publications/services for filmmakers.

Metropolitan Arts Commission, 430 S.W. Morrison, #314, Portland, 97204, 248-4569
Technical assistance for community arts projects.

Northwest Artists Workshop, P.O. Box 14847, Portland, 97214, 232-0553
Slidebank and library.

Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, c/o Neil Jackson, 620 S.W. 5th, Portland, 97204, 241-0680
Donated legal assistance for artists.

Children/Education

Pacific New School, 3520 S.E. Yamhill, Portland 97214, 233-9071

Children's Club Daycare, 2707 S.E. Clinton, Portland 97202, 233-2246

St. John's Daycare, 2408 N. Farragut, Portland 97217, 283-6719

Portland Family Calendar, P.O. Box 6651, Portland 97228, 287-8640

Community Action

Portland Action Committees Together, 3534 S.E. Main, Portland 97214, 233-8491

North Community Action Council, 6965 N. Fessenden, Portland 97203, 286-8371

Community Economic Development

Plant Closure Organizing Committee, 7509 NE Pacific, Portland 97213, 256-1792

Flexible Ways to Work, 1111 S.W. 10th, Portland 97205, 241-0537. Clearinghouse for part-time and flex-time job announcements.

Metropolitan Youth Development Corporation, 915 N.E. Davis, Suite D, Portland 97232, 231-4960. Carpenter job training for youth working on rehabilitating abandoned buildings.

Oregon Feminist Federal Credit Union, 2336 S.E. Belmont, Portland 97214, 239-0707

Constituency

Committee of Spanish Speaking People of Oregon, 1006 S.E. Grand, #3, Portland 97214, 238-1387

Consolidated Benevolent Association, 315 N.W. Davis, Portland 97209, 248-4562

Urban Indian Council, 1634 S.W. Alder, Portland 97205, 248-4562

Urban League, 718 W. Burnside, Portland 97209, 224-0151

Portland Town Council, 408 S.W. 2nd, Suite 408, Portland 97204, 227-2765

Gray Panthers, 1819 N.W. Everett, Portland 97209, 224-5190

Woman's Place Resource Center, 1915 N.E. Everett, Portland 97232, 234-7044

Energy

Portland Sun, 628 S.E. Mill, Portland 97214, 239-7470

Columbia Solar Energy Association, OMSI Energy Center, 4015 S.W. Canyon Rd., Portland 97221, 248-5920

Portland Neighborhood Development Corporation, 3534 S.E. Main, Portland 97214, 233-8491

Food

Peoples Food Store, 3029 S.E. 21st, Portland 97202, 232-9051

Community Garden Programs, 6437 S.E. Division, Portland 97206, 248-4777

Food Buying Clubs, c/o PACT, 3534 S.E. Main, Portland 97214, 233-8491

Oregon Gleaners, 2625 S.E. 15th, Portland 97202, 233-2040

General/Citizen Participation/ Technical Assistance

Center for Urban Education, 0245 S.W. Bancroft, Portland 97201, 221-0984

Tri-County Community Council, 718 W. Burnside, Portland 97209, 223-1030

Volunteer Bureau/Voluntary Action Center, 178 W. Burnside, Portland 97209, 222-1355

Technical Assistants for Community Services, 1903 S.E. Ankeny, Portland 97214, 239-4001

Oregon Fair Share, 519 S.W. 3rd, Portland 97204, 223-2981

Alliance for Social Change, 810 Dekum Building, 519 S.W. 3rd, Portland 97204, 222-4479

Red Rose School, P.O. Box 57, Portland 97207, 249-2963

Oregon Accountants for the Public Interest, 71 S.W. Oak, Portland 97204, 225-0224

Volunteer Lawyers Project, 1776 S.W. Morrison, Portland 97205, 224-1606

Health

Portland Women's Health Center, 6510 S.E. Foster Rd., Portland 97206, 777-7044

Outside-In, 1236 S.W. Salmon, Portland 97205, 223-4121

Housing

Shared Living, c/o Alternative Housing Task Force, Portland Gray Panthers, 1819 N.W. Everett, Portland 97209, 224-5190

Albina Inner City Development Corporation, 2926 N. Williams Ave., Portland 97227, 287-5011

Burnside Consortium, 107 N.W. 5th, Portland 97209, 223-5322

Land Use

1000 Friends of Oregon, 519 S.W. 3rd, Portland 97204, 223-4396

Oregon Environmental Council, 2637 S.W. Water Ave., Portland 97201, 222-1963

Neighborhoods

Office of Neighborhood Associations, 1220 S.W. Fifth, Rm. 413, Portland 97204, 248-4519

Area Offices

Neighborhoods West/Northwest, 817 N.W. 23rd, Portland 97210, 223-3331

Neighbors North, 7508 N. Hereford, Portland 97203, 248-4524

Northeast Office, 4815 N.E. 7th, Portland 97211, 248-4575

Southeast Uplift Office, 5224 S.E. Foster, Portland 97206, 777-5846

Southwest Neighbors, 7780 S.W. Capitol Hwy., Portland 97219, 248-4592

Housing & Community Development

Bureau of Community Development, 620 S.W. Fifth Ave., Portland 97204

Crime Prevention

Neighbors Against Crime, 1220 S.W. Fifth, Portland 97204, 243-7394

Recycling

Resource Conservation Consultants, 1615 N.W. 23rd, Portland 97210, 227-1319

Portland Recycling Team and The Depot, 3045 N.W. Front, Portland 97210, 228-5375, 228-2536

Metro Recycling Switchboard, 224-5555, 8:30am-4:30pm Monday-Friday

NATIONAL RESOURCES

Many of the books and periodicals described below are available for research at the Rain Community Resource Center library. For further information, call (503) 224-6587.

Background

One can trace the roots of the present-day community self-help movement back to the late 1960s with the formation of neighborhood and community-based organizations, cooperative alternatives, such as food co-ops, and the publication of The Whole Earth Catalog *(most recently published as* The Next Whole Earth Catalog, *Random House, 1980), the granddaddy of the do-it-yourself journals, and the popular back-to-the-land journal,* The Mother Earth News.

The winter of 1973-1974 was a critical turning point; by the end of 1974, the oil embargo, and the consequent gas crisis, brought about the formation of innumerable alternative energy groups, community economic development and appropriate technology grass roots organizations. RAIN Magazine *was started in 1974, along with* Co-Evolution Quarterly, *(P.O. Box 428, Sausalito, CA 94966, $14/yr.) In 1977 RAIN published a catalog,* Rainbook, *a resource guide for the appropriate technology movement (available from RAIN, 2270 NW Irving, Portland, OR 97210), and later a companion anthology,* Stepping Stones *(also available from RAIN).*

The following are some publications to provide you with background on the subjects of appropriate technology, community self-help and self-reliance, simple living as a political philosophy and how to think globally while acting locally.

***Helping Ourselves: Local Solutions to Global Problems*, Bruce Stokes, 1981, 160 pp., published by W.W. Norton & Co., available for $6.00 postpaid from RAIN.**
A superb synthesis of self-help concepts and strategies. The book's inspiring examples of successful local projects in countries all across the political spectrum indicate that what we are trying to accomplish in our own towns and neighborhoods is a part of a worldwide movement which transcends ephemeral political trends and has a momentum of its own.

***Small Is Beautiful: Economics As If People Mattered*, E.F. Schumacher, 1973, 305 pp., $4.50, Harper & Row.**
The classic introduction to the concept of appropriate technology.

A Better Place to Live, **Michael Corbett, 1981, 164 pp., $14.95 from Rodale Press.**
Strategies for creating smaller semi-urban communities.

Tools for Conviviality, **Ivan Illich, 1973, 119 pp., $1.50, Harper & Row.**
A philosophical description of the outcomes in society resulting from our choice of tools.

The Household Economy, **Scott Burns, 1975, 252 pp., $4.95, Beacon Press (Harper & Row).**
The household is rapidly growing in economic significance as people give up on the public economy where inflation, taxes and energy costs are eating into people's quality of life.

Guide to Convivial Tools, **Valentina Borremans, special issue of *Library Journal* (#13), 1979, 112 pp., $5.00, R.R. Bowker Co.**
A description of over 850 publications and periodicals about appropriate technology, renewable energy, self-help housing and community economic enterprises.

Appropriate Technology Sourcebook, **Volumes I and II, Ken Darrow, Kent Keller, Rick Pam (Volume I, published in 1976, updated in 1981, $5.50 plus $.83 postage; Volume II, 1981, $6.50 plus $1.38 postage), Volunteers in Asia Publications, P.O. Box 4543, Stanford, CA 94305.**
Hundreds of publications, worldwide, about appropriate, small-scale, easy-to-operate technologies. Oriented to use by developing countries but very useful as guide to simple technologies in the U.S.

The Essential Community, Local Government in the Year 2000, **International City Management Association, 1980, 162 pp., published by the International City Management Association, 1140 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.**
Although not a guide to community self-reliance, this book explores the forces of change that will affect government services over the next twenty years, and does include in the scenario the possible increase of volunteerism, self-help and "getting by modestly."

The Backyard Revolution: Understanding the New Citizen Movement, **by Harry C. Boyte, 1980, 171 pp., $14.95 from Temple University Press.**
This is a well-documented description of the extensive citizen's movement and how it grew up in the 1970s as well as some possible directions for it to take in the 1980s.

Community Congress of San Diego
1172 Morena Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92110
The congress is a model broad-based coalition of over 60 community-based, human service and public interest organizations in San Diego County. A fascinating model of resource sharing, and cross-issue coalition building.

Agriculture—Sustainable

The One-Straw Revolution: An Introduction to Natural Farming, **Masanobu Fukuoka, 1978, 224 pp., $7.95 from Rodale Books.**
A farming method that requires no plowing, creates no pollution and makes no use of fossil fuels.

Permaculture One, A Perennial Agriculture for Human Settlements, **Bill Mollison and David Holmgren, 1978, 128 pp., $8.95 from the Permaculture Assoc., 2950 Walnut Bend, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.**
Describes the work of small agricultural researchers in Australia who utilize trees and native and perennial plants in gardening and farming.

Permaculture Two, Practical Design for Town and County in Permanent Agriculture, **Bill Mollison, 150 pp., 1979, $10.95 from the Permaculture Assoc., 2950 Walnut Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94598.**
Continues the work described in *Permaculture One*.

The Future Is Abundant: A Guide to Sustainable Agriculture, **edited by Larry Korn, 1981, 208 pp., $11.95 from Tilth, 13217 Mattson Road, Arlington, WA 98223.**
Provides an integrated picture of agriculture in the Pacific Northwest and a vision of our agriculture as it could be: with tree crops, plants, animals and human communities in a productive, integrated whole.

Arts

Grass-Roots and Pavement, Art in America's Neighborhoods, **Expansion Arts Program, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC.**
Handbook for urban and rural community arts programs.

Technical Assistance for Arts Facilities: A Sourcebook, **Educational Facilities Laboratories, 850 3rd Ave., New York, NY 10022.**
How to find technical assistance for development of physical space for the arts.

Community Arts Agencies: A Handbook and Guide, **1978, $12.50 from American Council for the Arts, 570 7th Ave., New York, NY 10018.**
Chapters include fundraising, management and public relations.

Communications—Electronic

Alternative Media Center (AMC) Reports, New York University, 725 Broadway, New York, NY 10003, 212/598-2852
AMC is one of the primary nonprofit groups involved in research and demonstrations of interactive community communication systems. They have worked with interactive cable TV projects around the country. *Implementing Interactive Telecommunications Services* describes several projects.

Are Your Computers Literate? **Karen Billings and David Moursand, 1979, $6.95**

Understanding Computers, **Paul M. Chirlian, 1978, $9.95**
Two books in a series from Dilithium Press, P.O. Box 92, Forest Grove, OR 97116. Write for complete publications list.

Community Computer Directory, **$3.50 from P.O. Box 405, Forestville, CA 95436.**
Semi-annual directory of individuals and organizations working with small computers, developing software, supplying hardware, using computers in their own work and wishing to share information with others.

"Computer Networking," article by Art Kleiner in *The Next Whole Earth Catalog*.
A good overview on new applications of small-scale computers in a decentralized humanistic setting. Examples of new computer-assisted communication systems, data bases, electronic bulletin boards and corporate information utilities.

Computing, **quarterly, $8.50/yr. from 70 Main Street, Peterborough, NH 03458.**
There are innumerable small computer magazines; this one is easy to read. Includes hardware and software reviews and general interest articles.

Information and Communication Technology for the Community, **Steve Johnson, 1980, $10.00 from Center for Urban Education, 0245 S.W. Bancroft, Portland, OR 97201.**
A broad introduction to the new electronic technologies and their possible applications in community setting. Includes lengthy description of the author's experience on a nationwide computer-aided communication system (EIES).

Infoworld, **bi-weekly, $25/yr. from 530 Lytton, Palo Alto, CA 94301.**
This is one of the best ways to keep track of new developments in the hardware and software worlds as well as governmental and corporate moves that change the shape of the electronic world.

***The Microelectronics Revolution: The Complete Guide to the Silicon Chip and Its Impact on Society*, edited by Tom Forester, 1980, $12.50 from MIT Press.**
A comprehensive overview of the technology and its potential impact on society.

***Network Nation: Human Communication Via Computer*, Murray Turoff and Starr Roxanne Hiltz, 1978, $17.50 from Addison-Wesley Publishing Co.**
A very extensive history and current description of computer-assisted communication systems and how they might be used to form a society of electronically associated social networks.

Communications—Other

***Editing Your Newsletter: A Guide to Writing, Design and Production*, Mark Beach, 1980, $7.75 ppd., from RAIN, 2270 N.W. Irving, Portland, OR 97210.**
An excellent guide to publishing your own information.

***Information for the Community*, edited by Manfred Kochen and Joseph C. Conohue, 1977, $10.00 from American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.**
A collection of 17 articles that provide background information on communication channels and information flows in a community.

***Journal of Community Communication*, quarterly, $9.00/yr. from Village Design, P.O. Box 996, Berkeley, CA 94701.**
One of the best (or only) journals that covers the use of computer technology for a decentralized community/local point of view. Also excellent articles on subjects related to community communications and social networks.

***Oregon Media Guide*, published by the Center for Urban Education, 1979, $5.50 ppd. from RAIN, 2270 N.W. Irving, Portland, OR 97210.**
A state-wide directory to radio and television stations, newspapers, magazines and special interest periodicals. Simple and good introduction on how to work with the media.

Community Economic Development, Technical Assistance

Alternative Economics, Inc.
P.O. Box 29146
Washington, DC 20017
202/832-5200
Provides technical assistance in the financial aspects of neighborhood economic development. Publications include: *Community Development Credit Unions; Economics for Neighborhoods*, 1977, $3.00.

Center for Community Economic Development
639 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139
617/547-9695
Publishes some of the best information on community economic development enterprises, case studies, how-to information and bibliographies. Publications include: *Community Participation in Directing Economic Development*, 1976, $5.00; *Community Development Corporations: An Annotated Bibliography*, 1977, free.

Community Economics
6529 Telegraph Ave.
Oakland, CA 94609
415/653-6555
Provides technical and management assistance to neighborhood and community organizations. Publishes quarterly newsletter, *Public Works* ($5/yr.) and special publications such as: *Community Ownership in New Towns and Old Cities* ($3.50); and *Public Pension Funds as a Source of Capital for Job Creation* ($2.50).

National Congress for Community Economic Development
1828 L St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202/659-8411
An association of community development corporations. Publishes *Interchange*.

National Economic Development Law Center
2150 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94704
415/548-2600
Provides training and technical assistance to community-based organizations. Prepares legal and technical publications relating to formation, operation and management of community development corporations.

Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition
600 West Fullerton St.
Chicago, IL 60614
312/975-3680
National grass-roots coalition of labor, community and public interest groups, advocating consumer interest on energy issues. Acts as an information clearinghouse.

***In Business*, published six times a year, $14.00/yr. from JG Press, Box 323, Emmaus, PA 18049.**
An excellent resource for the socially conscious small entrepreneur.

Community Organization Development

***A Bibliography for Neighborhood Leaders*, Neighborhood Conservation Project, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, DC 20006**
An excellent resource with information aimed at the newly initiated neighborhood organization. Information on fund-raising, neighborhood revitalization, community leadership.

***The Grass-Roots Fundraising Book*, The Youth Project, 1555 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036, $5.75 postpaid.**
Still probably the best resource on non-grant fundraising for community groups.

"Cooperation and Communication, Strategies for Surviving Funding Assaults," in the *Journal of Alternative Human Services*, July 1981, $3.00 from 1172 Morena Blvd., San Diego, CA 92110
A special issue of the journal devoted to survival of nonprofits organizations in an era of federal funding cutbacks.

***The Briarpatch Book*, 1978,313 pp., $8.95 from New Glide Publications, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, CA 94102.**
The Briarpatch is a network of small businesses in the San Francisco Bay area who share resources, information and expertise. The book is an anthology of the members' experience in the network.

***Organizing Production Cooperatives: A Strategy for Community Economic Development*, William Alvarao-Greenwood, Steven Haberfeld and Lloyd C. Lee, 1978, $7.50 from National Economic Development and Law Center, 2150 Shattuck Ave., Suite 300, Berkeley, CA 94704.**
A how-to manual which covers such nuts and bolts topics as organizing a feasible business, taxes and securities, and creating a co-op management system. (See other community economic development resources in latter section.)

***Citizen Participation*, bi-monthly, $12/yr. from; Lincoln Filene Center, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155.**
Articles and news of interest to citizen activists and grass-roots organizations.

Community Jobs, **The Youth Project, 1555 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.**
Articles of general interest to community organizations, but with a primary focus each issue. Listings of jobs, internships and volunteer opportunities for people looking for work in social change fields.

The Grantsmanship Center
1031 S. Grand Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90015
213/749-4721
The center offers training programs in grantsmanship and program planning. Many publications and special reprints from its resource-full *Grantsmanship Center News* ($20/year). Other publications include: *Guide to Public Relations for Non-Profits*, *Special Events Fundraising*.

Citizen Involvement Training Project
138 Hasbrouck
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003
Publishes several useful resource guides and handbooks for neighborhood and community organizations, including: *Planning for Change: A Citizen's Guide to Creative Planning and Program Development* (1978, $6.50); *How to Make Citizen Involvement Work* (1978, $5.50); *Beyond Experts: A Guide for Citizen Group Training* (1979, $5.50)

North American Student Cooperative Organization (NASCO)
P.O. Box 7293
Ann Arbor, MI 48107
313/663-0889
Offers information and training in cooperative organization and management.

Community Organizing Training Groups

Write for class/workshop descriptions. The groups often provide workshops and training schools in local communities.

National Training and Information Center
1123 W. Washington Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60607
312/243-3035

The Institute
628 Baronne St.
New Orleans, LA 70113
504/524-5034

The Midwest Academy
600 W. Fullerton
Chicago, IL 60614
312/953-6525

New England Training Center for Community Organizers
19 Davis St.
Providence, RI 02908

Citizen Involvement Training Project
138 Hasbrouck Bldg.
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003

New School for Democratic Management
589 Howard St.
San Francisco, CA 94108
415/543-7973

Movement for a New Society
4722 Baltimore Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19143
215/SA4-1464

Community Self-Help Models

A community self-help project may be as simple as a block potluck that brings neighbors together, or it may be something like the Farallones Institute's Integral Urban House, a complex vision of the integration of energy production and conservation, food production, and aesthetics into a rehabbed home. Many communities have taken great strides toward providing a vision of self-reliance by acting in the present to provide local, low-cost alternatives to the inflated costs of energy, food, housing, etc. The Whiteaker neighborhood in Eugene, Oregon has developed such a plan, incorporating cooperative housing projects, a neighborhood energy conservation business and edible landscaping. The Neighborhood Technology Program in Seattle has provided funding for neighborhood and community groups to experiment with alternative methods of producing food and energy and utilizing urban waste. Davis, California, is another community often cited, especially for its energy conservation and alternative transportation programs.

The following are some sources of information on both small and large community self-help efforts.

People Power: What Communities Are Doing to Counter Inflation, **1980, 410 pp., free from Consumer Information Center, Dept. 682-H, Pueblo, CO 81009.**
This excellent resource book aims to involve more mainstream Americans in the work of inspiring communities and reducing the impact of inflation. Many examples and additional sources of information.

Neighborhoods: A Self-Help Sampler, **1979, 166 pp., order #S/N 023-000-0059-0, $5.50 from Supt. of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.**
Model projects from around the country involved in housing rehabilitation, economic development, arts and social service programs.

A Guide to Cooperative Alternatives, **Paul Freundlich, Chris Collins, Mikki Wenig, 184 pp., 1979, $6.00 from Communities Publications Cooperative, P.O. Box 426, Louisa, VA 23093.**
A catalog of cooperative community projects from around the country in such areas as economics, housing, food, energy and the environment. The focus is on organizations with a social change orientation.

Working Together: Community Self-Reliance in California, **by the Community Assistance Group, Office of Appropriate Technology, 1981, 110 pp., free to California residents, $6.50 for non-residents, from Office of Appropriate Technology, 1600 9th St., Sacramento, CA 95814.**
A statewide guide to community self-reliance, this book portrays the efforts of over 20 citizen groups.

New York Self-Help Handbook, **Karin Carlson, 1978, $6.10 from Citizens Committee for New York, Inc., 3 W. 29th St., 6th Floor, New York, NY 10001.**
Highlights organizations in New York City involved in self-help approaches to safety, sanitation, recreation, health and consumer affairs.

The Older Person's Handbook, **published by the Mutual Aid Project, Inc., 17 Murray St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10007.**
A guide to resources for older persons in New York City, including self-protection projects, urban gardening, help for the homebound.

The Help Book, **J.L. Barkas, 1979, 667 pp., $19.95 from Charles Scribners Sons.**
Answers such questions as how to sue someone without a lawyer, where to complain about air pollution, and where to look for travel services geared to people with handicaps. Many resource listings.

The Directory of Directories, **edited by James M. Ethridge, 1980, 722 pp., $56.00 from Gale Research Co.**
This is a good book to become familiar with in the reference section of your local library. Helps you uncover information about thousands of organizations, agencies, companies and individuals in every conceivable activity.

Periodicals of Public Interest Organizations: A Citizens Guide, **1979, $4 for public interest groups, $5 for individuals, $15 for all others, from Commission for the Advancement of Public Interest Organizations, 1975 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20009.**
A description of about 100 periodicals that you might not find at your local library.

Community Self-Help, National Organizations

The following are organizations that produce information about community self-reliance, self-help and appropriate technology.

Institute for Local Self-Reliance
1717 18th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20009
202/232-4108
Offers research, demonstration and consulting services on technical feasibility of community self-reliance in high-density living areas. Publishes *Self-Reliance* ($8/yr.).

Small Town Institute
P.O. Box 517
Ellensburg, WA 98926
An excellent source of information about community activities in small towns. Publishes *Small Town* ($25/yr.)

National Center for Appropriate Technology
P.O. Box 3838
Butte, MT 59701
Although NCAT has lost its major source of funding for appropriate technology projects, its publications are still available, including: *Organizing Community Gardens, Building and Energy, Community Economic Development, Down to Business.*

Center for Neighborhood Technology
570 W. Randolph St.
Chicago, IL 60606
A national technical assistance group for community-based organizations. Publishes *The Neighborhood Works*, a good source of information on solar and conservation projects, community recycling, urban agriculture (22 issues per year for $25 individuals, $40 institutions, $50 profit-making organizations).

National Self-Help Clearinghouse
33 W. 42nd St.
New York, NY 10036
212/840-7606
Database and information service for self-help groups. Primary focus is on personal self-help projects which offer alternatives to traditional institutionalized social services. Publishes *Self-Help Reporter*.

Cooperative League of the USA
1829 L St. N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20036
202/872-0550
A national federation of cooperatives. Provides training materials.

Strongforce
2121 Decatur Place N.W.
Washington, DC 20008
202/234-6883
Has published a series on worker/community-owned business, including: *Democracy in the Workplace: Readings on the Implementation of Self-Management in America* ($5.50); *The How-to-Start Folder for Self-Managed Businesses* ($1.00).

Northern Rockies Action Group (NRAG)
9 Placer Street
Helena, MT 59601
NRAG publishes guidebooks for small group management and organization building. Titles include: *Administration of Public Interest Groups* ($3.00); *Membership Recruitment Manual* ($10.00) and *A Celebration of Volunteers: How Citizen Groups in the Northern Rockies Can Work Effectively with Them* ($3.00).

Civic Action Institute (CAI)
1010 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202/293-1461
Provides technical assistance and information to neighborhood self-help organizations. CAI has developed a series of guides on small-scale neighborhood strategies for community development.

The Clearinghouse for Community-Based Free-Standing Educational Institutions
1806 Vernon St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20009
202/462-6333
A membership organization that provides technical assistance, information resource development and advocacy for community education programs.

Center for Community Change
1000 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20007
202/338-3134
Provides technical assistance to community organizations on housing, employment, community economic development and other grass-roots concerns.

Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
c/o National Park Service
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Washington, DC 20240
Although the funding base for this program is gone, the publications produced during its life are still available, including: *Volunteer Handbook* and *How to Form a Foundation.*

League of Women Voters
1730 M St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
The League has published many useful and inexpensive publications for community organizations. Write for publications list.

National Association of Neighborhoods
1612 20th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20009
202/332-7766
A policy, education and legislative action association of neighborhood associations.

National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs
1521 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202/232-3600
Technical assistance to neighborhood and community organizations including local economic development techniques, credit analysis and loan packaging.

National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202/673-4000
Provides technical assistance to preservation and conservation groups. Publishes the very useful *Conserve Neighborhoods*, a review of current community-oriented publications and projects.

The Support Center
1709 New Hampshire Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20009
The center provides management support and business information for nonprofit community and public interest organizations.

New Alchemy Institute
237 Hatchville Rd.
East Falmouth, MA 02536
617/563-5655
Develops model renewable energy-based integrated household and community systems; researches uses of solar and wind energy, methods of gardening, including aquaculture and greenhouse work. Offers workshops, public visitation and publications on research and development projects.

Farallones Institute
1516 5th St.
Berkeley, CA 94710
415/525-1150
Sponsors of two experimental integral household models, an urban and rural site in and near Berkeley, California. Sponsors education programs, tours, technical assistance to other organizations about alternative energy and the integrated house approach to community design.

Volunteer: The National Center for Citizen Involvement
1214 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202/467-5560
Provides technical assistance to community-based organizations for the development of volunteer and citizen involvement programs. Write for publications list.

Stimulating the Neighborhood Action Process (SNAP)
Support System Clearinghouse
1017 Avon St.
Flint, MI 48503
313/232-1641
A national resource center responding to requests from neighborhood and community organizations, utilizing a data base that includes profiles of successful community projects.

Emergency Preparedness

Disaster Planning, **Harold D. Foster, 1980, 275 pp., $29.80 from Springer Verlag, 175 5th Ave., New York, NY 10010.**
From defining risk through planning, design and prediction techniques, to construction and reconstruction, Foster provides the most rational information around for planners, students of planning and concerned people in general.

"Community Alert: Preparing for Energy Emergencies," full-color 31"x44" poster by Diane Schatz, available for $6.00 ppd. from Rain, 2270 N.W. Irving, Portland, OR 97210.
Shows in amazing detail how people in communities can work together to prepare for emergencies and be more self-reliant.

Food in the City

Agriculture in the City, **1976, 74 pp., $2.50 from Community Environmental Council, Inc., 109 E. De La Guerra St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101.**
Describes the development of the El Mirasol Educational Farm. Technical chapters on certain kinds of gardening.

The Edible City Resource Manual, **Richard Britz, 1981, 335 pp., $12.95 from William Kaufmann, Inc., One First St., Los Altos, CA 94022.**
A by-product of the Whiteaker Project (Eugene, Oregon)—an attempt to integrate several aspects of life in the city: food production, energy use, housing, food, etc. The manual is a plan for implementing a food and nutrition program in a community.

A Food Co-op and Buying Club Organization Kit, **1978, $1.50 from Nutritional Development Services, Archdiocese of Philadelphia, 222 North 17th St., Philadelphia, PA 19103.**
A basic step-by-step guide to organizing a food club. Includes resource list.

Guide to Community Garden Organizations, **1977, $2.00 from Gardens for All, 180 Flynn Ave., Burlington, VT 05401.**
Provides tips on gardening and a step-by-step guide for organizing community garden projects.

Organizers Guide for Setting Up an Open-Air Farmers Market, **1980, $1.00 from Food Resource Developer, Executive Office of Communities and Development, 10 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02108.**
Step-by-step guide to organizing a farmers market.

Food Policy Issues

Food First: Beyond the Myth of Scarcity, **Frances Moore Lappé, Joseph Collins, 1979, $2.75 from Ballantine Books.**
Contains 50 of the most urgent questions and responses about the causes and projected trends of world hunger.

Hard Tomatoes Hard Times, **Jim Hightower, 1972, $7.95 from Schenkman Publishing Co.**
A history of America's land grant colleges, growth of agribusiness and the impact on small farms.

New Directions in Farm, Land and Food Policies, **1980, $9.95 from Conference on Alternative State and Local Policies, 2000 Florida Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20009.**
Analysis of state and local farm, land and food issues. Extensive resource lists.

Radical Agriculture, **edited by Richard Merrill, 1976, $6.95 from Harper & Row.**
An anthology of some of the best writers on the history of agriculture, current business structure of agriculture and possibilities for a more sustainable agricultural system.

Water, Energy and Land—Public Resources and Irrigation Development in the Pacific Northwest: Who Benefits and Who Pays, **Idaho Citizens Coalition, 1981, $5.00 from Idaho Citizens Coalition, 216 N. 8th, Rm. 604, Boise, ID 83702.**
An analysis of the impact of irrigation on agriculture, energy usage and water supplies in this region.

Unsettling of America, **Wendell Berry, 1978, $5.95 from Avon Books.**
One of the most eloquent descriptions of the importance of a land and agricultural base in our culture.

Northwest Provender Alliance
1520 Western Ave.
Seattle, WA 98101
206/624-0364
A membership organization of co-ops, natural food stores, warehouses and producers. Publishes *Provender* newsletter ($10/year).

Tilth
13217 Mattson Rd.
Arlington, WA 98223
A network of farmers and gardeners in the Northwest with nine local chapters in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Publishes the *Tilth Newsletter* ($10/year), distributes books of interest to small farms, and conducts research on natural, organic, sustainable agricultural methods.

Rural America
1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
202/659-2800
Provides information and technical assistance on rural and agriculture issues.

The Cornucopia Project
Rodale Press
33 E. Minor St.
Emmaus, PA 18049
Rodale's effort to make people aware of physical problems in our food system through development of region-wide analyses of food systems and conferences in which interested individuals and groups can map out a more sustainable agricultural system.

Institute for Food and Development Policy
2588 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA 94110
A research, documentation and education center focusing on food, agriculture and hunger issues. Write for publications list.

National Family Farm Coalition
918 F St. N.W., 2nd floor
Washington, DC 20004
202/638-6848
Coordinates information and public education on the Family Farm Development Act introduced in Congress in 1980. Publishes legislative update.

Health

Community Nutrition Institute
1146 19th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202/833-1730
A nonprofit citizens' group active in a wide range of food and nutrition issues. Publishes *CNI Weekly Report* ($45/yr. regular; $25/yr. students).

Health Policy Advisory Center
17 Murray Street
New York, NY 10007
212/267-8890
Monitors the health care system in this country. Publishes the *Health/PAC Bulletin* ($14 individuals/$28 institutional, $11.20 students).

Medical Self Care, **quarterly, $15.00/yr. from Box 717, Inverness, CA 94937.**
An excellent overview and resource guide to new developments and publications in self-help medical practices.

National Association of Community Health Centers
1625 Eye St. N.W., Suite 420
Washington, DC 20006
202/833-9280
Education and training, research, policy analysis and technical assistance for community health centers.

National Women's Health Network
2025 Eye St. N.W. #105
Washington, DC 20006
202/223-6886
Represents women as health care consumers. Publishes *Network, National Women's Health News* (sliding scale subscription).

Housing Design

Design with Climate, **Victor Olgyay, 1963, 190 pp., $32.50 from Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ 08540.**
An excellent guide to designing and construction that takes into account local climatic conditions.

A Design and Construction Handbook for Energy-Saving Houses, **by Alex Wade, 1980, $12.95 from Rodale Press.**
This book provides the kind of nitty-gritty information needed to build your own home. Resource lists steer you toward high quality and efficient materials, tools, designers, contractors and even appliances.

The Integral Urban House: Self-Reliant Living in the City, **The Farallones Institute, 1979, $12.95 from Sierra Club Books.**
Using the Farallones Integral Urban House in Berkeley as a model, this fascinating book describes ways in which solar technology, energy conservation, waste recycling and urban food growing can be applied to existing homes and neighborhoods.

The Old House Journal, **monthly, $16/yr. from Old House Journal Corporation, 69A Seventh Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11217.**
An excellent source of information about restoring old houses.

Passive Solar Energy: The Homeowner's Guide to Natural Heating and Cooling, **Bruce Anderson and Malcolm Wells, 1981, 197 pp., $8.95 from Brick House Publishing.**
A clear, accurate and enjoyable overview to passive solar energy, housing construction and retrofitting older houses.

The Second Passive Solar Catalog, **David A. Bainbridge, 1980, 110 pp., $12.50 from The Passive Solar Institute, P.O. Box 722, Davis, CA 95616.**
Includes an overview of passive solar fundamentals along with some good construction details. Extensive list of suppliers and consultants. Also section about women in passive solar energy work.

National Association of Housing Cooperatives
1012 14th St. N.W., Suite 805
Washington, DC 20005
202/628-6242
National clearinghouse of information and technical assistance to housing cooperatives.

Shelterforce Collective
380 Main Street
East Orange, NJ 07018
201/678-6778
Provides technical assistance for nonprofit housing and community development groups. Publishes *Shelterforce*, quarterly, $5.00 individuals, $7.00 law offices, $10.00 institutional.

National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202/673-4000
Provides information and technical assistance to nonprofit organizations about preservation and housing conservation.

Human Services and Resource Networks, **Semour B. Sarason, et al., 1979, $12.95 from Jossey Bass, Publishers.**
A unique look at an alternative method of providing human services through development of self-help networks.

Human Services—Alternative

Citizen Coproduction of Public Services: An Annotated Bibliography, **$4.00 from Council of Planning Librarians, 1313 E. 60th St., Merriam Center, Chicago, IL 60637.**
A bibliography on direct citizen participation in planning, implementing and evaluating public services.

Journal of Alternative Human Services, **monthly, $27/year from Community Congress of San Diego, 1172 Morena Blvd., San Diego, CA 92110.**
An excellent journal exploring new ways of providing human services. Each issue has information resource listings and articles. A compilation of the resources described in previous journals is available: *Guide to Resources in Alternative Human Services* ($3.00).

Natural Resource Conservation

Earthwatch Oregon, **monthly ($8.00/yr.), published by the Oregon Environmental Council, 2637 S.W. Water, Portland, OR 97201.**
An excellent source of information on local natural resource issues.

Environmental Action, **monthly ($15/yr.) from Environmental Action, Inc., Room 731, 1346 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.**
Excellent background articles on the whole range of environmental issues, covers citizen action and legislative news.

Not Man Apart, **monthly, $15/yr. from Friends of the Earth, 124 Spear St., San Francisco, CA 94105.**
One of the best sources of news on environmental and natural resource issues.

Natural Resources Defense Council
1725 Eye St. N.W., Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006
202/223-8210
Involved in research and litigation on a variety of environmental and energy issues. Publishes *Amicus*, (quarterly, $15/yr.).

Worldwatch Institute
1776 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
Publishes some of the best and most digestible (less than 100 pages) reports on a variety of social and environmental issues worldwide. Write for publications list.

Recycling

"Mine the Trash Cans, Not the Land," Knapp, Brandt, Corson, RAIN Magazine, Vol. V No. 2.

"Turning Waste into Wealth," Dan Knapp, RAIN Magazine, Part I, Vol. V No. 9; Part II, Vol. V No. 10.

Available for $1.20 ea. ppd. from RAIN, 2270 N.W. Irving, Portland, OR 97210.

Source Separation and Waste Reduction Alternatives for the Metropolitan Service District, **Resource Conservation Consultants, February 1980, free from METRO, 527 S.W. Hall St., Portland, OR 97201.**

Repairs, Reuse, Recycling—First Steps Toward a Sustainable Society, Worldwatch Paper #23, **Denis Hayes, 1978, $2.00 from Worldwatch Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.**

Garbage-to-Energy, The False Panacea, **$3.00 from Santa Rosa Recycling Center, P.O. Box 1375, Santa Rosa, CA 95401.**

Economic Feasibility of Recycling, **Neil Seldman, 1978, $4.00 from Institute for Local Self-Reliance, 1717 18th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20009.**

Recycling—How to Reuse Wastes in Home, Industry and Society, **Jerome Goldstein, 1979, $6.95 from Schocken Books**

Zero Waste Systems
2928 Poplar Street
Emeryville, CA 95608
415/893-8257
One of the most experienced recyclers of hazardous materials in the country.

Citizens for a Better Environment
88 First Street #600
San Francisco, CA 94105
415/777-1984
One of the few environmental organizations officially aware of "the burning issue" of garbage, air pollution in particular.

Operating a Recycling Program: A Citizen's Guide, **1980, Resource Conservation Consultants, $.50, 1615 N.W. 23rd, Portland, OR 97210.**
How to set up a community recycling program.

Renewable Energy Development

Energy for Survival, **Wilson Clark, 1975, 652 pp., $5.95, Doubleday and Co.**
One of the earliest comprehensive treatments of the development of energy production in our culture and renewable energy alternatives.

Energy Future, **Robert Stobaugh and Daniel Yergin, editors, 1979, 353 pp., $2.95, Random House.**
A report of the Energy Project at the Harvard Business School, calling for an energy conserving solar society.

Energy Primer, **Richard Merrill and Tom Gage, 1974 (revised 1978), 256 pp., $7.95 from Delta Books, c/o Montville Warehousing Co., Change Bridge Road, Pine Brook, NJ 07058.**
One of the best introductions to the variety of energy resources. Extensive resource lists and bibliography.

Rays of Hope: Transition to a Post-Petroleum World, **Denis Hayes, 1977, $3.95 from W.W. Norton Co.**
Examination of potential energy sources with a historical and global perspective.

Reaching Up, Reaching Out: A Guide to Organizing Local Solar Events, **Solar Energy Research Institute, 1979, $8.50, order from Supt. of Documents, GPO, Washington, DC 20402, order #061-000-000345-2.**
Presents case studies and a very extensive and useful resource list.

Renewable Energy and Bioregions: A New Context for Public Policy, **Peter Berg and George Tukel, Sept. 1980, Planet Drum Foundation, P.O. Box 31251, San Francisco, CA 94131.**
A report prepared for the Solar Business Office of the State of California presenting the case for energy development and consumption patterns that correspond to natural watershed-oriented regions.

Soft Energy Paths, **Amory B. Lovins, 1979, 231 pp., $3.95, Harper and Row.**
One of the most eloquent statements about the need to conserve energy and develop renewable energy sources.

Shining Examples: Model Projects Using Renewable Resources, **edited by Kathleen Courrier, et al., 1980, 210 pp., $4.95 from Center for Renewable Resources, 1001 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.**
This book tells who is doing what, the problems they've encountered and where they found their funding.

County Energy Plan Guidebook, **Alan Okagaki and Jim Benson, 1979, $7.50 individuals and public interest groups, $15 all others, from Institute for Ecological Policies, 9208 Christopher St., Fairfax, VA 22031.**
A workbook that can be used to calculate energy production and consumption in a county and energy conservation measures that can be taken.

Energy Efficient Community Planning, **James Ridgeway, available for $11.50 ppd. from RAIN, 2270 N.W. Irving, Portland, OR 97210.**
A description of several energy conservation projects around the country.

Energy Self-Sufficiency in Northampton, Massachusetts, **1979, $16.00, available from NTIS, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22161.**
Using an approach similar to the one developed in the County Energy Plan Guidebook, here is an example of one's community process for dealing with the need to conserve energy.

The Village as Solar Ecology **(Proceedings of the New Alchemy Threshold Generic Design Conference, April 16-21, 1979), 1980, 134 pp., $22.50 from New Alchemy Institute, 237 Hatchville Rd., East Falmouth, MA 02536.**
Goes much beyond community energy planning to the integration of a community into a sustainable system.

Researching Your Community

Collecting Evidence: A Layman's Guide to Participant Observation **(1976, $2.00)**

Facts and Figures: A Layman's Guide to Conducting Surveys **(1976, $4.25)**

Facts for a Change: Citizen Action Research for Better Schools **(1976, $5.00)**

all from Institute for Responsive Education, 704 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215.
Three good guides on conducting community research. Ask for publications list.

Energy and Power in Your Community: How to Analyze Where It Comes From, How Much It Costs and Who Controls It, **Elizabeth Schaefer and Jim Benson, 1980, 129 pp., $6.00 from Institute for Ecological Policies, 9208 Christopher St., Fairfax, VA 22031.**
A step-by-step method for analyzing a community energy system. Although it is specifically for energy, some of the methodology might be employed to investigate other life-support systems.

Research for Action: A Guidebook to Public Records Investigation for Community Activists, **by Don Villarejo, 1980, 112 pp., $7.50 plus $1.25 postage & handling from California Institute for Rural Studies, P.O. Box 530, Davis, CA 95616.**
This guide demystifies the process of digging out public information.

Studying Your Community, **Roland L. Warren, 1965, $4.95 from Free Press, 866 3rd Ave., New York, NY 10022.**
An outline of how to explore the elements of a community (health care, retail, governmental, etc.).

Transportation

Transformation of Transportation, **Christopher Swan, Office of Appropriate Technology, 600 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA 95814, 1981, 16pp., free.**
A brief overview of history of transportation in California and options for the future. Good simple handout to get people thinking about transportation.

Transportation and Energy, Some Current Myths, **Charles A. Lave, 20 pp., 1978, from the Institute of Transportation Studies, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.**
A fairly controversial profile about energy tradeoffs between different forms of transportation.

Network News, **from the Bicycle Network, Box 8194, Philadelphia, PA 19101.**
A quarterly compilation of printed material from around the country relating to new developments in bicycling. Inquire for cost.

The End of the Road, A Citizen's Guide to Transportation Problem Solving, **1977, 160 pp., $3.50, published by the National Wildlife Federation (1412 16th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20036) and the Environmental Action Foundation (1346 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036).**
A good introduction to citizen involvement in transportation planning issues.

"The Future of the Automobile in an Oil-Short World," by Lester R. Brown, Christopher Flavin and Colin Norman, *Worldwatch Paper #32*, $2.00 from Worldwatch Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.
Good introduction to the waning of the auto age and the promise of alternatives such as bikeways and mass transit.

Transportation and Telecommunications Trade-offs

The Telecommunications Tradeoff: Options for Tomorrow, **Jack M. Nildes and others, 1976, Wiley & Co.**

Bibliography of Selected Abstracts of Documents Related to Energy Conservation Through Telecommunications, **and** *Telecommunications Substitutes for Travel*, **both from Office of Telecommunications, Executive Office of the President, Washington, DC 20500.**

Urban Land Use

Planners Network
360 Elizabeth St.
San Francisco, CA 94114
A national organization of progressive planners and architects. Publishes a bimonthly newsletter chock-full of innovative community planning projects and publications.

Trust for Public Land
95 Second St.
San Francisco, CA 94105
415/495-4014
Operates the National Urban Land Program established to help inner-city neighborhoods recycle vacant lots into community-owned space.

Urban Institute
2100 M Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20037
202/223-1950
Conducts research activities on many aspects of neighborhood preservation.

Rain Publications

RAIN: Journal of Appropriate Technology

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". . . a paper jewel." *Not Man Apart*

From wood stoves to solar design, from community gardens to recycling systems, from computer information networks to neighborhood co-ops, *RAIN* is "without a doubt the finest access periodical in the country" (Richard Merrill, *Energy Primer*). *RAIN* points the way to model projects, how-to books, influential documents, political undercurrents, and the leading edge of social and technological discovery.

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***Urban Ecotopia Poster*, 22"x33", 1976; *Suburban Ecotopia Poster*, 22'x30", 1976; *Stepping Stones Poster*, 21"x24", 1978; all by Diane Schatz**

The first exciting glimpses of an Ecotopian vision. . . . Chances are you've already seen Diane Schatz's *Urban Ecotopia Poster*—on the cover of *Rainbook*, reprinted in countless numbers of books and publications, or on a friend's wall. Its city street scene gives literal expression to the idea of urban self-reliance—where cottage industries, cooperative institutions and appropriate technologies combine to make the city a habitable and happy place to be. . . . If your concern is reinhabiting the suburbs, you should visit Diane's *Suburban Ecotopia*, where the same potential can be seen in gardens, solar greenhouses and windmills. The *Stepping Stones Poster* is an elaborate bioregional landscape which vividly details local economies and energies at work and play. All three of these line-drawn posters are rich in detail and perfect for coloring.

***Consumer Guide to Woodstoves*, Bill Day, Rainpaper No. 1, Rev. Jan. 1981, 16 pp.**

No matter how you split it, wood is re-emerging as an important factor in home heating. To help insure the wood energy transition is one committed to safety and efficiency, wood stove consumerist Bill Day has closely monitored the availability and reliability of these products. His newly revised and expanded *Consumer Guide* is a compilation of his articles in *RAIN*, covering the selection, installation and repair of woodstoves, wood cookstoves and wood furnaces. Included are helpful notes on fireplace retrofits and chimney maintenance. Essential reading for those of you interested in this revitalized energy alternative.

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Knowing Rain . . .

In 1973 E.F. Schumacher wrote Small Is Beautiful, *describing a way of looking at the world in more simple, manageable and decentralized ways. A handful of people in the Northwest Maritime Region responded by starting* RAIN Magazine, *a medium for sharing ideas, books and activities that promoted ecological solutions to global problems.*

By the end of 1974 RAIN *was reaching thousands of people in the region, the whole country, and around the world. In a period of energy shortages* RAIN *described locally adaptable alternatives like wind and solar. In a time of rising food costs it explored new ways for people to successfully grow their own, at home or in community gardens. In an era of increasing government control over local activities it described something called "community self-reliance."*

That last one–community self-reliance–is what connects RAIN *the magazine with this guide. After seven years of publishing to a national audience, we missed the intimate connection with the home base on whose behalf we had started all this. So in 1980 we began to work with an organization called the Portland Community Resource Center and eventually joined with it to form a new hybrid: the Rain Community Resource Center. This has given us an excellent opportunity to practice locally what we preach nationally. Through the Resource Center we can coordinate conferences and other events, and build coalitions to look creatively at the problems that confront our city. We can also package information, conduct research and provide technical assistance to other organizations in Portland. This work grounds us in our community: we are sharing our skills to build the kind of society we envision for the future.*

Rain Community Resource Center
2270 NW Irving
Portland, OR 97210
503/224-6587

The Rain Community Resource Center develops programs, services and publications which help people work together to build self-reliant communities.

• With our access to more than 100 computerized data bases (including those in the DIALOG system) and our own extensive library resources, we are able to tailor information services to meet your specific research needs. We compile background data for analyzing policy options, prepare summaries of developments in particular fields of interest, develop program and outreach planning strategies, and assist in locating funding sources. Our recent research projects have included development of a constituency profile for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, a promotion plan for a recycling firm, and a nationwide inventory of community computer projects for Neighborhood Information Sharing Exchange, Washington, D.C. and Office of Neighborhood Associations, Portland, Oregon

• We assist in the development of networks and coalitions such as the Portland-area Community Economic Development Task Force.

• We conduct workshops in areas such as fundraising and program planning, citizen participation, renewable energy resources and conservation, access to media, and information management.

• We are experienced in administering projects and programs through contracts from community organizations and government agencies. In 1981 the Rain Umbrella co-administered the U.S. Department of Energy's Appropriate Technology Small Grants Program for the state of Oregon.

• We design, coordinate, and sponsor conferences and forums in such areas as community self-reliance, citizen involvement, appropriate technology, and renewable energy development. We have designed and organized an Oregon-wide Women and Energy conference, a forum on cooperatives, and conferences on community energy planning.

Ancil Nance

Rain staff, left to right: Mark Roseland, John Ferrell, Tanya Kucak, Carlotta Collette, Steve Johnson, Nancy Cosper, Laura Stuchinsky, Steve Rudman. Not shown: Scott Androes, Salena Baker.

Rain Community Resource Center has been funded in part by grants from Northwest Area Foundation, Mervyn's/Dayton Hudson Foundation, Rose E. Tucker Foundation, Collins Foundation and National Center for Appropriate Technology.

Both the Resource Center Library, with its 3,500 volumes and computerized community information system, and the Resource Center Retail Bookshelf are open to the public. Call 503/224-6587 for further information.

PORTLAND'S GUIDE TO COMMUNITY SELF-RELIANCE!

"Held rightly, a sense of place is a tool for framing those bigger-than-we-care-to-imagine problems and bringing them back down to local scale. It helps us to focus our awareness on who we are, where we are headed, and what our next steps might be. In so doing, we often discover that the best solutions are those that can be found in our backyards."

Ancil Nance

By the staff of Rain Community Resource Center, publishers of RAIN Magazine, a national Journal of Appropriate Technology, and local information providers on renewable energy and community self-help activities.

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