THE PORTLAND HARBOR POLLUTION ABATEMENT COMMITTEE
By Edward Langlois, Chairman

When it comes to oil pollution, Portland Harbor has been working three years to lock the barn before the horse is stolen.

Three years ago, a group of concerned citizens, public servants and businessmen, recognizing the need for protecting the environment of our port from the threat of oil spills, formed the Portland Harbor Pollution Abatement Committee, Inc. (PHPAC).

Portland is presently handling more than 26 million tons of petroleum products a year. The oil depot proposed by King Resources for Long Island and the probability of greatly increased shipments of crude oil from the Alaskan oil field through the new Northwest Passage add to the importance of an effective program here to minimize spills and make certain that those which do occur are handled as fast and efficiently as possible.

As a result of the work of the PHPAC, Portland has established a world-wide reputation as a "tough port," and tanker captains everywhere are passing the work that, "when you’re in Portland, be very careful about spills or you’ll find yourself in a lot of trouble."

Operating funds in the amount of $20,000 for the PHPAC were contributed by the oil terminal operators in Portland Harbor, but the committee includes interested citizens, elected and appointed representatives from the State Environmental Improvement Commission and the United States Coast Guard.

We enjoy the continuing cooperation of appropriate state and federal agencies as well as municipal authorities and local citizens and interests not connected with the oil transportation industry.

The program involves three major efforts: education, vigilance and planning in order to achieve strict discipline to reduce oil spills to an absolute minimum and develop systems for prompt discovery and cleanup of any spills that do occur.

In implementing this program, the committee encouraged in continuing education of terminal and ship personnel, established constant vigilance during petroleum product transfer operations, formulated emergency procedures, coordinated effective communications systems and provided new and more efficient (cont. on page 2)

COASTAL CONFERENCE CONVENES

The future of the Maine coast as it will be shaped by scientific progress in the abatement of oil pollution was revealed in a new and optimistic light at the Southern Maine Coastal Conference at SMVTI.

More than 200 attended the all-day meeting overlooking the very bay they were dedicated to preserve.

The speakers were expert and the scope of the issues, tremendous. Portland, it is now apparent, must set the scientific controls and standards—not only for Casco Bay—but for the entire world.

"Portland must now be a model" said U.S. Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, who stressed cooperation on the part of communities that now must work together.

"I do not oppose industry as such on the coast of Maine or anywhere in Maine because it is vital to our economy," he said. Muskie clearly indicated that if felt the people of the State could work together to protect its natural resources and still provide income for its people.

Lloyd P. LaFountain, U. S. District Attorney, said that present laws governing oil pollution were "almost impossible to enforce," and spoke strongly in favor of revision as soon as possible. No one wants to admit that oil spillage was "grossly negligent" or by "willful means," he maintained.

Legal restrictions were more precise in 1899 than in the period of 1924 to the present because of a Standard Oil ruling, he explained.

(See next page)

THE MAIN COAST: TIME OF DECISION

Change is coming. Millions of people living within a few hours of Maine are getting fed up with the smog, the cramped conditions, the hurried life, and they can still look to Maine for relief. They are coming, more every year. Most of them come to the coast.

In ten years their numbers will most likely be doubled. And that's only a beginning.

They have purchasing power enough to buy up every tract of desirable land along the coast. Already in many coastal communities most of the recreation property is in out-of-state ownership—Kennebunkport, 73%; South Bristol, 88%; North Haven, 96%; Mount Desert, 87%.

Of course most of those coming won't be looking for property to buy. They will be vacationers hoping to enjoy the Maine coast. They will have lots of projects in mind. What they find, and how Maine will face the assault, will depend on what decisions and actions the citizens of Maine take now.

The fact is that these millions of admirers of Maine present both a threat and an opportunity: an opportunity to enhance the economic position of the state, and a threat to destroy the very things that bring them there.

Thus there is much more involved than the recreational potential of the coast. The coast has a great many different values, and haphazard recreational development or other use probably won't give them all enough consideration.

For example, the 1965 catch of fish, shellfish, and marine worms in Maine was valued at more than $18 million. Almost all of this represents species dependent during at least part of their life cycles on the estuarine area—the coastal waters, where saltwater and freshwater mix. Experience has shown that even seemingly insignificant changes in the environment at a point remote from the sea—intensified agricultural practices high up in a watershed, for example—can produce massive, unpredictable, and frequently undesirable results on the estuarine environment. So can filling, draining, damming, spraying for mosquito control, and most of the other things we find ourselves doing in building up the coastal area. The

(See next page)
OIL ABATEMENT (cont. from page 1) containment and cleanup devices and procedures; and is conducting research on the prevention and cleanup of spills which has attracted international attention.

The committee has purchased and now has available on the Portland waterfront, 1,500 feet of containment boom. Its research program led to the development by Golten Ship Repair, Inc., of Portland, of a catamaran in which to carry the boom to the scene of a spill ready to be played out quickly and efficiently. This catamaran is capable of carrying an additional 3,000 to 5,000 feet of boom and provides an excellent solution of the problems of storage, movement and deployment of a containment boom in a petroleum port.

In 1968, the committee published an "Information Booklet on Oil Spills" designed to be carried in the pocket of anyone apt to become involved in an oil spill. It contains information necessary to establishing communication with key people and obtaining equipment necessary to act promptly in the event of an oil spill. This booklet has been given worldwide distribution and has helped other communities organize their own oil pollution prevention programs. Locally, it has been distributed to all waterfront personnel, vessel and terminal operators, marinas and small boat owners. (A copy may be obtained by calling the PHPAC at 207/773-5608).

Although the use of emulsifiers and detergents in cleaning up an oil spill is questioned by biologists, they are still of value in some instances. The committee has tested many varieties of emulsifiers and detergents. The committee maintains an up-to-date inventory of emulsifiers and the equipment required for their use in case of a spill which calls for this type of treatment.

In 1968, the PHPAC submitted a proposal to the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration requesting funds to conduct a study to evaluate and test oil containment devices, devices to remove oil from water, such as "skimmers", and means of disposing of the oil once it is removed from the water. The program, which is being carried on by Altenburg, Kirk & Company, Portland industrial research consultants, was funded in the amount of $64,500 with local "in kind" contributions totaling $36,500. This FWPCA grant establishes Portland as a key research center on the problem of oil pollution. A proposal for expansion of this study has been submitted to the FWPCA and an additional grant is expected in the near future.

The PHPAC is presently working on preparation of a written contingency plan which will be important and helpful to the entire coast of Maine should there be a major oil spill, in addition to providing recommendations to other Maine coastal communities handling petroleum products. The PHPAC is working on a program of developing suggested municipal ordinances governing those who handle petroleum products.

Although the United States represents only about 6% of the total world population, we consume about 50 percent of the world's annual petroleum products to produce the energy which supports our standard of living.

Portland is presently a major oil port and the King Resources terminal on Long Island possible development of a major oil port and refinery at Machiasport and opening up of the Northwest Passage for the shipment of Alaskan crude to the east coast all point to increased shipping and handling of petroleum products along our coast.

Present technology in preventing and cleaning up oil spills doesn't provide all the needed answers, but the PHPAC is working hard and effectively "to lock the barn before the horse is stolen" and attracting worldwide attention with its pioneering and effective programs.

NEW CBIDA MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Back, 593 Allen Ave., Portland (Peaks); Mr. Philip Jenkins, 3 Main St., Biddeford; Ruth M. Johnson, 26 Broad St., Lynn, Mass.; Mrs. Margeurite F. Fogg, 25 Montreal St., Portland (Long); Mr. C. W. Shipley, Pleasant Ave., Peaks; Mr. H. G. Hewes 3 Middle St., Hallowell; Mr. and Mrs. W. Russell Pederson, 1360 Scott Ave., Winnetka, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. Allen Barker, Draper Road, Wayland, Mass. (Little Diamond); and Mrs. Lindsay Lord, Amescoggin Road, Falmouth Foreside.

NOR' BY EAST

Gilbert Lea, Publisher
Patricia Gould Jurgenson, Editor

Published by the Tower Publishing Co.
335 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine 04101
Tel. 774-9813

To the Editor:
When Rachel Carson wrote "Silent Spring" she was criticized for her stand against the indiscriminate use of insecticides, -- labeled an alarmist and accused of gross exaggeration. It has not taken many years to prove that she was right.

When former Gov. Baxter of Maine passed away recently he was eulogized, as well as he was right. Deployment of a containment boom in a petroleum port.

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COW ISLAND DIDN'T MOO
While astronauts were maneuvering to land on the moon, island ferry passengers were involved in trying not to land on the Cow.

The Ferry Holiday with 15 passengers aboard was lost in dense fog recently for nearly two hours between Cow and Crow Islands and Capt. Mark McIntyre wisely decided to anchor until the Coast Guard could determine that the ferry was not in danger.

Five or six young men—some with guitars—held a song fest. "We had a ball," claimed Sylvia Felix of Meriden, Conn.

"There's not much sense in naming our islands for animals and birds if the Cow can't Moo and the Crow can't Caw," was the comment of Robert Laughlin of Great Diamond.

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(In honor of the new Swedish Lion Ferry and the mackerel season.)

4 mackerel
2 bread crumbs
1 tablespoon capers
2 butter or margarine
whole milk
salt
1/4 tsp. soya sauce
1 lemon

Wash and dry mackerel fillets. Sprinkle with a little salt, turn them in breadcrumbs and fry to golden brown. Place on serving dish and keep warm. Add capers, soya sauce and 1/3 cup whole milk to butter left in pan and bring to boil. Pour sauce over mackerel. Chop lemon with peel and sprinkle over top. Serve with new boiled potatoes and green salad.

PROJECT OCEAN SIDE

William Dickson, A.I.A., A.I.P., has been engaged by the Casco Bay Island Development Association to develop a design for their Project Oceanside on Peaks Island. The $10,000 program will entail four months of work.

Dickson will provide base maps of the site and its immediate environment, and the Association will have a three dimensional model of the site made to scale. Two hundred reports containing analyses, conclusions of plans and sketches will also be made available to the Association. Estimated costs and structural types of buildings will be included, and the proposals will be used by the Association to attract further investment in the site.

Of particular interest is Battery Steele, the enormous concrete bunker with a commanding view of the ocean.

"It is difficult to tell about bunkers", Dickson said. "They are built to withstand impact rather than to support a building, but many of them are strong enough to support a skyscraper."

The project as envisioned by Dickson is an international research and conference center. He is ruling out other uses for the property. "We don't want to be too restrictive about this", he said.

A native of England with degrees in architecture and city planning from the University of Liverpool School of Architecture, he was former director of Urban Renewal Planning in Portland. His firm has directed such projects and studies as Bayside Park, Munjoy South, downtown renewal for Augusta, Hallowell, Gardiner and Bath; the Maine Medical Center Complex and the Fort Williams project.

Dickson and his wife, also from England, live in Scarborough with their five children.

RESPONSE FROM CALIFORNIA

Peaks Island property owners now living in Huntington Beach, Calif., were the first to reply to a "Nor by East" article on the Public Housing Authority, according to Clark Davis, director of New Housing for the Authority.

The party wished to rent their year-round home on Peaks to qualified applicants under the agency's plan to provide rent supplements to people on fixed incomes.

"We have had some local inquiries too", Davis said, "And we are pleased to tell them that they may interview prospective tenants in person or even choose their own tenants under the program if they are qualified."
Time For Decision (cont. from page 1)

more presence of humans greatly lessens the value of a marsh as a waterfowl nesting area.

Estimates can be made of the value of each lobster trapped or each mallard bagged. The lobster has a direct market value, the mallard may represent a certain number of hunter-days and thus a certain contribution to the local economy. When the values involved can be readily converted into dollar equivalents, different—and often conflicting—uses of the coast may be compared.

Much tougher to estimate is the value of a desirable environment. How much is it worth, say to a person who may not care to hunt, to know that a pair of wood ducks is nesting nearby? How much is it worth to a town to have a place where people can walk near pounding surf or among spruce above a quiet cove? Indications are that it's worth a lot more than we tend to think.

Some things which we will perhaps never measure adequately. Satisfaction and renewal of energies—physical and spiritual—are not things to measure in dollars. But we do know that these things are increasingly hard to find in many other less favored parts of the world. And no one would deny that the economic losses involved there have been both direct and enormous.

At the same time, far-sighted industrialists are seeing more and more advantages in selecting towns that offer a wholesome environment. To quote the chairman of the Oregon Governor's Economic Development Commission: "We now know what sells our area more than any other thing. It's the environment Factors. A recent United States business shows that the first factor in attracting business is recreation, followed by quality of the education system, medical facilities, shopping facilities, transportation, and cultural aspects. All these are listed above the 'tax climate' in attracting business."

There are also indications that people are more willing to settle—and invest—in an area which has promise of staying a rewarding place to live in. One town in Massachusetts, under a downtown development scheme, found that after a change in zoning ordinance doubled the size of the minimum permissible lot. People were reassured by the protection the new regulation gave their investment. Bigger lot sizes may not be the answer in any particular town in Maine, but maintaining a desirable environment is going to pay off anywhere.

It is true, however, that more cottage development doesn't necessarily mean more money in the town. Indeed, the opposite may be the case, especially where, as along the coast, development is likely to be strung out over a big area. The town may spend more on roads and other services than it takes in in taxes. And more significantly, as such development goes away at all the desirable chunks of land, people grow less and less interested in other parts of the town. Few people nowadays will settle for a view of someone else's shore behind fences and NO TRASH SIGNS.

At present, out of Maine's several thousand miles of nonurban shoreline, some thirty-odd miles is publicly owned. Most of the rest, of course, is going to stay in private hands. Maine doesn't have the money to buy it all back, nor would that necessarily be a guarantee that the land would be used in the best public interest. So one of the things the public will have to do is to make sure that property owners who own good landowner to use his lands in the public interest—perhaps by foregoing development of it—in those cases where the normal market economy would dictate less desirable uses.

The decision is going to be very complex. Some are easy to translate into dollar terms; others, more basic, can be evaluated only in general terms. Of course many of the uses we want to make of the coast are compatible, like sailing and lobstering. Other uses, such as secondary tourism and reservoir development, can't be combined. But there's room enough along the coast for many different uses. There can be deep-water ports and yacht basins, historic homes and cottage developments, scenic overlooks and motor sites, industrial lands and clam flats, beaches, estuaries, headlands, forests. If past trends continue, most of the critical areas are going to be submerged beneath cottages and commercial development, but the presence of something which would attract people to a speculatively free-for-all, the public interest is too often neglected. In the long run, both public and private interests can be served, but only if we are willing to protect the coast from an expansion which is sometimes willing to take into account its many different values.

The first step is to make some decisions about what we want the coast to be like when we pass it on to future Americans. Not just in 1975 or 1985, but after several generations. The year 2128 sounds a long way off, but it's no farther ahead than 1900 is behind. And change, of course, is coming just as fast as economic and population pressures are building up. We're likely to see more change in the next several tens of years than we have seen in all the years since the introduction of the Model T. So unless we act now, the decisions will all be made for us—by default.

One broad goal that we may have in mind is that of staying the same—of maintaining a desirable status quo. Most of us, whether we were born in Maine or have adopted it as our home, live here for certain deep reasons. Most of us appreciate the Maine way of life and wouldn't have it otherwise. When we speak of maintaining the status quo, we're not talking about what is good and wholesome and unfettered about living in Maine. This is probably not an impossible goal, in spite of the pressures coming from the megapolis to our south and our own justifiable inclination to share in the ease of twentieth-century America. It is, however, a difficult goal, one which cannot be realized without a lot of planning, effort, and sacrifice. We won't keep change away by sitting on our thumbs. And there are doubtless other goals to be considered, too—goals like economic growth and diversification, for example, or protection of the public interest in this coastal resource.

Most likely, we'll have to make a point of looking ahead in the public interest will end up firm believers in the wisdom of establishing standards for development. This means deciding, for a given area, both what kind of development is desirable and how much of it. In other words, we'll have to decide how much impact a project will have on all the different values of the area—recreational and scientific, commercial and inspirational, industrial and historical and ecological and all the others.

Of course some standards like these have been with us right along. We all recognize that the best use and highest value of the broad, sandy beach at Popham is not as a gravel pit. Unfortunately, we've become used to seeing people, however, and vested interests have rarely distinguished themselves in these cases by speaking out for long-term public good. So the decisions will frequently be difficult. There's almost a temptation to think we can, if each state acts on its own, establish a reasonable basis for development, and the public opinion may differ—but if no decision is reached, if we can't settle on standards, short-term economics will surely settle the matter for us, irrevocably.

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Another problem is the ease with which anyone can cajole people into the idea that what would be best for private propositions are also certain to appeal to people, however, and vested interests have rarely distinguished themselves in these cases by speaking out for long-term public good. So the decisions will frequently be difficult. There's almost a temptation to think we can, if each state acts on its own, establish a reasonable basis for development, and the public opinion may differ—but if no decision is reached, if we can't settle on standards, short-term economics will surely settle the matter for us, irrevocably.

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Gulls at Great Diamond Island (photo by Robert Laughlin)

regional planning commissions. This lets people from neighborhood towns discuss problems and projects of mutual concern. These days, what affects one town is likely to affect all the towns around. And when towns pool their resources in a regional planning office, they can often afford professional help, something which can make all the difference between wishful thinking and a paying proposition. Finally, with the increasing complexity of state government, there has to be some way of fitting all the local planning into an over-all picture and of coordinating all the different state operations. Most states have found it absolutely essential to have a lively state planning office right in the thick of things.

Many towns have found that a simple mechanism for maintaining the status quo is zoning. Few things can cause more worry in a nicely looking residential area, for example, than the threat of a restaurant coming in to set up shop. The nearby property owners would not only have to put up with the place, they might find the value of their lands going down—and the town's tax base would suffer accordingly. Now, a town may well want that restaurant, so long as it's in an appropriate location, as indicated by the town's plan. If the town zones the first area residential and the second commercial, the landowners are put at ease, the tax base isn't jeopardized, and the town can still have the restaurant.

Zoning can also help a town develop to its maximum potential. If a particular marsh has high scenic or wildlife value but is too boggy for intensive development, the town can use zoning, coupled with subdivision control, to channel the development to an area which will support the necessary roads and other services. This probably also saves everyone concerned a lot of headaches with pollution, flooding, road maintenance, and so on. It is a way of recognizing that areas differ in their relative values, and that one may be best suited to a use for which another may be entirely unsuited.

An adaptation of the zoning idea might be useful in many little-developed places along the Maine coast, where it's too early to tell what the eventual or most desirable pattern of development will be. It's called "floating zoning." Instead of drawing zone lines on a map, the town simply decides on the standards it would like to see in any development in the given area. These standards for commercial development, those for residential, and so on. Then the town sits back. Any developer who agrees to meet the standards can anchor one part of the floating zone. As more places are anchored to one kind of development or another, the pattern will start to unfold. To keep it going in a favorable way, the town may then want to complement the development standards by drawing zoning lines in the usual way; meanwhile, it has had the assurance that any development going in there will be of a sort that will not be a detriment to the town.

Other varieties on the usual zoning and subdivision practices have proven useful elsewhere. Cluster zoning, which allows building on lots smaller than usual if the rest of the land is left open, permits a normal population density while maintaining significant parcels of open space. Building setbacks, whether from roads or shorelines, can encourage development which doesn't encroach on scenic or other values of an area.

Municipal officials can withhold approval of a subdivision which has inadequate provision for sewage treatment or otherwise presents a threat to the health and welfare of the community. After a group of citizens in the Damariscotta region, incensed at the prospect of having five hundred septic tanks installed in a ledge area draining into Biscay Pond, talked things over with a number of officials, the developer agreed to cut down on his plans. The development is going ahead now in a way which won't pollute the pond, and everyone, probably including the developer, is a lot better off.

Groups of private citizens have long been an active force along the coast. Most of what is now Acadia National Park was acquired through the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations. The Trustees are still active and might serve as a model for private trusts elsewhere in Maine. In many areas, groups such as the Monhegan Associates, composed of year-round and summer residents, have been successfully preserving the character of both developed and undeveloped lands. The rich historical heritage of our region presents many opportunities to private groups; Ancient Pemaquid Restoration, for example, is planning a large-scale project centering around an outdoor historical and archeological museum. And now there is The Nature Conservancy, working on a nationwide scale to provide legal and financial aid to individuals and groups seeking to preserve land of value for its natural character.

One of the most satisfactory legal tools available to citizens' groups—and of course to public agencies as well—has been the easement. An easement is a deed of partial rights to a tract of land. If, for example, John Jones owns a piece of land, he can sell Smith the timber rights to it, or the access rights, or whatever the two of them want to decide on. Such an easement can be recorded with the deed and may run with the land, either in perpetuity or for a specified period of time. If a tract of land happens to have a fine stand of white pine on it, something worth saving, The Nature Conservancy or a state agency or anyone else can negotiate on easement with the owner for the timber rights—which means that the only people who can chop those trees down are the people who in fact want to keep them standing. The landowner goes on using his land for whatever the two of them want to decide on, except timber harvesting, and the white pine have been preserved, to everyone's satisfaction.

Incidentally, in such a case the owner's tax assessment will depend on the value of whatever rights he has kept for himself. In most cases, the bulk of his assessment will stay on the tax rolls. But if an easement governing the development rights to his property went to an appropriate agency or group (with, of course, proper stipulations as to what he's going to do if undeveloped), he can expect that his land will go on being assessed as undeveloped land—or rather, as undevelopable land. He no longer has the right to develop it. This kind of easement has been especially welcomed by people who were worried about having to develop their land just to pay the increase in taxes, which can spiral up as a result of mounting development pressures in a neighborhood.

Something about easements is that they are explicit. There need be no surprises. A person knows what he's getting paid and he knows what he's giving up. This may be timber rights, or development rights, or any other rights; he may be allowing public access, or he may not. It's all written into the easement, and generally speaking, the more he's giving up, the more compensation he's entitled to. Often, however, landowners in rural or scenic areas have been willing to donate easements on such things as development rights. Basically, they probably don't want to see their land developed. And they see a way to stabilize their tax assessment, they see income-tax and inheritance-tax savings. In a program where several adjoining landowners are giving easements, each of the neighbors sees a way of keeping the land next door free of undesirable encroachments. Most of all, the landowner sees a way of forestalling the need for any more substantial public acquisition. The public benefits from such an easement, of course, by gaining access to the property, and the program, too. It acquires those rights it needs without paying for a lot of rights that it may not need. The tax rolls suffer very little, if at all—maintaining general property values may more than offset the loss of speculative value on the undeveloped tract. And of course, the landowner is assured of minimal service expenses on that tract. Above all, the land is used and (cont. on next page)
maintained by its owner. The landscape is a living landscape.

The state might provide technical and financial help to communities in all of their land-use activities. Already there are matching funds available for municipal sewage treatment plants and other local undertakings, but there are still many areas where the state could provide more leadership. Perhaps matching funds could be made available to local conservation commissions for their land-acquisition programs, experience elsewhere in New England shows that such "seed money" has proven encouraging value.

Pursibly consideration should be given to ways of recompensing towns that use their lands for the the benefit of the state as a whole. The public cannot expect these benefits without being willing to repay those who make the sacrifices, and there are already precedents for differential state aid to municipalities for such activities as education. In land use, what is needed is a factoring system weighing the short-term local loss of, say, taxable property against the long-term public gain.

But a state program of land acquisition will have to be at the core of Maine's coastline development. This can well be supplemented with easement programs, local and private initiative, and all the rest, but the key parcels will have to be acquired. This means someone will have to sit down with map and pencil and a long-term view and come up with a coherent program—soon. The key parcels to be marked are those that will be subject to intensive use or that are, for one reason or another, particularly vulnerable. These parcels are not necessarily large, but they are prominent. They represent many different kinds of topography—beaches, headlands, marshes, forests, and hence many different uses. Some will be available for intensive recreation, some will be reserved as inviolate wilderness areas, and there will be the whole range between.

With these key areas being planned for, we can look to the surrounding areas. Here a combination of public and private enterprise may succeed in meeting tastefully and profitably the demands of the public and at the same time safeguard the resource itself. It will take some rethinking of our established notions, however, to come up with a suitably imaginative and far-reaching cooperative framework. Approaches that worked well in 1925 or even 1955 just don't cope with the realities now around us—the concentration of population, the exploding recreation market, the speculators, the conflicts of interests and of rights that have come along with our increasingly complex and interdependent economic development.

One new approach might be large scale recreation development undertaken by the state itself. The success of the public development corporation in providing industrial parks is undeniable, and a similar approach in the field of recreation might well pay dividends. A full-scale operation would be required, with cottage developments, motels and restaurants, ski resorts and marinas, campgrounds and trailer areas. This would not rule out private development; in fact experience elsewhere has shown that one good development acts as a nucleus about which others spring up, large and small. It would, however, tend to assure that all these clusters would be uniformly high quality. Most of all, a large-scale operation would give the people of Maine a way to hold their own against the national motel chains, the fast-buck developers, and the out-of-state investment corporations.

Vulnerable sites such as waterfowl breeding areas would also benefit if the casual crowds were gathering elsewhere.

So there is plenty of opportunity for getting things done. What's needed now above all is to sit down and make some firm decisions, and then to act. We won't have as good a chance again, ever.
I'm listening now to the sounds of the city on a beautiful "blue water" day; The scream of a siren, the blare or a horn only accent the woes of Life's Fray; But I'm trying to close my ears to the racket and think of the wind blowing free, And a billowing sail on a trim little craft as it's standing out to sea, Orloafing along a rocky shore exploring each inlet and bay, And dropping the "hook" in a favorite spot at the closing of the day: But here I sit chained to this city life With its neon, its concrete, its worry, its strife; But the day will come when I'll break the chain To live out my days on the coast of Maine, Where living is easy—sensible—sane, On the beautiful coast of Maine. Katherine W. Stewart

PEAKS BAZAAR IN RETROSPECT
By Elsa Fellows
Lucky me,—Saturday the twenty-first was a beautiful day full of blue sky and golden sunshine, the kind of atmosphere one feels at being alive and in this beautiful land,—THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. It was with this feeling, I decided to take a sail across the Bay to Peak's Island. It was the Casco Bay Island Development Association’s Big Day for their first Project of the Season. We took a stroll up Welch Street; just a short distance from the boat landing to see what was going on.

The American Legion Hall where the Bazaar was held was a little crowded at the time, but what a "flea market". Tables of fake jewelry, cut glass, linens, all sorts of bric a brac, "boutique fashions" including a lovely black chiffon peignoir set, (not my size) a champagne color cocktail dress, lovely blouses and all types of wearing apparel including a great selection of shoes for all sizes and shapes.

The glass ware and china table had a very lovely carnival glass vase, some darling Hawland butter plates, a small Staffordshire dessert plate and other pieces that staggered me when I looked at the prices. It could have been a collector’s paradise as the price tags were fantastically low. It pays to attend bazaars. The food table was empty before one hour had passed. The Island People have a great reputation for "gourmet" cooking.

A lot of hard work is involved in these projects and all those who helped are to be commended for starting so early in the season. Over two-hundred dollars was realized and the CBIDA COFFERS is the lucky recipient.

One of the unsung heroines is Mary Deane who is "old faithful" and is always there in an emergency as just the moment she and her Winn got to the bottom of the hill, an accident occurred and three of the Senior Citizens were rushed to the mainland in the Portland Fire Boat; needless to say, Mary was right there to accompany them to the hospital. Mary is an RN and has helped many people on the Island when needed. While we are on the subject of accidents, we wonder how many people give thanks to the crews of the Fire Boats who give such wonderful service to the people of the Islands in Casco Bay. It never hurts to say "thank you."

Last, but not least.....Ruth Sargent was there autographing her book about Matinicus Rock off the Coast of Rockland and the story of Abbie Burgess. For those of you who collect Books about Maine, this is a "must" on your list. Call her and reserve one.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Woodbury, Jr. give "Honey in the Morning" a coat of paint. Ruth Sargent photo

Venice Island Avenue — Peaks Island
Tel. 766-2585
ART THRIVES ON THE ISLANDS OF CASCO BAY

By Katherine Stewart

The islands of Casco Bay have often been called the jewels of Portland, and among these jewels there is a small Art Gallery located near the Ferry Dock on Peaks Island. It is truly one of the cultural delights of the island. It's convenient location makes a short afternoon's boat ride from Portland a pleasant afternoon outing during the summer months. The Gallery is maintained and staffed by the members of the Casco Bay Art Association which endeavors to keep the Gallery open on a year round basis. The association was founded by a group of artists interested not only in producing their own original works of art, but in promoting awareness and appreciation of art among their fellow islanders. In four short years its reputation has spread as evidenced in their "Visitors Register Book" which shows names from most of the New England states, as well as the Middle Atlantic, Southern, and Mid-western states. Its active artists include members from as far away as California and the far West.

Meetings of the Art Association are held the third Tuesday of the month, and are usually open to the public. Outstanding artists are invited to lecture or demonstrate their particular techniques, or show colored slides on particular phases of art or famous museums both in the United States or abroad. The Gallery represents the work of many year-round residents, as well as many outstanding artists who maintain summer cottages. The scope and quality of the art work exhibited is truly remarkable for such a small gallery. Besides the oil and watercolors which have a definite nautical flavor, there is also a section devoted to photographic art, and a special section for sculpture and wood carving. The paintings exhibited are largely representational rather than abstract, and they definitely reflect the natural environment of the Maine artist. His close association with lobstermen, fishing boats, and his lonely walks on fog-bound shores are indeed reflected in his work.

One way in which the Peaks Island Gallery promotes interest in art is a children's Painting Contest open to all the children of the Island. Prizes and Junior Membership Cards will be offered to the winners. The general theme is "Living on an Island" and may be executed in any media. All work must be turned in the week before Labor Day and will be judged by a group of New England Art Instructors. All work will be exhibited at the Gallery.

The Casco Bay Art Association held its annual Outdoor Art Exhibit at the Ferry Landing on August 2nd, the day the U.S. Coast Guard vessel, the square rigged "Eagle", sailed into Portland harbor to celebrate its 179th birthday. Many of the artists are very adept at painting all types of old sailing vessels. In addition to this exhibit, the Casco Bay Art Association was represented as a group in the forthcoming City of Portland Sidewalk Art Show sponsored by WCSH-TV on Saturday, August 16th.

Kim Kastle

Great Diamond Island

WRONG ADMIRAL

A few years ago a retired deep sea diver, namely Capt. Willard for those who remember him, had occasion to meet a fine-appearing and well-mannered young man named Byrd who had come to Maine in search of some antique cars. Upon hearing that the young man was the son of the distinguished admiral of the same name, he began to turn his air blue with violent expressions and opinions of the young man's father.

Obviously stunned, the son was heard to comment that he had never heard anything but veneration and admiration for his father in his whole life.

"His darned dogs were all over Eagle Island and every time we came up out of the water they tried to chew us alive", countered Capt. Willard.

"That was Admiral Peary. They didn't even explore the same pole, Capt.", ventured a bystander.

"In my opinion admirals are all alike—never a good one", and the Capt. walked off.

As a footnote, our Eagle Island correspondent, who has not been very verboso of late, informs us that Eagle Island has been occupied by a hippie and a girl in tights of late. On the far side there is still an authentic "three-holer" standing alone above the ocean.
GREAT DIAMOND GLEANINGS
By Rhea & Andy Ansorge

Our 1969 season began with a happy occasion—a surprise birthday party for Daniel J. Carr, Jr., who was 70 on July 2nd. In order to give as many people as possible the opportunity to participate, the party was held Saturday evening, June 28th, in the Community Hall.

But to begin at the beginning. The idea to show in some small measure the islanders’ appreciation for Dan’s many kindnesses and readiness to help anyone in trouble originated with Mrs. Harry Reich (Julia). On her own, Julia trudged up and down the island for weeks gathering signatures (on a huge birthday card) and donations from the islanders as they arrived for the season and asking that all this be kept a secret from Dan. Julia did a tremendous job, made something easier for her by the desire of all of us to help give Dan a real celebration. Miss Esther Payne kindly obtained donations from some of the folks on Little Diamond.

How to get Dan to the Hall turned out to be fairly easy—Jack White, who lives near the Hall, phoned Dan to say he had a problem to believe his eyes, or say a word, but we feel sure he was as happy and pleased as were all of us gathered in his honor.

There followed a brief “thank you” speech by Julia Reich for the many favors Dan had done for us, and her presentation of the islanders’ contributions. Julia seemed to have some difficulty controlling her emotions (as did we all). Dan cut into his also brief but heartfelt acknowledgment. Anyway, that broke the spell and, with Kay at his side, Dan adorning the top. A most enjoyable social hour followed.

The cake was given by the Women’s Ways & Means Committee, who also served refreshments under the direction of Mrs. Louise Buckley; Mrs. Ramona Curtis kept the coffee going.

To make the evening complete for Dan and Kay, their son Daniel and wife Nancy had returned from Europe just a few days before and so were on hand for the party along with their daughter Patty and her husband Nick and children Kathy and Nicki. Another son, Richard, who lives in California, was not able to attend.

An interesting bit of the past: Almost 42 years ago to the day (June 27, 1927), Dan, then a Portland policeman, was critically wounded while rounding up some burglars. His good health carried him through the crisis and, praise be, his remarkable vitality still continues. A further sidelight: another islander, Mrs. Ruby Laughlin, happened to be the student nurse who admitted Dan to the hospital that terrible day. She and her husband, Robert, happily, were on hand at Dan’s party.

So, many, many more Happy Birthdays from us all, Dan!

Our second affair, held July 12th, was a Turkey Supper. Mrs. Ethel White was chairman, assisted by Julia Reich, Eunice Baker, Rhea Ansorge, Ruth Cronin, Toni Jordan and Ramona Curtis, our “official coffee maker.” Over 100 people were served and it was voted a great success.

On July 26th Kay Carr put on her now famous Ham and Bean supper. This time our Hall could not accommodate all who came and she had to have a second sitting for the folks who came later. She was assisted by her daughter Patty, Mrs. Barron and Mrs. Buckley. The tables were waited on by various young people. Another successful and enjoyable evening.

Our future activities are to include an International Dinner on Saturday, August 9th. Mrs. Toni Jordan will be in charge, assisted by Mrs. Edith Yonan, Mrs. Patty Mavadones and Mrs. Jean Cronin.

The ladies are sponsoring something new this season—an Auction, to be held Saturday evening, August 16th. This will include all sorts of items, ranging from bric-a-brac to household articles, furniture, clothing, etc. Should be an interesting and enjoyable evening. The “auctioneers” will be Mr. Leo Boylan and Mr. Robert Noring. Mrs. Claire Sedgewick will be in charge, assisted by Mrs. Connie Noring, Mrs. Mary Boylan, Mrs. Ramona Curtis and Mrs. Judy MacAndrew.
Mr. and Mrs. George Earley

PEAKS ISLAND NEWS
By Ruth Sargent

The Golden Wedding Bells were ringing continuously in June on Peaks Island when three couples celebrated fifty years of marriage. Mr. and Mrs. George Earley of Sterling St. spent half of their fifty on the island as they moved there from Portland during the 40’s to escape the ever-rising rents in the city. They have 8 children, 21 grand-children, and 5 great-grand-children. Their big day was marked by a large gathering at the Legion Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Shute, both originally from England, came to visit a friend on Peaks in the 30’s. They were so impressed with what they saw that they rented a cottage and moved over in early April. The first few weeks there, they were initiated by a late April snowstorm without adequate winter housing. But undaunted they later bought a home on Meriam Ave. which they called “Westfurl”. Their big day was postponed until their son, William, could arrive to celebrate with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kosches can claim all 50 summers of their marriage were spent on Peaks beginning with their honeymoon. Mrs. Kosches, the former Rose Davis had spent the preceding ten summers with her parents there and knew it would be a perfect spot. Now winter residents of Hollywood Hills, Florida, their anniversary terminated in a surprise party planned by their next door neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Balcolm, owners of Fisher Lodge.

Mr. Kosches was employed by Picarillo and Singer, East Boston, Mass., before his retirement.

They have a son, Stanley, daughter-in-law, Judy, and two grand-children, Ronnie and Steven, of North Miami Beach, Florida.

Herbert Hubbard, Brunswick, was elected president of the trustees of the Eighth Maine Regimental Association recently. Other trustees elected were Roger Adams, Auburn, secretary and Horace A. Little, Ellsworth, treasurer. New officers of the association are Bert Fernald, West Poland and Portland, president; Michael Bearce Naugatuck, Conn., vice president; Mrs. Barbara Foss, Auburn, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. Roger Adams, chaplain; and Mrs. Erland Adams, Dryden, necrologist.

A daughter, Ellen Joan, was born July 4 to Captain and Mrs. Peter J. Deane in San Francisco, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Winthrop K. Deane, Peaks Island, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Seiber, Council Bluff, Iowa, are grandparents.

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New Teachers

Two islanders from Peaks will begin their careers as teachers at Portland High this fall. One, Kate Sullivan, was a graduate and spent most of her early schooldays in the Peaks Island Grammar School. She also claimed the crown and title of "Miss Peaks Island" the year her older sister Jan relinquished it. Working summers at City Hall she received her degree at Univ. of Maine, Portland in June. She will instruct college English classes and is eagerly anticipating retracing her steps to high school, but this time as a teacher instead of a student.

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The 295-foot barque Eagle which arrived here for a three day visit honoring the 179th anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard. She was manned by 240 Academy students, enlisted men and officers.

HOw BiG iS THE BAY?

There are many opinions and some groups, notably ESCO, are trying to determine the exact size of Casco Bay. "Nor by East" had done a little research too and we came up with the following:

Casco Bay begins at Two Lights, Cape Elizabeth, and ends at Small Point, Phippsburg, or vice versa.

Casco Bay extends out to and including Chown of York Island which is directly on a line between the two points and anything further out belongs to someone in Europe.

Casco Bay is directly on a line between the two points and anything further out belongs to someone in Europe.

The name means "helmet", a derivative of the Spanish "casque" and is actually helmet-shaped.

PHOTO Weiss

SANS SOUCIE SQUARE DANCERS

by Virginia E. Adamson

After several attempts of having callers from the mainland give a course of lessons & having open dances at the school house in 1965 fail because of lack of attendance, and thus lack of funds, twelve loyal square dancers reorganized the Sano Souci Square Dance Club which had disbanded several years before when several couples left the state because of job transfers. Now that there was a complete square once more (4 couples) plus 1/2 square extra to allow for the usual absences, and Doreen & Albert McCann were offering the use of their home, the weekly dancing was started once more.

For 3½ years the meetings were held on the McCann's sun-porch which Albert reinforced and Doreen made ready every Friday night after feeding her seven children and getting the youngest one tucked away in bed. This year the club -- with 2 full squares now -- moved to St. Christopher's Parish Hall.

Henry Adamson is president of the club, "Perry" Rockafellow is serving as secretary and Albert McCann is the treasurer.

Occasionally a caller visits the club and brings his tapes but, mostly, week after week the club dances to records that have the square dance calls. And so, the New England Square Dance Convention held recently in Portland was a real treat for the island dancers.

The loyal club members have seen the membership fluctuate but since Sept. of 1965 no meeting has been cancelled for lack of a square, nor has the weather ever called for a cancellation. One wild, blizzardly night will always be remembered. With one way traffic on the main streets only, everyone had to walk and one member waded in snow to his hips to get out to a plowed street.

The dances have been held on rainy nights, windy nights, cold nights, sweltering hot nights, one "mosquitoey" night, and some lovely, lovely moonlight nights.

The club enjoys a few annual parties every year -- Halloween, one Holiday Party for Christmas and New Year's, St. Patrick's Day and a summer cook-out on the beach. Usually, there are some move-o-ors & spontaneous parties also. One year the men put on an April Fool's Day Party when April 1st came on Friday. There have been a couple of Valentine Parties but the games and stunts have become fewer and fewer as the pile of records has grown higher & higher.

For, after all, it is a Dance Club organized for the sole purpose of square dancing which is more fun than almost anything else.

The club entertained at other club functions a few times but decided that it was not their "cup of tea". There is a big difference in dancing for fun and putting on a demonstration. For that reason, the club has a strict rule against visitors -- not that the club is anti-social, but spectators tend to make one self-conscious -- especially the beginners.

The size of the club is considered so unique that a national square dance magazine gave a double page spread to it in Dec. of 1966. They described it as "a teeny-weeny club of fellowship, fun and dancing accomplishments". It couldn't be described better.

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