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Reagan, Carter, Anderson:

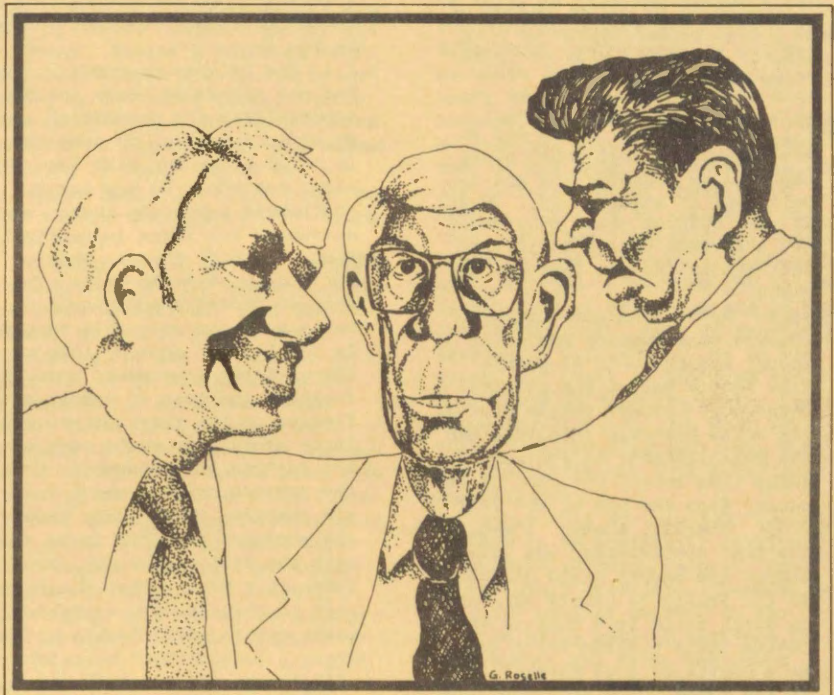
In a few weeks the citizens of this country will select the next President of the United States. In order to choose wisely people must know the various candidates' views on certain issues. Below is a comparison, extracted from The Sierra Club Bulletin, of Jimmy Carter's, Ronald Reagan's and John Anderson's stands on environmental issues.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

CARTER originally campaigned as a skeptic who viewed nuclear power as only a "last resort". But he has since appointed two pro-nuclear secretaries of Energy, and his administration has consistently worked for more light-water reactors. Carter took strong early stands against the breeder reactor and nuclear proliferation, but these positions have weakened in the last year. He accepted a good set of recommendations on nuclear waste disposal but he also supports away-from-reactor storage proposals opposed by environmentalists.

REAGAN says that nuclear energy is "the cleanest, most efficient and the most economical" energy source with "no environmental problems". Accuses nuclear opponents of stirring up "national hysteria over nuclear energy". Favors reprocessing nuclear wastes to solve the disposal problem and believes that Carter's concern that reprocessing could encourage proliferation of nuclear weapons is "foolish".

ANDERSON has a record as one of the most steadfast nuclear proponents in Congress, consistently supporting the industry in vote after vote. In his presidential campaign, Anderson has sounded much more cautious on nuclear energy, calling for increased safety and a temporary moratorium on new plant licenses. But it appears that he foresees a



Where Do They Stand?

resumption of nuclear development once certain changes have been made and proper waste facilities have been constructed.

SOLAR ENERGY AND CONSERVATION

CARTER stressed conservation as the cornerstone of his energy policy and supported deregulation of energy prices to encourage it. Has increased overall government spending on conservation and advocated some regulatory approaches to stimulate conservation. Carter envisions meeting 20% of the nation's energy needs with solar energy by 2000. But his appointees at DOE have not

supported this objective and have opposed funding to achieve this goal.

REAGAN supported, as governor, the public utilities' efforts to encourage massive increases in energy consumption. Refers to solar and other renewable-energy technologies as "exotic" and believes that energy conservation will slow down economic growth. Reagan believes that solar and conservation are "not viable alternatives to coal and nuclear power".

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

Tom Hayden: Perspective on the 80's

Tom Hayden chairs the Campaign for Economic Democracy, represents California in Western SUN, a federal solar energy program, and is active in US-Mexico border relations. He is currently promoting his new book *The American Future: New Visions Beyond Old Frontiers*.

I visited with Tom on the drive from SeaTac to Bellingham in what proved to be a wild ride to arrive on time at Western.

M.P.: In 1976, you called for an energy program that would place emphasis on conservation and development of solar energy. What is your opinion about this country's current energy policy and what changes do you feel are necessary?

Hayden: We've seen some creeping towards conservation and solar energy appointments of people like Dennis Hayes, the original founder of SunDay, to the head of the Solar Research Institute and the establishment of national goals like twenty per cent of our energy from the sun by the year 2000. Overall, though, I would say that conservation and solar energy are second class citizens in the family of energy options. In first place is a massive synthetic fuels program which could be a source of real catastrophe in the 1980s. The government is spending eighty-eight billion dollars, most of it public funds transferred to the private oil companies; the largest amount of money ever spent in peace time on any project in the history of this country. This program is inflationary, the technology is unproven, no energy is to be created until the 1990s as a result of this investment, and it may require extremely authoritarian measures out of the Federal government towards states and communities through the proposed Energy Mobilization Board. I think we're spending a lot of money for something that is unproven and won't help us get through the 1980s.

M.P.: Do you see the eighties as the pivotal point in developing alternate forms of energy?

Hayden: I think the eighties are the decade when the decisions have

to be made. Emphasis should be on conservation which is the only way to save energy immediately, the only way to put people to work in this country, the only way to prevent the outflow of dollars abroad, and the only way to deal with the triple problems of energy, unemployment and inflation. It isn't being done at the present and the reasons for that are very deep, cultural, economical, and political. We are moving into the future under a government living in the past.

M.P.: The private consumer is the one who generally bears the responsibility for conserving energy while industry, in some cases, is still operating with less efficient methods. Do you foresee government mandating energy conservation for large industries?

Hayden: I think that it should, but I doubt that it will. The cost of conservation should be borne by those most able to pay. In the kind of economy that we have, if the government were to increase the cost of energy reflected in the rate structure of large users, they would pass on the cost to the consumer. Under the present system, which I don't see changing in the near future, the consumer is going to be stuck with the bill either way. But I think it's better that the money stay in this country instead of going out to Saudi Arabia or Indonesia. I think that more jobs will be created here; therefore, the cost to the consumer would be alleviated through conservation because of the multiplier effects in the economy through lower prices...more money here and more jobs...than if the consumer was bearing the cost of flow of capital out to the OPEC nations.

M.P.: In 1976 you stated that alternative sources of energy should be publicly owned. What we see now, especially in Southern California, is the oil companies doing research and development in geothermal and solar energy. Do you see this as a move by the oil companies to tie up development by smaller independent interests or are they genuinely concerned with developing energy sources less reliant upon fossil fuels?

Hayden: It's hard to say...it appears the oil companies would have an interest in phasing in alternative energy sources only if they

could get the same price they now get for oil or natural gas or coal or uranium which they also own. Since the market is tilted in favor of fossil fuels, it will be some time before the oil companies make as much money from the sun as they do from coal, shale, oil, or natural gas. I don't think we have that time. I would not make this a complete blanket statement because the situation is a little complex. For example, if the government refuses to invest in alternative energy sources, which basically it has done, where is the solar entrepreneur to go for capital? He can't go to the bank: the bank regards it as an unproven and unreliable technology. So, in a couple of cases, solar manufacturers of photovoltaic cells have allowed themselves to be bought up by oil companies: Solarex has been bought by Standard of Indiana while another has been bought by ARCO. These are the only two companies that are producing solar electric cells on a commercially viable basis. They wouldn't be doing so if it weren't for capital from the oil companies. It may be the oil companies are controlling their growth (which, I believe, could be argued) but as long as there is no other capital, we have a paradox; that is, the most advanced solar electric companies are subsidized by big oil while at the same time big oil is containing their development.

M.P.: Have alternatives been developed whereby individual consumers or communities have contributed to decreasing usage of energy?

Hayden: Here is an alternative we have evolved in California which I think is ahead of the rest of the country. First, in terms of capital for the consumer, we've gotten our Public Utilities Commissioner to order, on a trial basis, that the utilities give interest free loans to consumers who want to purchase solar equipment for hot water in their homes. This will be an attempt to get 330,000 applications in three years (California now has 80,000 applications). This is a solution for the consumer. For businesses (solar) that are starved for capital and can't get it from

Wilderness Advocacy As Optimism

BY JOHN MILES

Critics of environmentalism over the years have suggested that expenditure of time and energy on wilderness preservation is a waste not only of natural resources but also of human resources. They argue that with all of the world's starving millions and myriad other problems it is selfish and immoral to spend time preserving such a luxury as wilderness. The wilderness can be used, after all, only by a certain wealthy elite. A former supervisor of the North Cascades National Park called this elite "the aristocracy of the physically fit." I have been troubled by these accusations, for while I am concerned about justice in the human world, I am also a lover of wilderness and spend a portion of my allotted resources of time and energy working in its behalf. So how might I respond to such accusations?

First, I can respond from a position of purity, one called "biocentric" by some writers on the subject. I can argue, as such eloquent people as Thoreau, Muir, and Leopold have, that nature has value independently of we humans. Animals and plants have a right to live regardless of how much or how little they contribute to human welfare. A tree or deer not harvested is not wasted but has served the community of which it is a part, whether or not that community contains a human being. This is not a position of strength when my antagonist is a "worldly" and pragmatic person, one used to dealing only in terms of concrete human values, exclusively perhaps in economic terms. Reasoning beyond human interest, or perhaps even beyond self-interest, is not possible for such people. If I am to communicate with them, I must come up with some other response.

Perhaps some good on this wilderness question can be derived from an idea the late Abraham Maslow, a psychologist, described a few years ago. He suggested that human beings experienced certain needs, biologically based, which could be arranged in a hierarchy. What Maslow called "basic" needs occupy the foundation

of the hierarchy and include physiological needs such as those of food, shelter, and sleep. Above these and other "basic" needs are "growth needs" involving such values as simplicity, order, oneness, beauty and wholeness. Maslow's research indicated that people are initially motivated by the basic needs, and as these are satisfied they move toward the level of higher needs and become motivated by them. There is, according to Maslow, a basic human tendency to seek satisfaction of these growth needs.

The point of all this in relation to wilderness is that the wilderness experience undoubtedly contributes uniquely to these "growth needs." Such growth, it may be argued, is a luxury for it is not possible for one who has not satisfied basic needs. There is no arguing with this, and it indicates to we defenders of wilderness that we must also be working to end poverty and injustice even as we struggle to preserve wild lands. Still, there is hope that we may be able to free humankind from privation and scarcity, thus setting up a situation in which there is demand for satisfaction of "growth needs." (It is no accident that wilderness preservation gathered strength as an idea and social movement in the United States, a nation where basic needs were satisfied for enough of the people that they were willing to set aside natural "temples" so that they would be safe from the assessments of the workshop). If someone were not minding the wilderness while the social work was being done to meet basic needs for everyone, this wilderness environment for growth would not be present when the goal of social equity was reached. When humankind achieved the situation where basic needs were broadly satisfied, one important source of growth need satisfaction would be gone. This would be a tragedy for the human spirit.

Pragmatists like to think that they are realists, their feet firmly planted and their eyes open, yet if they fail to accept the idea that we wilderness preservationists are trying to preserve a resource for human betterment, we may point out that

they are denying the belief in human progress that is so important to them. For it seems that their view that we are self-indulgent in our concern for wilderness is a pessimistic view of the human situation. It says that humankind is in such dire straits that it is not likely to break through to a setting in which satisfaction of higher growth needs is important. It predicts a continued situation of scarcity and excess, more of the same that we suffer today, and overlooks the possibility of finding solutions to the difficulties that plague us.

This seems to me a limited view. It fails to give any credence to the many futurists who argue that if adjustment can be made in various elements of contemporary world society toward slower economic and population growth and restructuring of economic distribution systems, most of the world's peoples can enjoy satisfaction of their basic needs. There is no assurance that this marvelous condition will be achieved, but it seems narrow-minded and faithless to destroy the natural temples out of pessimism and an overly narrow ethic. As Aldo Leopold so eloquently pointed out, if we can extend our ethic to the land and stop being so anthropocentric in our reckoning of value, not only the land will be the beneficiary. We, too, will be better off both materially and spiritually.

Viewed this way, working for wilderness is an optimistic affirmation of a positive human future. Many of us certainly work for wilderness out of self-interest because in the present we enjoy getting out into this environment and doing our thing, whether it be climbing, river running, or whatever. At the same time we are working for wilderness out of altruism, are working to preserve a great work of nature. We are serving posterity, enabling future generations to know the experiences of solitude, wildness, simplicity, and beauty that wilderness has given to us. We may, for all we know, be working also for an eventual elevation of the human spirit in a time when people, their basic needs satisfied, will be motivated to explore the meaning of unity, simplicity, wholeness and cooperation. That is a prospect which I and my antagonist cannot help but agree is desirable and toward which we should work cooperatively.

WE ENCOURAGE RESPONSES TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED HEREIN. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT E.S. 535



The New Governor and the Environment: the Candidate's Views

Washington is blessed with one of the finest natural environments left in the lower forty-eight states. Come election day we will be placing in office a Governor to whom we will entrust the care of our state and all its natural wonders. In order to identify where the candidates stand on important environmental issues, the Monthly Planet was able to obtain interviews from Democrat Jim McDermott and Republican John Spellman while they were campaigning in the area. The interview with McDermott was obtained on September 29th at Democratic headquarters on Cornwall. The Planet interviewed Spellman on October 18th at People's State Bank on Meridian Drive.

JIM MCDERMOTT INTERVIEW

MP: Mr. McDermott, what are your views on the currently proposed Northern Tier pipeline that would be routed under Puget Sound and across the state?

McDermott: I basically oppose Northern Tier Pipeline because when you look at all the environmental tradeoffs there is so little to be gained from it and so much to be lost that it doesn't make sense to me as a public project.

MP: What are your views on the current plan to greatly accelerate the cutting of state forest lands in order to increase school and other public revenues?

McDermott: In the legislature I advocated reassessing the cutting practices of the Department of Natural Resources and I will do that as Governor on the Board of Natural Resources.

MP: What are your views actually on the accelerated cutting? Would you prefer that we would not clear cut all our state lands?

McDermott: I don't think it's good public policy to cut all the timber by 1990 on state land, which is what they're trying to do.

MP: How do you feel about initiative 383, the nuclear waste initiative?

McDermott: I support it, and my people collected 14,000 signatures for it.

MP: How do you feel about the preservation of farmland--do you feel that is a very important priority that you would pursue under your governorship?

McDermott: It's going to be an enormously difficult problem; we have problems across the state with the destruction of farmland and it seems to me that we're going to have to work as a state to come up with a public policy. Right now there is no policy, we're just going and wiping out farmland all the time and we're also ultimately going to get ourselves in trouble.

MP: So you would advocate a more comprehensive land use plan statewide then?

McDermott: No, I think it's got to be done at the local level but I think the state can support local area's decisions on preserving farmland. I don't think there ought to be a state land use plan. I don't think that will work.

MP: What do you feel about the licensing of additional nuclear plants in the state?

McDermott: I'll have to have it demonstrated to me we need 'em.

JOHN SPELLMAN INTERVIEW

MP: Mr. Spellman, what do you think the role of state government should be in encouraging energy conservation and the development of alternative energy sources?

Spellman: The state's role should be aggressive, positive, with real incentives--that means money, and programs in terms of potential technologies and methodologies--they should work directly with municipalities, with non-profit groups, and with private corporations. It has to be a very high priority in the state.

MP: What are your feelings on initiative 383 which would prohibit the transportation of non-medical nuclear wastes into the state?

Spellman: I support it.

MP: Do you feel that the projected energy needs of the state warrant the building of additional nuclear power plants?

Spellman: The term additional is a little ambiguous--all of those planned for and for which construction has begun need to be completed and we still have a shortage. I would hope that we wouldn't need additional --by using conservation and supplemental sources. We will ultimately need more power and we'd really have to then see what the needs are.

MP: What are your opinions on the proposed Northern Tier pipeline?

Spellman: My opinion is that there is a process for finding facts and making recommendations; the next Governor should wait until that process is over before announcing a decision or making up his mind. Certainly the burden of proof is upon the project to demonstrate that it meets the environmental and energy consumption and other needs of this state and nation. I think it would be in violation of the fairness doctrine of the courts for the Governor to preannounce a decision.

MP: The department of Natural Resources currently has a plan to accelerate the cutting of state forest lands, eventually to replace all state forests with tree farm monocultures. What are your views on this plan?

Spellman: Well I'm not sure the department has that plan anymore; I thought I heard the Director of the department backing off of it within the last few weeks. Obviously our state forests must be looked at as resources in two ways--resources in terms of timber supplies and in terms of the environment of the area and I would hope that we could strike the proper balance between the two.

MP: Do you feel that Washington needs greater land planning to avoid haphazard development and loss of valuable farmland?

Spellman: I think it is incumbent upon the state to provide additional local home rule to all areas of the state so that counties and municipalities can do a much stronger job of land use planning in order to prevent the type of bad development, sprawl and despoilation which we've seen in other parts of the country. I do not advocate the state becoming the master planner with regard to problems of local areas.

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Mt. Baker Wilderness



BY JIM LANE

We sometimes take for granted that which we perceive as unchanging and steady. The area around Mt. Baker fits this illusion like a glove. For years people have come from all over the Northwest to ski, hike, and climb in the two hundred and seventy five thousand acres comprising the Mount Baker area. It's easy accessibility and pristine beauty have marked it as one of the hot spots for the northwest outdoorsman. (Anyone who has gone hiking in this area on a nice weekend can attest to its popularity) The Baker wilderness contains forty major peaks, close to fifty lakes, and dozens of valleys. Now, because this area is neither national park nor wilderness area, its beauty and recreational value are in danger of being ruined by clear cut logging operations.

For over forty years the Mt. Baker region has been managed as a roadless area. Motorized vehicles are not allowed. Now, under the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II), the recent national forest land use plan, the forest service has recommended to Congress that the area be opened up to multipurpose development. In December of 1979, Representative Tom Foley (D-Wash), Chairman of the House Agricultural Committee, proposed a bill to the House entitled "National Forest Multiple Use Management Act of 1980". This bill in effect states that areas under consideration for wilderness designation have until Jan. 1, 1984 to be approved. After this date they can be used for uses other than wilderness in accordance with the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974. Also, after 1983, the right to request that the Forest Service consider an area for wilderness would be terminated. Foley's bill was sponsored by twenty three other legislators, including Al Swift. Reactions from environmental groups was quick and predictable. Friends of the Earth, Sierra Club, and other environmentalist groups tagged the bill dangerous and shortsighted.

The outcome of the Swift-Foley bill was that it ended up biting the dust in some recessed sub-committee in the House. Even so, the Mount Baker area is by no means safe. Groups such as the Mount Baker Wilderness Association and Washington Wilderness Coalition have been unsuccessful so far in getting the Mt. Baker area wilderness classification. Until then, that area is fair game for any new legislation that might arise. Indeed, right after Foley's first bill was canned, he came up with another one that was a fairly close copy of the first. It's fate in the house will hopefully follow the path of the first bill and be quickly buried.

In an issue like what to do with the Mt. Baker area, it's important to see both sides. Someone who depends on the timber industry for a living will have a lot of good reasons for wanting the area to be logged. On the other hand, for outdoorsmen, the Baker area has more value as a recreational source than as future rolls of toilet paper. The conflict is between needs, and the costs aren't the type that can be easily figured out on paper. Is it worth the loss of jobs and income from timber resources to preserve the Baker Wilderness, or should we allow clear cut timber operations to take place and scour the land?

I believe that in the case of the Mt. Baker area, the needs of this section of the Northwest are best met by getting legislation passed preserving Mt. Baker as a Wilderness Area. Its uncompromising beauty (Mt. Shuksun is the most photographed mountain in the U.S.) and its easy accessibility for the urban areas from Seattle to Vancouver seem to hold more importance than its timber resources. This is especially true nowadays when a lot of our logs are being shipped over to Japan for mill work and then sold back to the U.S. as finished lumber. If the timber industry wants to preserve work for their employees, perhaps the answer lies in keeping the logs they are allowed to cut in this country rather than looking for new woods to clearcut.

Utility Question

BY CHRIS PFORR

From my perspective, the choice of who will be our next president makes little difference. They both seem determined to fry us all in a cloud of fissioning nuclei. But there is at least one issue in the upcoming election that is of definite import to all of us here in Bellingham--propositions 1 and 2, the public power initiatives.

At stake is a feasibility study to determine the potential cost and possible benefits of replacing Puget Sound Power and Light Co. in Bellingham with a local municipal utility district. The major hoped-for benefit of such a change would be eventual lower rates, because a municipal utility would have access to low-cost Bonneville Power Association electricity, and wouldn't need to pay profits or dividends to stockholders or high salaries to a myriad of corporate executives. Other advantages of a municipal utility would be local control, strong encouragement of conservation as a local policy, and keeping utility earnings in Bellingham instead of sending them to Bellevue.

If approved by the voters, the study would hopefully give us enough information to make a wise decision as to whether we want to buy out the existing facilities of Puget Power in Bellingham, and institute a municipal utility district. This final decision would be made in a later election if this first feasibility study initiative passes.

Proposition 2, put together by the Coalition For a Municipal Utility, would require the city of Bellingham to undertake the study at a cost of "up to \$200,000" (but not necessarily that much), to be paid for out of a 1% tax on electric and gas bills. The city council, by way of confusing the issue, has introduced its own initiative, proposition 1, which would require a similar study, to cost no more than \$25,000. The city charter states that if both initiatives pass, the one with more votes will be implemented. After discussing costs with several consultants, The Coalition For a Municipal Utility (CMU) believes that 25,000 would do little more than point to a need for a more extensive study, and thus would be a waste of taxpayer's money; \$75,000-\$100,000 would seem to be a more realistic minimum to spend on the study. This would work out to about 20¢ added to every electrical bill for the next year. Therefore, CMU strongly urges a YES vote on proposition 2.

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Action for a Change

BY DAVE TOLER

In 1970, Ralph Nader and four associates visited forty college campuses throughout the U.S., bringing with them a plan to organize research groups that would enable citizens to counter the special interests who controlled most government agencies. Thus, the first public interest research groups (PIRG's) were formed.

The first P.I.R.G.'s were established in Oregon (OSPIRG) and Minnesota (MPIRG) in 1971. A prime objective of P.I.R.G.'s is to provide an opportunity for professionals to do public interest work, so as not to waste the idealism and talents of these committed professionals. Students provide supplementary research, financial support, and most importantly they guide the directions of the PIRG.

Why were college campuses picked for the base of P.I.R.G.'s? First

of all, students are among the most severe critics of present day society; secondly, students can provide a great deal more than financial support because they have access to much information; and third, the student can benefit by integrating public interest research into their regular academic curriculum.

Today, there are over 20 PIRG's throughout the U.S. and many more are being organized. PIRG's have exposed auto repair rip-offs, sex discrimination by employment agencies, illegal logging activities and many other practices that are detrimental to the public. Not only do PIRG's publish their research, but they will also take legal actions to terminate undemocratic activities. For example a report by MPIRG led the F.D.A. to form a citizen board to monitor the sale of unsafe toys for children.

As in the past, we will face some resistance from individuals in the Administration and/or Board of

Trustees. Previously, individual trustees from schools in Pennsylvania and Washington threatened to resign if PIRG's were formed. But these are only temporary barriers to establishing PIRG's. PIRG funds are derived from voluntary contributions by the student body which are collected by the university. Because of this the administration often demands control over these funds. Yet other activities, such as school newspapers, health insurance plans, and food services use the university as a collection mechanism and are left free of these controls.

The PIRG is a vehicle for citizens to bring democracy into their daily lives. Presently, too many important economic and political decisions are in the hands of elites who possess the necessary information to make these decisions. We must move these decisions away from private interests and into the public arena.

Those who are interested in helping us organize a PIRG on Western should drop by one of our meetings, every Monday, 7:00 PM at VU. Just ask the info. desk for directions. It is only through support from students that a P.I.R.G. at Western will be realized.

A Real Alternative

BY CHRIS TIFFANY

Reagan? Carter? Anderson? These men are not the only choices we have for presidential candidates. Among the alternatives is the Citizen's Party with Barry Commoner as the presidential candidate. Formed in 1979 with the basic premise that citizens are the only cause of change, the Citizen's Party seeks to bring about change in America by wresting power from corporations and putting it into the hands of the American people. "The American people--not petrochemical companies--must save our rivers and our air. The American people--not nuclear power producers--must commit the nation to solar power. The people--not multinational oil executives--must bring the country's economy under democratic governance. The people--not corporate agribusiness--must prevent the disappearance of the world's most efficient agriculture producer, the American family farmer. And it is only the American people--not the military industrial complex--that can put the nation on the path to genuine

peace, not the mere absence of war."

The Citizen's Party plans to bring about these changes through proposals outlined in the party's platform. Of particular concern is their environmental and energy policies. Below is a few of their proposals, extracted from The Citizen's Party Platform:

Our economy has been based on cheap, nonrenewable energy. The United States must devise a massive program to integrate into our economy both new and sadly neglected old technology: solar, photovoltaic, geothermal, wind turbine, low-head hydro, and other sources of renewable energy. The Citizen's Party believes that we must reassert effective social control over national energy resource development, production, marketing mechanisms and pricing now dominated and manipulated by private corporations.

To promote conservation and the development of renewable energy, the Citizen's Party supports a national program for the recycling of reusable resources, increased funds to state and local governments to develop conservation/renewable energy resource plans, repeal of the Price-Anderson Act, support of the development of alcohol fuels, methane gas, and solar power.

To protect the environment the Citizen's Party calls for: an immediate moratorium on new nuclear power plant construction and the phase

out of all existing plants within five years, a National Environmental Bill of Rights protecting the rights of all to a healthful and productive environment, a national land use policy with emphasis on preservation of prime wilderness and agriculture, and legislation to hold companies and corporations liable for health, safety and environmental damage resulting from actions of their firms.

Victory for the Citizen's Party means capturing five percent of the national vote in November. To do this will qualify the party for retroactive funds, such as the Democrats and Republicans receive.

From the Citizen's Party Platform: "We ask the help of all citizens, Democrats, Republicans, and independents, those who are concerned, those who have almost given up, and those who have been waiting for the chance to help build a democracy that works. To those millions we say: 'Come, help us build a party of the American people.. help us shape a more secure future for humanity. We ask all Americans to recognize that our planet is now too small, too crowded, too dangerous, and too fearful for any of us to sit on the sidelines any longer....The time to go to work is now....We the people have to start now.'"

PLEASE RECYCLE!!!!

6

A Time for Action

BY STAN HOLMES

I paddled down the strait with Ruth in the kayak. Suddenly a harbor seal jumped to our right and for a few minutes a school of porpoises surfaced directly ahead. We skimmed by in silence, just listening to the sounds of nature. Alone among mountains which loomed majestically above and trees thick as schools of herring, we contentedly dropped out of civilization. Re-prieved for a few hours from our jobs at a fish processing plant, we had jumped at the chance to explore the romantically enticing inlet that surrounded Pelican, a town in S.E. Alaska. Away from town, our minds were clear and free, and we were allowed to soak in the beauty and relax from our arduous schedule at the plant.

The town of Pelican, and Alaska in general, offers sanctuary where one can escape the invading neo-techno-monsters that have treated with contempt most everywhere else. It is a home where whales swim in the backyard bay, and deer roam abundantly along the coast or high on a mountain ridge.

Our afternoon passed quickly, and it soon became time to turn the kayak around from the river flats and head back home to Pelican. The first view of town jolted my senses and again, unfortunately, I was brought back to the reality of the Industrial Age. Pelican, illustrated at first glimpse, becomes a sick realization of man's greedy impact everywhere. And immediately, I conjured up ugly flashbacks of cities full of stench and filth choking in clouds of smog. The scene sent shivers down my spine. I thought of industrial giants floating atop cesspools counting money, while the unfortunate majority sank slowly to the bottom.

I began to sweat uncontrollably when I thought about man's ignorance, still prevalent today. Man has not changed much from the days of Rome and Julius Caesar, who showed that extravagance, imperialism, and sloth can be easily achieved for the benefit of a few twisted minds and followers. One only has to notice the raw sewage spewing forth daily into the bay with no thought of its future implications to be reminded of that empire in the throes of its own decadence. It is a problem overlooked and not cared about. During low tide, scraps of iron, machines, old outboard engines, molded food, beer

cans, and dead fish rot on the beach, emitting foul odors until the tide washes them away or covers them up.

Alaska is the final area in America where wilderness surrounds civilization instead of the opposite; unfortunately, it is not fully appreciated, even by its own residents. Man treats Alaska like he's treated the world--with greed, lust and belligerency. In Pelican, no thought is given to the effects of sewage spewing into the sea, only thoughts of how much salmon can be caught. And then the fishermen wonder why the runs are depleting.

We have come to an age where its time to stop and reevaluate what progress really is.

It is time a humanistic approach to life be reinserted and basic values such as love, understanding and respect prevail over greed and lust. The paradox of Alaska is especially pertinent today where through the electoral process and our own inaction we are quite likely to place into office a whole cadre of environmentally callous politicians. The support for Reagan is exceptionally appalling as he has one of the worst environmental philosophies of all the major candidates across the nation. With the chance of Reagan being elected touting simplistic gun-slinging answers to far-reaching complex problems, it is embarrassing that every student on every university isn't out promoting John Anderson, Barry Commoner or Ed Clark. Hell, if we unified, a la sixties, we would win the election.

But no, it's easier to sit around and debate with a few friends over beer, than it would be to walk a few blocks ringing door bells. Or, why not go to Alaska and escape it all? Because, it would only buy time before it, too, felt effects of inept management, encroaching modernization and exploitation on a larger scale.

We are in that curious interlude of the 20th century that Nietzsche foretold a century ago: "the time of the reevaluation, the devising of new values to replace the osteoporotic skeletons of the old."

Whether we want to sweep away those old bones or not is something each individual must decide. But it has emerged that the ways of the old are brittle and frail. It's time to blow away the dust and think of new ideas, techniques and philosophies. It is time that we jump into the swirling pell-mell pace of society and make an impact. Our future is at stake, not Reagan's and dozens of other bent reactionaries and politicians. If we want a viable, safe and non-violent future, then we must emerge from the woods and the corporate brainchild dubbed apathy. We must set a course for humanity that will be satisfactory for all.

TOM HAYDEN.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

banks, we've passed a law which developed BIDCO, Business Industrial Development Corporation, which goes into effect January of 1981. Simply put, it provides a state guarantee behind private capital into a loan fund for solar businesses. This gives us a start for the private consumer and the small solar entrepreneur. We also have a law, not fully tested, that says the utilities cannot act in an anti-competitive fashion such as monopolies in the solar industry. They are prevented from forming small subsidiaries of themselves. It's a case of having an anti-trust law before a trust is formed. We don't have much power at the state level to prevent the oil companies or large corporations from using their profits to invest in solar and move in on small independent operators, that is a national problem. But, we can protect the solar market from utility control and provide the consumer and private business with the capital they need.

M.P.: Speaking of economic policy, as founder of the Campaign for Economic Democracy is your economic theory based on a steady state economy and a de-emphasis of GNP as the measure of productivity in this country?

Hayden: Yes. GNP is a ridiculous definition of growth. Growth of what? It could be growth of material output...of military madness...all kinds of things. The mind-set today is equating material growth with progress without considering progress in race relations, environmental quality, art and craftsmanship, and education. The human condition is what matters and shouldn't suffer as a result of material growth.

--CHUCK BLODGETT--

Arizona

Imagine the sky
as blue as the turquoise
on the old Navajo's wrist
her wrinkled brown skin
weathered as the Earth
she sprang from.
Hair coiled up,
rich colored skirt.

The last of the sun
through the clouds
like her piercing gaze
from soft, pillowy cheeks

both free to roam
and gleam
in the empty lands
and endless flats.

--Melanie Peck--

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ANDERSON places energy conservation at the center of his proposed energy policy, favors a 50¢-a-gallon tax on gasoline and a tax credit program for solar and conservation. Strongly supported energy price deregulation and opposed energy conservation measures proposed by the Carter Administration that did not include regulation. Currently favors heavy government support for solar, but until 1977 frequently voted against solar energy funding. Does not favor government grants to consumers for conservation.

COAL

CARTER worked hard to enact a strong stripmining bill, issued strong regulations and made good appointments to the Office of Surface Mining. Improved the government's coal leasing program and the enforcement of safety standards for deep mines. But Carter has called for coal production increases far greater than necessary: he favors the construction of coal slurry pipelines for transportation of coal which require expensive construction projects and the use of a great deal of water.

REAGAN favors relaxing coal leasing policies and air pollution standards in order to increase coal production. Optimistic about the potential of reclamation to restore stripmined lands.

ANDERSON generally supported the stripmining law and voted to override an earlier veto of such a law by Gerald Ford. Favors the Carter reforms of coal leasing policy and also supports building slurry pipelines. Coal is not prominent in Anderson's discussion of energy policy; he seems to favor further research on coal.

SYNTHETIC FUELS

CARTER campaigned in 1976 against federal subsidies for synthetic fuels. In 1979 he put synthetics at the center of his new energy policy and called for \$88 billion in subsidies and a powerful Energy Security Corporation.

REAGAN favors synthetic fuels but is strongly opposed to government involvement or large subsidies for their development. He has opposed the massive infusions of federal money that Carter advocated in 1979 and has not supported an Energy Security Corporation.

ANDERSON favors a limited, \$10 billion federal program for synthetic fuels, but he feels the direct com-

bustion of coal using new technologies may be more promising. Expresses concern about the environmental impacts of synthetic fuels and opposes Carter's proposed Energy Security Corporation.

WILDERNESS

CARTER supported the Endangered American Wilderness Act and wilderness proposals in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and opposed proposals for legislative prohibitions against wilderness. But the administration's recommendations for RARE II proposed only 15 million acres for wilderness; environmentalists had sought 26 million.

REAGAN generally appears hostile to the wilderness system saying that it has made unavailable 6 billion board feet of lumber and thus added \$1800 to the price of the average single-family house. (Six billion board feet is half the total yield of the national forest system; actual figures indicate that the economic impact of wilderness on housing prices is only a fraction of that claimed by Reagan.)

ANDERSON supported environmentalists on Boundary Waters but voted against wilderness study areas in Montana. Says that administration RARE II proposals are inadequate.

PUBLIC LANDS

CARTER improved management of public rangelands by the Bureau of Land Management, supported reform of outdated mining laws, issued a good executive order on off-road vehicles and opposed congressional efforts to continue overgrazing on public lands. Carter opposes the Sagebrush Rebellion but favors the MX missile system, which would damage public lands.

REAGAN "cheers and supports the Sagebrush Rebellion", as does running mate George Bush; favors disposing of much of the public land, arguing that the federal government owns too much. Reagan has said little about how the federal government should manage public lands.

ANDERSON supports efforts to reduce overgrazing; he opposes the MX missile.

AIR POLLUTION

CARTER worked with environmentalists to draft a strong set of Clean Air Act amendments in 1977; implementation of these amendments has been inconsistent, as they are imposed by powerful administration forces at DOE and at the Office of Management and Budget. Ozone air-quality stan-

dards were relaxed, the cleanup of western coal-fired power plants delayed, and auto emission standards waived for many vehicles. The Administration has promised to deal with acid rain but has failed to use its present authority and has supported coal conversion legislation that would worsen the problem.

REAGAN tried as governor, to prevent California's Air Resources Board from taking action to cleanup automobile emissions; he eventually fired two board members for refusing to follow his orders to weaken the program. Reagan has claimed that "approximately 80% of our air pollution stems from hydrocarbons released by vegetation, so let's not go overboard in setting and enforcing tough emission standards from man-made sources". Reagan favors cutting back EPA's powers, saying "we are in the hands of environmental extremists."

ANDERSON consistently voted with environmentalists on amendments to the Clean Air Act, opposing efforts to weaken protection for regions with clean air and to allow the auto industry to allow the auto industry to avoid complying with emission standards.

--CHRIS TIFFANY--

Presidential Poll

With the election so close, we thought it would be informative to sample Western student's views on the candidates. Three hundred (300) students were polled at various times and places. The results are as follows:

| | votes | percent |
|-----------|-------|---------|
| CARTER | 70 | 23% |
| ANDERSON | 67 | 22% |
| REAGAN | 29 | 10% |
| COMMONER | 17 | 6% |
| CLARK | 6 | 2% |
| UNDECIDED | 111 | 37% |
| | 300 | 100% |

CREDITS

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