

the report was critical of the atomic energy program, including its economic aspects. For instance, let me read you the first statement in the report:

"Contrary to widespread belief, nuclear power is no longer a cheap energy source. In fact, when the still unknown costs of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel management, decommissioning and perpetual care are finally included in the rate base, nuclear power may prove to be much more expensive than conventional energy sources such as coal, and may well not be economically competitive with safe, renewable resource energy alternatives such as solar power.---As the cost of nuclear energy continues to climb, and as a solution to the problems of radioactive waste management continues to elude government and industry, states such as California are rejecting the increased use of nuclear power and favoring the greater use of renewable energy technologies."

Our County Legislators, and all thinking citizens of the County should have access to this report. Probably Mr. McEwen could get it for them. The EMC has two copies.

- Q. But if a powerful and important committee of the House of Representatives arrives at such conclusions, isn't that the beginning of the end for nuclear power?
- A. Ha! A powerful and important committee it may be, but so far those forces committed to the expansion of nuclear power have proved more powerful and more important and wield greater influence in Washington. Money talks.
- Q. Then aren't you saying again that, economically, the country will be better off to continue the atomic program?
- A. Hell, no! One of the hidden costs that we'll all pay for, subtly, is decommissioning. Just to dismantle a nuclear plant may cost over one hundred million dollars. Who do you think will pay for that? And what is happening at West Valley, in our own New York State, where a privately-owned nuclear fuel processing plant has been abandoned? The State or Federal government is left to solve a problem that the U. S. General Accounting Office says "should be paid for by private industry." But it looks as though you and I will pay for it in the end unless we come up with our own "Proposition #13."
- Q. So if the United States General Accounting Office says that, why doesn't that settle it?

- A. Because there are forces a lot more powerful than the U.S. G.A.O., that's why.
- Q. Isn't labor, in general, pro-nuclear?
- A. I'm not sure. I have heard it both ways. If labor is pro-nuclear I think they are making a big mistake, and are being very short-sighted. The House report I quoted says that solar energy is safer and more labor-intensive; that it would create many more jobs in the

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You said,

I like a well-lined face,
a detailed story told by
crease and crevice.

I thought,

Yes
And no.
The wrinkles mirror
and mask.

Old friends can etch the past
And bind us there.

I like you friend

for seeing my wrinkles
and looking into my eyes.

--Ellen Rocco

long run. It also implies that, had we put as much money into solar energy research as we did in nuclear we would be well on our way to solving our energy problems.

- Q. Then why doesn't our government gradually switch to solar energy research?
- A. I'll quote Jack Anderson of the Washington Post on that. He says: "Slick lobbyists from the nuclear industry are pressuring congressmen to deep-six (bury in the files) the explosive report. The top brass at the Energy Department would prefer to keep it buried. Secretary James Schlesinger came out of the old Atomic Energy Commission. As its chairman, he helped make the billion dollar decisions to develop nuclear energy. He has surrounded himself in the Energy Department with former associates who also are nuclear-minded."
- Q. Do you think the anti-nuclear people have a chance in view of the powerful forces against them?
- A. I think they must eventually win. Power in the last analysis rests with the people and the people are slowly beginning to stir. What happened after the last Seabrook rally may be an indication of things to come.



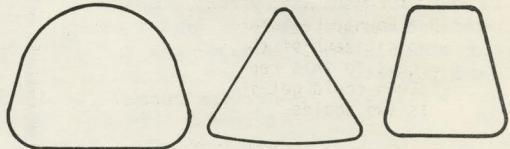
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The territory served by this magazine reaches from Plattsburg in the East to Lake Ontario in the West. It goes as far south as Pulaski and Saranac Lake, and reaches northward into Canada. One recognizable fault we perceive is that the staff is more centrally located than the distribution. Steps are being taken to correct that matter but let us add here that contributions from any reader in the form of articles, drawings, photographs, news items, etc. are welcome. You should send them to ROOTDRINKER, P.O. Box 161, Canton, New York 13617.

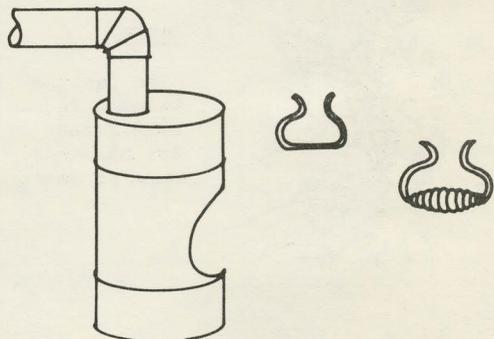
Expect the next issue, HARVEST 1978, towards the end of October, early November. Hopefully, we'll be back on schedule before you know it. Thank you, readers, for your support and patience.

The stove worked like a charm and made our stay not only comfortable with its warmth but cheerful as only an open fire can. In fact, we were so pleased with it that we've decided to forget about the Franklin stove, save the three hundred or so dollars it would have cost, and make do with our "practical pocketbook."

Obviously a drum in good condition would make a much neater and longer lasting fireplace. And one with both top and bottom would eliminate adding a bottom. Any sized drum can be used, either smaller or larger than the one we chose. The thirty gallon was just right for the size of our living room. A damper in the stovepipe will be added next year to give greater control of the fire and more efficiency. Any triangular shaped opening to suit ones taste can be used. The triangular shape, however is necessary so that the door will overlap when it is raised by adding several



inches to the bottom. Three-quarter or inch strap iron would be more satisfactory for the brackets that hold the screen and door in place. The stovepipe can be located on the top rear of the drum if desired. In this place, the hole will be easier to cut, as the curve of the side of the drum does not have to be taken into consideration to get a good fit. However, this installation requires an elbow and takes away some of the cooking surface on top of the drum. A handle or handles for the door and screen can be "found" or improvised from coat hanger wire. It can be installed by drilling or punching a couple of holes in the door, putting the two ends of the handle through, and bending them over on the inside. The rough edges on fireplace opening and door should be smoothed with a file after cutting with the metal saw.



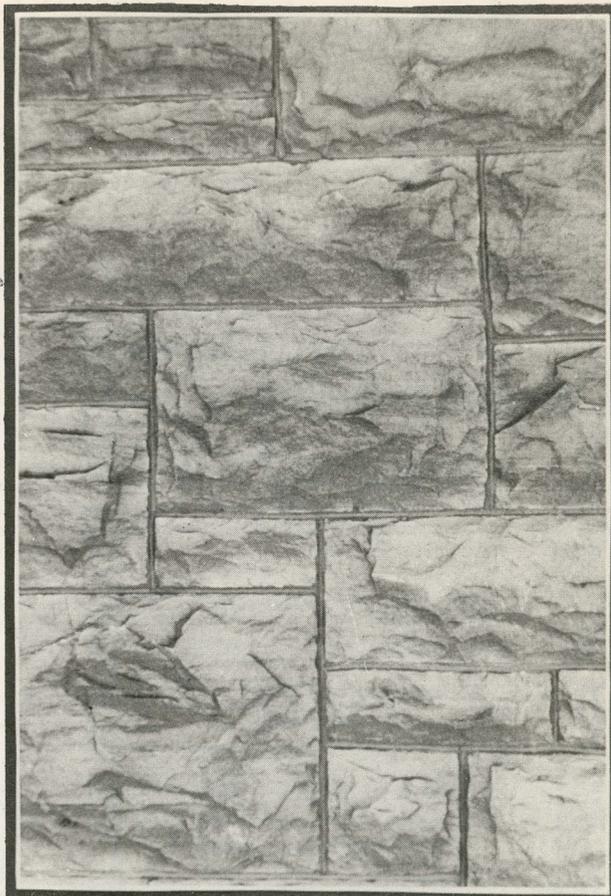
Places are the same as people because they mean people; but with places you have time to digest the people they mean. People massage you and go away leaving your flesh tense, pink, sometimes bruised; they keep your skin in tone, but unable to store anything.

Places are people in storage, like ideas in print. You can examine the people they've made rubbings of. Places are people-presence museums; they're where people have recorded their odors. That is why the destruction of a place is the same as the destruction of people.

Murder's a common enough practice--many people ought to be destroyed, of course. Even if we try we can't stop destroying and getting destroyed every day. But murder remains serious, and I wish our schools would teach kids to read places.

--Donald Purcell
Route 2
Potsdam, NY 13676

Potsdam Depot (detail) →
Sandstone building
threatened by
proposed D.O.T.
bypass highway



ROOTDRINKER



STAFF

Alan Casline
Valerie Ingram
Doug Jones
Ron Nolland
Carolyn Swart

WE KNOW WE'RE LATE! There's just been too much going on this summer for ROOTDRINKER's publisher and staff to get it all done in time. Between house building, garden growing, working forty hours a week and publishing a magazine, something's got to give a little. In fact, everything gave a little.

BUT help is on the way. Beginning with the fall issue, ROOTDRINKER is going to be the main occupation of its publisher, Alan Casline. Also beginning with the fall issue, ROOTDRINKER will be published 5,000 copies strong (this issue has a print run of 2,500). We're not intent on nonstop growth, though, so 5,000 is where we'll stay for awhile. Our energies will then be devoted to learning how to do 5,000 copies WELL.

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